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See page 2

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Limburg investigators agreeing more that . . . It's terrorism

By YEMEN TIMES STAFF
AND REUTERS

French and American investigators into the explosion of the French tanker Limburg agree the blast was probably terrorism. The blast killed one crew member and spilled 90,000 barrels of oil into the Gulf Of Aden. "It's become clear it's an act of terrorism," a U.S. intelligence official in Washington said Thursday on the condition of

- Some aren't sure it was terrorism: see page 4
- A rift in the investigation: see page 4
- Economic impact: see page 11

anonymity. "The initial results of the inquiry carried out by French, Yemeni and American investigators suggest the explosion of October 6 on board the French oil tanker, the Limburg, was due to an attack," a statement of the French Foreign Ministry echoed. The investigators said that

metal and plastic pieces along with remains of TNT explosive material was found on the deck suggesting that the ship was rammed by a smaller craft. The Limburg was brought into Mina al-Dabah port in Al Mukalla by three tug boats. American officials said the blast was an act of terrorism

most likely carried out by people with links to al-Qaida.

Crew saw small boat
This claim is also supported by the tanker's owner, Euronav SA, who quoted crew members as saying the blast occurred shortly after a small boat was seen speeding toward the tanker as it waited for a tug to take it to Mina al-Dabah near Mukalla, about 500 miles from Sana'a.

Continued on page 4



Dutch divers and anti-terror experts inspect the hole in the hull of the French oil supertanker Limburg in the open sea near Mukalla in Yemen October 12. France said that traces of TNT were discovered in the hole, supporting the theory that the Limburg was attacked. REUTERS

What's the environmental impact of the explosion? Save our seawaters

By SALEH AL-BASHA
YEMEN TIMES STAFF
AL-MUKALLA

Efforts are being made to clean the oil from the explosion of the French supertanker Limburg on Yemeni territorial waters and its coasts. But the spilling of the 397,000 barrels of crude oil may be an irreparable ecological disaster

for sea animals along Yemen's coastal lines, which in turn could mean financial ruin for thousands of area fishermen. Environmental experts who need to tackle the problem have an immense job ahead of them. Fishermen at al-Mukalla have expressed their resentment of the water pollution as a result of the oil that has spread across the coast.

They haven't been allowed to fish, but will be allowed again after the completion of the investigation processes. "This was the best season for fishing banks in Hadhramout coast lines," said one fisherman. The tanker was carrying 397,000 barrels of Iranian crude and was due to load more at Mina al-Dabah, a port 500 miles south-east of the Yemeni capital

Sana'a. The explosion took place in Ashehr District in Hadhramout. Initial reports questioned if the blast was terrorism, but both American and French investigators say they believe evidence suggests it was terrorism.

See page 11 for more on the environmental impact from the disaster.

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Problems continue over registration for 2003 election

Parties throw mud at each other

MOHAMMED BINSALLAM
YEMEN TIMES STAFF

Sana'a — Accusing Yemen's government of offenses such as mismanaging public money, the Islah and YSP opposition parties are thumbing their noses at a key political document geared to ensure a fair 2003 national election.

The two opposition parties are refusing to sign what's known as the Document of Principles and Behavioral Controls of Political Parties for Free and Fair Elections.

It was scheduled to be signed on October 6.

Statements given

The governing General Peoples Congress and Islah are jockeying for early election positions through statements given this week.

"The hysteria of the coming parliamentary elections has been haunting the ruling party and, with a feeling of early defeat, it has begun committing unprecedented violations," said one Islah statement.

Another Islah statement, distributed in Aden governorate on Friday, accused the GPC of using public funds and institutions for narrow partisan interests and also of putting pressure on civilian and armed forces to register at certain election centers.

The Islah statement says all those acts demonstrate the desire to force the party's will on citizens.

The Islah and YSP claim they've received complaints about excesses committed at a number of constituencies. They also said the circulation of

the Elections Supreme Committee is related to registering armed forces and security personnel which is considered a clear violation of the law.

Meanwhile, on Wednesday, the information committee of the GPC has released a report detailing violations and excesses practiced by some Islah and YSP-affiliated heads of committees.

GPC has accusations also

The GPC's report accused the individuals of hampering voter registration by refusing to allow un-bearded citizens

to register their names and by urging women to register at election centers other than those supporting Islah positions.

The GPC report has also accused Sheikh Abdulla Sa'tar, one of Islah leaders, of promoting violence and assailing electoral committees that do not agree with Islah members wishes, particularly in Amran province.

Meanwhile, Supreme Elections Committee (SEC) has announced that over three million people have now registered since the beginning of the

process on October 1. SEC's statistics indicate that Hodeida governorate still has the most registrants, while Taiz comes in the second and the capital of Sana'a has the third-highest level.

Statistics issued by the SEC show a high percentage of women are turning out, compared to men.

It is worth mentioning that nationwide, the number of registration committees are 11,242. Sub-committees across Yemen employ 33,726 people, in 5,621 electoral centers in 301 constituencies.

American terrorism official visits

Sana'a — Mr. Francis X. Taylor, among the American government's high officials in terrorism, spoke with Yemeni officials recently about the commitments of the two countries to fight terrorism.

"Terrorism in Yemen is the responsibility of the government," he said.

Mr. Taylor also confirmed in a press conference held last Wednesday at the American Embassy that his country remains committed to helping Yemen with an effective terrorism-fighting plan.

"Yemen has proved honesty in fighting terrorism," said Taylor.

Regarding the USS Cole, the American said his country supports

the decision of the Yemeni authorities to hand over suspects to the judiciary. Meanwhile, he said, his country will also continue investigations in this issue.

Regarding the French oil tanker explosion, Taylor said it is very early to determine whether it is a terrorist act or not, and showed his government readiness to take part in the investigation if the Yemeni or French governments asked for assistance.

President Saleh met with Taylor last Tuesday and discussed many issues, including the Yemeni role in the international efforts to fight terrorism as well as the harassment which some Yemenis are exposed to while visiting the USA.

Yemeni-Sudanese-Ethiopian Summit in Sana'a

A joint Yemeni-Sudanese and Ethiopian summit will be held in Sana'a this week to discuss issues relating to the African Horn, Middle East and Palestine.

Sudanese President, Omar al-Basheer and the Ethiopian Prime Minister, Zinawi will arrive in Yemen to hold the summit with President Ali Abdullah Saleh.

It will also discuss the efforts made to bring the Somali fighting groups to peace negotiations.

A Yemeni source said the summit will also address the issues related to

the peace and stability in the region, and the south region of the Red Sea, and the coordination made by the three countries towards these issues.

However, political analysts here have seen in the summit a clear message to Eritrea which fears the three countries want to form a coalition.

Sudan accuses Eritrea of supporting the fighters of the south. Yemen differs with Eritrea with regards to fishing in their waters and interpretation of the verdict of international arbitration court regarding the disputed issue.

Yemen gets limited GCC membership

Yemen is to sign on October 16 an agreement between it and the Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) regarding Yemen's access to some of the GCC institutions.

The agreement is to be signed according to the decision issued by the 22nd summit for the GCC leaders held

in Mascot last December.

A high-ranking delegation of GCC members, lead by His Highness Yousef Bin Alawi, Omani foreign minister, whose country is presiding the current round of GCC talks, arrived in Sana'a earlier this week to sign the agreement.

Notice

Mr. Goon Kok Loon is the Chairman of the Board of the Yeminvest and not as mistakenly appeared as Mr. John Kouk Jonj the Chairman of the Board of the Yeminvest in the Issue 40 of the Yemen Times. We apologize to persons concerned and readers.

| 7-Day Weather Forecast | | | | | |
|------------------------|----|----|------|----|----|
| Sana'a | | | Aden | | |
| Day | Hi | Lo | Day | Hi | Lo |
| Mon | 26 | 9 | Mon | 37 | 23 |
| Tue | 26 | 9 | Tue | 36 | 23 |
| Wed | 26 | 9 | Wed | 35 | 22 |
| Thu | 26 | 9 | Thu | 36 | 22 |
| Fri | 26 | 9 | Fri | 34 | 21 |
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Yemen & Britain discuss security

President Saleh along with Vice-President Abdu Rabu Mansour Hadi, met with General Arthur Denaro, the British defense minister's consultant, last week for a three-day visit.

They discussed bilateral relations of the two countries, and cooperation in fighting terrorism.

The Saba News agency said that the

president of Yemen has expressed his satisfaction over progressing relations between Yemen and Britain, especially in the area of security training.

The two countries agreed to implement a formal security agreement.

A consultant who left Sana'a last Sunday said the agreement "will be launched soon."

Biggest trade center in Aden is opened

Aden - Amidst celebrations on Yemen's revolution, the Aden International Market is open Monday.

Mr. Anwar Hussein Omar, the Manager of the market told the Yemen Times that inauguration of this trading project in Aden city, the economic and commercial capital of Yemen, is a clear indication of commercial success.

The event is also an indication of the

rapid increase of the Aden's commercial activity.

Omar added that the project was a product of the Yemen's unity, pointing out that Aden International Market consists of more than 200 trade stores at a cost of YR 350 million.

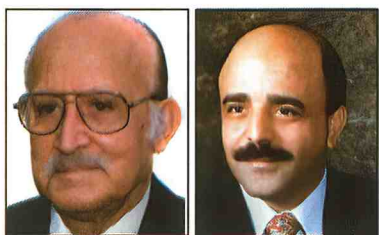
Omar also expressed gratitude and appreciation to the president who encourage the investment sector in the country.

Baidani drops appeal against newspaper

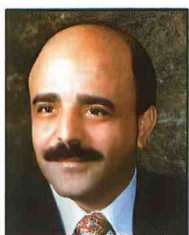
Sana'a October 8 (YT): Dr. Abdulrahman Abdurabu Al baidani, a Yemeni former vice chairman of the revolution leadership and prime minister, has agreed to drop his appeal against 26th of September newspaper, the mouthpiece of Yemeni Armed forces, after a verdict was issued against the paper and the writer of the article.

The paper and Abdulkareem Qasim, the writer of the article, was accused of abusing Dr. Al baidani. The appeal was to punish the writer and 26th of Sept. editorial manager.

By his dropping, the issue which remained in court for years, between Al



Al Baidani



Al Shater

Baidani and 26th September, is over.

The two sides were agreed to sign an agreement with regard to settling the long-term dispute between the Editor-in-Chief of 26 September Weekly Newspaper, Ali Ashater and the Dr. al-Baidani.

Yemen & Jordan sign agreements

The Joint Yemeni-Jordanian Supreme committee concluded meetings of the 10th round last Tuesday in Sana'a, signing a host of agreements.

The meetings headed by the prime ministers of the two countries resulted in new agreements in the fields of tourism, youth and sports, social development, higher studies, education, culture and health.

The two sides also agreed of setting up a joint council for the businessmen in Yemen and Jordan.

The Yemeni PM, Bahamas and Jordanian PM, abu al-Ragheb stressed the importance of implementing the agreements and that the private sector should play a pivotal role in strengthening the cooperation between the two countries.

Teachers learn to build good students

A two-day symposium geared to help teachers find talented students wrapped up in Sana'a October 10.

Organized by the Arab Education Office, the gathering was to promote top performance in teachers in Arab countries that have membership in the office.

Teachers were taught how to develop talents in students, so they can contribute to society.

Germany wants UN inspectors back in Iraq

Germany wants the dispute with Iraq to be settled through the UN, not military invasion, confirmed a top German political consultant this week.

Mrs. Andra Christ, of the German embassy, confirmed Germany wants to see the return of international inspectors to see if Iraq has weapons of mass destruction.

This statement came in a lecture organized by the Yemeni Center for Strategic Studies last Monday on "The German vision on many hot international issues."

Regarding the Palestine issue, Christ says she feels that the situation is getting worse and the solution lies in the creation of two separate states with a safe border between them. Only then it will there be suitable time to think about what might be future relations between them, she said.

About the problem of cultures and religions, she said it's important for people not to believe lies about others. She said Germany strives to accept and understand cultures of other nations through education.

Christ has admitted there is tension between her country and the USA over the terrorism and ways to fight it. She confirmed Germany is rejecting any human rights violations under any excuse even to fight terrorism.

Further, she said that her country is committed to terrorism fighting and very cooperative with the USA, but according to the German-defined vision and within the UN limits.

In response to the German military attendance in the African Horn, Christ stated that these forces are working within the UN and Germany is not an imperialistic state and will not participate in any attack against Iraq.

The lecture which was managed by Dr. Mohammed Al Afandi, Chairman of the Yemeni Center for Strategic Studies, and had in attendance VIPs, diplomats and journalists.



a lecture organized by the Yemeni Center for Strategic Studies last Monday

Traffic accidents soar past 10,000

SANA'A- There were 10,340 traffic accidents, including 61 dead in the third quarter of 2002 in Yemen's capital.

The accidents left 716 injured,

355 seriously. Sana'a has the largest number in traffic accidents because of its tremendous number of vehicles on the streets.

The traffic administration also

recorded 66,424 traffic violations and reserved more than 5,000 vehicles for violating the traffic rules as well as not having proper plates.

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French unhappy with Americans Yemeni journalist says there's investigation rift

A Yemeni journalist says that French investigators into the explosion of the super-tanker Limburg have expressed disappointment over the interference of new American investigators who they say have come into the picture without their knowledge or approval.

"It is evident that the gap between Yemeni authorities and the French investigators have widened," Journalist Saleh Al-Basha in Mokalla said.

Al-Basha says there are more

American investigators at the scene than expected, and that has caused the friction at the investigation site.

This comes as the Yemeni side, unlike the French side, insists that there is still not evidence to confirm that the blast was a terrorist attack.

Yemeni officials say that it is far too early to give a decisive reason for the blast.

The journalist says that both French and Yemeni authorities have also expressed their shock and unease with

the latest news reports saying that the blast's was because of a terrorist attack.

The most recent inspections of the hole reveals that the metal sheets point inwards and not outwards as initially reported.

This adds to the possibility that the explosion came from outside the ship.

The Yemeni officials say that the metal of the ship may have turned inwards because of wind and water currents.

One theory suggests ship hit seamine

Skeptics say Limberg blast was not terrorism

By MOHAMMED BINSALLAM
YEMEN TIMES STAFF

A number of Yemeni military experts are skeptical of the possibility of terrorism as the cause of oil tanker Limburg's explosion.

In particular, they question if the oil tanker was exposed to an attack by a small, fiberglass-made boat, in a fashion similar to the attack on the USS Cole destroyer in 2000.

They have cited some reasons supporting their skepticism, mainly that the vessel was about 16 km away from the Yemeni coast and that Yemeni port officials control its movement inside the territorial waters. Thus spotting the vessel's location needs intelligence information for observing and tracing the vessel movement accurately.

Once a vessel is bound for Yemen from another country's port, the Yemeni navigation and operation room would be informed on its nationality and cargo and can track its navigation route.

Apart from that, satellites and

multi-national warships near our territorial waters can follow up the tanker and check it in a way better than Yemeni ports authorities. It should be taken into consideration that the French navy fleet does, among others, carry out the checking of the identity of vessels sailing in those waters, and it is stationed at points nearby Yemeni and Omani territorial waters.

The experts also question how anyone could have access to the coordinates of the vessel at the required speed and time. The slow-speed of the boat traveling from the Yemeni coast towards the ship would have been observed by many warships, especially those equipped with highly sophisticated technology.

The experts have considered two possibilities as more likely:

One is that the tanker hit a sea mine planted nearby.

The other is that some intelligence bodies having more capabilities for such an act were behind the explosion.



French oil supertanker Limburg in the open sea near Mukalla in Yemen October 12. REUTERS

Continued from page 1

Investigators believe it's terrorism

French investigator Jean-Francois Perrouty told French television France 3 on Thursday that debris found on the deck of the tanker did not come from the tanker.

"We found on the Limburg deck some parts mainly made of plastic and of a mixed glass-resin material used for constructing yachts and, in Yemen, fishing boats. We found that on the tanker deck along with some metal debris," he said.

This contradicts suggestions of Yemen's Minister of Sea Transport Saeed Yafaei that the parts might have come from the tanker's own rescue boat.

"Investigators have indeed found fiberglass parts, but they might be from the tanker's rescue boat that was damaged in the accident. The parts will be sent to laboratories to be tested and determine whether it belonged to the damaged boat," said Yafaei, who also is the chief of the Yemeni team investigating the Limburg blast.

He made the comment Thursday to Yemen's official news agency Saba.

Earlier, a U.S. defense official said several factors pointed to a terrorist attack: the hole in the ship is at sea level, which is consistent with it being struck by a boat or weapon, and the vessel is relatively new, making it unlikely that a malfunction caused the blast.

U.S. intelligence also picked up indications in recent weeks that terrorist groups remain interested in targeting maritime shipping, the defense official said.

Speculation that the incident was an act of terrorism arose shortly after the explosion, which spilled oil along 72 kilometers of coastline. The Limburg's captain later told The Associated Press a crew member saw a fishing boat approach the tanker shortly before the blast.

Contradictory reports

At first, Yemen, which has been eager to emphasize its commitment to

the U.S.-led war on terrorism, sought to dismiss reports that the blast was deliberate. Those statements were reported in the local Yemeni press during last week. "We were quite confident that when our officials say something, they mean it. So we took the official statements saying that the cause of the attack was an accident for granted," a Yemeni journalist told YT.

But a Yemeni government official, speaking on condition of anonymity, said the investigation so far has yielded contradictory information and the blast may in fact have been an act of terrorism.

The pan-Arab daily Asharq al-Awsat reported Thursday that it received a statement from a militant Muslim group claiming it attacked the ship. The paper said the Aden-Abyan Islamic Army claimed it carried out the explosion to avenge the execution of one of its leaders for the 1998 kidnapping of 16 Western tourists.

The Aden-Abyan Islamic Army was formed by Yemeni and other Arab fighters who, like bin Laden, helped Afghans oust Soviet invaders with U.S. help in the 1980s.

A Yemeni official, Abdul Kader Hilal, questioned the reported Aden-Abyan Islamic Army claim, saying the group does not have the means to carry out such an operation. But he said one of the group's members was among those detained for questioning.

Pollution catastrophe

"If there is anyone who has been hurt most of this, then it is us," said a Yemeni fisherman near the coast of Mina al-Dabah port. "The sea is our only source of income, and now look at what happened to it! How can we make ends meet any more amidst so harsh economic conditions," he said.

The pollution issue has become the major concern of the Yemeni officials in the area. "Yemen is facing an environmental disaster, its beaches having been hit by tonnes of crude oil from the French-flagged supertanker Limburg

which burned in the Gulf of Aden" an official said.

It is estimated that the total area polluted with crude oil spilled from Limburg amounted to 500 square kilometres, some 15cm deep, according to a press release distributed by the crisis cell, formed to follow up the incident.

The press statement also revealed that "Plans are being prepared by the crisis cell in cooperation with the local authorities and citizens to contain this problem."

France more alert

On the other hand, France had revealed plans to step up its security measures for French citizens in the Middle East and is considering providing military escorts for French ships in the Indian Ocean, government spokesman said on Friday.

The Foreign and Defence Ministries announced the measures after Paris announced on Thursday evening that it seemed likely the explosion on the French-flagged supertanker Limburg off the Yemen coast on Sunday was an attack.

"We are going to increase our level of protection for French residents in the region," Foreign Ministry spokesman Francois Rivasseau told a joint briefing with his Defence Ministry counterpart Jean-Francois Bureau.

Embassies in the region were to review and update existing security plans, he said.

Bureau said a multinational force in the Indian Ocean consisting of eight warships — including two French vessels — under German command could start to escort merchant ships as it did in 1987 and 1988.

But he stressed no decision had been made on this yet.

"Escorts are being considered but they will be neither permanent nor constant," Bureau said. Any escorts could only operate in international waters, he added.

Learning how to manage projects

MOHAMMED AL-MASANI
YEMEN TIMES STAFF

How to better manage projects relating to health, business and development was the theme of a 50-hour course recently taught to 25 trainees last week.

The Project Management Course concluded October 7 at the Yemen Times.

"Graduating from this 50-hour course, they will have become more professional and skilled at project management because they have applied what they have learned throughout the course," said Dr. Jameel al-Anesi, workshop trainer.

The closing course was also attended by the Yemen Times Editor-in-Chief Dr. Waleed Abdulaziz al-Saqqaf, a representative from the German institution DED.

Among the course goals was to teach good project management in health and economic development sectors, how to provide job opportunities, and how to support micro-finance programs at grassroots level.

This includes supporting local initiatives in rural areas, in Ibb and Taiz within the framework of involving society in these fields, to help reduce poverty.

Dr. Mohammed al-Anesi talked about the main objectives of the course and noted, "This course was designed to equip the participants with practical

skills of project management, which they can directly apply in their area of work. This course is a step-by-step process that begins with planning for the project in specific detail and goes through the different phases of project management."

Participants were divided into work teams. Each team chose a project that was currently being implemented in one of the team member's NGOs. The trainees then reconstructed that project starting with writing a problem statement for the situation.

Then, they set the project's overall goal and objectives, defined the activities that should be carried out, and learned how to use several planning tools, such as the critical path method. After the planning phase, the trainees went over the phases of organization, implementation, monitoring, and finally project closing and evaluation.

Class discussions were very lively and the sessions contained many exercises including case studies and assessment questionnaires. This was in addition to outdoor fieldwork in which the trainees collected and analyzed information necessary to complete their work.

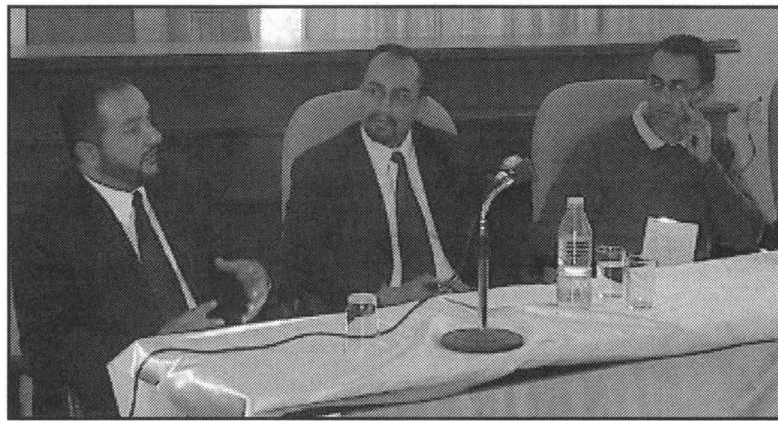
One of the main features of this course is to put the trainees in a realistic environment of developmental work. Also, it provides them with the opportunity of a closer and more critical look of what is being done, in order

to assess and refine procedures that are already there in real life.

In addition, trainees were required to start their own project for scratch, in their teams and individually, to gain

better experience.

The German DED began its cooperation with the local partners in Yemen on the basis of the signed agreement between Yemen and DED in 1979.



Group photo of the work shop trainees on project management course, October 7

Friends of Childhood Association needs help

The Friends of Childhood Association is a non-government charitable association located in Ibb governorate. And it needs you.

Operating under social affairs office in Ibb, the association aims to rehabilitate and educate children in a good environment, provide them with essential needs and psychological care in a special care house for juveniles.

It's financed by NGOs and individuals.

It defends children, especially those detained or violated according to children's rights agreements.

Further, the association is studying children's issues and finding solutions

for juvenile delinquency as a social phenomenon, fighting the exploitation of child beggars or children in hard labor and illegal works.

It also spreads awareness of children rights. However, Friends of Childhood is confronting a lot of challenges, mainly financial support and lack of awareness of children rights in Yemen. It's calling all charitable people and organizations to share in its humanitarian activities through the Association account at the Yemen Bank for Construction and development: Account No. (18043).

for more information, contact the association at 404085

KAP holds ceremony to support Intifadah

YEMEN TIMES STAFF

The Kanaan Association for Palestine (KAP) kicked off last Thursday the First Cultural Ceremony to express support and solidarity with Palestinian people facing the Israeli occupation.

The ceremony came to deny the US Congress decision which considered al-Kuds as a capital of Israel.

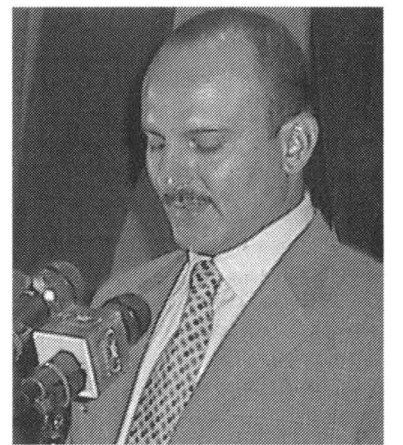
In his speech, Yahia Mohammed Abdullah Saleh, head of the KAP said the association has conducted some activities to help the Palestinian people inside and outside the territories.

He pointed out that the association has sent some clothes and medicine to the Palestinians, and continues to support Palestinian students in Yemen.

He said the ceremony is an expression of support to Palestine and a denial of the US congress decision.

Abdulahman Mahyoub delivered a speech on behalf of Yemeni political parties in which he stressed the importance of supporting the Intifadah, to bring freedom and restore dignity of the Palestinians and Arabs at large.

He said Yemenis condemn the



Yahia Mohammed, Chairman of the KAP

biased US stand towards Israel and the interference of the US government in the internal affairs of the Palestinian people, trying to change their leadership.

Songs, poems and speeches were presented in the event. The participants also sent letters to the UN Secretary General and the US Secretary of State Department.

Seminar on Yemeni Architecture & Antiquities winds up

YEMEN TIMES STAFF

On the sidelines of the 19th book exhibition, ministry of culture has organized last Thursday a seminar titled "Culture in Yemen through 40 years". The working papers dealt with number of issues related to the architecture and dangers it face and how can we confront it.

Dr. Abdulrakeep Shaibani, dealt in his paper with Sana'aian architectural type and its beauty. Dr. Abdullah Essa, dealt with the traditional properties in the coastal and mountainous regions and came out with the finding that there is a link between type of architecture and the environment around it.

Dr. Ali Saif Saeed's working papers focused on the Islamic architectural type in Taiz city in the era of bani Rassol state (1454-1229).

The culture minister, Mr. Abdulwahab Al Rawhani, presented a paper titled "cultural development, the base of exclusive development" in which he confirmed the importance of developing culture because the problem of the country as well as most of the 3rd world countries, is a problem of culture.

The culture minister stressed on the significance of antiquities preservation and saving it from robbery and theft which is not only the responsibility of the government but the whole society. The seminar came out with number of recommendations which focused on the final support for culture, spreading awareness of antiquities protection through media means, and undertaken or sponsoring contemporary intellectuals and educated people as well as our cultural heritage.

HRITC launches electoral seminars in Zabid

YEMEN TIMES STAFF

Within its program to raise awareness of the significance of electoral registration in the democratic process, Human rights Information and Training Center-Taiz has organized a series of open public seminars in cooperation with the Supreme Election Committee.

The first symposium was held in Zabid, Hodiedah governorate on October 9.

Dr. Abdulhakeem Ashargabi, sociology professor at Sana'a University, delivered a lecture on the importance of the registration stage in enhancing the democratic principles.

He called on the whole society to collaborate and benefit from their constitutional rights.

stitutional rights.

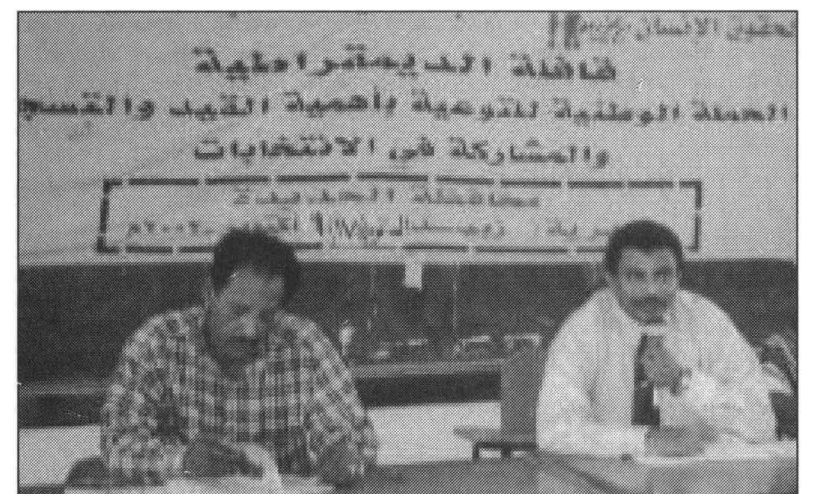
The seminar was attended by the director of the province, Abdullah Al Medwahi, the local council secretary general, Akram Ateeia, and political parties representatives as well as social figures in Zabid.

A symposium in faculty of education

Another symposium was held in cooperation with the UNDP, at the faculty of education in Zabid.

The open seminar was attended by the Dean of the faculty, Dr. Asharjahi, Hameed Khalid, the media representative in HRITC and a large number of students.

The working papers of the symposium have confirmed the significance



of stabilizing the democratic operation through enhance people practicing their rights which has been the constitution starting with the registration phase.

Symposium in Atuhita

Yemen's democratic team has resumed its mission and held the third symposium in Tuhita, constituency No. 177.

It witnessed a huge public attendance and officials like province director, Abdul Gabbar Shaif, Abdullah Ahiaf PM, Adel Ahiaf, local council secretary general and political parties representatives in the province, dr. Asharjahi, Khalid Hameed and Assem Al Garebi.

These symposiums come as due to the number of letters and contacts the HRITC has received from different social and political figures in Hodiedah, Taiz, Aden on the importance of the enhancing people to register their selves.

Mr. Ezdeen Al Asbahi,, Chairman of the Hritc said that this program is the an endurance of the importance of the civil organizations role in supporting the democratic process. He added that these symposiums are a good step and public response was positive.

There are many activities in Bait Al Faqeeh, Marawa'ah in Hodiedah governorate and in Shara'an, Messrakh, in Taiz to be conducted by the Hritc with in the coming days.

VACANCY

Administrative Assistant / Executive Secretary (IDA-Credit 3422)

The IDA-financed Basic Education Expansion Project seeks applicants for the position of Administrative Assistant / Executive Secretary who under the general direction of the Project Director will have overall responsibility for providing administrative and secretarial support to the staff of the Credit Administration Unit. The candidate will work under a highly effective and demanding work environment. In this respect, the candidate will, inter alia:

- Provide secretarial and operational assistance to professional staff involved in various activities.
- Ensure quality of outgoing correspondence and other related documents.
- Manage the filing system and record management.
- Schedule appointments.
- Arrange for translations.
- Manage the leave and attendance system.
- Handle the logistics of conferences and workshops.

Qualifications:

- A Graduate degree
- At least 5 years experience in office logistic management.
- Good interpersonal skills and experience in the management of secretarial staff.
- Excellent communication skills.
- Computer knowledge and familiarity with MS-Office applications.
- Proficiency in speaking and writing Arabic and English.

Applications along with a detailed resume and copies of supporting documents should be submitted to **Basic Education Expansion Project/ Projects' Sector Building 3rd floor, Zubairi-Baghdad St., Sana'a** not later than Wednesday, October 23, 2002



Raising political and democratic awareness among the public is the major duty of the HRITC

Palestinian suicide bomber foiled in Tel Aviv

TEL AVIV, Oct 12 (Reuters) - Israeli security men guarding the U.S. embassy in Tel Aviv captured a Palestinian suicide bomber who bolted from the entrance of a nearby cafe after his explosive belt set off a metal detector alarm, police said. No one was injured in the incident on Tel Aviv's busy beachfront esplanade on Friday night, apparently the latest attempt by Palestinian militant groups to avenge recent Israeli army raids in the Gaza Strip which caused Palestinian civilian casualties. On Saturday morning, a Palestinian farmer was shot dead by Israeli troops as he was working in a field in Gaza near the border with Israel, Palestinian witnesses and hospital officials said. The army said it was checking the report.

The foiled bombing in Tel Aviv marked the second time in two days Palestinian suicide attackers failed to hit their intended targets in what appeared to be a fresh wave of bombing attempts.

"Palestinian terrorists are having trouble resisting any opportunity to strike at Israeli civilians in the hearts of our cities," said David Baker, an official in Prime Minister Ariel Sharon's office.

Briefing reporters at the scene, police officers said the bomber, who they identified as a Palestinian, tried to enter the crowded seafood Teyelet Cafe.

"I checked him with a metal detector and it began to beep," the cafe's security guard, Michael Sarkisov, told Israel Radio.

"I asked him, 'What's this?', and he answered, 'It's mine'...His hand was in his pocket and I saw wires in it. I realised he was a terrorist."

"I grabbed his hand...but he began to flee. I called out to the embassy guards and said 'I need help, there's a terrorist'."

SECURITY GUARD "REAL HERO"

The security men, stationed at the embassy about 20 metres (yards) away, grabbed the bomber and pinned him to the ground until police arrived to neutralise the device and arrest him.

"The real hero was the cafe security guard who prevented a heavy tragedy," Tel Aviv police chief Yossi Sedbon told



A Palestinian suicide bomber is led into custody (C) outside an Israeli police station after failing in an attempt to attack a crowded cafe on Tel Aviv's busy beachfront on October, 11, 2002.

reporters. "The place was packed."

The Tel Aviv esplanade was the scene of a suicide bombing in June 2001 that killed 22 young people waiting to enter a nightclub in one of the deadliest Palestinian attacks in their two-year-old uprising against Israeli occupation. Israeli places of entertainment now station security guards at their entrances.

In the Gaza Strip, thousands of gunmen from Yasser Arafat's Fatah faction marched on Friday in a show of strength against the militant Islamic

group Hamas over the killing of a Palestinian police chief by a Hamas member.

It was the largest turnout of armed Palestinians for a street demonstration in Gaza City since the start of the uprising and highlighted mounting tensions between supporters of Palestinian President Yasser Arafat and Hamas.

"We call on the parties that claim to have no connection to the assassination of Colonel Rajeh Abu Lehiya to end their policy of chaos and anarchy," a Fatah statement distributed at the rally

said in clear reference to Hamas.

Abu Lehiya, chief of riot police in Gaza, was abducted and killed on Sunday by a gunman in an incident that triggered fighting between police and militants in which six people, including two who died in hospital on Friday, were killed.

Hamas leaders, while acknowledging the gunman belonged to the group, said it was not involved in the killing.

Imad Akel said he killed the police chief to avenge the death of his brother by riot police during protests a year ago in support of Osama bin Laden, blamed by Washington for the September 11 attacks on U.S. cities.

SECOND BOMBING ATTEMPT

The Tel Aviv incident occurred a day after a Palestinian suicide bomber failed in an attempt to blow up a commuter bus on a main road near Tel Aviv.

After slipping off the steps of the bus, he was briefly held down by its driver and a passenger but they let go, fearing the bomb could detonate. He then ran towards bystanders and blew up, killing an elderly woman.

Hamas, whose members have killed scores of Israelis in suicide bombings since the start of the uprising in September 2000, claimed responsibility for the attack.

It said it was avenging an Israeli raid on militants in the Gaza Strip on Monday that killed 17 Palestinians and wounded at least 80. Civilians were among the casualties and Israel drew international condemnation.

At least 1,607 Palestinians and 604 Israelis have been killed since the uprising erupted after peace talks froze.

Iraq's Muslim clerics urge jihad if U.S. attacks

BAGHDAD, Oct 12 (Reuters) - Some 500 Iraqi Muslim clerics and scholars issued a religious edict on Saturday calling on Muslims to launch a holy war to "burn the earth under the feet" of the United States if it attacked Iraq.

"If, God forbid, the aggression takes place, declaring Jihad against the evil American administration is the duty of every able Muslim," said the fatwa, or edict, approved by the clerics and scholars at a meeting in Baghdad.

The fatwa said the holy war should include enlisting to fight alongside Iraq, striking U.S. interests and launching economic boycott of the United States and its allies.

President George W. Bush is consid-

ering a U.S. military invasion of Iraq to topple President Saddam Hussein, who Washington accuses of developing weapons of mass destruction.

Baghdad denies having nuclear, chemical or biological weapons. It has vowed to defeat any attack.

"If they try to attack, they will find in every iota of sand, every mountain, plain and valley a fire that will burn the earth under their feet," the edict said.

The clerics said attacking Iraq was part of what they called the U.S. war on Islam in Afghanistan and against the Palestinians.

"Muslims: Your religion and your Islam calls on you to join the Jihad alongside Iraq, the Iraq of the faithful...", the fatwa said.

Malta arrests al Qaeda suspect

VALLETTA, October 11 (Reuters) - Maltese police said late on Friday they had arrested a Tunisian national suspected of having links to the al Qaeda network.

The arrest of Hamadi Bouyahia, 36, was made on Thursday night in an apartment in Paceville, Malta's nightlife district four miles (6 km) north of Valletta.

The arrest was made following a request by Italian authorities as part of an operation in which four other Tunisians were arrested in Milan and Naples.

Bouyahia arrived in Malta a month ago and is suspected of involvement in forging documents, Maltese officials

said. The Italian police have requested his extradition.

Maltese police said they were questioning 10 other Tunisians, seven men and three women, found with the suspect.

The Mediterranean island had promised in the wake of the September 11 attacks last year that it would cooperate fully in the fight against terrorism.

Malta also cooperated with US investigators when it was alleged that a suitcase bomb which downed a Pan Am Boeing 747 jet over Lockerbie, Scotland, in 1988 had started its journey from Malta.

Turk PM urges U.S. not to back Kurd state in Iraq

ANKARA, Oct 12 (Reuters) - Turkish Prime Minister Bulent Ecevit has warned the United States not to encourage Iraqi Kurds to found their own state as that could force Turkey to intervene to protect its interests.

Turkey and the Iraqi Kurds would both be key allies in any U.S. action to topple Iraqi President Saddam Hussein and both are expected to drive a hard bargain for their support.

NATO-member Turkey fears turmoil on its borders in the event of a U.S.-led war could spread unrest among its own Kurdish population if the Iraqi Kurds take advantage of the chaos to push for an independent Kurdish state in northern Iraq.

"On the Iraq issue, things have got out of hand," Ecevit told reporters on Saturday during a party meeting as part of the election campaign for November 3 polls.

Late on Friday Ecevit had warned the United States to be careful in its dealings with the Iraqi Kurds.

"Is the point for Turkey to intervene the point when a state is declared and recognised by European states?" Ecevit said in an interview with Star TV, quoted by Anatolian news agency.

"It seems like that point is coming,

to warn the U.S. administration about that. I hope the U.S. will be more careful about the issue," he said.

Turkey already allows U.S. and British warplanes to use an airbase in the south to patrol a no-fly zone over northern Iraq set up after the 1991 Gulf War and Washington is expected to seek more support from Turkey if it goes to war in Iraq.

Washington would also be looking for the Iraqi Kurds, who have ruled northern Iraq outside Baghdad's control since the Gulf War, to help in any campaign against Iraq.

TENSE RELATIONSHIP

Relations are tense between the two potential allies, Turkey and the Iraqi Kurds. Ankara is deeply suspicious of recent moves to improve relations between the two main Iraqi Kurd factions which led to the first meeting of a regional parliament since 1996 earlier this month.

The two Kurdish parties have agreed on a draft constitution for a federal Iraq including references to a flag, a presidency and the oil-rich city of Kirkuk as regional capital.

"It really is a worrying situation and one that we can not accept," Ecevit said.

ing an independent state.

Turkey has fought its own Kurdish separatist movement since 1984 at the cost of 30,000 lives, though the fighting has died down since the capture of rebel leader Abdullah Ocalan in 1999.

Ecevit has repeatedly urged the United States to avoid war, which Turkey fears would also damage its already fragile economy by scaring away tourists and foreign investors.

"We have very good relations and a strong dialogue with United States. If a military operation is realised, we will be involved in it whether or not we want to be. This will bring many problems to Turkey," Ecevit was quoted as saying on Friday.

"We want peace in our region and our borders. And we don't want our soldiers to be harmed unless there is a need," he said on Saturday.

U.S. President George Bush won full congressional support this week for a military strike against Iraq if necessary. Washington is now trying to persuade the United Nations Security Council to adopt a tough new resolution on weapons inspections.

Policy on Iraq is expected to remain unchanged whatever the result



Welcome to

Queen Arwa University

A member of Arab Universities Union, Islamic Universities, The International Universities and a member of Higher Education Council

Queen Arwa University announces the start of registration period in its different colleges for the year 2002/2003

New Department Established:

Dentistry- Pharmacology - Laboratories

Faculty of Engineering

- 1- Computer.
- 2- Decoration.
- 3- Internal Designing.

Higher Studies (MA & Diploma)

- A: Educational & Social Sciences.**
1-Sociology and Social Services.
2-Psychology and Educational Sciences.
3-Methodology and Curriculum.
- B: Administrative and account- ing Sciences.**
1-Administrative Sciences.
2-Management.
3-Accounting.
- C: Economical and Political Sciences.**
- D: Woman Studies.**
- E: Public Law Diploma.**
- F: Private Law Diploma.**
- G: Criminal Sciences Diploma.**
- H: Management Diploma.**

Faculty of Arts and Human Sciences

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- 2- Special Education.
- 3- Social Services Dep.
- 3- Tourism.
- 4- General Relations.
- 6- Libraries, Information and Documentary Dep.

Faculty of Economy and Administrative Sciences

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 - 2-Accounting.
 - 3-Management.
 - 4-Political Sciences.
 - 5-Marketing.
 - 6-Information Technology.
- Intermediate Diploma in**
- 1-Secretarial Diploma and Office Management.
 - 2-Accounting.
 - 3-Management.
 - 4-Computer
 - 5-Tourism
 - 6- Information Technology and Office Programming.

Students from outside Yemen can register by faxing their application, sending it to our post office mail box, sending it electronically to our email address, delivering it via our Yemeni embassies in Dubai, Doha, Manama, Jeddah, Amman, Damascus, or sending it via the following offices:

Manama Office (Bahrain): Tel. 774271 Fax: 772881
Riyadh Office (Saudi Arabia):
Tel. 009665 6986908 - Fax: 2326736
Jeddah Office (Saudi Arabia): Mobile 0096653379877
Fax: 0096622802028
Damascus Office (Syria): Telefax: 5940098-5911097
Gaza Office (Palestine): Gaza Tel. 0097082867265

Notes:

- * Residence reservations for male & female students is dealt with according to requirement priority.
- * Intermediate students can join and study BA degree.
- * Transportation to and from the University can be

Kuwait arrests 26 in "terrorist" plot

KUWAIT, Oct 12 (Reuters) - Kuwait has arrested 26 suspects who formed a local al Qaeda-style "cell" for allegedly plotting to attack vital Kuwait and American targets in the oil-rich state, security sources said on Saturday.

Two key members of the cell, who had trained in al Qaeda camps in Afghanistan, were killed on Tuesday during an attack on U.S. Marines training on a Kuwaiti island.

One Marine was killed and another was wounded in what Kuwait called a "terrorist act".

"They are 26 suspects now, all of them are youths. The youngest is 18," a security source told Reuters of the investigation which followed Tuesday's attack.

Scores of people, mainly known Islamists with links to the attackers

and Afghanistan, were rounded up and questioned.

Security sources said the plot included plans to attack an oil tanker in the OPEC member state, an entertainment park close to U.S. military base Camp Doha, a school where some Americans work mainly with Kuwaiti children and other targets.

Official charges and details of the arrested cell are due to be made public later on Saturday by Kuwait's Interior Minister Sheikh Mohammad Khaled al-Sabah, who is also expected to show confession tapes by some of the suspects, sources said.

Some of the suspects had been arrested in the past by Kuwaiti authorities for questioning when returning from Afghanistan and on other charges, the sources said.

No sign of panic

A major American school, where some of the U.S. embassy staff send

their children, has stepped up already tight security. But sources said it was not on the list of targets.



Kuwait officials talk to press about the 26 arrested in what is being called a terrorist plot. REUTERS

On Saturday, the start of the week in the Muslim world, security precautions around some foreign schools in Kuwait appeared to be unchanged with no signs of panic, despite a global warning by the U.S. State Department on "credible indication" of plots against U.S. civilians.

Kuwait is home to some 8,000 U.S. civilians while 10,000 troops are currently in the small country as part of intensified training and an operation, with British warplanes, to enforce a no-fly zone over southern Iraq.

The well-protected and almost sealed Camp Doha on the outskirts of the capital Kuwait City is a transformed warehousing complex which the United States has been using for some of its troops and stored military hardware since leading the 1991 Gulf War.

US Congress passes bill threatening sanctions on Sudan

WASHINGTON, Oct 11 (Reuters) - Congress has passed a bill imposing sanctions on Sudan if the Bush administration finds it is not negotiating in good faith with southern rebels or is hindering humanitarian work in the south, a U.S. State Department official said on Friday.

President George W. Bush is expected to sign the bill, known as the Sudan Peace Act, into law but no date for that has been set, the official added.

The bill passed the House of Representatives on Monday and the U.S. Senate on Wednesday night, he added.

Under the act, the administration must decide every six months whether the government and the rebel Sudan People's Liberation Movement, or SPLM, are negotiating in good faith.

If the administration faults the government but not the SPLM, then the United States would vote against multilateral loans to Sudan, consider downgrading diplomatic relations with the vast African country, try to prevent the government from using oil revenues to buy weapons and seek a U.N. Security Council resolution imposing an arms embargo on Khartoum.

The bill also authorizes the administration to spend \$100 million a year for the next three years on humanitarian aid to parts of Sudan outside government control.

It requires the Secretary of State to collect information about possible war crimes, genocide and crimes against humanity committed by all parties in the Sudanese conflict.

West Africans in new bid for Ivory Coast truce

BOUAKE, Ivory Coast, Oct 12 (Reuters) - West African peacemakers began to crank up efforts again on Saturday to halt a three-week-old rebellion in Ivory Coast that threatens to spread turmoil through the region.

Hundreds have died in fighting since a failed coup on September 19 and the fear of more bloodshed has forced tens of thousands from their homes in an impoverished corner of the world little prepared for a new refugee crisis. Senegal's Foreign Minister Cheikh

Tidiane Gadio was due to travel on Saturday to the rebel stronghold of Bouake to talk to fighters of the Patriotic Movement of Ivory Coast. He called off a visit on Friday because it could not be organised in time.

Rebel commander Tuo Fozie told reporters Gadio was likely to arrive by French military helicopter during the morning and he had agreed to speak to him "out of politeness".

Other mediators were expected to arrive on Saturday in the main city of

Abidjan.

The fighting has split the country between the rebel-held north, largely Muslim and which has long felt excluded from power, and the mostly Christian south, which is much more supportive of the government.

West African mediators got the rebels to agree to a ceasefire last week-end, but their efforts to get a truce signed fell apart when President Laurent Gbagbo refused and the army went on the offensive.

The main sticking point remains whether the rebels must disarm before talks. Gbagbo says they must, but the rebels say they do not trust him and will not put down their guns first.

The government's position has weakened since the failure of its offensive to take Bouake earlier this week. Many of the rebels now say they see no need for a ceasefire and want to march on Abidjan, 360 km (225 miles) south of the city.



A critically ill woman lies in the courtyard of the centre for mentally ill people at Bouake hospital on October 12, 2002. REUTERS

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In Pakistan

Religious parties carry more weight than ever

ISLAMABAD, Oct 12 (Reuters) - A party loyal to Pakistan's President Pervez Musharraf emerged on top on Saturday in elections which saw shock gains for hardline Islamists but were dismissed as flawed by European Union observers. The unprecedented showing by religious parties left them as major players in Pakistan's political power game and could undermine Islamabad's support for the U.S.-led war on terror.

But observers from the EU issued a damning report on the poll on Saturday, slamming the authorities for using state resources to back particular parties and changing the constitution so the military retained ultimate power in Pakistan.

"The holding of a general election does not in itself guarantee the establishment of a democracy," the EU's chief election observer John Cushman told a news conference.

"Regrettably... the Pakistan authorities engaged in a course of action which resulted in serious flaws in the electoral process."

With just four of 272 constituency seats still to be confirmed, the Pakistan Muslim League Quaid-e-Azam — dubbed the "king's party" for its backing of Musharraf — had won 77 seats. The EU said PML(QA) had been the main beneficiary of official attempts to interfere in the election.

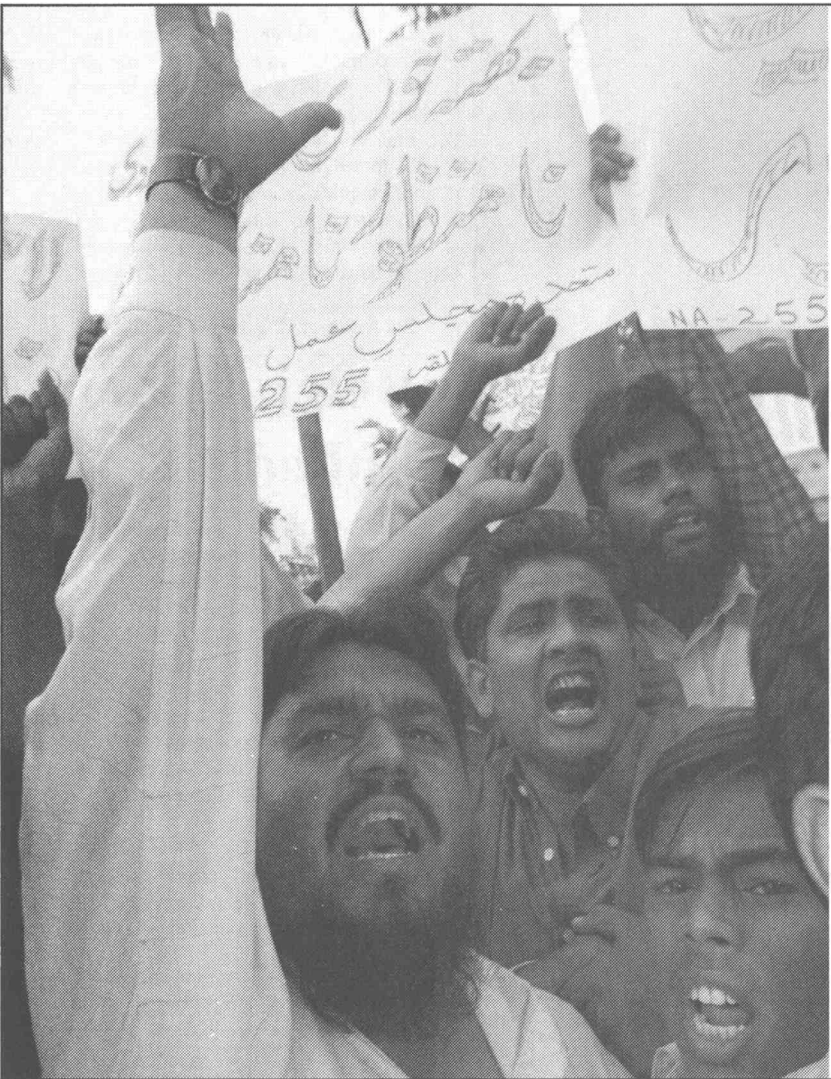
But with no single party gaining a majority, newspapers predicted an intense period of political jockeying, and commentators and diplomats said it was hard to imagine a stable coalition government emerging in Pakistan.

"The rocky road ahead," was how one newspaper put it in an editorial on Saturday.

The emergence of the religious right as the dominant force in the two provinces bordering Afghanistan could also complicate U.S. efforts to track down al Qaeda and Taliban militants thought to be sheltering there, diplomats said.

"Ever since the war on terror began we had a perfect interlocutor in Musharraf, because as president he was pretty much in control of everything," said one Western diplomat.

"We always knew that after the elections everything would become much more complicated anyway because there are so many more players to deal



Supporters of Muthedda Majlis-e-Amal, an alliance of six hardline Islamic religious parties, chant slogans against alleged rigging in vote counting during a demonstration in Karachi on October. REUTERS

with," he said. "All this does is complicate things even more."

Even with the support of many independent candidates, it was likely PML(QA) would be forced to enter an uneasy coalition either with one of Musharraf's fiercest critics or with the hardline Islamic parties.

With divisions even within PML(QA), "it is quite an unstable situation," said retired general Talat Masood.

In one corner lies the Pakistan Peoples Party of exiled former Prime Minister Benazir Bhutto, with 62 seats, which has already dismissed the election as rigged.

In another lies the Muthedda Majlis-e-Amal (MMA), a disparate grouping

of six religious parties which exploited anger at Pakistan's cooperation with Washington in the war on terror to win 50 seats, up from just two in 1997.

Both parties are likely to play hard ball, with the PPP said in one newspaper to be demanding the prime minister's job and MMA leaders saying they would only form a government which supported "Islamic objectives".

HUNT FOR AL QAEDA AND TALIBAN

One of those objectives during the MMA's election campaign was the removal of U.S. bases in Pakistan and an end to the hunt for Taliban and al Qaeda militants who have fled to the country from Afghanistan.

But MMA vice-president Qazi

Hussein Ahmed gave an early indication on Friday his members might soften their stance if they actually made it into government.

"We will adopt a prudent policy. We will work in consultation with all internal forces," he told Reuters. "No one is a fool to put himself or his nation into trouble."

Others also looked forward to a more pragmatic approach.

"When they are in parliament, if they form part of government, they will become more responsible," said Rahimullah Yusuzai, a newspaper editor and expert on Pakistan's rugged border lands Afghanistan.

"But the way Pakistan has been arresting any suspect of al Qaeda and handing them over to the U.S., that is very unpopular here," he added. "Until now Musharraf has been doing this on his own, but now he is going to have to be very careful."

Pakistan's junior foreign minister Inam-ul-Haq told Reuters at a summit in Ankara that he saw no change in foreign policy after the election, adding it would be up to the religious parties whether to join government or go into opposition. But one retired Pakistani general said the scenario could become much more dangerous if the religious parties formed provincial governments in the regions bordering Afghanistan but were excluded from government in the centre.

"Knowing the American mind, they have never allowed fundamentalists to come to power," said Aslam Beg. "But instead of sidelining them, if you bring them in here (Islamabad) there are strong forces who can restrain them."

If they are excluded "that will be the beginning of a very unstable situation," he said. "Today the whole frontier regions are very volatile... I shudder to think."

General Musharraf took power in a coup three years ago and has since become a key Western ally in the war on terrorism.

But despite promising to hand over executive powers to the prime minister after this election, he retains considerable authority as president, after changing the constitution to give himself the right to dismiss parliament.

He institutionalised the role of the military in running the country through the establishment of a National Security Council.

Warning to donors

Aid to Afghans not enough says U.N.

KABUL, Oct 12 (Reuters) - The United Nations warned international donors on Saturday that current aid levels were not sufficient to restore peace and stability in Afghanistan. Speaking at the start of a meeting between donor countries and institutions and the Afghan government, the U.N. special representative for Afghanistan said the country needed massive investment to help peace take hold.

"There has been significant international support; however it is not quite sufficient to bring back peace and stability to the country," Lakhdar Brahimi said.

"Micro-level programmes are well on the way, but without massive nationwide large-scale investment, the country cannot handle some of the most immediate peace-building tasks."

Donors pledged \$4.5 billion to war-shattered Afghanistan over five years in January, but this has been slow in arriving and the government complains it is much less than was offered to countries like Bosnia and East Timor.

Brahimi said hundreds of thousands of jobs needed to be created and masses of refugees reintegrated. He said factional fighters and farmers growing opium needed help to find alternative

livelihoods.

He said much would also depend on what steps were taken to improve security, while the attempted assassination of President Hamid Karzai last month showed how difficult this task was.

Brahimi said government steps towards the creation of a national army also needed to be implemented fast and generously supported by donors. But the U.N. envoy also had some words of encouragement.

He applauded the interim government for making "great strides" since its formation under the Bonn agreement 10 months ago to replace the Taliban, and said the goals set out by Karzai at the January donors meeting in Tokyo had mostly been met.

HOPE FOR FORCEFUL ACTION

"A few weeks before the anniversary of the Bonn Agreement, I hope the international community will turn its undoubted commitment to Afghanistan into more forceful action," he said.

In his speech to the meeting, Karzai said the government would like to see a gradual shift in focus from humanitarian assistance to the reconstruction of basic infrastructure to enable Afghanistan to become self sufficient again.



Afghan girls carry bread for sale in Kabul October. Many Afghan children work at an early age to support their families. After more than 23 years of occupation and civil war, Afghans face severe poverty and poor health due to malnutrition and diseases. REUTERS

Bomb kills one in Nepal's capital

KATHMANDU, Oct 12 (Reuters) - Suspected Maoist rebels detonated a bomb in Nepal's capital of Kathmandu, killing one person and injuring eight, a day after King Gyanendra appointed a new prime minister and handed power to an interim government, witnesses said.

The bomb exploded in the early morning in a street lined with shops near a traffic island where a bust of King Mahendra, Gyanendra's father, stands on a marble pedestal.

The structure was covered with red cloth and blood stained the road in the Kalimati district hours after the bomb exploded.

A witness said he saw two people lying on the street.

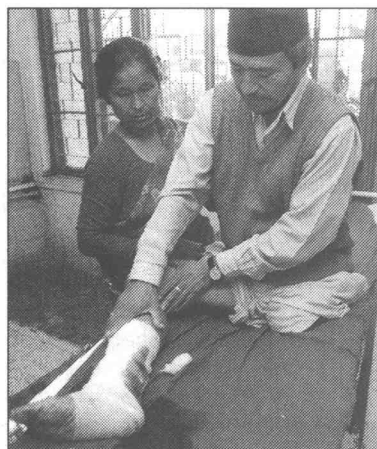
"There was blood on the street and two people had fallen down. One of them looked dead," he said.

Officials said the bomb, which exploded at about 5 a.m. (2315 GMT), was probably detonated by rebels.

"We suspect Maoist rebels are behind this attack," an interior ministry official, who did not want to be identified, told Reuters.

The injured were being treated at a government hospital.

"Eight people have been brought from the blast. Six were discharged



Nepalese bomb blast victim Chandra Bahadur Maharjan and his wife Ram Kumari look at his bleeding leg at a hospital in Kathmandu October. REUTERS

ment," a doctor at the Bir Hospital told Reuters.

Kathmandu has been hit by a series of blasts in recent weeks but there have been no casualties reported until Saturday's explosion.

Maoist rebels are fighting for communist rule in the world's only Hindu kingdom. More than 5,000 people, most of them guerrillas, have been killed in the six-year revolt — more than 2,000 since 1996, after the

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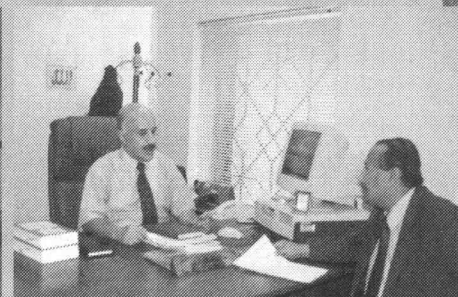
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Another shooting similar to Beltway sniper attacks

WASHINGTON, Oct 12 (Reuters) - Ballistics experts were analyzing evidence from a fatal shooting in Virginia that was eerily similar to nine sniper attacks around Washington's Beltway, and results could be released on Saturday.

There was no official confirmation in the early hours of Saturday that the killing of a man at a gasoline station near a busy interstate highway south of Washington on Friday was related to other area attacks that have killed seven people and injured two in the last 10 days.

However, the Washington Post said on its Web site late Friday that ballistics evidence showed conclusively that Friday's shooting of Kenneth Bridges, 53, of Philadelphia, was linked to the others that have shaken the U.S. capital region. The Post cited law enforcement sources.

There was no comment available early Saturday in calls to police in suburban Montgomery County, Maryland, where the first five sniper shootings occurred in a bloody 15-hour spree that began Oct. 2. Experts at the U.S. Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms laboratory in Montgomery County were analyzing the ballistics evidence from the latest shooting, but there was no comment from the agency early Saturday.

In addition to the Montgomery County shootings, sniper attacks also killed one man in Washington D.C. and another in Virginia, and wounded a woman in Virginia and a 13-year-old boy as he stood outside his school in Prince George's County in Maryland.

STATE TROOPER NEARBY

Friday's killing occurred at 9:30 a.m. (1330 GMT) at an Exxon station off the busy I-95 highway south of Washington. Bridges fell even as a Virginia state



Law enforcement investigators, using metal detectors, search for evidence near a Massaponax, Virginia gas station, where a man was gunned down, the latest in a spree of random shootings on October 11, 2002. REUTERS

trooper was dealing with a traffic accident across the street.

The trooper rushed to help the victim, who was later confirmed dead at an area hospital.

"With a uniformed officer across the street, we are obviously dealing with someone who is very violent, and doesn't care," Howard Smith, of the Spotsylvania County police, told reporters at the scene.

Montgomery County Police Chief Charles Moose, who has been at the

forefront of the sniper investigation, noted the similarity between the latest shooting and the others.

"The shooting certainly looks similar, but there's also a lot of interest in terms of ballistics evidence," Moose said at a briefing.

The sniper's first fatal shooting also occurred very close to a police officer. Three of the sniper attacks took place at gasoline stations, and if Friday's killing is confirmed to be by the sniper, it would be the fourth by a station.

In each of the officially linked cases, police have said the sniper fired a single shot from high-velocity rifle from long range and chose his victims at random.

No witnesses have reported seeing a gunman, although all the attacks occurred in public places and, and all but two in broad daylight.

The killings have unnerved residents in the capital and its usually tranquil suburbs, who are still reeling from the Sept. 11, 2001, attacks on the Pentagon and the anthrax letters sent soon afterward.

U.N. Council to hold open meeting on Iraq

UNITED NATIONS, Oct 11 (Reuters) - The U.N. Security Council decided to hold an open debate on Iraq on Wednesday, although a resolution on possible military action will probably not be introduced by then.

Cameroun's U.N. ambassador, Martin Belinga-Eboutou, this month's Security Council president, said late on Friday the decision was unanimous among the 15-member body.

Diplomats said the United States wanted the meeting later in the week but compromised with the majority during Friday's closed council session.

France, which is leading criticism of a U.S.-drafted resolution, stands to benefit from a public meeting, as dozens of ambassadors are expected to tell the council what they think of the U.S. proposals, still being debated among key council members.

But the meeting is bound to draw criticism from hardliners in Washington, who objected to the Bush administration's decision to go to the United Nations in the first place.

The U.S. draft would rewrite the ground rules for inspections and allow any U.N. member to decide, without further council consultation, when Iraq has violated any terms of the new resolution and then launch a military strike.

France opposes this and wants to give U.N. arms inspectors a chance to do their work and then have the council authorize force if Iraq balks.

The meeting was requested by South Africa on behalf of the 130-member Non-Aligned Movement of developing nations.

"We believe that the proposed elements of such a resolution include issues that are of importance to the entire membership of the United Nations," Dumisani Kumalo, South Africa's U.N. ambassador, wrote to the Security Council this week.

Belgium arrests man said linked to al Qaeda-report

BRUSSELS, Oct 12 (Reuters) - Belgian police have arrested a suspected member of an Islamic militant network linked to al Qaeda and to the murder of Afghan opposition leader Ahmad Shah Masood, the national newspaper De Standaard said on Saturday.

The Belgian public prosecutor declined comment on the report and police in Antwerp, where the man was detained, referred inquiries to the prosecutor's office without comment.

De Standaard said the 35-year-old suspect, a Belgian of Moroccan descent, was arrested on Thursday and charged with forming a criminal association. The paper did not name him.

The man was suspected of belonging to a network led by Tarek Maaroufi, arrested

in Belgium last year on charges of recruiting Muslims to Osama bin Laden's al Qaeda training camps in Afghanistan, De Standaard said. Maaroufi is being held in a probe into the theft of Belgian passports in 1999 from the consulate in Strasbourg, France, and the embassy in the Netherlands. Masood's killers, who posed as journalists and blew themselves up while conducting a mock interview with the guerrilla leaders two days before the September 11 attacks on the United States, were carrying two of the stolen passports.

De Standaard quoted a spokeswoman of the public prosecutor as saying the charges against the latest suspect could be expanded once more information was gained on his role within the Maaroufi network.

Deadly Finnish shopping mall blast caused by bomb

HELSINKI, Oct 12 (Reuters) - A powerful blast that rocked a packed shopping centre in a Helsinki suburb, killing seven and injuring dozens, was caused by a bomb, Finnish authorities said on Saturday.

"A bomb exploded," said Seppo Kujala, Police Chief of Vantaa where the shopping mall, the second largest in the country and packed with some 2,000 Friday evening shoppers at the time of blast, is located.

"The issue is not of an accident, the issue is of a criminal act. Only the number of victims shows what a shocking, ruthless and despicable thing this is," a sombre Interior Minister Ville Itala told a news conference.



An injured child on a stretcher is carried into an ambulance near the mall Myyrmanni in Vantaa on October. REUTERS

The blast, Finland's deadliest for decades, ripped through the first floor of the crowded mall at about 7:30 p.m. (1630 GMT), killing seven people and injuring more than 80 and sending screaming shoppers fleeing in fear amid flying debris.

Hospitals said several of the injured were in critical condition and the death toll could rise.

Prime Minister Paavo Lipponen, who held a crisis meeting with his cabinet, said a terrorist attack was one possibility being considered.

"But I hope it is not such a crime," he told Finnish radio.

Police said they had no idea who planted the bomb in a populated area but appealed to the public for information about one of the victims, a unidentified man.

National Bureau of Investigation Deputy Chief Jari Liukku said the agency, which has taken over the investigation, was considering all possible motives for the bombing, including the possibility of a terror attack.

"We are keeping all the lines open at the moment," Liukku told Reuters. "We are cooperating with national and international authorities."

The explosion badly damaged an area of some 300 square metres (3,200 sq ft) and sent metal debris and glass flying across the three-storey building.

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Huge losses expected from burned Limburg

The livelihood of thousands of fishermen is being threatened by the leak of crude oil caused by fire on the French oil tanker Limburg which blew up off the coast of Yemen last week.

The oil slick is having serious impact on fish and other marine life in the area, in addition to the nearby fishing industry. Preliminary information available at al-Shahar area confirms fish in the area have died in the oil-slicks.

More than 250 fishermen from Shahar area have also stopped fishing there.

The area is renowned for having large quantities of the highest quality kinds of fish in the world. Area fishing provides a living for more than 2,000 people. Their livelihoods are threatened by the oil slicks.

The environmental hazard is threatening the coast of Mukalla port, and the coast of Hadramaut. Such a threat would, however, threaten livelihoods of as many as 7,200 fishermen who fish in the broader area.



French oil tanker limburg

Yemen's Minister of Tourism and Environment Abdulmalik al-Eryani has

said the environmental impact of this incident is expected to be grave, both

economically and socially.

Ecological consequences are expected

to last for a long time of poor equipment used for probing the water damage and in cleaning it up, and wind movement which is causing the slick to spread.

Experts believe that the burning of the tanker off the Mukalla port threatens not only all marine life, but also birds. Vapors rising from the oil may be carried across the larger coastal area.

Experts warn that oil contains many poisons that may also cause cancers.

To avoid further disaster, crews are attempting to clean the shores by moving large quantities of sand, and dumping it far from shore.

Other water pollution can be confined with special equipment, shovels and sweepers. This equipment is not available in Yemen, so the country needs to get it quickly before it can do the clean-up.

The oil tanker incident has added an unexpected burden on the Yemeni state budget and the government's development efforts. This is also putting pressure on to speedily deal with clean-up costs.

Agriculture and industry needs more R&D

MAHYOUB AL-KAMALI
YEMEN TIMES STAFF

Developing Yemen's program for scientific research and development is an important way to increase agricultural and industrial production, says an expert in the field.

But such research and development (R&D) needs more attention and funding, notes Dr. Mustafa Bahrani, chairman of the SNCNE, the science and technology advisor to the president.

Some economic studies report that creating scientific research institutions would help increase the volume of agricultural and industrial production by up to 50 per cent, and consequently increase exports by up to 30 per cent annually.

Both agricultural and industrial production processes need to give some of their resources for the development of R&D.

This effort includes defining production rates commensurate to the rate of domestic consumption, and measuring surplus volumes by using well-studied marketing methods and getting proceeds in hard currency.

Agricultural production in Yemen is still dependent on rainfall seasons, and industry in accordance to the short-term plans of national industries.

Banks financial resources in Yemen come from deposits rather than from investments in scientific research. This is confirmed by the weakness of locally-produced goods in competition with imported commodities.

Also, Yemeni banks do not develop their work through personal loans to

enable producers and consumers to handle modern production equipment, and establishing the knowledge-based economy. The only organization in Yemen that works in scientific research is the State National Commission for Nuclear Energy (SNCNE). This commission is active in many areas, the most important is linking the use of nuclear energy to boost agricultural and industrial production.

Established in 1996 to conduct R&D, the organization and its work has kicked into high gear in the last 18 months, said Bahrani.

The organization has a long way to go to achieve its goals, especially the goal of increasing national production and research. For this reason the private sector should help in R&D of new products and improve the quality of existing goods.

The state's efforts seem to be able to solve problems of the private sector under the policy of the free market, he said.

Dr Bahrani said Yemen has the knowledge potential, and money, but it's not being put to R&D.

Banks should support new companies specializing in communications and internet, and encourage these companies to invest in the R&D needed by industrial and agricultural groups.

With the government's moves to privatization of public sector institutions, it will be more important to encouraging scientific research.

Giving more money to R&D will raise the level of agricultural and industrial production, help prepare feasibility studies for investment projects, increase investment activities, and link the Yemeni market to foreign markets.

Association is guiding light

Industries develop, but still need help

YEMEN TIMES STAFF

The Yemeni Industrialists Association is one of NGOs of the industrial sector. Established in 1996, it works as a coordinator between private and public sectors. Its mandate is to develop Yemeni industry. To report more, Yasser Al Mayassi of met with Dr. Abdulwahed Al Afori, general manager of the association. Following is an edited version of their conversation.

Can you tell of the association's goals to serve Yemeni industry?

The Yemni Industrialists Association is a non-government organization representing the industrial private sector. It helps industries across Yemen develop and co-ordinate their resources, to help Yemen prosper.

The association was established in 1996 by a large number of industrialists and investors. It has been very successful in its various national and international activities, helping initiate good business methods in the industrial sector in Yemen.

How much does the association work with other groups?

We believe in establishing a wide industrial base to work with partners in Yemeni society: the private sector, government, civil society and other organizations. Our view in this point is helps industrial development, and that it's the key to the success of sustainable development programs in the long and mid terms. With this in mind, the association works hard to establishing relations with all official bodies and private organizations.

The main authority is the Ministry of Trade and Industry, including all linked institutions, the General Authority for Standards and Qualities, the Ministry of Technical Education and Vocational Training, The Ministry of Finance. Tax and Customs Authorities, and many other govern-

mental bodies. Private sector bodies include the Chamber of Commerce, the Agricultural Cooperative Union, the Consumer Protection Association, and others.

What are the association's challenges?

The association is suffering from a variety of difficulties, mainly financial. A funding shortage means projects of the association are delayed. It also means there's a lack of public awareness, and at times misunderstanding of the significant role conducted by NGOs which work for private sector interests. Such a lack of understanding means some businessmen find it hard to know the real role of the association. However, we look at all these difficulties as challenges which we should overcome, and we continue our steady progress.

Do you take part in negotiations between Yemen and the World Trade Organization, to help Yemen get membership in the WTO?

In fact, there is no official representation for the association in the national mechanism that is negotiating to join the WTO even we asked for official participation in this negotiation many times. It seems that the absence of the legislations is behind this delay. We are no looking to issue a decree to get us on the negotiating committee.

What are the negative impacts the WTO may have on our national industries?

It clear that there will be much harm to our national products if a WTO agreement is signed before proper preparations, such as rearranging the local industrial policies and conducting many reforms needed, particularly reforms involving government support for the industrial sector. The important thing is that we should be well-prepared before joining the WTO. We need to gain from the benefits of such agreements. They can help revive economic growth in our coun-

try.

How will Yemen's participation in some GCC institutions effect your industries?

It may seem that there is no future for Yemeni industries in the Gulf States due to the the high living level of Gulf consumers, and the standards and qualities system applied in addition to the development of their local industries. But I think that is not very true.

Once the industrial environment ingredients are available in Yemen: solid infrastructure, services, education and training, building the required institutional administrative and technical abilities in industrial establishments, reform administration and legal judiciary systems, then the future of our national industries will be bright.

I think Yemeni industries are very promising, especially in food industries, agricultural, leather, and clothes. The government is taking this into account and is working on financial reforms. It's now in Year 2 of five-year plan, and I feel very optimistic of the future of Yemni industries.

What is the status of Yemeni industries among other exporting competitors?

There's no doubt, the situation is critical, because the completion is not always fair. Most foreign products exported to our country are from industries supported by their governments. Their goods are produced by high technologies, while our industries still suffer difficulties which lead to production, inflation, and loss in competitive value.

In addition, our national industrial framework is still in its infancy and the required experience and capital is not accessible, compared to other foreign industries. The real goals on targeted outcomes and wise administration, however, has paved the way for many Yemeni products to resist competition and and get to oversea markets along with others.

The Road Ahead

Smart thinkers

BY RAIDAN A. AL-SAQQAF
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In any business organization, the administrators, with all their knowledge and expertise, substitute talk for action because that is what they have been trained for.

Since their days in business schools, they knew that those who sound smart and write smart things in essay examinations make stronger impressions on their professors, and hence get ahead. The same concept may apply in the workplace; those who sound smart are more likely to emerge as leaders. In fact, people who are thought to be more intelligent get hired, promoted, and assigned to coveted and better jobs.

Middle management is the part of the company responsible for processing the administrator's smart talk. Their job is to understand all the jargon and complex language, ideas and concepts, shape it, enrich it with all the details it requires, and facilitate its process. They communicate it to the parts of the organization that are supposed to take action. But there is a difference between this and between what actually happens in practice.

One of the problems facing organizations is the myth that simple prescriptions are not of much value. This myth is common in middle managements. This in turn overwhelms the work force with complex instructions, jargons and smart talk.

This creates a communication gap between the management and the workforce known as the knowing - doing gap. The management should be able to explain organizational strategies with clarity, not impress the employees. No ordinary business organization can perform effectively while its employees are confused about their tasks and the organizational strategies.

Companies that know how to perform effectively have managers who make it a priority to get the work done. These are the types of managers who know and do the work. Their knowledge of the technical know-how should be associated with the practical implementations because they know the experience is the best teacher.

More over, they have a bias for plain language and simple concepts. Plain talk and simple concepts often lead to action, which is usually the job of the lower organization. That is key to success in any business.

In conclusion, smart talk may be a trendy way of presenting ideas and concepts or showing off, but a good manager should use it only when he is sure it will work for the best interests of the organization. Managers should know about the tasks performed by them in order to ensure their best understanding of working concepts and implement them.

Endnote: People try to sound smart not only by being critical but also by using trendy, pretentious language. But still, that is not as effective as plain and simple language and concepts, especially when it comes to getting things done through and with people.

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Words of Wisdom



One of the key characteristics of working in the media is the concept of deadlines. Everything has a deadline. Everybody is under some kind of time pressure. While this pressure may not be good for one's health, it is a wonderful contributor to efficiency.

Prof. Abdulaziz Al-Sagqaf, (1951-1999)
Founder of Yemen Times

OUR
OPINION

Why deny?

Why do we always deny? This week Yemeni officials continued their habit of denying terrorists could be involved in an area attack: this time against the French oil tanker Limburg. It is their right to do so. However, when they are found to be wrong time after time, that damages their own reputation. No one should rule out anything unless solid information is at hand.

Journalists were able to convey this stance to the public because the government is a source of news for all journalists. But when hasty statements only damage its own reputation.

At the same time, I also do not agree with the French Embassy equally hasty statement that this was a terrorist attack. Diplomats need to speak more delicately. Because they represent their nations and governments, they should not reveal anything unless they are 100% assured that what they know and are about to reveal is accurate and will not harm relations between their country and Yemen.

The Yemeni government's denial of the incident's relation to terrorism is not the first of its kind. The government acted in a similar fashion after the USS Cole attack, the attack against the UK embassy last year, and other similar incidents.

The government needs to understand that being attacked is not something that it should be blamed for. Such incidents happen all over the world all the time. The recent attack in Finland show terrorists are everywhere on this planet. The solution is not to deny their existence, but combat them by requesting help from the international community.

This also reminds me of the City Center market explosion of 1999. A few hours after the blast, the government ordered that the remains of the building be removed quickly. The government should have left everything as is until a full investigation is complete and results are out. Instead, the government continues to sweep the dust beneath the carpet. It's a dangerous practice that needs to be changed.

The world is now like a village, and events happening in any part of the world may affect the rest. So, it is obvious for world nations to assist Yemen in its efforts against terrorism.

While we cannot deny that the government has done a splendid job in saving the tanker's crew and facilitating the work of foreign investigators, it also has a lot of work to do in other ways.

It should be open to all possible causes that may happen in any part of the country. It needs to expose evidence and not hide it from the public or the world. In order to relate well to the rest of the world, Yemen must abandon its long-standing denial habit: for the sake of its image and for the sake of our nation's future.

The Editor



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by Dr. Abdulaziz Al-Sagqaf

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Unruly tribes are destroying Yemen's image

Government needs to disarm 'savages'

BY ABDULMAJID AHMED JABER

This summer there was a major gunfight that took place in Mukallah among the tribe called al-Akabiah. Some men were killed and others were severely injured.

The conflict was over a waterway that passes between or near their cultivation land. The incident was abhorrent. People of Mukallah have rightly blamed its perpetrators as wild and ignorant and savages.

Despite the fact that some in the tribe pretend they're heroes for killing each other, they are not. If the matter was settled in court there would be no loss of lives. But some of Yemen's tribes are savages.

Despite the scope of the incident, it was overlooked by Yemen's media. This indicates that even The Times has no agent who can send important news like this back from Mukallah or other remote areas in this governorate.

There were many incidents of the same kind that previously took place in this governorate and likely will still continue. In my view, these incidents show tribesmen have no fear of the government.

Why does not our government try to curb arms spread by hook or by crook from these tribes? Possessing weapons haphaz-

ardly is a dangerous matter among the modern and civilized nations.

What would it cost our government to inform the people of Yemen of the devastation weapons have caused to the country, and what would cost it to ask the possessors of weapons to hand them over in return for compensation?

That is what's needed. But it won't happen, at least now, for the following reasons: Possessing weapons among our tribes, particularly in the northern governorates, is a deeply-entrenched problem.

It has been encouraged by some of the policies of regime itself "to stir up dissension and gather again." This policy has caused even more antagonism in the long-run against the regime. Tribes and the whole country are now hard to control.

Our tribes will not give up weapons voluntarily, particularly in the northern governorates. This is true despite the fact that the southern tribes may easily, because they had a strong thrashing previously.

Northern tribes have old connections and people in leadership, and they have mutual interests. Strong and large tribes have senior officials of their kin in the country's government. Small and weak tribes have to suffer the same as other ordinary citizens who have no political links.

For these reasons, I think that unless our

present regime pulls itself away from relying on tribalism, and unless it adopts a true democratic system depending on justice without segregation or discrimination and differentiation among the people, prosperity and security in Yemen will never prevail.

Abolishing arms will need to come in stages from new laws. The first stage should be a military campaign to crack down on fortified tribes who possess heavy weapons. Then it will be easy to collect other arms from smaller tribes. It matters little if small weapons remain with people in remote areas needing to defend themselves against savage animals or outlaws.

In eastern governorates, where the people were deprived of weapons for more than 20 years, security prevailed. There was a fear of government and law. But recently a new chaos has prevailed, and more weapons have surfaced due to a lack of accountability to the government.

It's time for our government to implement disarmament, in particular in the tribes who are creating division in our country, spoiling our economy and maligning our image in the world.

Enough fear of the tribes

How long should we be at their mercy? No to tribes with weapons. Yes to tribes with peace and understanding and education.

Yemen's dream killers

BY FAHMI ABDO AHMED NAJI

At a time when Yemen is looking for ways to work to a better future, obstacles are being put in the way.

There are many people who are desire, killers: men who have lost their sense of responsibility towards the coming generations. The only language they speak is the language of egoism and selfishness. They never think of other people around them, so they never consider what will happen to the rising generations, even their own relatives, their sons and daughters.

Examples of such kind of men can be seen and found in various groups.

The first is the farmer who wastes water to irrigate the harmful Qat tree. Such farmers do not take into consider-

ation the future of their own grandsons and daughters.

Another is the father who begets many children, without thinking of what will become of them, without any source of insurance, notwithstanding, that modern medicine makes it easy to control the number of the family-members through birth control.

A third and the most dangerous kind of men are dishonest officials who believe in bribery and nepotism. It is these kinds of weeds that are to be uprooted from our beautiful and peaceful society. These are men who are killers of the innocent desires and ambitions of our generation. It doesn't matter whether they're high-paid or low-paid officials, or high-ranked or low-ranked officials. Bad men fall into all these categories.

Yemen has some hard-working, per-

sistent young men who are doing their best to create prosperous future and at the same get better jobs for themselves. Officials who use bribery and nepotism and give lucrative jobs to those who don't deserve them, to those who can pay more, are harming Yemen.

So it becomes not a matter of qualifications, competence and proficiency, but rather a matter of payment, profit, and commerce. We can call our chamber of commerce not one of money and goods and bargains, but a chamber of commerce of jobs and vacancies. Alas! This is the bitter reality of our status quo.

This is leading to the regression of Yemen, and we have to deal with it if we're going to move into the new world of business and technology that is out there.

Letters to the Editor

Hodeidah's electricity problems

Thank goodness for science. It has provided us with many inventions, like electricity.

Electricity plays a main role in bringing our lives into modern civilization. It's now part and parcel of our lives. It is not impossible to live without electricity but it is very necessary to have.

In Hodeidah people need electricity as much as they do food. They consume more electricity than any other governorate. It is a very hot city. Temperatures reach 40 degrees, so people need to use their air conditioners constantly. They spend as much for paying electricity bills than food.

While we enjoy cool air for relaxing and sleeping, we are boiling with indignation because of how much we pay each month. Imagine if you live in ground floors like the majority of people in Hodeidah with 40-degree heat? Suddenly the electrical current disconnects. What do you feel?

If elders and youths can endure it, children can't. The current always disconnect for two hours daily, sometimes five hours. Hodeidah people are facing a big problem. We need a discount in electrical prices.

Thank you very much our president Mr Ali Abdullah Saleh for reducing telephone bills. I think it is very worthwhile also now, Mr. President, to decrease electrical bill prices too, especially in Hodeidah.

I also ask Mr. Walid to support us and help the poor people in Hodeidah who are suffering from heavy electricity bills. We want you to allow us through your newspaper as usual to appeal our president to see this matter mercifully. I think electricity is more essential for each family than telephone services.

AbdulWahab Abdugawi Al sofi.
aasofi@hotmail.com

Letters to the Editor

Don't Muslims believe in freedom?

Regarding your opinion on the economic perils of the Iraq war.

I commend your efforts to engage Americans in discussions about these topics. This can only help. I believe the Internet is a great tool for cultures to communicate and you use it well.

Just as Americans may now tend to view Muslims with distrust and stereotype them you should not assume Americans are all materialistic and engrossed in concern for our economy. I for one am concerned more for other things.

I believe Saddam is very dangerous and should be removed before he hands the bomb to a terrorist in five years or so. I am not concerned with any impact to our economy since there will be none. With regime change, we will significantly lessen our dependence on Saudi Arabia. Americans' greater interest is that regime change would increase the security of Americans over the next 5-10 years.

This will not be another Vietnam. We were hit hard on September 11. We are willing to spend bodies for America and what we believe in. Make no mistake about it. Though it's not true most Americans think Muslims drew first blood, we will not waiver, we will not falter, we will not tire.

In addition, I am constantly dumb-founded that you and other Muslims resist the concept of democracy and freedom. Why? Help me to understand. Do you in fact disagree with an individual's right to free expression and pursuit of happiness and fulfillment through whatever means an individual desires? How can one oppose this?

Is it that you believe in practice our freedoms do not result in democracy and freedom for others but only for ourselves. You believe that we promote oppressive regimes and monarchies that suppress individual freedom thus you

oppose us because we are hypocritical.

The question remains: Do Muslims support personal freedom and democracy for themselves if we did make possible a true form: or would you prefer an Islamic state under Shariah law (a small group's interpretation of God's law imposed on all).

This is the fundamental question and I think represents a big part of the divide between us.

Leb Lond

leblondb2002@yahoo.com

Congratulations

I'm one of the readers of your esteemed newspaper. I just want to congratulate you and all the staff of the newspaper for the success you have achieved. We do not also forget your major role in upgrading the level of youths in English and computers.

Wishing you all the success.

Adnan Abbas

binabbas2002@yahoo.com

I understand your suffering

I would just like to say first of all that I'm not an Arab or Muslim but I do understand the suffering of Arab countries like the issue with the Palestine-Israel conflict, and the way US President George Bush's government helps the Israel to kill innocent people. Now he wants to invade Iraq and bully other countries.

He talks about the axis of evil the war against terrorism all this nonsense. He and his government should realize how much damage they have done to the world and for once try and care for countries, not bomb them or sanction them. They want to make an impression on the world and yes, they have made me realize how much they disgust me with their politics, so how could you not hate them?

Paul Kearney

che_kenney@hotmail

COMMON
SENSE

Hassan Al-Haifi

Sharon measures success in blood

The phenomenal thing about Prime Minister Ariel Sharon of Israel is that he is straightforward and has no qualms about saying exactly just how he feels. Mind you, this is not to be translated as a switch in emotions and opinion, or a change of heart. It is no more than wishful thinking that someday Arab leaders will also come straight out and tell us just what it is that is brewing in their minds.

But then that is another matter, which will continuously be dealt with here separately. The fact of the matter remains that if it was not for the distinct character of our Arab leaders, the likes of Ariel Sharon will not have their way and destroy whatever is left of Arab honor and pride. After all, our leaders have already paved most of the way for him.

Coming back to Ariel Sharon, a man among the elite of ethnic cleansers of the 21st Century. Last Tuesday he announced proudly that the killing of 17 unarmed innocent Palestinians in Khan Yunis by an Apache helicopter was a great success! "At-a-boy Ariel for telling it like it is. What Ariel is saying is, "Look, world we are here to take over this land, and there is just no way that we can complete our holy destiny without the unholy killing of everything that stands in our way." After all what is Zionism really about?" So what is the fuss all about, Ariel Sharon is fulfilling the Zionist destiny, whereas the Arabs have no destiny any longer.

Seventeen innocent Palestinians killed in one day, yet the whole world watches in daunting silence. What would happen if a Zionist settler, or an illegitimate trespasser, if is killed by a frustrated Palestinian who has no other outlet for the agony and distress of horrible occupation: the likes of which the world has not seen since the Nazi occupation? They speak of Auschwitz and other prisons and forget they are just as criminal in Jenin and Khan Yunis and Bethlehem, the birthplace of Jesus Christ! They forget that all of Palestine is a concentration camp!

Let us set things straight; oppression, murder and Zionist arrogance and terror are worthy of international repulsion as any evil that humanity has come to disdain in these modern times, if we can call them that at all. But, it seems that the minds of this new century are retracting in the humanitarian scale. Power has become the scale by which judgment is passed on. The opening of this millennium has given clear testimony to the fact that humanity has lost all sense of values and taken to the gun to decide disputed issues.

Forget about the discontent and the oppressed. It seems that only God the Al-Mighty will ever relieve the disheartened destitute of the world, people who have become victims of hungry, bloodthirsty, institutionalized criminals, cloaked in such fancy slogans as "fighting terror," "upholding democracy and freedom," and "defending the free world and Western culture from the evil that is rising east of the Mediterranean." This is no more than Zionist rhetoric that wishes to imply that Zionism is indeed a great movement that has the blessings of the Lord and the interests of their supporters to heart. Never mind that this really entails the mass execution of innocent Palestinians, who have not taken anything from anybody or caused any harm to anyone. But Zionist justice is a whole new breed of arrogance that weighs human beings by their submission to Zionist logic and anything otherwise should be eliminated.

History has shown us clearly that chauvinism and arrogance only accelerate the demise of their proponents. The case seems to be again rising to the surface, as Mr. George Bush and his dear friend Ariel Sharon claim a cowardly victory against helpless people here and there, while they insist they're making continued progress in their fight against all the evil forces that stand in the way of the most sophisticated killing machines man has ever concocted.

Where are Osama bin Laden and Mullah Omer? They have already forgotten about them and moved on to totally new combat zones that had nothing to do with September 11, 2001! But the new logic is that anything that is east of the Mediterranean and faces Mecca in prayer does have something to do with September 11! After all, that is what Ariel Sharon has taught George Bush. It does not matter that Saddam Hussein is as secularly far away from the Taliban as night is from day. The new scale of success these days says that any dead Arab or Muslim is a good Arab or Muslim. We remind Mr. Bush and Mr. Sharon, what the Lord has persistently said to all his prophets and messengers that "It is the meek (not the powerful, the arrogant and

Thanks for the memories

It is our pleasure to thank Governor Mansour Ahmed Saif, of Al-Jawf, and Hussein al-Iraqi, Chairman of the Local Authority, for their recent invitation to visit Al-Jawf. We would also like to thank Sheik Nasser al-Tamami, Ahmed al-Akwa, Ahmed al-Mutawakel, Abdul Raqeeb, Mohammed Shams Al-Deen and the citizens of Al-Jawf who made this visit memorable.

We were humbled by the hospitality given to us during our stay. The kindness and good nature of the citizens was refreshing for us, because we had heard many rumors of discontent in this governorate. Instead, we found a people no different from other citizens of Yemen, a people working hard with what they have and hoping for a better future.

It is good to hear of the road being built by President Ali Abdullah Saleh, connecting Al-Jawf to al-Buqa'a. We hope this road will open closed doors and bring sustainable development to Al-Jawf.

As we visited Ma'in and Assawda, the ruins of great cities dating back to 800, we were amazed by a sense of timelessness and endurance found in Al-Jawf, and the feeling of connectiveness the people have to their land and history. We hope that future development might not take away the uniqueness of Al-Jawf, but will strengthen and enable her people to meet whatever future challenges might arise.

May God bless the leaders of Al-Jawf with wisdom to govern, and the citizens of Al-Jawf with peace and prosperity.

Again with many thanks,

Drew Whitson,
Christopher Mayberry

US plans for our region

By MICHAEL JANSEN
JORDAN TIMES

Israeli Prime Minister Ariel Sharon and US President George Bush are brothers and soul mates. They have met half a dozen times since taking office early in 2001 and are due to meet again next week. While they have very different histories, the general of Ukrainian origin and the former governor with an US elitist background share the belief that their countries' political goals can only be realised by the use of overwhelming military force.

Sharon's ultimate aims are to expand the borders of the Jewish state to embrace the West Bank and Gaza and to impose Israeli hegemony on the region so that no local power can challenge "Greater Israel".

Bush's grandiose objective is to secure global hegemony for the US. He is using the "threat" posed by anti-US rulers and movements to attain this end. This "threat" exists but has been blown out of all proportion by Washington's spin doctors and propagandists. While waging campaigns to provide the US with "security", Bush plans to transform the international landscape by removing certain rulers and promoting men who can be termed "biddable democrats". Sharon expects that Bush's choices will also be friendly to Israel, the administration's strategic ally in the region. These factors have led Israeli and US analysts conclude that both the rightist Likud Party leader and the rightist Republican president are driven by an

old fashioned imperialist impulsion.

The connection between the right-wing Likud section of the US Zionist lobby and the right-wing Republican Bush was forged in the run-up to the 2000 US presidential campaign when Bush appointed to his team of foreign policy advisers Richard Perle and Paul Wolfowitz, leading hardliners in the pro-Israel camp, who have close relations with Sharon's Likud. Once Sharon and Bush assumed office, they set out to change the direction the region had taken during the last century.

Eminent danger

Sharon was determined to halt the peace process which was designed to establish a Palestinian state in the West Bank and Gaza. Sharon saw as an imminent "danger" the negotiations between the Palestinians and the Israeli peace camp, led by the Labour Party's Foreign Minister Shlomo Ben-Ami and his deputy Yossi Beilin, which followed the failed attempt at Camp David, in July 2000, to reach a final settlement. By the end of January 2001, the two sides had achieved considerable progress on an agreement which would involve the repartitioning of Palestine along the line of June 4, 1967, and the sharing of Jerusalem. Sharon repudiated this historic achievement during the election campaign and vowed to bury it once he took office. While deploying the Israeli army to crush the Palestinian Intifada, Sharon destroyed the Palestinian National Authority, sidelined his old enemy Yasser Arafat and finished off the peace process. The

Intifada became, essentially, Sharon's tool.

Bush was determined to replace with a policy of "regime change" the eroding system of sanctions which had kept Iraqi President Saddam Hussein "in his box" for more than a decade. During the last two years of the Clinton administration and the first year of Bush's term of office, Iraq had seriously undermined sanctions by expanding its oil smuggling operations, reconciling with Arab neighbours, concluding lucrative trade deals with Arab states, and convincing Arab and international carriers to resume commercial air services to the Iraqi capital. By Sept. 11, 2001, Iraq was well on the way to achieving reintegration in the Arab bloc and normalising relations with many other countries. International pressure for the lifting of sanctions was rising. By the time Bush gave his "State of the Union" address at the end of January this year, Iraq's defiance of the US had become intolerable as far as he was concerned.

Toppling Saddam

Bush included Iraq in an "axis of evil", along with Iran and North Korea, and began speaking openly of toppling the Iraqi leader. In the spring, he adopted the strategy of "preemptive war" which had long been used by Israel. Aware that he shared Sharon's approach and goals, Bush has gone along with his 11-month-long war of attrition against the Palestinians and protected him from censure and pressure to call a halt to this sustained offensive.



Bush's unbending support for Israel has seriously alienated both regional rulers and citizens, making it extremely risky for Middle Eastern governments to support or participate in any US military action against Iraq. Washington's traditional friends and allies — Egypt, Jordan, Saudi Arabia and Turkey — are all urging Bush to agree to the resumption of UN weapons inspections in Iraq as a means to disarm Saddam Hussein and halt the drive towards war.

Bush is using the Iraq issue to evade dealing with Sharon's all out offensive against the Palestinians. Bush's total rejection of involvement in the Palestinian crisis was clearly demon-

strated last week when British Premier Tony Blair called upon Bush to convene an international conference by the end of this year with the aim of ending the violence in the occupied Palestinian territories and Israel and relaunching the peace process. Bush humiliated Blair, his only ally against Iraq, by flatly rejecting the proposal. The Bush administration also snubbed Blair by turning down a British draft of a new Security Council resolution on Iraq and submitting a US text which is so intrusive and menacing that Iraq will never accept the return of weapons inspectors under such terms.

Bush's insistence on a new resolution backed up by force has infuriated the Arab leaders who persuaded Baghdad to agree to the resumption of inspections. It is becoming all too clear that both Sharon and Bush seek to create a revolutionary situation in the region by waging war against the Palestinians and Iraq. During the coming conflict and chaos, Sharon expects to achieve the century-old Zionist goal of a Jewish state in all of "Eretz Yisrael", the "Land of Israel", while Bush will secure US dominion over West Asia's oil, giving Washington control over the energy supplies of Europe and Asia.

What are we doing about our image?

By DR. ABDUL QADER TASH
ARAB NEWS

The importance of correcting and changing Islam's distorted image in the West is not to be denied. We must not be deterred by the enormity of the job; nor should we underestimate the dangers of the anti-Islamic and anti-Muslim campaigns since Sept. 11. The open intellectual and ideological climate in which there once was an opportunity for Muslims in the West, and specifically in America, to make their presence known has changed forever.

We must not allow the enemies of Islam — religious extremists, "intellectuals" or politicians — to use Sept. 11 to plant in Western minds a distorted image of Islam and Muslims. Reports say that the "anti-Islam" wave in the US has produced more than 20 books this year on the "the Islamic threat". Among the most dangerous are: "American Jihad: The Terrorists Living Among Us" by Steven Emerson and "Militant Islam Reaches America" by Daniel Pipes. Both authors are known for their enmity to Islam and are in the forefront of distorting our image in America.

Meanwhile extremist American church officials' attacks on Islam have been particularly upsetting. The leaders of several groups have issued statements declaring that Islam is an "evil religion" and inciting the so-called "free world" not to be tolerant of the followers of the "terrorist" religion! Several opinion polls published recently show that 37 percent of Americans have a negative impression of Islam compared with only 28 percent who have a positive impression.

This is, of course, only one side of the coin; there exists another and more positive one that we should also be aware of. One is the decision by the University of North Carolina to require its incoming students to read a book entitled "Approaching the Koran" by a professor of religion at Haverford College in Pennsylvania. The decision aroused the fury of conservative religious organizations and led them to file a lawsuit to prevent the book being taught. Their argument was that the university's action was unconstitutional in that it forced students to study a pro-Islamic book. The case was dis-

missed and the court upheld the university's decision to teach the book.

The second example leads us to the excellent work being done by another American organization which has campaigned to increase knowledge of Islam in the US. Some 80,000 volunteers belong to this organization, The National Council for International Visitors. It began its campaign with a segment from a documentary entitled: "Muhammad: Legacy of a Prophet". One of the documentary's producers says that the film tries to put a human touch on Islam by portraying the way in which American Muslims fulfil their religious duties. He adds: "The images of Muslims in the media are of angry people, shouting and screaming in the streets. This is that most Americans see when looking at people who are supposedly Muslim". The aim of this film is to present an image of American Muslims who follow the teachings of Prophet Muhammad (peace be upon him) in their daily lives.

What is required of us is to encourage such efforts and to support and cooperate with their leaders. This would be far more beneficial than wasting our time and energy on following a campaign that may only harm us. There are indications that many in the West are desirous of learning about Islam — in fact, the demand for Islamic knowledge is increasing and attendance at courses on Islam and the Arab world is on the increase in American universities. Recent opinion polls in Britain as well as Europe indicate a similar interest in Islam; these polls are encouraging and we must exploit and utilize them to our advantage.

The real problem is that we don't seize opportunities that are presented to us. An American journalist complained a few years ago that Arabs and Muslims wasted their time complaining about the American media distorting their image instead of replying to the complaints in a careful, reasoned, and objective manner. He is correct. For what the West is doing in distorting our image is not important. What is important is what we do about the distortion.

Certainly, we must act quickly and earnestly, though in accordance with a clear vision of what our aims are, what we wish to replace and the way to do it.

The real 'weapon of mass destruction'

RIME ALLAF
FOR THE DAILY STAR

Of the many sociopolitical expressions that have worked themselves into our language and our fears, practically all come from American interpretations of phenomena in parts of the Islamic world. Terms ranging from "fundamentalism" to "terrorism" have come to be effectively equated with Muslim countries, or with dubious movements in them. Some are invariably used in tandem ("Islamic fundamentalism") to essentially imply a third term ("terrorism").

The latest term to conquer even the most mundane conversations is "weapons of mass destruction" (or its abbreviation WMD), which everyone now understands as being synonymous with Iraq's supposed threat to civilization, courtesy of the convenient panic-spreading, tailor-made descriptions of the US government and its understudies. The American president has now described Saddam Hussein as a "homicidal dictator addicted to weapons of mass destruction," but he failed to elaborate on how such obsessions originate.

Dangerous region

The Middle East is a dangerous region indeed, but laying the blame at Iraq's feet is forgetting that the world's most lethal weapons are made by America and its allies, distributed at their discretion only to those deemed truly worthy of their technology (like Israel) or foolish enough to become their temporary mercenaries (like Saddam Hussein).

The end result is the same: Whether through Israel or Saddam, through conventional or other weapons, the US and its allies have not only caused tremendous hardship to innocent people (especially in Palestine and Iraq), but have also introduced weapons of mass destruction to the region. Using the concept of WMDs as a sudden validation for military intervention is thus not only

irresponsible, but also adds to the acrimony that is swelling dangerously in an Arab world that understands only too well the real issues at hand.

An old "friend"

Saddam's madness is not new. It was apparent two decades ago, when he agreed to become the West's proxy in the region, an opportune new pawn to supplant the deposed Iranian shah. Saddam's brutality increased throughout his popular years with Western powers as he fought (for them) today's other Middle Eastern "axis of evil" component, Iran. Arming him to the teeth, the West used Saddam to wage war on Iran with chemical and other weapons — although the US handled some jobs itself, namely when it downed a civilian Iranian aircraft with 290 people on board shortly before the Lockerbie bombing.

Sufferings prolonged

Unsure of how to achieve control of the oil-rich region and showing typical lack of foresight before eventually settling on a policy of "dual containment," America had initially fueled the conflict by arming the two opponents simultaneously (as was revealed by the Iran-Contra affair) before focusing on helping Saddam. One result of this deception was a prolongation of both Iraqi and Iranian peoples' suffering and a toll of well over a million victims on both sides.

As the US (with its allies) molded Saddam, it was also training and arming its future public enemy No. 1, the then-obscure Osama bin Laden, rationalizing that the supposed Soviet threat justified the espousal of an organized resistance, even an Islamic one. With such precedents, one can only recoil in fear at the identity of America's "terrorists" of tomorrow, probably being trained at this very moment by CIA operatives.

America and Britain's sudden pretense of horror at the use of gas, war on Iran or supposed weapons of mass destruction is appalling, if only because the WMDs in the region were implanted by them long before

Saddam's own crimes. American weapons of every kind have already killed, maimed and wounded countless people from Lebanon to the Gulf, leaving true destruction in their wake and having long reduced to ashes the illusion that the US could ever be an honest broker.

The US has bombed over 20 countries since the end of World War II and it has intervened and led operations changing the destinies of people in many others, but nowhere have American hypocrisy and duplicity been so blatant and so dangerous as in the Middle East.

Small comparison

For every UN resolution that Iraq has ignored, Israel has flouted 10, and for every resolution condemning Iraq to more sanctions, countless others attempting to rein in Israel have been vetoed by the sole superpower. More Iraqis and Palestinians have died pointlessly under the patronage of the US and its Security Council allies.

Still, most people fail to appreciate the impact of such biased actions on the populations they touch. In view of the interminable Israeli occupation of Arab land and people, the latter are not only upset by the flagrant double standards applied to Israel and to Arabs, but also by having been reduced to seemingly defend the hated Saddam while an attack on Iraq is being prepared.

Some experts consider that long-term repercussions to such belligerence are overestimated, playing down the invisible Arab street's power or even willingness to object to military interference in the region, let alone to Arab regimes' acquiescence thereto. This is a grave mistake, as the Arab world has been simmering for a long time, with regional leaders and superpowers alternating the intensity of their provocative flames at their fancy, oblivious to the nearing boiling point. With each additional injustice, units are ticking off the time bomb.

The Iraqi predicament

The Iraqi predicament cannot be

judged within limited parameters or be separated from other issues in the region, foremost of which being the Palestinian question. As they mark two years of the most violent period in the history of their lone struggle against Israeli occupation, many Palestinians have affected fervor and put on a brave front, pretending to welcome "martyrdom" and encouraging sacrifices of all sorts.

In reality, however, most remain desperate people frantically calling for help and urging the supposed defenders of human rights to come to their rescue, only to see their dignity smashed over and over again. This constant humiliation has bred bitter frustration, precariously stirring emotions of resentment that dig deeply into the Arab psyche.

Actions that breed despair

With autocratic regimes and de facto US collaborators in practically all their countries imposing severe consequences on those daring to challenge them, Arabs are fully aware of their own limitations. Therefore, many are trying to convince the West that its support of Israel is immoral, its disregard of Palestinians unjust and its harassment of Iraq baseless, wondering why they even have to explain that these issues are related to supposedly rational people living in a freedom and democracy for which they yearn.

The Bush-Blair duo's marketed Iraqi WMDs are not the real threat in the region. Israel has and is itself a far greater WMD. Ultimately, the supreme WMD is the facilitation of tormentors' enduring destruction of potential, of dreams of a better life, and of entire peoples' hopes.

Nothing provokes revolt and extremism like despair, and nothing has created despair in the Arab world like the actions of the US and its allies.

The only question mark that remains is assessing which injustice, be it in Palestine, Iraq or elsewhere, will finally tip the balance and turn mass despair into mass response — and true mass destruction.

A Canadian in Yemen:

Hey, what happened to our qat market?

After spending our summer in Canada, my wife Dr. Jean and I have returned to our adopted home in Sana'a to discover something missing from our neighborhood. Gone is the local qat market. What's up with that? For the first time, I can see pavement on what was normally qat-alley.

We're not big chewers ourselves, even though I've personally been asked to join chews on a regular basis. In fact, on my first visit to Yemen in 2001, I was not in the country a day when a taxi-driver kindly offered me some of his fresh leaves. "It will improve your writing," he told me. I'm sure that's true, sir, if I believed the Earth is flat.

Little did I know at the time, while qat is chewed in some other countries, Yemen is King of Qat. Little did I know what a powerful hold it has on so many people.

The few times I have chewed, I've just thirsty and a headache. Other effects are more problematic. I understand some Yemenis easily spend 30 per cent of their income on it.

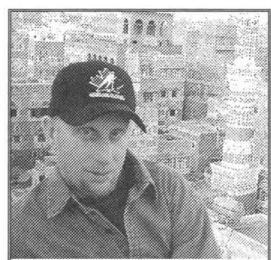
Also, qat plants need water, a precious commodity that, according to the World Bank, Yemen may run out of in 10 years. Consider also that one-third of Yemen's GDP is related to qat, and it costs the country about US \$6 million every day in lost productivity.

Still, look at the bright side. Compare it to tobacco. Qat kills virtually nobody: just a few hundred souls poisoned from pesticides not washed off. Compare that to the four million deaths caused by tobacco every year, 435,000 of which happen to be in Canada. Qat leaves no smell.

Some humour

There are other reasons why, even with the loss of our neighborhood qat market, a humorist might say qat will eventually overtake tobacco as the world's top weed. Here's a humorous look at the Top 10.

10. With their cheeks bulging, chewers look like a bunch of happy



Thomas Froese

trumpet players.

9. Defending users of qat, a product illegal in some countries, is a lawyer's dream. There is no proof of crime since the chemicals in freshly-cut leaves break down to nothing in 10 days.

8. In the West, qat socials would negate the need to learn the tedious game of golf for high-level business deals.

7. Qat has no confusing brands. No Lights or Slims. The product is straightforward. Its only suitable name is High-and-Dry. That has singularity of purpose that people really crave.

6. There is no anti-qat lobby. I understand a former Yemeni education minister tried to launch one years ago. It still hasn't reached 100 members. And while the World Health Organization is trying to control tobacco worldwide, qat continues to fly under the radar.

5. Unlike grisly warnings on some cigarette packs, when qat is wrapped it looks like flowers for your wife. For about \$12, a Yemeni can walk

down the street with prestige while carrying a large qat bundle wrapped in pink or blue cellophane.

4. Qat sells without sex appeal. There is no need for Marlboro Girls, the gals in short skirts who, in some countries, go to public places and hand out free cigarettes. Qat is an equal-opportunity plant, easily marketed by any Yemeni qat mascot. I'd name him Qatman, fill his cheek to bulge like a tennis ball, get him to rock concerts and beauty pageants, and put his image on racing cars, t-shirts and lunch-buckets.

3. Qat sharpens the mind. Without having prior ability, qat chewers know how to fix computers and write poetry. They ask deep questions. For example, while observing a bottle, a chewer asked one day, "Just what is behind America?" Was his question socio-political? No, he was wondering what was behind America's land-mass.

2. Qat can balance East-West trade. Cigarette sales are down in places like Canada, but tobacco companies now make billions in profits by targeting the Developing World, where 70 per of smoking deaths occur and where 10 million smoking-related deaths are expected annually by 2025. Sending qat in the other direction returns the favor.

The #1 humorous reason

1. Qat can, in fact, unite the world. Did tobacco beat communism? No. Qat did. Case in point: Marxists who used to run the former South Yemen restricted qat chewing to weekends. They felt it made people 'lazy.' But the masses threw off their shackles because they understand they were fed only half the truth. Sure hard work won't kill you. But why take the chance? Millions of Yemenis now chew in perfect harmony, just like singing the Coke song. The rest of the world can now join in. Every dog, after all, deserves its season.



Thomas Froese (140765@sympatico.ca) is an editor with the Yemen Times.

UCHP cultural awareness campaign in full swing:

Zabidi night in Sana'a, and more



BY MUJAHED AL MUSSA'ABI
YEMEN TIMES STAFF
mujahed75ye@yahoo.com

In the six weeks since the Urban Cultural Heritage Strategy Program (UCHP) has been launched, a number of programs are underway to help people appreciate the value of Yemen's heritage.

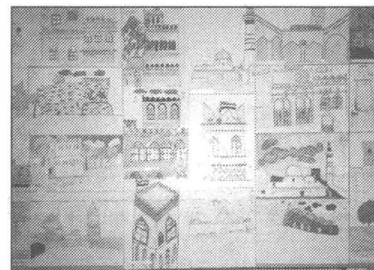
The campaign was launched in Zabid, one of the of the UN's World Heritage Cities. It includes cultural activities, workshops, painting shows, and lectures. It has drawn the attention of people of the coastal areas (Tehama) to the value of their heritage assets.

After two weeks of activities in Zabid, the campaign shifted to Sana'a last week, and resumed its wide range of intensive cultural activities which ranged from workshops to cultural nights, training courses and children paintings exhibitions.

Last Wednesday night, A Zabidi cultural night took place at the Yemeni Cultural Center in Sana'a and highlighted by the Zabidi popular music band which attracted the public with its unique shows.

Among the attendees was the Dutch ambassador and his staff, officials of the ministry of culture, donors, NGOs representatives, and ambassadors to Yemen.

A young 13-year old girl, Azhar Al



Paintings of Zabidi children

Mezragi, amused the audience with her lovely songs of Zabid. It was followed by a group of dancers (male & female) who performed the different types of Zabidi folklore dance; including dances with Jambias, swords accompanied to a drum beating.

The cultural night of Zabid proved that cultural heritage is not limited to the built historical heritage but it includes folklore dance, popular songs, poetry and traditional dresses.

Further, the UCHP organized a course called "training of trainers" held on Tuesday October 8 at the Management Sciences Institute. The course had 16 participants representing different governmental bodies from different governorates, and aimed to train participants, who in turn, will train other people on ways of protecting historical cities.

Dick ter Steetge, manager of the UCHP, said the group is training those

people who come from 8 governorates around Sana'a so that they know how to train other people. They have been trained by an Egyptian trainer, Dr. Ra'afat Shumais, who trained them on the use of guidelines for historical cities, gave them lectures, took them to the old city of Sana'a, taking pictures, looked at violations and analyzed those pictures.

"We are planning to train about 300 people working in the historical cities.



Azhar Al-Mizjaji, a talented girl from Zabid

They are from PWs, Electricity & water, Endowment ministries, GOPHS and they are going to train other people in their related organizations who are not knowledgeable about ways of preservation of historical cities," he said.

Regarding the public response to the awareness campaign, Mr. Dick said that the reaction was quite positive and people are very interesting and responded positively to the campaign.

A 2-day workshop titled "The role of School in Urban Cultural Heritage preservation" was held Oct. 9 at Raba'ah Al Adawia girls school in Sana'a.

The workshop which was sponsored by the vice education minister, Dr. Bin Hebtour, included 40 participants who



Dick Steege Zin Al-Abdeen Ali Aushaish

are mostly, educational leaderships, academicians and teachers. They received intensive lectures on the ways of conveying the concept of cultural heritage to the pupils.

Yemen Times also met with Mr. Ali Aushieesh, Vice UCHP manager, who talked about the workshop objectives.

"The workshop specified for educational leaderships from different Yemeni governorates concerned the preservation of historical cities. It aims to inform with required role of the ministry of education, educational institutions towards the preservation of historical cities, enhancing schools to play its role in educating children about the significance of protecting our historical values through school syllabus and different activities, and showing the social, economic cultural and historical values and benefits of the cultural heritage," he said.

"We hope that the related authorities activate its role to guarantee the continuation of the activities which should not be a seasonal awareness but sustainable policy of these authorities." Aushieesh added.

Mr. Zain Al Abdeen Fuad, the awareness expert of the UCHP awareness campaign, said to the Yemen Times, "We concentrated on the role of school in activating the concept of cultural heritage among students. In Zabid we took children in a field visits to some historical sites of the city, for my surprised it was their first time ever to do that, and asked them to draw (Zabid Fort). You shall see their paintings here, the same was duplicated here in Sana'a. We took 1000 students in visit to the national museum in Sana'a, We have been used the puppet theater for this purpose, we took students to draw old Sana'a, and made many trips for them to different historical sites like Thula."



Zabidi folklore dance, representing a popular cultural heritage

Illiteracy in Yemen

Just why can't little Ahmed or Arwa read?

In a lecture hosted recently by Assaeed Cultural Foundation and organized by the National Organization for Fighting Illiteracy (NOFI), Dr. Abdullah Mohammed Al Qadasi has confirmed that the illiteracy situation in our country is considered a part of greater problem pertaining to educational deterioration in general. In a working paper on illiteracy situation in Yemen in 40 years, Dr. Al Qadasi, said that after the invasion was over in the south in 1976, illiteracy was 90 % while in the North it was higher. After many campaigns for fighting and eradicating illiteracy, it was reduced to 46.2 % in 1973 but in the

north the percentage was 88.2 % according to 1975 statistics. According to 1994 statistics illiterate people number was esteemed at (6,381,150) that's 56 % while female illiteracy increased to reach 90.5 % in the rural areas and 55 % among the labor force. On the other hand, the year 1996 is considered the beginning of deterioration in fighting illiteracy as a natural reaction to the decline in education in general and decline in number of children who joined schools. The number of truants also has been increased adding to the illiteracy rates which may be due to shortage in education expenditure, political disputes and politicizing

education, and deteriorating situation of illiteracy eradication teachers who get about 10500 rials a month. The other reasons can be pertaining to unemployment among graduated students and monopolizing public jobs. The recommendations can be summarized as opening more illiteracy eradication centers, forcing secondary school graduates to teach in eradication centers, invite political parties and NGOs to take part in eradicating illiteracy among adults, opening two sections at Taiz University for eradicating adult illiteracy and women's education as well as executing the national strategy for illiteracy eradication.

MUS'ID & MUS'IDA

First Ever Yemeni Radio Series published in a newspaper

29

Written by
Abdulrahman Mutaahhar

Translated by
Janet Watson

Marriage for the sake on inheritance

M - The Yemeni philosopher said, 'I was troubled today. We raised her and brought her up, but someone else claims her. When death overtakes me, he'll come along to cut up my wealth.'

Ma - Yes, exactly! 'When death overtakes me, he'll come along to cut up my wealth.' But there's more to it, Mus'id, 'I am tired as a mother of a girl. Why do you call her, "My darling!"

She'll only make you bow your head in shame and cause calamity!'

M - I don't know about that, but I do want to talk to you about that first saying which really concerns men getting married simply in order to get their hands on the woman's inheritance.

Ma - That happens all the time. If we were to give people the tale of my brother-in-law as an example, they'd laugh themselves silly!

M - Go on!

Ma - When my mother died, God preserve her soul, all the family and in-laws came along to carry the bier. After everyone had paid their respects and the mourning was over, that brother-in-law of ours came up all of a flutter, wanting us to work out how much the deceased had left. He said he knew how much his wife's share was worth and what she would get

from her mother. I told him he could rejoice and not worry, because the legacy was huge. There was land, two villas let out to foreigners, two old houses in the Old City, and I thought she had around seven or eight million or so in the bank. I told him Mus'id was the executor, and that he should go to see you to find out exactly how much his wife's share would be.

M - He came to see me, Mus'ida, and I told him that the legacy of the deceased was a coral necklace, ten gold pieces, a sheepskin wrap and an old waistcoat, and that that was all to be shared out between the two sisters and their brother. The brother let his sisters have everything, and they each took five gold pieces. That left the coral necklace, the sheepskin wrap and the waistcoat between two sisters.

Ma - Well, I then saw him when he'd taken the sheepskin wrap and the waistcoat, saying that they were his wife's share, and that I should take the coral necklace.

M - Goodness me, Mus'ida, he must have been crazy!

Ma - Don't worry yourself, I was even crazier than him! I snatched the sheepskin wrap from him and told him to take the waistcoat and the coral necklace. The sheepskin wrap was not going to

leave the house and I was not going to let go of it! It was the only proper bit of inheritance we had left.

M - How right you were! That sheepskin wrap is an example of a local Yemeni handicraft which is no longer carried out. The problem is that shepherds in the villages are no longer concerned about sheep, and our sons today haven't got it into their heads that sheep with their milk, skin and wool are a national source of income and an essential part of self-reliance. Worse than that is that your brother-in-law, that husband of your sister, was just waiting for the angel of death to throttle your poor mother so that he could inherit the sheepskin wrap for his wife and go and deprive us of the last example of traditional local industry that we have. But God was merciful when you kept the wrap for yourself, Mus'ida, and that'll serve as an example for anyone who decides to go back to this type of traditional Yemeni handicraft. The Yemeni proverb goes, 'If you lose your wrap, you'll have to put up with the cold!' And the Yemeni song goes, 'My friend, if your family quarrel with you, take your wrap and come to me!'

1 Aqwal, ps. 61, 69.
2 Aqwal, p. 61.

Nurses and midwives consider regulation

By IMAD AL-SAQAF
TAIZ BUREAU CHIEF

Upgrading the skills of nurses and midwives in Yemen, including through regulation of their professions, was the focus of three-day national conference held recently, the first such meeting ever held in Yemen.

The 1st National Conference for Nursing and Midwives concluded Oct. 7 at the Sofitel Hotel in Taiz. More than 250 participants took part in the meeting organized by the Public Health and Population Ministry in collaboration with the Canada and Development Program for Local Initiatives, CDPLI.

Participants came from different

Arab countries including, Yemen, Saudi Arabia, Syria, United Arab Emirates, Oman, Kuwait, Bahrain, Jordan. Directors of health offices and hospitals in Yemen also attended.

Participants concluded by mapping



out a strategy to:

- Enhance the nursing profession through continuing education, and the creation of nursing and midwife body, which will result in better health of citizens;
- Improve competency of nurses and



- midwives through new legislation to regulate the profession;
- Provide a specialized nursing and midwife workforce and the midwives who understand up-to-date science in their fields;
- Encourage communities to volunteer more to take care of the seniors, the infirmed and the handicapped.

Participants also stressed the need for health insurance, and how best to finance it.

"The conference also reviewed the process of upgrading the educational and health institution in the medicine colleges and health institutions," said Dr. Abdunnaser al-Kabab, the General Manager of the Health and Population Ministry in Taiz.



Cancer on the rise

Dr GAMAL A. H AL-ALAWI
FOR THE YEMEN TIMES

As in much of the world, cancer continues to be a major health problem in Yemen.

Various factors are causing more cancers, such as a growing and aging population, tobacco use, the AIDS epidemic and poor diet.

Certain cancers, notably gastrointestinal, nasopharyngeal cancers, lymphoma, breast and skin cancers are largely malignancies in Yemen. In many cases, methods of prevention exist, but Yemen has limited resources for treatment.

Poverty characterizes much of Yemen. Development is being held back by rapid population growth,

tribal wars, and lack of resources from the government.

The delay in the development of cancer treatment in Yemen is also related to the delay in all branches of medicine. There are many economic factors affecting the delivery of health care, such as a low income of health professionals, poor and not enough equipment, and poor communication, transportation and education.

Factors that contribute to cancer include a increase in Yemen's median age; tobacco use; wrong use of plastic materials; wrong use of pesticides and insecticides; and increase of hepatitis infections (B & C); poor diet that is high in saturated fat; eating contaminated Khat; Chewing tobacco (shama); and recurrent infections with EBV and Malaria.

Common Cancers in Yemen

Cancer in Yemen has a characterized pattern. The gastric and oesophageal malignancies are the most common (14.3% Southeastern and 19.2 %Northern). Oesophageal cancer is known to be associated with tobacco and alcohol consumption, but may be the main aetiological factors are probably micronutrient deficiency, thermal injury or mycotoxin.

Stomach cancer appears to be linked with residence in mountainous areas. Food preserving particles may also be a factor and Helicobacter pylori may be implicated.

Infection with helicobacter pylori is very common in Yemen.

Liver cancer is one of the commonest cancers in Yemen, corresponding with the increase incidence of hepatitis B and C and geographical pattern of food stuffs contaminated

with aflatoxin.

The high incidence of Non-Hodgkin's lymphoma was more common than Hodgkin's disease (lymphoma 12.1% southeastern, 2.8% Northern) and clearly seen in children, middle age and elderly. Exposure to pesticides and fertilizers was associated with increase of Non-Hodgkins lymphoma and brain tumors.

Viral infections particularly with Epstein Bar Virus may account for a proportion of lymphoma cases.

Tropical splenomegaly syndrome or big spleen disease is massive enlargement of spleen resulting from abnormal immune response to repeated attacks of malaria which observed in patients from Louder, Yafa and Socotra were found to develop splenic lymphoma with atypical hairy lymphocytes.

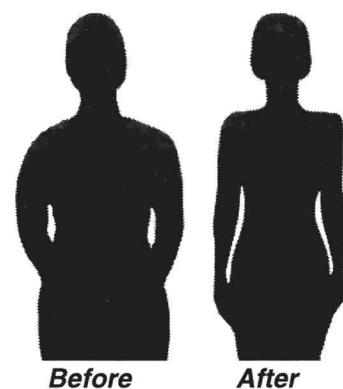
A possible association between Non-Hodgkin's lymphoma and Occupational exposure to formaldehyde, plastic, rubber chemicals, organic solvents, lead arsenates, welding metal fumes and wood preservatives.

Are you suffering from fatness?

According to the study, for fat people, whose weight is 10% more than the standard, the chance of suffering from health problems is higher than normal weight people: 1.5 times for heart diseases; 6 times for hypertension; 5 times for diabetes; 3 times for disordering of menstruation and 6 times for knee problems. Its harm is 4 times worse than smoking.

The study conducted by the American Nutrition Association shows that the people's life will be reduced 29 days when the weight is 1 pound over the standard.

Another fact is that in the world, the death caused by fatness is two times than the death caused by hunger.



Therefore, Adiposity Association of WHO appeals that Adiposity is a Disease

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INDIAN COUNCIL FOR CULTURAL RELATIONS

MAULANA AZAD ESSAY COMPETITION 2002 LAST DATE OF SUBMISSION: 30 November, 2002 (in New Delhi)

The Indian Council for Cultural Relations, in memory of the Late Maulana Abul Kalam Azad, organizes a Maulana Azad Essay Competition every year in which citizens of SAARC countries (India, Bangladesh, Bhutan, Maldives, Nepal, Pakistan and Sri Lanka) participate. From the year 2002, the Council has pleasure in announcing the competition to be opened to the citizens from all the countries for the Maulana Azad Essay Competition.

Entries are invited in the following two Languages as per the following topics noted against each.

Topic and languages:

Hindi: "RASTRA NIRMAN MEIN MAHILOAN KA YOGDAAN: SANDHARV MAULANA AZAD"

Urdu: "MAULANA AZAD KI NAZRO MEIN ISLAM KA PAIGAM-E AMAN-O-ASHTI"

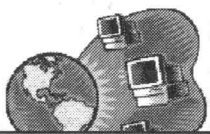
Prizes in each Language:

First Prize: Rs. 25,000/-
Second Prize: Rs 20,000/-
Third Prize: Rs 15,000/-

Each participant must submit one original and three copies of his/her essay. The essay should be neatly typed double space or written in calligraphy (for Urdu). The pages should be clearly numbered. The length of the essay should not exceed 5000 words.

Any participant who resorts to plagiarism will be disqualified. Applicants are required to be under the age of 30 years as on 28th February, 2003. A certificate/proof of age indicating the date of birth and a photograph should be enclosed with the essay. The participant can submit one essay in any one of the two languages. The essays may be sent through registered post/courier or hand delivered to the under mentioned address so as to reach Mrs. Suryakanti Tripathi, Director General, Indian Council for Cultural Relations, Azad Bhavan, I.P. Estate, New Delhi-110 002, by 30th November, 2002. Essays received after the last date will not be accepted.

For any further query and details, contact: Embassy of India, Building No. 12, Djibouti Street, Off Hadda Street, P. O. Box 1154, Sana'a. Tel. 441251/441252, Fax: 441257, E-mail: indiaemb@y.net.ye, indcom@y.net.ye



ما الذي أنت بحاجة إليه؟
أن تبدأ بدراسة اللغة الإنجليزية الآن!
العديد من المجالات اليوم تعتمد على اللغة الإنجليزية مثل الطب، الهندسة، التكنولوجيا، الكمبيوتر، الإنترنت، الأعمال الخاصة والتجارة.
تصفح الجرائد... هناك منظمات دولية، مؤسسات، سفارات، شركات نفط،... الخ
و هي بحاجة لموظفين يمينيين مؤهلين
هل لديك مهارة اللغة الإنجليزية لتنجح في هذه المجالات؟
ماذا تنتظر؟ اللغة الإنجليزية ستفتح لك باب النجاح في عالم اليوم فلا تتردد !!

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اميديست

دراسة أي لغة لا يعني قضاء ساعتين من الوقت في صف دراسي بل أكثر من هذا!
? حصص محادثة مجانية، ساعات إستشارية يقدمها المدرس، ولقاءات المناقشة
? فرص العمل والدراسة
? مكتبة مريحة للإطلاع وفرص الحصول على منح دراسية

هاهي مميزات اميديست؟

? مختبر كومبيوتر لغوي "ملتيميديا" وانترنت... مجاناً!!!

? منهج دراسي متقدم بإستخدام وسائل تدريس سمعية وبصرية وتطبيقات على الحاسب الآلي
مدرسون ذو كفاءة عالية ناطقين أو في نفس مستوى الناطقين باللغة الإنجليزية.

حديقة تضم كافيتيريا وألعاب ترفيهية مبنى واسع وموقع متكامل مناسب جداً، بالإضافة إلى صفوف مريحة ومزودة بنظام ملتيميديا متكامل.

حديقة تضم كافيتيريا وألعاب ترفيهية.

اميديست منظمة أمريكية لا تسعى إلى الربح بل لتقديم خدمات تدريبية و تعليمية لليمنيين

كيف يمكنك الإتصال باميديست؟

١٢٢ شارع مساواة، خور مكسر عدن

تليفاكس ٢٢٢٣٤٥-٠٢

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Improve Your English

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I. What to Say

Situations and expressions (27): Commenting on players (III)

Commentary galore on the fascinating field of sports is virtually inexhaustible. Pulsating with energy and vitality, the colorful spectrum of sports is full of such exciting moments, all of which can hardly be articulated in neat phraseology. The more one recalls those thrilling moments of glory, the more varied expressions strike the mind and the more irresistible becomes the temptation to catalogue them. So here they are – some more beautiful expressions which seek to capture the fun and excitement of those unforgettable moments.

- He reigns supreme again.
- He is a precocious sporting talent.
- He is formidable and unbeatable.
- He is a soccer wizard.
- Naseem shatters Steve
- The way he (the boxer) was smashed and collapsed at the rings is just incredible.
- He is knocked out.
- His defeat is truly the fall of a legend.
- Jamal sculpted Yemen's win in the football batch.
- Sachin Tendulkar blasts and steers India to a convincing win.
- The game was dominated by the reigning soccer icons Saeed and Omar.
- In the final match he displayed rare acumen and annexed the title.
- Mohammed Ali, the heavy weight legend, punches to victory.
- What a miss! He (the fielder) frittered away the advantage.
- Talal set marks by his victory.
- Sampras falls to (beaten by) Balco.
- Eiad is our trump card.
- Shareef is back to winning way. He scored the first goal in the 8th minute of play.

II. How to say it correctly

Correct errors, if any, in the following sentences

1. Either of the four boys has done this work.
2. Anyone of the two candidates is fit for the post.
3. It is not such a good book which I expected.
4. This is the same beggar who came yesterday.
5. My problem is the same which yours.

Solutions to last week's questions

1. In view of the prevailing circumstances, do **what is needed**.
2. He persisted in **saying** what he felt.
3. We repented of **doing** the mistaking.
4. They take pride in **doing** an act of social service.
5. I think of **doing** as you advise me.

III. How to express it in one word

1. Disease in which sugar cannot be

- properly absorbed.
2. Very cruel or wicked like a devil.
3. Determine the nature of a disease.
4. Social or geographical variation of a language.
5. Straightline drawn from side to side through the center of a circle.

Answers to last week's questions

1. Get out of a train: **Detrain** (vt & i)
2. Practice of making the value of a currency less: **Devaluation** (n)
3. Take away strength and vigour: **Devitalize** (vt)
4. Deputing or delegating a power or authority: **Devolution** (n)
5. Deep, strong love for somebody or something: **Devotion** (n)

IV. Grammar and Composition

a) Vocabulary

What do these words have in common?

- | | | | |
|-----|------|--------|-------|
| run | step | stroll | climb |
| hop | skip | leap | march |

Which of these words means:

1. to move like soldiers in formation?
2. to move on one leg?
3. to go quickly?
4. to put one foot forward?
5. to use the hands and feet to pull yourself up?
6. to walk with no particular direction or purpose?
7. to jump up and down over a rope?
8. to take a long or high jump over something?

b) Idioms and phrases

Use the following phrases in sentences of your own

1. put one's back into something
2. get somebody's back up
3. break one's back
4. break the back of something
5. turn one's back on somebody

c) Words commonly confounded

Bring out differences in meaning of the following pairs of words

1. bell, belle
2. below, bellow
3. beneficial, beneficiary
4. beside, besides
5. beseech, besiege

Answers to last week's questions:

Grammar and composition

a) Vocabulary

1. The government doesn't have sufficient **funds** in their account to pay salary to the employees.
2. Can you **lend** me some money for two weeks?
3. This bank has the lowest rate of **interest** on house building loans.
4. The university professors in Yemen have an average annual **income** of \$13,000.
5. You can **repay** the bank loan in twelve equal monthly instalments.
6. The government has sought an additional **loan** of \$5 million for rural health care projects.
7. Have you forgotten that you **owe** me some money?
8. My total **debt** from the bank and other sources amounts to YR one

- million.
9. In India, the more you **earn** in your job, the more tax you have to pay.
10. I have to **borrow** a large amount of money to complete construction of my house.

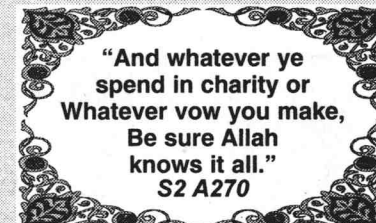
b) Idioms and phrases

1. **awake to** (become conscious of): You must awake to the fact that we are in a new millennium.
2. **aware of** (having knowledge or realization of): We are fully aware of the risks involved in this.
3. **right away** (at once, without delay): We can leave for the station right away.
4. **far away** (at a long distance): Don't think that your goal is far away. The journey of a thousand miles begins with a small step.
5. **behind somebody's back** (without somebody's knowledge): We shouldn't talk ill of him behind his back.

c) Words commonly confounded

1. **batman** (n) (army officer's personal servant): The Major is entitled to three batmen.
2. **batsman** (n) (a cricketer who is in charge of batting): There is a dearth of good batsmen in our team.
3. **battalion** (n) (army unit made up of several companies and forming part of a regiment): He successfully led his battalion in a tough fight.
4. **regiment** (n) (army permanent unit divided into battalions, commanded by a colonel): Two regiments of Indian Peace Keeping Force have been deployed in Cossavo.
5. **bawl** (vt) (shout or cry loudly): He bawled to me across the street.
6. **bowl** (n) (round, hollow dish): I need two bowls of rice.
7. **bowel** (n) (division of the food canal below the stomach): He has a bowel complaint.
8. **beacon** (n) (fire lit on a hill-top as a signal): Ships are guided by beacon light at night.
9. **beckon** (vt) (call somebody's attention by a movement of the hand): He beckoned me to come nearer.
10. **bear** (n) (a large wild animal with thick fur): He was attacked by a bear in the forest.
11. **beer** (n) (alcoholic drink): He took two pints of beer as it was freezing cold.

V. Pearls from the Holy Quran



VI. Words of Wisdom

"Contented with your lot, you will live wisely."
—Horace

Here is the number on the door



ANIL K PRASAD
Faculty of Arts
Ibb University

"The word within a word, unable to speak a word,
Swaddled with darkness."

Distances do not deflect the flow of memories,
The fly of time approaches and flees,
Perches well on the smooth face, beneath turmoil,
A rush and a flash of the past, a foil
To the blush on the face of the present, a foal

Galloping without the reins of a rider, restless
Often in a dream, a shattered dream, a home in darkness,
Cracks on walls grin with greed
Cobwebs weave a pattern high and take the lead

In breaking the news of a bushed elephant,
Bent after years of heavy haul from the dark forest

To the shore for all, from the deep of the forest,
The ship is ready for a sail,
Unaware of the dark anguish of the soul,
And the tusk is taken; the task is left on the shore.

In the autumn of its life, the elephant is a flaccid flower,
Petals are dry, sepals are limp, cannot hold
Moisture, but often dust is gathered in dots of gold.
Twilight brings flints of memories
His drooping hands hesitate to strike them hard
Afraid, their darkness will devour the spark.

Glancing into the glade that was once green,
Glad in a dream that was shattered, generates
Briefly into the memory the glow of grief
And again darkness, deeper than before, an old stag,
Forsaken by the herd in a rush, alone
Brooding, bewildered, glides towards the phone
To begin by dialing "zero" for a connection.

(An earlier version of this poem has been published in the February, 2002 issue of Poet, Madras, India.)

Globalization ... where to?

By LAMYA AHMED AL-RADHI
ENGLISH TEACHER,
ARWA SCHOOL, HAJJAH

Every year calendars are being flipped and life moves on. Actually, we live in times of great changes, times of highly complex technology, times of tremendous informational revolutions, times in which the whole world shrinks to be a hamlet. This is called Globalization.

Globalization is a new and wide term that, according to some people, is actually created by America to take the world under its wings. America is entering the 21st century as the strongest and the most powerful nation in the world. Some feel that Americans think that they are the best, they will lead the world, and not to be dictated by anybody. But where will they lead us, to a better life? It is anybody's guess what kind of life it will be. There may be still bigger hazards to come.

It is no denying the fact that globalization invades all spheres, even the common man's life style. So people

should decide, what they want to be; what values they want to imbibe. The trail of development left by globalization can't be ignored. It is clearly describable in economy, health, politics, commerce and education.

Definitely education is not excluded from all these developments. Education has witnessed spectacular achievements. For example, programmed instructions is spreading everywhere, especially in higher education. This is attributed to globalization, which made every thing easy as well as handy. Most of the educational institutions use computers and Internet services as an inevitable necessity. The process of education today has become more and more interesting and enjoyable than before.

On the other hand, we should ask ourselves important questions, which need wise answers. How are we preparing ourselves for globalization? Are we ready to face the challenges in the wake of globalization? How can we protect ourselves from the dangers of the sweep of globalization? What about our curricula? Are they immune to stuffing and repetition? Do they

achieve the required purposes? Do they provide generations with enough technological awareness? This undoubtedly needs a new vision and great awareness to cope with the rapid progress of science and technology, which is overwhelming us. It is this rapid stride in technology that keeps America at the top.

Hance Peter Martin in his book titled 'Snare of Globalization' said that there would be a society of Fifth, i.e., it is only one-fifth of people which will have the chance to work. The other four-fifths (4/5) won't. In a word, the era of globalization demands more of us than ever before. In reality, we are in the midst of an immense need for ensuring an excellent and comfortable life at the same time. So this calls upon us to have an open mind; a mind alive to new ideas; sensitive to development and creativity; able to differentiate between the good and the bad. Only then can we stay at the forefront of socio-academic life. Only then can we truly belong to the society of the fifth and belong to the 21st century. Only then can we live in the era of globalization.

Living life like a hollow machine



SALEH AHMED AL-SHUMAILY
English Teacher
Al-Shaer province

When one glances at this life one may view it as a voyage in a ship to the life hereafter. A successful explorer is one who is able to steer the ship successfully to its desired destination, but the loser is the one who leaves the ship wrecked and drowning. As the captain needs some instructions, a man in this life too needs some guidelines by which he can see the right direction and reach the destination successfully.

In my opinion our Islamic instruc-

tions contained in the Holy Quran and those given by the prophet Mohammed (PBUH) are adequate for all human beings to guide their lives' ships correctly and save it from drowning. But alas! I have seen many people forget their religion, and even themselves. They live in a world of greedy lions and wolves. Their humanitarian feelings and good manners disappear while running after money. In such a world, a man loses his power of concentration, his mind starts to fly about, his heart is cheated by deceptive appearances.

In the modern world, finer human feelings have been vitiated by the mechanized western civilization. A man has been reduced to just a machine. Wars, all over the world, have served to destroy inner virtues. Consequently man has become restless, and his life has become hollow.

Due to rapid strides in modern technology, a man gains a lot of time. He doesn't know what to do with his physical powers, and he doesn't know how to spend his time creatively. So, he is bored, and he sees the world seems utterly meaningless for him.

In my humble opinion, the only remedy for this predicament of the modern man is to return to the original source of the eternal religious commandments, and fill his mind and heart with the nectar contained in them. He has to generate happiness in the hearts of others, as well. He ought not to be hopelessly obsessed with money but be more serious about helping and loving others. He must emphatically assert: "Yes for peace, not for war. Let us be brothers. We shall live and let others live. We shall love and let others be loved."

TIMES QUIZ (43)

Tick the most appropriate choice

1. Mercury is used in thermometer because
 - a. its specific heat is low
 - b. it is an inert material
 - c. it doesn't freeze at low temperatures
 - d. of unknown reasons
2. A method by which large molecules and small molecules can be separated by selective diffusion through a semi-permeable membrane is known as
 - a. Diffusion
 - b. Dialysis
 - c. Osmosis
 - d. Plasmolysis

3. An essential ingredient of photographic films is

- a. Silver nitrate
- b. Silver bromide
- c. Silver chloride
- d. Sodium bromide

4. Why does sky look blue?

- a. Because it is blue in color
- b. Because of the reflection of sea water
- c. Because blue color of light is of short length and can be scattered by dust particles and water vapors but not the other colors.
- d. Because of the refraction of light

5. What is the full form of the abbreviation CA in Computer

science?

Answers to Times Quiz (42)

1. Sea water is saline because rivers carry **soluble minerals** from mountains making sea water saline.
2. Lactometer is used to estimate the purity of milk.
3. Ornithophily is a term which explains **flower pollination by birds**.
4. Deficiency of iodine in diet leads to **goitre**.
5. The full form of the acronym CAT is Computer Axial Tomography

WONDERWORD

by DAVID OUELLET

HOW TO PLAY: First read the list of words, then look at the puzzle. The words are in all directions — vertically, horizontally, diagonally, backward. Circle each letter of a word found and strike it off the list. The letters are often used more than once, so do not cross them out. It is best to find the big words first. When you find all the words listed in the clues, you'll have a number of letters left over that spell the Wonderword.

CLUES

| | | | | |
|------------|---------------|------------|-------------|-----------|
| Aluminum | Cicada | Gems | Mine | Sodium |
| Amulets | Classic | Green | Miniatures | Spoon |
| Antiques | Collectibles | Historic | Modern | Stone |
| Antiquity | Craftsmanship | Honed | Mogul | Swan |
| Australian | Cups | Horses | Motif | Tints |
| Bears | Dark | Hues | Muse | Tools |
| Bell | Designers | India | Neat | Trim |
| Birds | Dish | Inlaid | Nephrite | Tubes |
| Boulders | Disks | Jadeite | Piece | Unicorns |
| Bowl | Dragons | Jar | Pirates | Vase |
| Burmese | Duck | Kingfisher | Prospectors | Width |
| Cabochoon | Dynasties | Kings | Rich | Workshops |
| Calcium | Emperor | Look | Rock | |
| Canadian | Factories | Magnesium | Shades | |
| Carvers | Figurines | Maori | Signets | |
| Chinese | Fine | Millennia | Silicate | |

THE STORY OF JADE

Solution: 14 letters

| | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| D | I | A | L | N | I | A | S | I | L | I | C | A | T | E | S | A | V | U | P |
| M | O | D | E | R | N | T | E | S | S | D | E | S | I | G | N | E | R | S | |
| S | H | A | D | E | S | M | D | S | L | E | E | H | M | U | I | D | O | S | M |
| K | S | E | N | I | R | U | G | I | F | B | B | U | R | M | E | S | E | O | Y |
| S | N | R | O | C | I | N | U | S | A | R | I | U | H | E | P | S | T | T | M |
| I | P | N | N | M | I | L | B | E | S | I | T | T | E | R | I | I | O | L | |
| D | T | O | A | K | C | M | O | E | I | S | C | O | F | U | G | W | M | | |
| S | Y | O | H | I | S | U | I | N | O | R | T | H | E | Q | U | O | I | | |
| P | R | N | C | S | L | L | G | R | E | K | O | O | S | I | L | B | L | D | N |
| I | S | A | A | D | K | A | O | V | T | R | I | I | T | N | L | C | T | E | |
| R | D | E | E | S | M | R | O | S | C | N | N | A | C | E | E | O | H | T | |
| A | I | R | R | B | T | A | O | T | T | E | A | A | G | N | A | L | S | C | I |
| T | S | H | F | U | C | I | T | W | S | W | I | B | N | F | E | F | U | E | E |
| E | H | T | I | T | I | E | U | S | U | D | I | O | T | I | C | R | M | D | |
| S | P | I | H | S | N | A | M | S | T | F | A | R | C | C | I | S | E | A | A |
| D | A | R | K | T | T | E | I | B | P | I | N | D | A | S | H | Q | H | I | J |
| G | E | M | S | O | R | O | A | N | E | U | A | S | S | G | T | O | U | E | P |
| N | E | M | P | E | R | O | R | T | I | L | C | A | S | P | O | N | E | R | |
| K | C | H | D | C | A | I | C | I | L | I | M | I | G | R | E | F | I | N | E |

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YOUTH FORUM

Who is a friend?!

A friend is a person who can help you every day
Who can take the pain away
Who can wipe the tears away
None can tear you away
From your friend's memory.

A friend is a person who keeps your secrets.
Some one you can unmistakably trust
Some one you must love till the end.

A friend is smiling inside your heart
The one you can't ever hurt.

Ala'a Al-Eryani
Yemen International School

Dear Dr. Sahu,

I'm always happy when I see your page in Yemen Times and appreciate your efforts. I am a student. I would like to ask you how I can speak English fluently. I shall be grateful if you give me some advice about this.

Your student
Nwarh Ali

Dear Nwarh Ali,

Thank you for your e-mail. In order to be able to speak English fluently, you need to practice speaking in English with your friends and others in various situations everyday. You should be regular in your practice. Moreover, listen to news and other features in English, read books, newspapers, magazines, etc. in English. In short, practise the four skills in English as much as you can and as regularly as possible.

God's grandeur



ABDULBASSIT IBRAHIM
English Teacher
Sana'a

The world is throbbing with the grandeur of God;
Glory dazzles down like brilliance of the sun;
It gushes to greatness like the eternal spring;
All sing His glory from flower to bud.

Generations have lived and departed;
Yet nature's bounty is continually frittered;
Listen to the bushes' wail asking men
"What a soulless,
Empty picture you've made?"

But! For all this, there is a limit;
As a dark night ends in a bright dawn;
Have you seen a sea without a beach?
Or lonesome darkness without a beam?

Everywhere there is sun to create a new splendor;

An appeal to our contributors

Dear colleagues,
The Education Page has, over the years, been modestly trying to fulfill its commitment to the academic community in Yemen, thanks to your unstinted help and support. It's indeed you, my colleagues who have nourished it and helped it to grow to its present state. While I would like to thank you most sincerely for all your valued help and sustenance in the past, I would renew my appeal to you for your help in future as well. I would like to request my Yemeni colleagues, in particular, working in different fields to send their contributions for publication in this page because no one is more familiar with the problems and prospects of education in Yemen than them. Nevertheless, others involved in the teaching-learning enterprise in Yemen also have no less a significant role to play to enrich and enlighten the academic community here.

As such contributions from them are also most welcome. I look forward to your esteemed patronage of our endeavor to revitalize the educational scenario in Yemen. Together we can and we will. Thanks in anticipation

Local Press

Prepared by Mohammed Khidhr

**Al - B a l a g h**
Weekly, 8 Oct.
2002**Main Headlines:**

- International intelligence behind French vessel incident
- Prospects of failure of Qatari mediation between Yemen & Eritrea
- Saudi Arabia considers boycotting GCC summit
- Political advisor of German embassy in Yemen: Germany sees no reason between inspectors return and changing the Iraqi's regime.
- Joint Meeting Parties demand barring armed forces members from taking part in the elections
- War of statements between ruling party and opposition

The editor in chief says in his article that the blast occurred in the French oil tanker Limburg offshore Hadramout Coasts arouse many questions concerning its timing and its results. If we consider the French statements and reports published in the Israeli enemy press we find that speedy jumping to conclusions was their prevalent characteristic. Those statements and news have quickly confirmed that it was a terrorist act. Hence we are before a speedy attempt to put the charge on "terrorists" and this would lead to presume they have started from the Yemeni shores. This means attacking the accusation of terrorists presence in Yemen, which according to American statements, is a suitable environment for their presence. Thus the only beneficiary such a theory is the American intelligence that has always sought to attack accusation of terror to Yemen as a great pressure on the regime to attain some yet undeclared goals. Confirming that the alleged terrorists targeted a French oil tanker would perhaps excite the French public opinion against the Arabs and Muslims. It could lead to a

French popular pressure on the French stand that refuses the American policy of hitting Iraq. Here all indications point that the beneficiary of there explanations of the incident is the U.S intelligence. Indications, therefore, do not rule out that the explosion in the tanker was carried out by someone from inside the vessel after it had been planned by the U.S intelligence or the Israeli Mosad.

**Al - W a h d a w i**
Weekly, organ of
the Nasserite people's
Unionist
Organization, 8
Oct.2002.**Main Headlines:**

- Elections Supreme Committee, military sides distribute army men among constituencies
- Limburg pollution spread to 30 miles in the sea
- Joint Meeting Parties discuss option of boycotting elections
- Yemeni-French team begins investigations into Limburg incident
- Iraqi preparations to confront invaders warplanes
- Zionist occupation forces perpetrate fresh massacre against the Palestinians in Khan Younis city

Columnist Ahmed al-Fakieh says registration process for citizens legally eligible to cast their votes in the coming elections has already begun. What should be stressed is the importance of carrying out an awareness campaign towards the citizens on the importance of exercising his constitutional and legal right. The awareness campaign in this regard seems week.

The mass media, on their part, are also lagging behind in the process of awareness especially after founding new polling centers according to the new electoral division conducted by the Supreme Committee for Elections.

The election process is a very important national activity requires from all political forces, mass organi-

zations and local councils to join forces to contribute to spread awareness among the citizens on the importance of registration and obtaining their election cards.

**Ray** weekly,
organ of the Sons
of Yemen League
party, 8 Oct.2002.**Main Headlines:**

- Yemenis, French, American, Dutch conduct investigation into causes oil tankers blast
- Leaked crude oil threatens marine's life in the Arabian Sea
- RAY party leader al-Jifri: All indicators confirm our return home soon

Editor in chief Mohammed Jassar writes that the French Oil Tanker incident may be accidental caused by factors having no relation to terror or sabotage. Nevertheless, many of organizations, bodies and individuals would not be convinced it was an accidental event. Regretfully, the reason is that Yemen has become accused of terror. According to statements by the some, it is a haven for extremists and some assume it is a harbor for terrorists. Others have gone further to claim it is another version of Afghanistan.

Many oil tankers have on various occasions caught fire and have been given limited news coverage, but the new incident is not something ordinary for it took place in Yemen, the country that attracted world attention in this particular example. Yemen has captured world attention after it had been an arena for a terrorist act in October,2002 when the destroyer USS Cole was attacked. I do not think this time is appropriate for the some to bury their heads in the sand and show the negative keenness on the homeland reputation through attempting to hide the symptoms. There must be an initiative to threat and reform the social environment via a comprehen-

sive reform operation responding reasonably to requirements of change.

**Attariq weekly,** 8
Oct.2002.**Main Headlines:**

- Fishermen saw smoke rise from the French tankers before the blast
- Numbers of Islah party members sacked from schools administrations
- Training and fighting terror, discussed by Yemen and Britain
- 65 thousands registered their names election in Aden
- YSP in Hadramout refuses press-sures practiced on the citizens
- Transport vehicles drivers appeal to Oil Minister.

Columnist Khalid Ali Tuainman discusses the U.S. politics, describing it as Neo-Nazism. A scrutinizing look at the international scene, the basic features of which have become clear in the wake of New York and Washington events on 11 September, would be enough to rule out the possibility of the U.S. backing off from its plans to launch war on Iraq. All political indicators point that the U.S is going ahead in beating drums of war for aims having nothing to do the war against the so-called war on terror and disarming Iraq of mass destruction weapons, but rather connected to undeclared goals of the American strategy according to drawing up a new world map. The military and politically scenario the United States intends to implement in Iraq comes in harmony with the objectives of establishing an American colonialist empire. This American strategy that takes the so-called war against terror as its faced and pretext to attain its impossible targets, would lead to a dark international stage dominated with instability and diminishing state of coexistence among peoples.

The American insane dream of

founding an Anglo-Saxon empire, dragging the world to those dark historical periods, seems a farfetched one and could not be seen as isolated from the cowboys culture still in control of the American policy orientations. This policy does not appear to dissimilar to the Nazist Policy. The German minister of justice was not exaggerated when she said that the U.S president Bush is dealing with the international community similar to the way Hitler was doing.

**26 September**
weekly, organ of
Yemen Armed
Forces, 10 Oct.
2002.**Main Headlines:**

- Yemeni-Sudanese-Ethiopian summit in Sana'a
- Iranian president visits Yemen on 27 Oct.
- Vice-president confirms strength of Yemeni-Chinese relations
- Investigations continue to unveil ambiguity of the French oil tankers Limburg

The newspaper's editorial says whatever the causes of the incident that befall the French oil tankers Limburg, Yemen has been the party most harmed. It is now facing a huge environmental disaster with the spreading of the oil slick leaked from oil spilled from the vessel. The leaked oil has caused destruction of marine life at the site of the incident and adjacent areas. Hundreds of fishermen have become deprived of resources of their living, let alone the resulting economic burdens. Nevertheless, Yemen will continue its efforts for understanding the responsibility for protecting its shores and territorial waters and encountering this painful ecological disaster. Undoubtedly, the Limburg incident has revealed an important fact related to the Yemeni-French relations. That has been clearly demonstrated in the telephone conversation

between both countries presidents who emphasized joint keenness on searching the truth and making the incident a way for more cementing of strong relations of the two countries.

Until investigations effort are completed and its results are announced, all efforts should be unified for containment of the catastrophe's caused by leakage of big quantities of crude oil. This is a regional and international responsibility as much as a Yemeni responsibility because environment concerns all.

**Al-Sahwa weekly,**
10 Oct.2002**Main Headlines:**

- 350 thousands crude oil barrels threaten coasts with ecological catastrophe
- Islah party refuses attack on Iraq, denounces the U.S resolution towards al-Quds and Syria
- Opposition: Elections Supreme Committee biased to the GPC.

Columnist Zaid bin Ali al-Shami says in his article this week there has been much criticism to the previous electoral register due to mistakes and excuses it contained. All political forces, including the ruling party, have reached a conclusion on the necessity of effecting a new reliable electoral register.

Presently we are at the beginning of a stage of election registration process. We have hoped that all would be keen to bringing about a register empty of excesses and opportunity would be available for all citizens eligible to run voting to register themselves indiscriminately. Unfortunately, all indications do not augur well. The new elections register contains mistakes and excesses more than those in the previous one.

World Press

Major news items in leading international newspapers *Provided by Xinhua*

Egypt

Al Ahram

Egypt and Ukraine will initial Tuesday an agreement on extradition of criminals, the second in the field of judicial cooperation between the two countries.

Al Akhbar

Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak will open Wednesday the Bibliotheca Alexandria, the biggest cultural edifice in the Middle East region.

Al Gomhuria

Palestinian Civil Affairs Minister Jamil Tareefi arrived in Cairo Friday from Amman on a visit to Egypt for talks with Egyptian officials on the latest developments in the Palestinian land.

Egyptian Mail

World Bank President James D. Wolfensohn Friday arrived in Cairo on a four-day visit during which he will meet Prime Minister Atef Obeid and other government officials.

Lebanon

AS-SAFIR

Washington's plan: The U.S. army rules Iraq; U.S. President George W. Bush turns to the United Nations after getting a mandate for a possible strike from Congress.

DAILY STAR

Iraqi Deputy Prime Minister Tareq Aziz; Iraq will resist any U.S. strike.

AL-MUSTAQBAL

Japan after Malaysia: proposed con-

ference of potential donors on Lebanon's financial plight gets another shot in the arm; Lebanese Prime Minister Rafik al-Hariri says all parties are keen to preserve Lebanon's stability.

AL-ANWAR

Test set for Wednesday of pumping station on Wazzani river that also feeds Israel and is centre of row with Jewish state will pass peacefully.

Japan

Asahi

The United States asked Japan to expand antiterrorism logistical support in Indian Ocean.

Nihon Keizai

Bank of Japan chief urged major banks to increase loan loss reserves.

Mainichi

Japan's tax reform plan is to include large lifetime gift tax exemption.

Yomiuri

Japanese Prime Minister Junichiro Koizumi will give up on 30 trillion yen (about 250 billion US dollars) bond issuance cap.

France

Le Monde:

US President George W. Bush obtained the green light yesterday from the Senate for him to use force against Iraq. He already has the authorization from the House of Representatives.

The unity in US Congress gives Bush more weight in convincing other members of the UN Security Council to take Washington's one- step solution to the Iraqi crisis.

Le Figaro:

The French authorities reacted strongly to the conclusions of "terror-

ist attack" following investigations of the explosion on oil tanker Limburg off Yemen' coast. President Jacques Chirac said France will never be intimidated and the Defense Ministry announced reinforced security measures in the region.

Liberation

With authorization from both houses of the Congress, the Bush government will add more pressure on other members of the UN Security Council to agree to its war plan against Iraq. France maintains that the use of force is the last resort, which clearly goes against Americans' will.

Britain

Financial Times:

Carlton and Granada, Britain's largest commercial broadcasters, are preparing a sweeping restructuring likely to lead to several hundred job losses as part of a 2.7 billion pounds (4 billion US dollars) merger.

The Times

Thousands of police threw a drag-net across one of America's busiest roads Friday after a sniper who is terrorizing Washington claimed his tenth victim.

The Daily Telegraph

Jimmy Carter, the former US president, was awarded the Nobel Peace Prize Friday in what the chief

judge said was a deliberate snub for President Bush over his war plans against Iraq.

The Independent

Prime Minister Tony Blair's mission to win Russian support for an attack on Iraq failed Friday when President Vladimir Putin cast doubt over whether Saddam Hussein has weapons of mass destruction.

The Guardian

The United States has plans to establish an American-led military administration in Iraq, similar to the postwar occupation of Germany and Japan, which could last for several years after the fall of Saddam Hussein.



Arab News - Khalil's cartoon

Kenya

Kenya Times

Uhuru Kenyatta's chances of emerging the sole presidential candidate of Kenya's ruling party KANU appeared real Friday after four other presidential hopefuls in the party announced that they will boycott the KANU national delegates congress scheduled on Monday.

Daily Nation

Less than a month to a key meeting of world conservationists, Kenya seeks to expand the list of the number of endangered species whose international trade is banned, in addition to the elephant and rhino.

East African Standard

Kenyan President Daniel arap Moi on Friday made a passionate appeal to teachers to call off their strike that has paralyzed the public education sector in the country.

Nigeria

This Day

Nigerian Information Minister Jerry Gana said Friday Nigeria will find it very difficult to accept the verdict of the International Court of Justice in The Hague which ruled the oil-rich Bakassi Peninsula to Cameroon.

The Guardian

Amid diplomatic efforts to check the rebellion in Cote d' Ivoire, the Nigerian government said Friday it has evacuated about 500 Nigerians to return home from the troubled country.

The Punch

The United Nations has asked Nigeria and Cameroon to respect Thursday's ruling of the International Court of Justice on the disputed Bakassi Peninsula, saying that it is willing to help them implement the judgment.

Racer McNish escapes big crash

SUZUKA, Japan (Reuters) - Toyota's Allan McNish has escaped with a bruised knee after a big crash in qualifying for the season-ending Japanese Grand Prix.

The Scot smashed backwards through the metal barriers after exiting the 130R curve at around 170 mph, halting the session for more than an hour.

McNish, preparing for his last race with Formula One debutants Toyota and possibly the last grand prix of his career, said he was still keen to race.

"Usually when you have a huge accident you can't remember anything but unfortunately I remember everything," he said on Saturday, after having his knee x-rayed at the circuit medical centre.

"I came through the corner and everything was fine until the last moment at the exit. The car swapped ends and after that I was just a passenger."

"I am 100 per cent ready to race, no

question."

After being helped out of the car, McNish squatted nervously and then lay on the earth banking before waving to the crowd and being taken to the medical centre.

Toyota said they were investigating the cause of the crash.

"It was a very worrying accident," commented International Automobile Federation (FIA) president Max Mosley. "When you have a really big one like that you need to be lucky as well as having a really strong car."

"Luckily he walked away."

Formula One's long-serving chief medical officer Sid Watkins said the barriers had carried the brunt of the energy but McNish would still need a further check up on Sunday.

The Scot was 18th out of 20 cars at the time of the accident but his lap of one minute 35.191 seconds was comfortably inside the qualifying cutoff.

Ronaldo needs to lose weight says Di Stefano

MADRID (Reuters) - Former Real Madrid great Alfredo Di Stefano believes that new signing Ronaldo needs to lose weight if he is to perform at the top level with the Spanish club.

"During the last World Cup he wasn't in good physical shape," Di Stefano told Spanish television station Antenna 3 on Friday night.

"What happened was that he had a very good team around him, just as he will have at Real, but he still has to lose four, five or even six kilos."

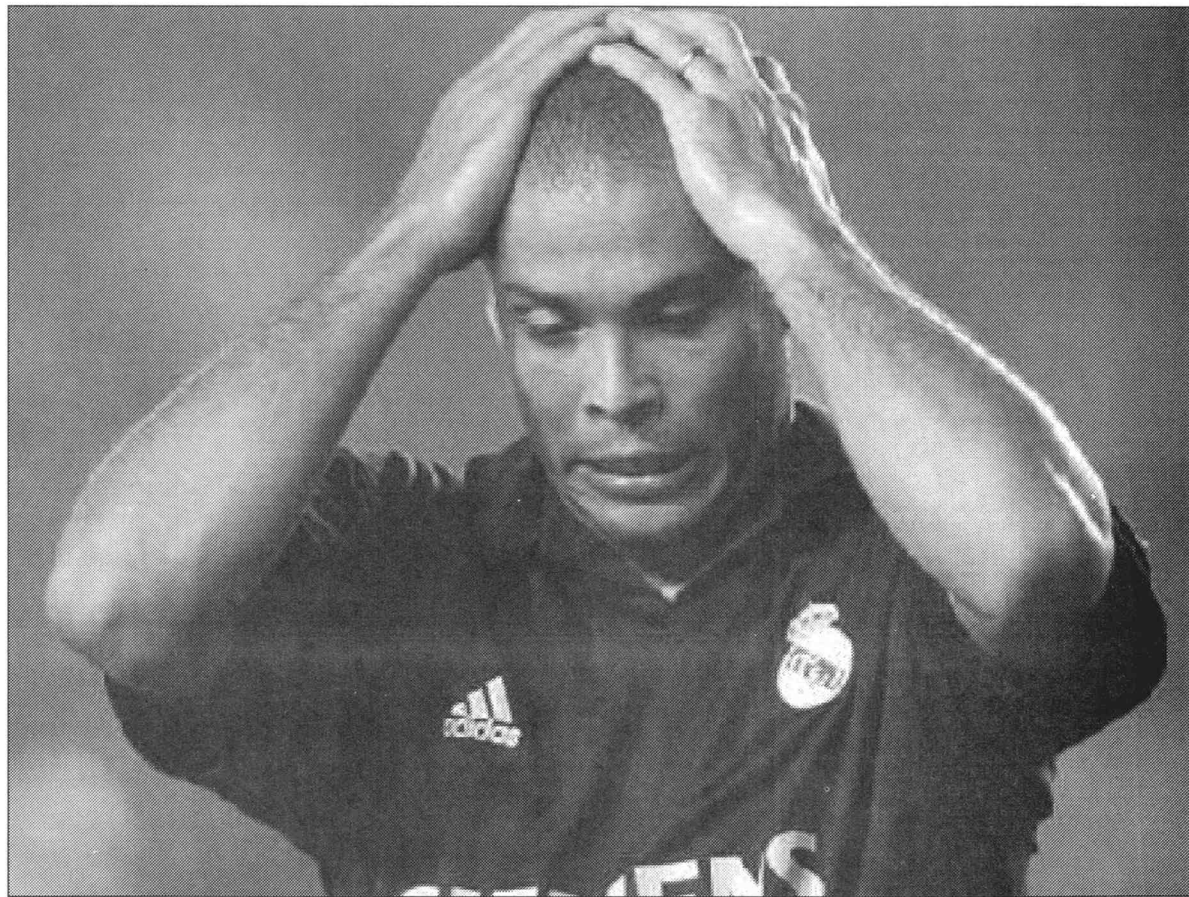
Ronaldo, who joined Real for 45 million euros from Inter Milan at the beginning of last month, finally made his debut last week as a second-half substitute in the league match against Alaves.

He scored within a minute of stepping on the pitch and then claimed a second before the end of the game.

But the 26-year-old striker, who was top scorer in Brazil's triumphant World Cup campaign this summer, is reported to weigh 10 kilos more than when he joined Barcelona in 1996 and has admitted that he is still some way off full fitness.

His debut for Real was delayed on several occasions because of minor muscular injuries.

Di Stefano, who helped steer Real to their five consecutive European Cup triumphs from 1956-1960, is an honorary president of the club.



Real Madrid's Ronaldo needs to lose weight if he wants to perform at the top level, according to former Real Madrid great Alfredo Di Stefano.

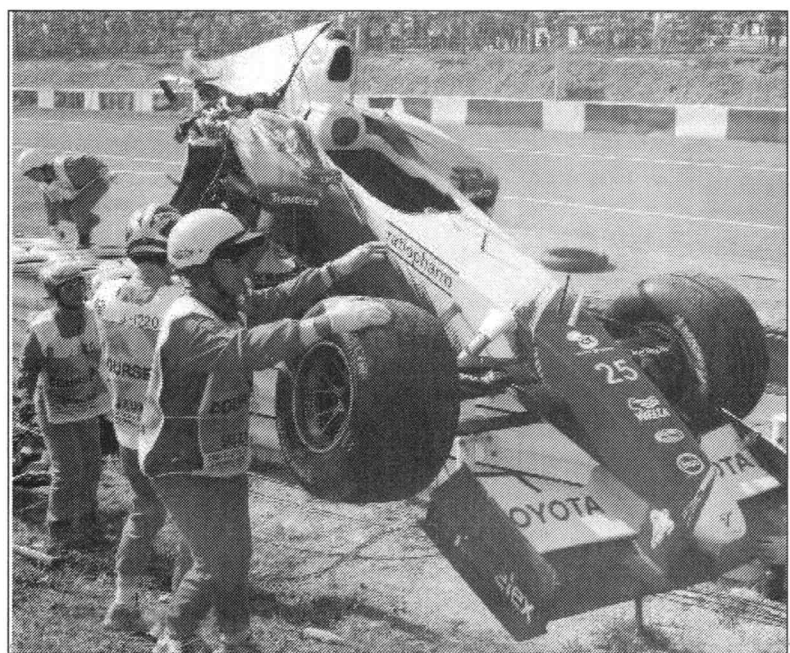
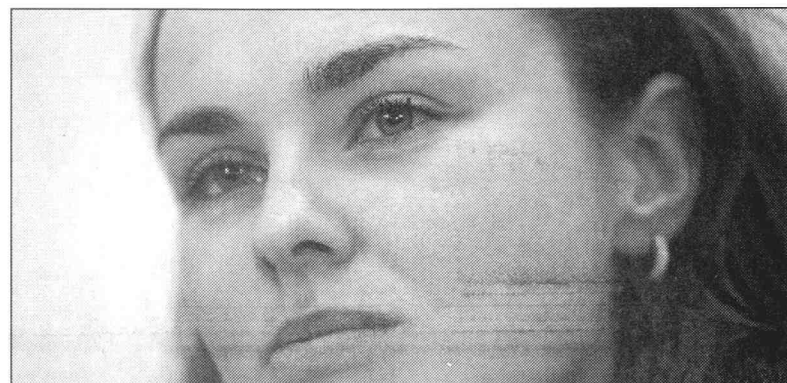
REUTERS/Marcelo del Pozo

Hingis takes break to "free her mind"

Former world number one Martina Hingis announces at a news conference in Zurich, October 11, 2002 to take an indefinite break from tennis following disappointing results since her comeback from injury. The 22-year-old Swiss player, who returned to the

women's tour in August following ankle surgery, made the announcement at a news conference called to explain why she was not playing in next week's Swisscom Challenge tournament.

REUTERS/Siggi Bucher



Briton Allan McNish's Toyota is lifted for transport after crashing during qualifying for the Japanese Grand Prix. REUTERS/Toshiyuki Aizawa

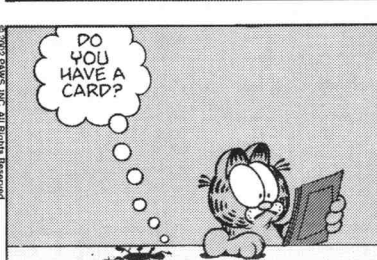
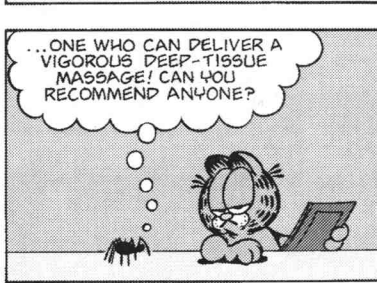
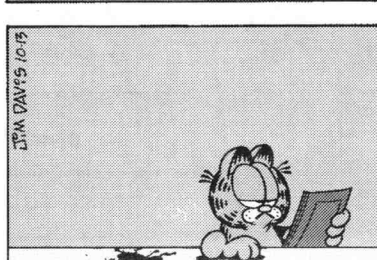
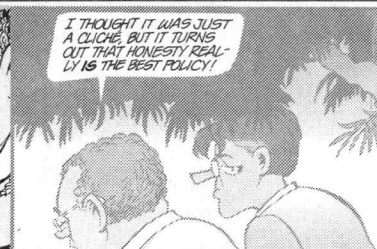
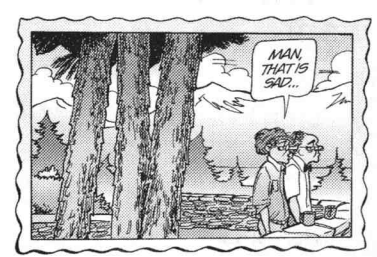
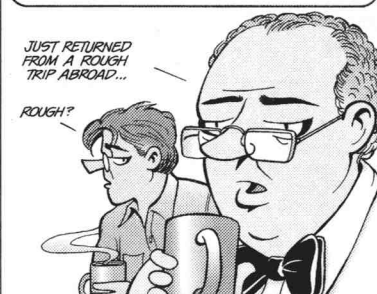
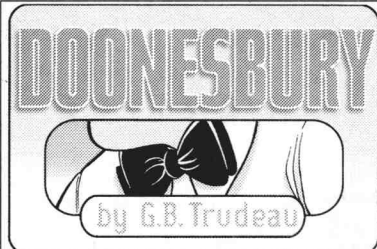
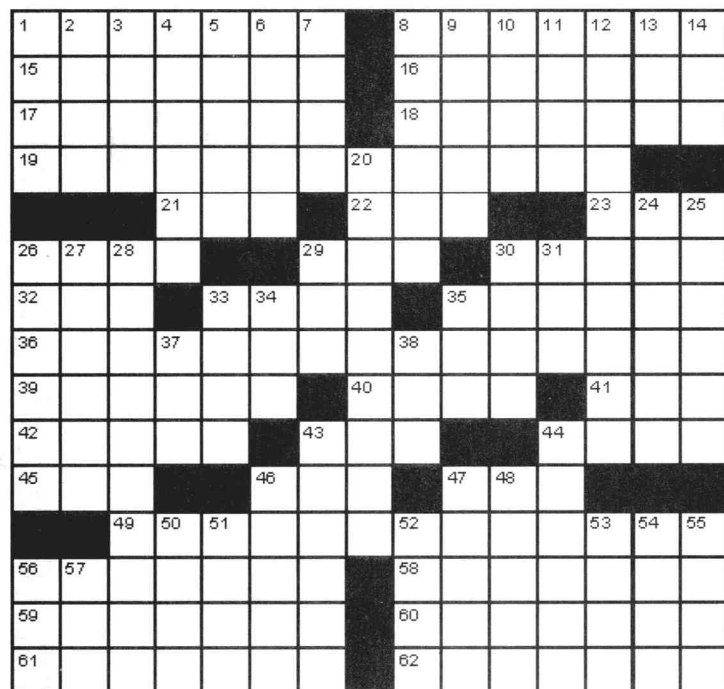
The Universal Crossword

Edited by Timothy E. Parker October 6, 2002

- | | | | |
|----------------------|-----------------------|--------------------|--------------------|
| ACROSS | 45 Ending for ethyl | commitment? | 44 Tough spares |
| 1 Words before | 46 It carries a small | 46 Like advances | 46 Like helium |
| 8 Like some | 47 Beau Brummell | 28 Post for all to | 47 Quick raid |
| Uncle Sam's | 49 See 36-Across | read | 48 Helpful |
| take | 56 Turns in | 29 Raggedy red- | 50 Sweep under |
| 16 "Open sesame" | 58 Squad car | head | the rug |
| sayer | 59 Swallowed | 30 Encircle with a | 51 "Happy Days" |
| 17 Period of metal- | one's pride | band | actress Moran |
| work advances | 60 Buildings built | 31 Lennon's lady | 52 Pilate's |
| 18 Tijuana women | on sand? | 33 "The Good | "Behold!" |
| 19 Line of Bugs | 61 Mom and dad | Earth" heroine | 53 Norse port |
| Bunny | 62 Blot on the | 34 Towel word | 54 Turn sharply |
| 21 Go astray | landscape | 35 Honor society | 55 Highland tongue |
| 22 Washington's bill | DOWN | letter | 56 Perform like |
| 23 Exist, to | 1 Diva's moment | 37 Poetic meadow | Eminem |
| Popeye? | 2 Actress Hatcher | 38 Effort | 57 Pilot's predic- |
| 26 Click-on item | 3 Stratford's | Gives a lift to | tion, for short |
| 29 They may be | stream | | |
| ripped | 4 Suitable for Ash | | |
| 30 Freak out | Wednesday | | |
| 32 Catch forty | 5 Studio alert | | |
| winks | 6 Beet or cane | | |
| 33 Mr. Bill's excla- | extrix | | |
| mation | 7 Envisions | | |
| 35 Spotted horses | 8 Water bowls | | |
| 36 With 49-Across, | 9 Graff of "Mr. | | |
| song sung by | Belvedere" | | |
| Bugs Bunny's | 10 Barton | | |
| girlfriend? | 11 Mitch Miller's | | |
| 39 Vergil's hero | instrument | | |
| 40 Part of a cross- | 12 Sing well | | |
| word puzzle | 13 Old cagers' org. | | |
| 41 Once named | 14 Vegas opener? | | |
| 43 Pitcher Ryan | 20 Coasters on ice | | |
| 43 Howl, as at the | 24 Orbital far point | | |
| moon | 25 Fit together | | |
| 44 Tourney ranking | effectively | | |
| | 26 Ready for a | | |

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"GET ME SOME HARE SPRAY" by Harvey Estes



Horoscope

by Boadachia



Aries (Mar 21 - Apr 19)

You will encounter new ways to find yourself. And you, of all signs, really need to go on that quest of self-discovery, which leads to taking risks and leaping into great spaces.



Taurus (Apr 20 - May 20)

Your life can unfold beautifully and completely, at any age in your life. You're never too old or too young to arrive at places you have always dreamt about. Be prepared to keep learning and growing through some frustration.



Gemini (May 21 - Jun 20)

It's now time to revisit your past. Here, you will find answers that will help you unleash some current trends and belief systems which you still hold onto. They are outmoded and getting in the way of some new and dynamic situations that are about to present themselves to you.



Cancer (Jun 21 - Jul 22)

You need to develop the ability to turn life and reality on and off, as you see fit and as you wish. The demands and stimuli are too great for you to handle it all. Time to pick and choose your endeavors and where you want to dedicate energy.



Leo (Jul 23 - Aug 22)

Now, your energy all about to be released, and it could come as anything... disguised as chaos, packaged in an old friend, shadowed by ambiguity, or drenched in mouth-watering kisses. Be ready for it all, prepared to invite the good, the bad, and the unexplainable.



Virgo (Aug 23 - Sep 22)

Sometimes you think you might feel guilty about something you want to do, but you shouldn't! If you don't do it, you are at risk for some acute mental pain and suffering. It would just be self-sabotage, serving very little purpose, other than to realize you have to put an end to it at some point.



Libra (Sep 23 - Oct 22)

Learn how to bring your memories and thoughts all to the present, and learn to keep them there, you need a focus, a discipline which does this for you. Meditation would be a good avenue to incorporate into your life's routine.



Scorpio (Oct 23 - Nov 21)

When you're about to take a risk ask yourself if you have been in this situation before, and how did it turn out? After looking at all the angles, at least if you still decide to move forward, you will be much better prepared for all possibilities.



Sagittarius (Nov 22 - Dec 21)

You may be having misgivings about something you recently thought you have committed yourself to. No need to scrap it or do away with it. Each opportunity will have a different slant, and each will bring benefits to you.



Capricorn (Dec 22 - Jan 19)

There is much peace, balance, and harmony waiting for you. It does require, however, that you put aside your worries and concerns about all that is still on your list to be accomplished.



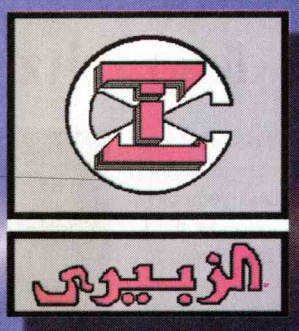
Aquarius (Jan 20 - Feb 18)

You love to jump from one thing to the next, seeking out unique alternatives. Ultimately you need to settle down at some point. But it is the responsibility of this one place, this one thing, that keeps you whole, and ensures that in the end.



Pisces (Feb 19 - Mar 20)

Do right by yourself and by those around you. Sometimes, this can be difficult, and not appear to have noticeable rewards. But in the end, the pay off keeps growing, larger and larger. Until everything you



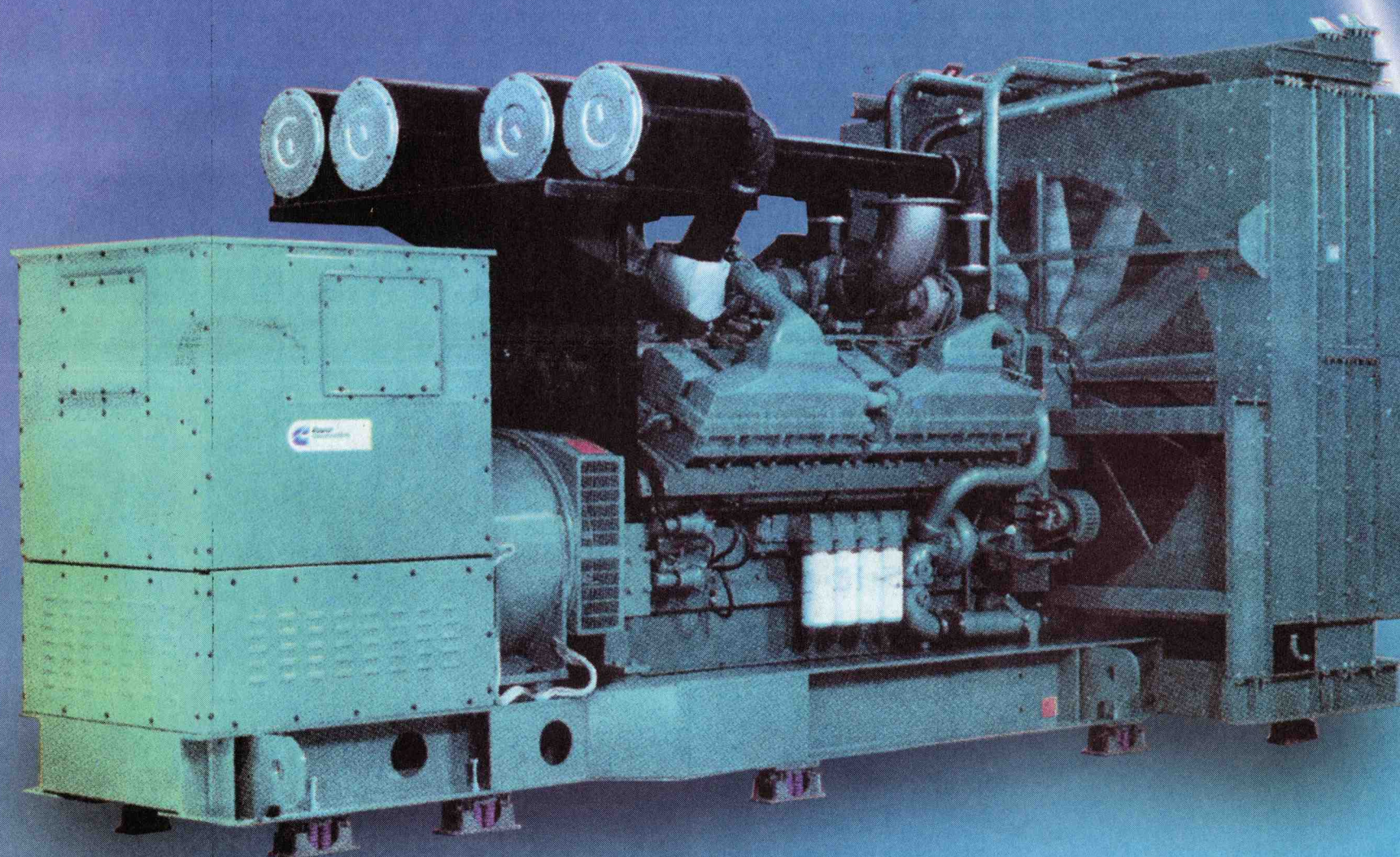
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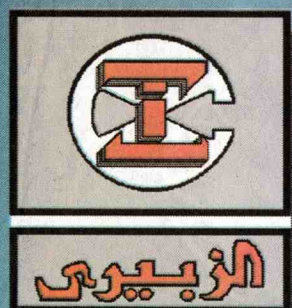


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Space-walking astronauts fix coolant lines

CAPE CANAVERAL, Fla. (Reuters) - A pair of spacewalking astronauts set out to repair a new segment of the International Space Station on Saturday just two days after they helped to install it.

Before it was launched aboard the space shuttle Atlantis on Monday, NASA said it had discovered the new 45-foot truss segment would leak ammonia once in space and attached to the space station.

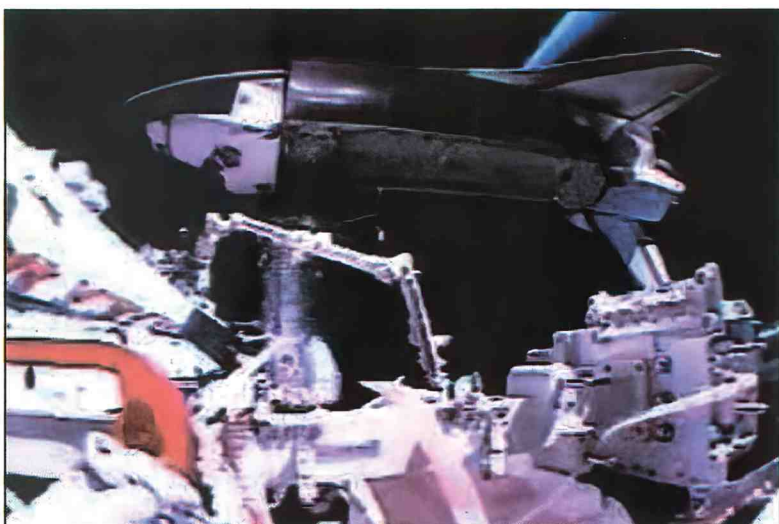
Rather than make repairs on the ground, which might have delayed the launch, the space agency decided to have astronauts David Wolf and Piers Sellers make repairs in orbit.

Their job was to install some two dozen clamps, called "spuds" by the astronauts, short for Spool Positioning Devices, to connections on the ammonia lines.

The clamps, rather than acting as tourniquets, actually allow small amounts of ammonia to bleed into space so explosive pressure does not build up between dual seals.

The six Atlantis astronauts arrived at the orbiting outpost on Wednesday and are spending a week with the three astronauts living aboard the station.

The big job was work on the truss, which will grow into the longest part of the orbiting outpost, stretching more than 350 feet and forming what NASA calls the "backbone" of the station.



The Space Shuttle Atlantis is seen from the helmet camera of spacewalker David Wolf as he works on the end of the International Space Station's new S1 truss assembly, October 12, 2002. Wolf and fellow spacewalker Piers Sellers set out to repair the new segment of the International Space Station just two days after they helped to install it. Photo by Nasa Tv/Reuters

The ammonia will act as a kind of air conditioning for the station, carrying heat away from laboratories and other habitable modules to radiators on the truss, where it can dissipate in space.

ELECTRICAL POWER

The truss will also support massive solar arrays sending electrical power to

the station, and a rail system that allows astronauts to move along it in a handcart, and the station's 58-foot robot arm to move on a motorized trolley.

"The word truss is really a misnomer," said Bill Gerstenmaier, NASA's space station manager, explaining that each of 11 truss segments to be added to the station is really as complex as an individual space-

craft.

The truss delivered by Atlantis has computers, satellite communications and thermal control systems.

"It doesn't have power generation capability and it doesn't have propulsion, but it has everything else that a fully functional spacecraft would have."

The next segment of the truss is already on the launch pad at the Kennedy, inside the shuttle Endeavour. A similar spacewalk to add spuds will be needed when it arrives at the station in November.

In all, more than 100 of the devices will have to be installed over three missions.

Sellers and Wolf were all business during their spacewalk. Even when Sellers was told they were passing over his native England he took little notice.

But in an interview with reporters before that spacewalk, he described the experience of floating 250 miles above the Earth's surface.

"I got to open the hatch and look out and it was dazzling. I was completely knocked out of my socks, which were luckily in my suit," Sellers said. "I could see a landscape with clouds and a river and it was just huge, it was fantastic! So for the first five minutes, I was pretty much non-functional, my little brain was overloaded."

Chess champ kramnik trounces deep fritz computer

MANAMA (Reuters) - World champion Vladimir Kramnik outwitted the world's most powerful chess computer Deep Fritz on Tuesday, to win the third game in a match dubbed the 'Brains in Bahrain' contest.

The 27-year-old Russian, playing with black pieces, beat German-developed Fritz in 51 moves to lead the eight-game series 2.5-0.5. The first game was drawn.

Fritz is capable of evaluating 3.5 million moves per second and the man-versus-machine contest is a sequel to Gary Kasparov's 1997 battle with super-computer Deep Blue in New York. The computer won that contest.

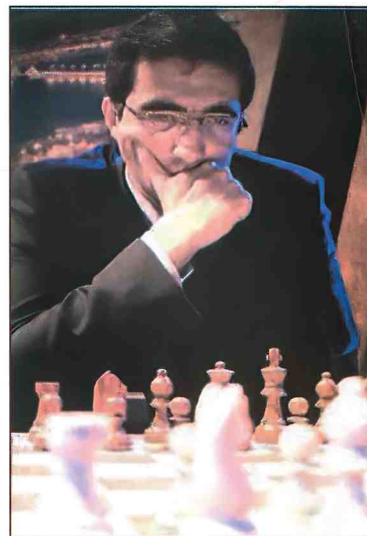
Kramnik, who was crowned world champion in 2000 when he beat compatriot Kasparov in London, will get \$1 million if he wins, \$800,000 if the match is drawn, and \$600,000 if he loses.

Fritz won the opening skirmish even though he began with the aggressive Scotch Opening, precisely the kind of tactical maneuver experts say computers do not understand well.

As he had done in the previous two games, Kramnik confused Fritz with an early gambit of queens and then slowly outplayed the computer in a brilliant display of chess.

The queenless middle game had a rigid pawn structure which Kramnik could pick apart at leisure.

Kramnik said he knew he was winning as early as move 19.a3, when Fritz weakened its pawns on the king's side.



World champion Vladimir Kramnik outwitted the world's most powerful chess computer Deep Fritz October 8, 2002, to win the third game in a match dubbed the 'Brains in Bahrain' contest. The 27-year-old Russian, playing with black pieces, beat German-developed Fritz in 51 moves to lead the eight-game series 2.5-0.5. Kramnik concentrates during his first match against the computer program in the Bahrain capital of Manama on Oct. 4. Reuters

Under the new rules, Kramnik was given the computer two weeks before the contest to practice against the new software and assess its style.

Game four takes place on Thursday with Kramnik playing with white pieces.

Panasonic launches digital cameras in catch-up bid

TOKYO (Reuters) - Panasonic goods maker Matsushita Electric Industrial Co unveiled new digital cameras on Thursday, including one with a powerful 12X zoom lens, which it hopes will put it squarely on the map in the hotly competitive market.

Matsushita, which teamed up with German lens maker Leica Camera AG to launch its flagship Lumix digital camera line a year ago, has lagged such market leaders as Sony Corp, Olympus Optical Co Ltd and Canon Inc.

Growth rates have begun to slow, and competition is heating up, but Matsushita

is sticking to its target of staking out a 10 percent share of the market next year.

"One way or another, next year we're aiming for a take-off," Hisao Shimizu, director of Matsushita's digital still camera development center, told a news conference.

Shunzo Ushimaru, director of corporate marketing for the Panasonic brand, added that orders for the new models indicated Matsushita would get close to its 10 percent market share target, at least in Japan, in December.

The company plans to start shipping the new cameras overseas next spring.

The Lumix FZ1, with a 12X optical zoom lens that Matsushita said is the most powerful available for a fixed-lens, high-resolution digital camera, will go on sale in Japan next month at an expected retail price of about \$490.

Several rivals offer digital cameras with a 10X optical zoom lens, including Olympus's Camedia C-730 Ultra Zoom, which was launched last year and whose 3.2 megapixel resolution exceeds the Lumix FZ1's 2.1 million.

Matsushita said, however, that the difference would be largely offset by a 50 percent improvement in diagonal resolu-

tion with a new processing chip.

Many existing digital cameras can also exceed 12X with a digital zoom feature, although a digital zoom cuts the quality of the picture.

Matsushita is filling out its digital camera line-up just as market growth is slowing, although the pace remains brisk compared with most consumer electronics.

Ushimaru said Japan's digital camera market is expected to grow 30 percent this year to 6.5 million units.

Canon estimates the global market will see even greater growth of more

than 40 percent, to 22.4 million units.

Price competition is intensifying, however, and many manufacturers are shifting production to China to cut costs.

Matsushita's Shimizu said his company for now was keeping production mostly in Japan, near its parts suppliers, although output of a low-end model had been outsourced to a company in China.

The new products did little to lift Matsushita's share price, which fell 2.41 percent on Thursday to 1,173 yen, in line with weakness in the broader market. The benchmark Nikkei average ended 1.17 percent lower.

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ساري

والفرحة تكتمل

أصيل

والطعم هو الدليل

Heartiest Congratulations to

14
October



١٤
أكتوبر

His Excellency President
Ali Abdullah Saleh
and

The People of The Republic of Yemen

On the occasion of the
**39TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE
14TH OCTOBER REVOLUTION**

We wish you continuous progress Into The Future

From
The Management & Staff
PETRONAS



PETRONAS CARIGALI OVERSEAS SDN BHD
YEMEN



نتقدم بأحر التهاني وأطيب التبريكات لفخامة الأخ /

علي عبد الله صالح
رئيس الجمهورية

والى كافة الشعب بالجمهورية اليمنية

بمناسبة الذكرى الـ ٣٩ لثورة ١٤ أكتوبر
متمنين لكم دوام الارتقاء والنهضة في المستقبل
وكل عام والجميع بخير ..

من الإدارة والجهاز

بتروناس



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Just say 'cheese'

By FAROUK MOQBIL
FOR THE YEMEN TIMES

One of the best presents you may bring with you from Taiz is the domestic cheese, "al-Jubn al-Baladi".

It is a round chunk of cheese made basically of the natural milk of cows and goats.

It gives good nourishment due to the ingredients used in its preparation.

It widely sold in a special market in Bab al-Kabeer of Taiz.

The city of Taiz is very famous for producing this kind of cheese.

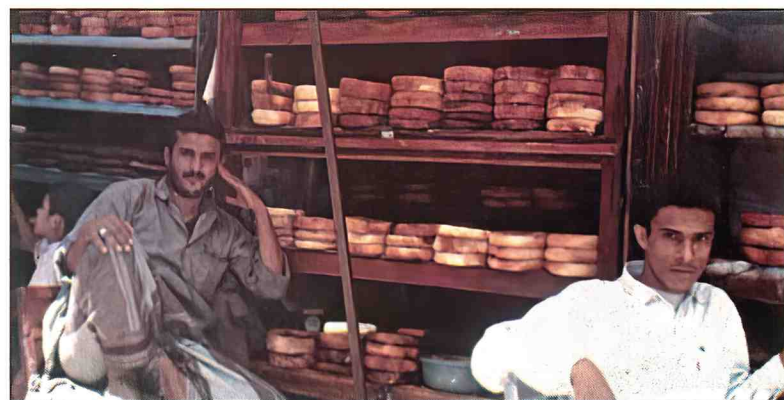
Whenever you visit a friend in Sana'a or other parts outside Taiz, the best present to give is one or two chunks of round domestic cheese.

In Sheneeni's popular market, all kinds of domestic cheese varies in price from YR 300 to YR 1,000, and

hand and without any chemical preservation. Its best kind keeps for a month or more if untouched.

The cheese is the main resource for revenue for many Taiz families.

Abdulgabbar Ghaleb, a cheese maker, told us about the cheese



preparations. "First, the milk is put in special round containers and then a special material extracted from intestines of a little goat. This material

There are two different kinds of domestic cheese. The first one is salty and eaten when mixed with tomatoes, garlic, parsley, and green peppers.

The second is more expensive than the first. It has not too much salt

name are the following:
Qamari, Aowshaki, Orfi, and Owbal.

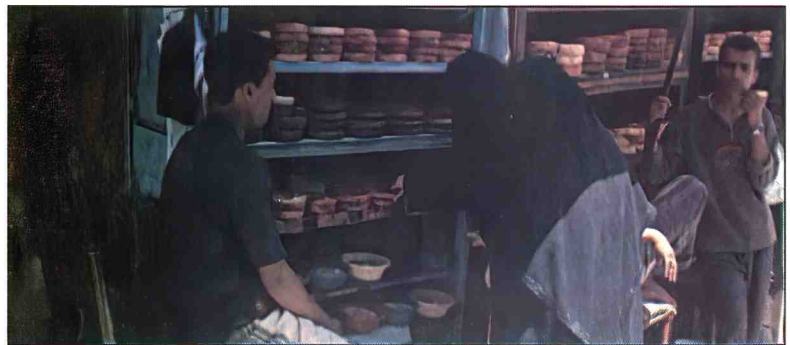
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even more for each piece, depending on the quality of the cheese and how long it may last.

This kind of cheese is made by

helps the milk to be a solid material, and then it is dried and put on a fire in order to get light brown color."

Cheese preparation

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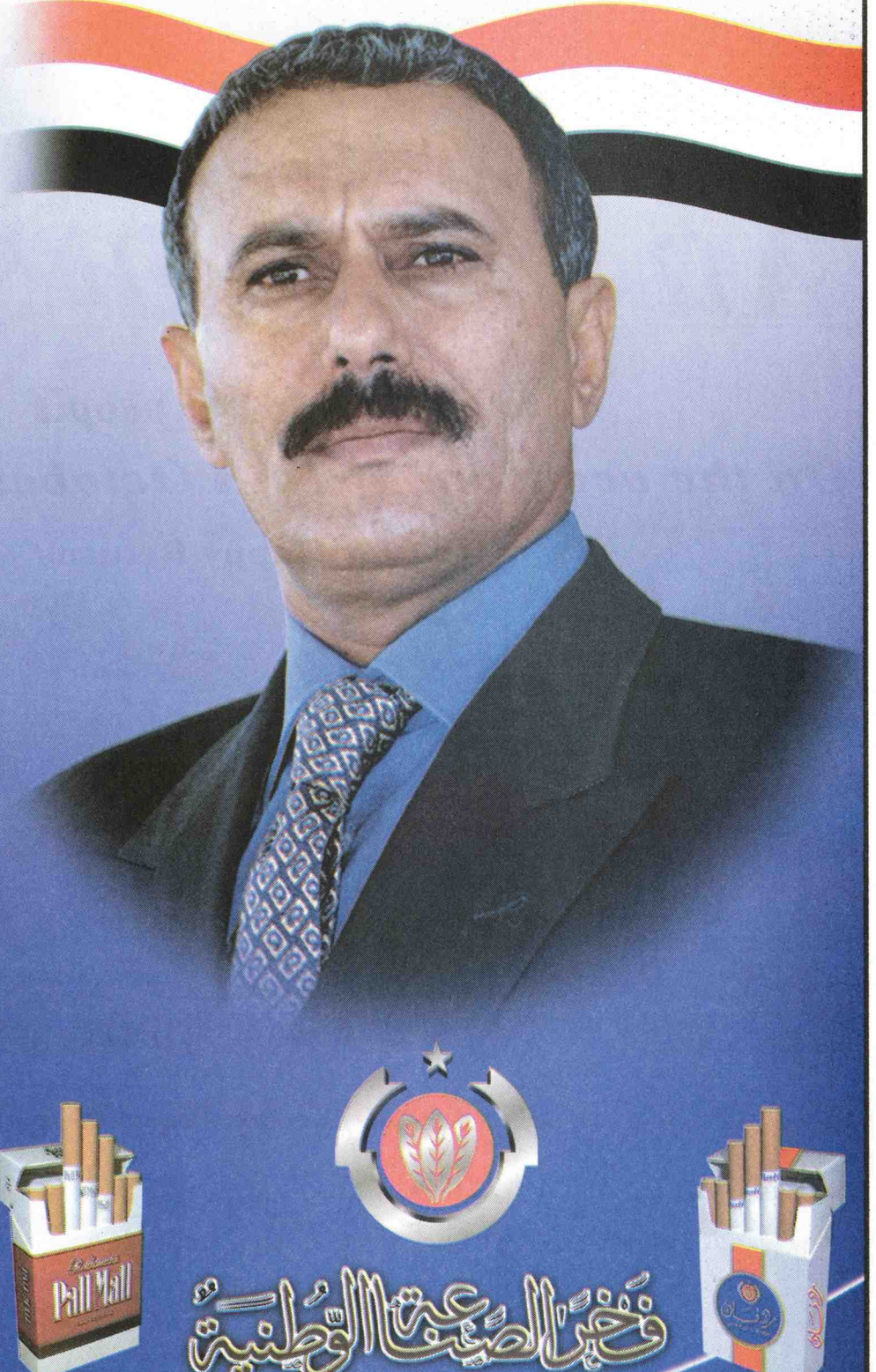
& all its employees and workers
Presents its heartfelt wishes and congratulation to

H.E. Ali Abdullah Saleh

President of the Republic of Yemen,
and all Yemeni People

On the 39th Anniversary of the 14th October Revolution,
We Wish Yemen the best of success and progress towards building a strong
country headed by its wise leadership for years to come.

Many Happy Returns



فخري الصيغ الوطنية

شركة صناعة السجائر والكبريت الوطنية المحدودة

ممثلة برئيس مجلس الإدارة التنفيذي

الشيخ / صالح سالم با ثواب

وجميع موظفيها وعمالها

تتقدم بأسمى آيات التهاني والتبريكات الى فخامة الأخ /

علي عبد الله صالح - رئيس الجمهورية

بمناسبة الذكرى التاسعة والثلاثون لقيام ثورة ١٤ أكتوبر المجيدة.

سائلين الله عز وجل ان يعيدها على شعبنا بمزيد من التقدم والازدهار..



شركة عاد للخدمات النفطية المحدودة

إحدى شركات مجموعة الرويمي للتجارة والاستثمار

تتقدم بأسمى آيات التهاني والتبريكات إلى الأخ رئيس الجمهورية

المشير علي عبدالله صالح

بمناسبة الذكرى ال ٣٩ لثورة ال ١٤ من أكتوبر المجيدة.

أحمد سالم الرويمي

المدير العام

لشركة عاد للخدمات النفطية المحدودة

وكافة العاملين والموظفين بالمجموعة وشركة عاد للخدمات النفطية

Add Petroleum Services Co. Ltd.



Member of al-Rowaimi Group of Companies for Trade and Investment

Presents its utmost congratulations and warmest felicitations to

H.E. President Ali Abdullah Saleh

President of the Republic

On the occasion of the 39th anniversary of the 14 October Revolution.

Salem Ali Al-Rowaimi

Chairman of

Ahmed Salem Al-Rowaimi

General Manager of

Add Petroleum Services Co. Ltd.

And all staffers and employees of the group and of Add Petroleum Services Co. Ltd.



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Email: add-petroleum@y.net.ye

المكلا - حضرموت - الجمهورية اليمنية -

هاتف ٣٥١٢٣٣ (٥٥) فاكس: ٣٥١٢٣١ (٥٥) ص.ب: ٨٠٣٥

بريد إلكتروني: add-petroleum@y.net.ye

YEMEN UNITED BEVERAGES CO. (YUBCO)



Congratulates President

Ali Abdullah Saleh

& to all the Yemeni people

On the occasion of 14th October Revolution.

Many Happy Returns

الشركة التضامنية اليمنية للمشروبات الغازية (ييكو)

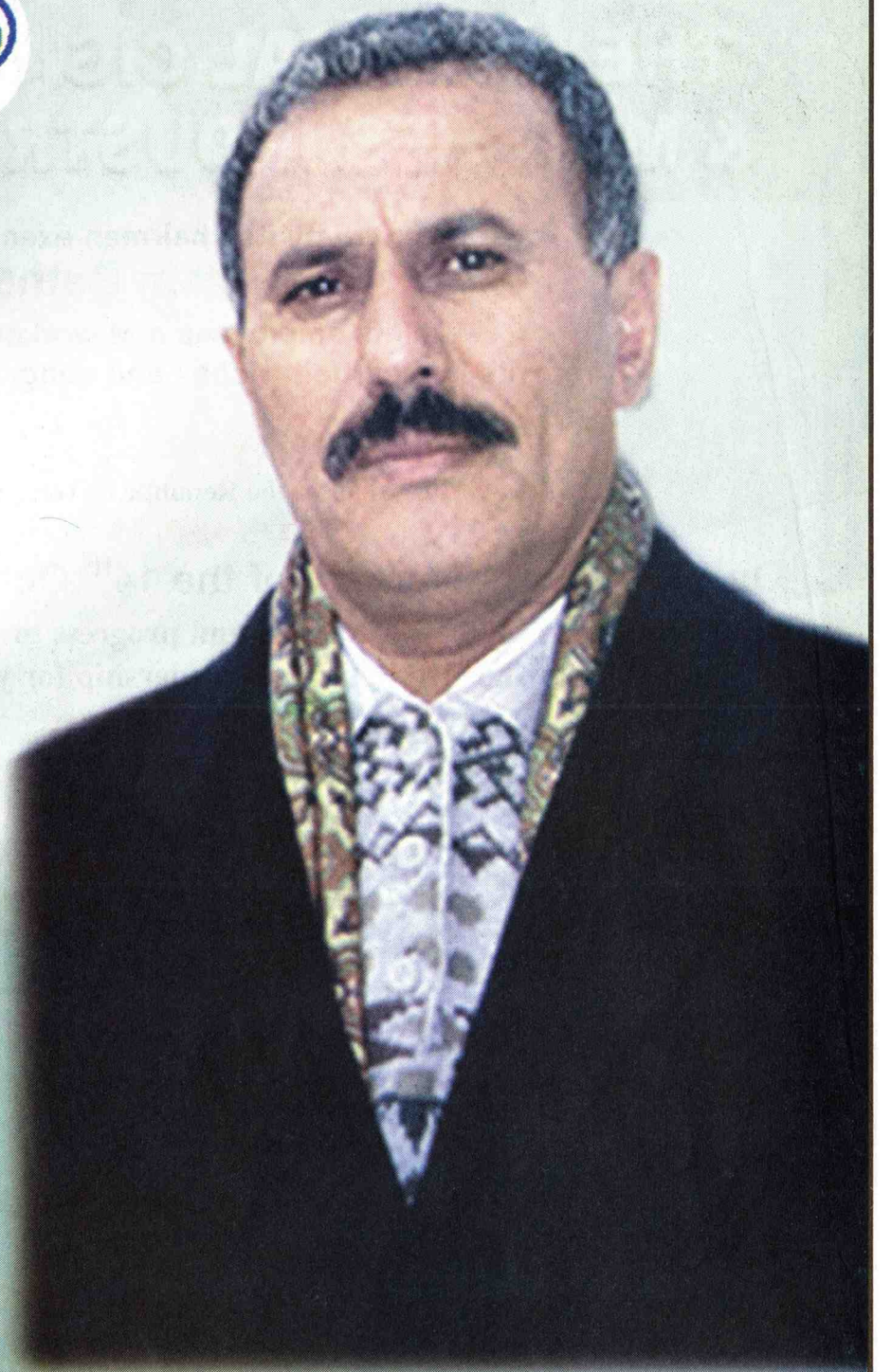
تتقدم بخالص التهاني والتبريكات لفخامة المشير

علي عبدالله صالح

رئيس الجمهورية

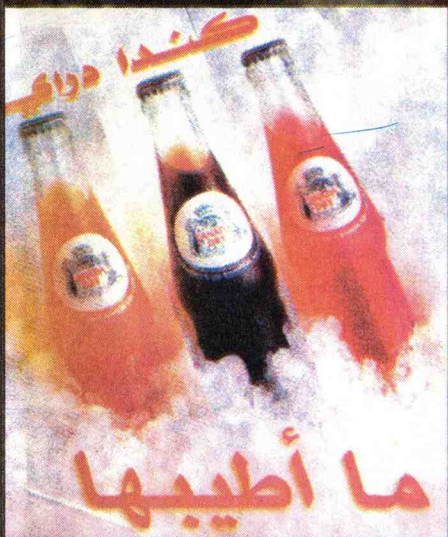
وإلى كافة أبناء شعبنا العظيم

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ص ب ٣٦٧٤ الحديدة
الجمهورية اليمنية

مكتب الحديدة ت ٢٣٨١٩٦
ت ٩٦٧.٣.٣١١٩.٥/٦/٧/٨
فاكس ٩٦٧.٣.٣١١٧٢.٥/٣١١٩.٤



شركة عبر البحار للملاحة والشحن والتفريغ مؤسسة العيسى للتجارة والصناعات المتنوعة

ممثلة بالشيخ / أحمد صالح العيسى - رئيس مجلس الإدارة
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المشير علي عبدالله صالح

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والى مجلس النواب برئاسة الشيخ / عبدالله بن حسين الأحمد،
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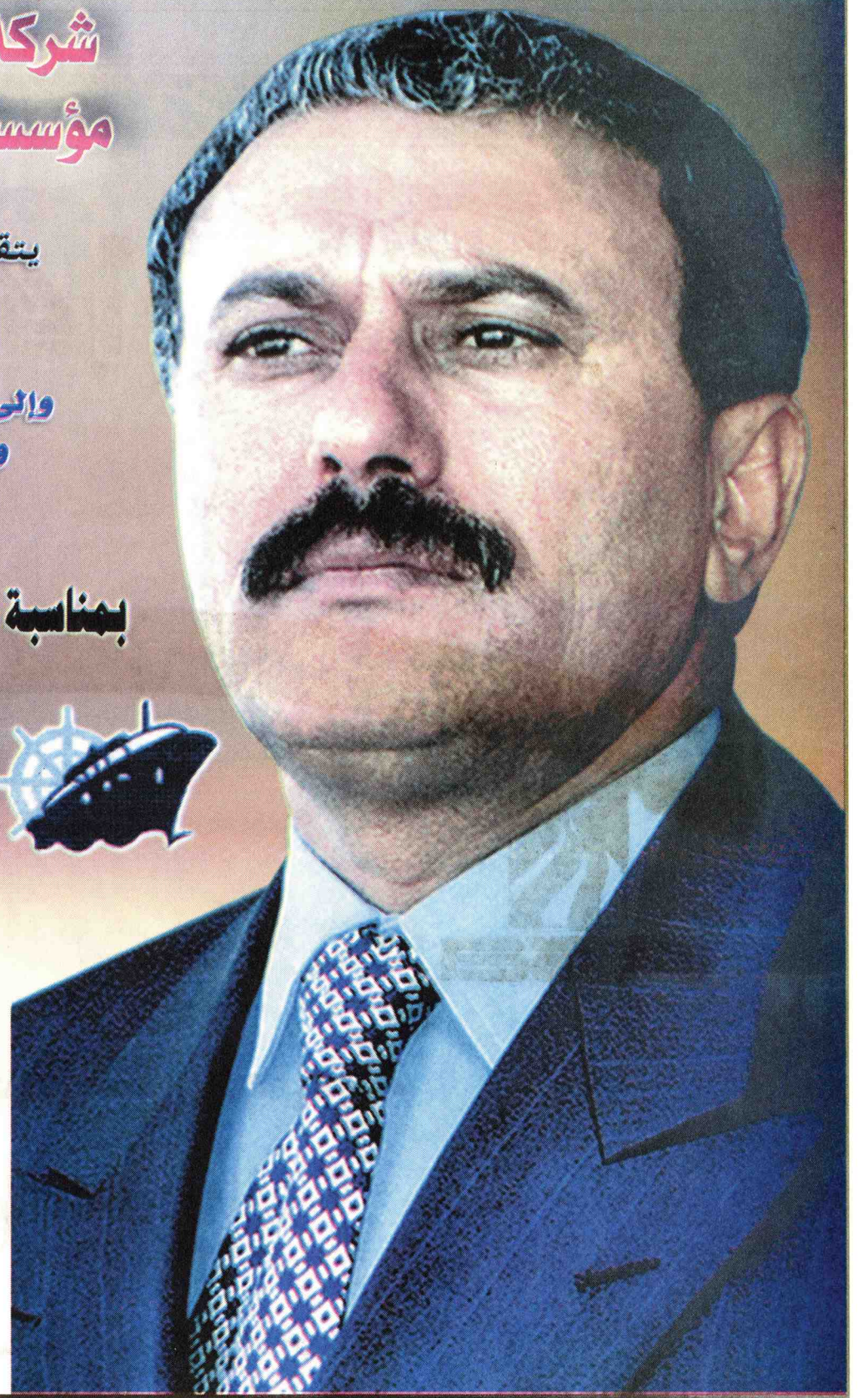
Represented by Sheikh Ahmed Saleh Al-Essi

Congratulates the President

Ali Abdullah Saleh,

Dr. Abdul-qader Bajammal, the Prime Minister, his Government
Sheikh Abdullah Bin Hussain Al-Ahmer, the Speaker of Parliament,
Mr. Abdulaziz Abdulghani, the chairman of the Shoura Council,
and the Yemeni people.

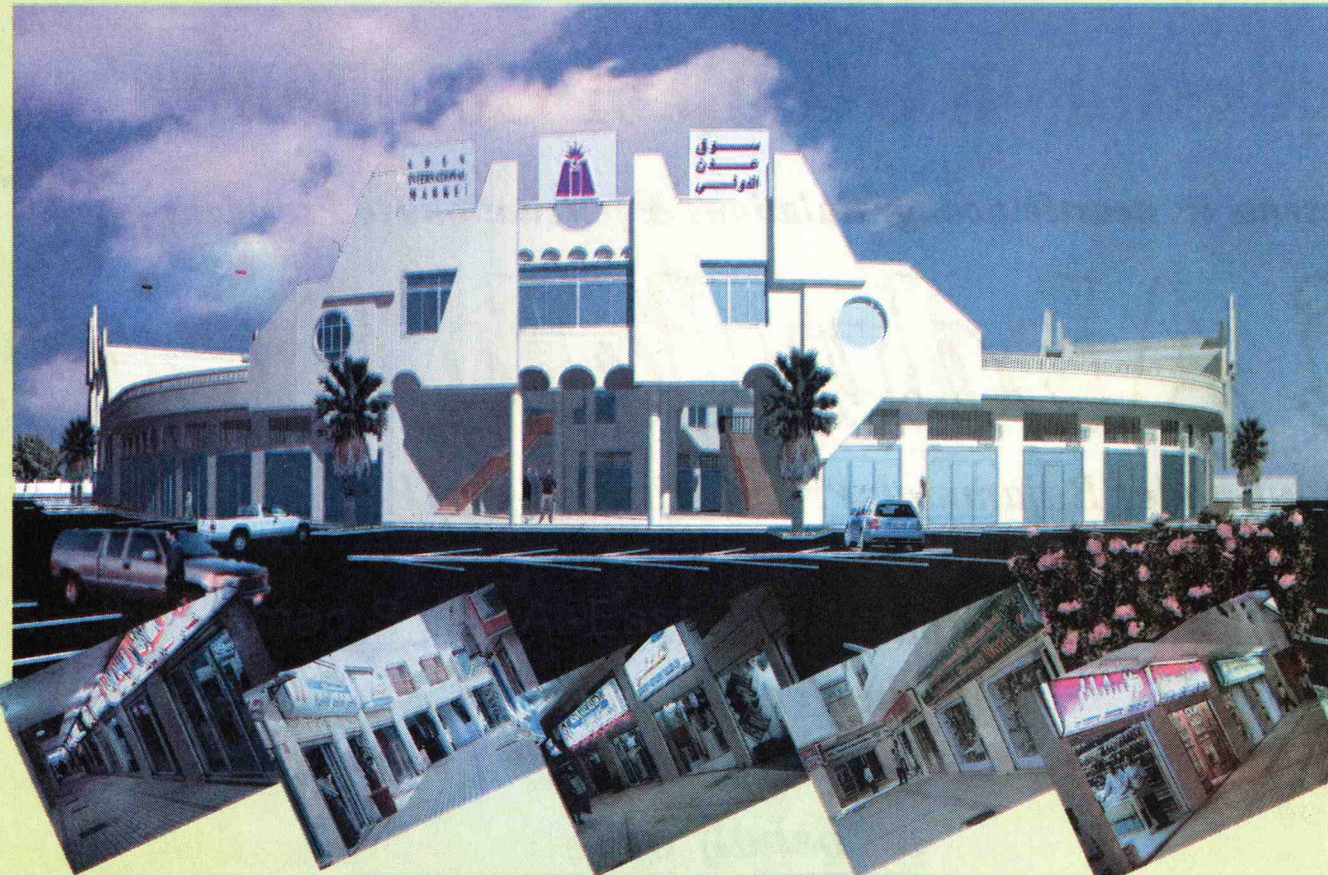
On the 39th Anniversary of the 14 October Revolution.



نرف لكم بشري افتتاح

سوق عدن الدولي

الذي تم افتتاحه يوم الاثنين الموافق ١٤ أكتوبر ٢٠٠٢ م،
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نحن نوفر لكم متطلباتكم

وكل ما تحتاجه عائلتك

فلا داعي أن تذهب بعيداً..

زوروا على العنوان التالي:

الشيخ عثمان - امام مصنع الغزل

والنسيج - عدن

هاتف: ٣٨٥٠٠٥، فاكس: ٣٨٥٠٠٦

On the occasion of our
people's festivities on
the Yemeni revolution

مرحباً 14 أكتوبر



مجموعة شركات هائل سعيد أنعم وشركاه

تتقدم بأحر التهاني والتبريكات لفخامة رئيس الجمهورية

المشير/علي عبدالله صالح

والى الحكومة اليمنية الرشيدة برئاسة الأستاذ/ عبد القادر باجمال،

والى مجلس النواب برئاسة الشيخ /عبدالله بن حسين الأحمر

والى مجلس الشورى برئاسة الأستاذ/ عبدالعزيز عبد الغني

والى كافة أبناء الشعب اليمني الحبيب

بمناسبة حلول الذكرى التاسعة والثلاثون لثورة الرابع عشر من أكتوبر المجيدة

عن المجموعة

أحمد هائل سعيد

علي محمد سعيد

Hayel Saeed Anaam Group of Companies

Presents its heartfelt congratulations & felicitations to President



Ali Abdullah Saleh

Dr. Abdul-qader Bajammal, Prime Minister, and his Government

Sheikh Abdullah Bin Hussain Al-Ahmer, and Parliament,

Mr. Abdulaziz Abdulghani, and Shoura Council,

and the Yemeni people

On the 39th Anniversary of the 14 October Revolution.

on behalf of

Hayel Saeed Anaam Group of Companies

Ali Mohammed Saeed Anaam

Ahmed Hayel Saeed Anaam