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Loan from World Bank and donor countries to fight poverty and promote security

Yemen gets \$2.3 billion

BY YEMEN TIMES STAFF AND NEWS WIRE SERVICES

PARIS—Yemen has won a \$2.3 billion loan from the World Bank and a long list of donors to help it support a three-year anti-poverty campaign - and by extension, fight the causes of terror and insecurity.

The announcement of the money followed a meeting in Paris to report on the country's development plans, and comes two weeks after an explosion on a French tanker off the coast of al-Mukalla, which is believed to be a terrorist attack.

The new money will partly help redress what Yemen sees as an imbalance in aid. Despite deep-seated problems, and a per capita income of just \$450 a year, Yemen said it received only a fifth of the average support for low income countries.

Wanted: stability

The poverty many Yemenis face is inextricably linked with security, Prime Minister Abdulkader Ba Jamal said. "Yemen must eradicate the seeds of poverty," he told the two-day meeting. "Terrorism strikes everywhere... these crimes must be

faceted, and Yemen needs development to face them."

Yemen suffered more than anyone from terrorism committed in its territory, he added.

World Bank vice-president Jean-Louis Sarbib agreed, saying that many of Yemen's problems were external ones.



Prime Minister Abdulkader Bajamal

Continued on page 7

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International investigators are dwarfed near the hull of the Limburg while on-site earlier this week.

Terrorism is confirmed in Limburg blast, and . . .

Arrests made

BY YEMEN TIMES STAFF AND REUTERS

The investigation into the Oct. 6 blast of the French supertanker Limburg produced an admission this week from Yemen's interior minister that terrorists are behind the attack. Yemen security officials have also arrested an unknown number of suspects they believe may be involved in the terror attack.

Police made the arrests after raiding an undisclosed location in al-Mukalla where they found bomb-making material believed used in the attack.

The blast that ripped through the French supertanker, and spilled at least tens of thousands of barrels of oil into the Gulf of Aden, was a "terrorist act", the official Saba news agency reported on Wednesday.

"It was a premeditated terrorist act carried out with a boatladen with explosives," Saba quoted minister Rashad al-Alimi as saying.

Explosives confirmed

"Tests of items collected on the ship have shown traces of explosives," the minister said.

It was the first time a Yemeni government official has acknowledged the blast was a deliberate act. Yemeni authorities kept saying during the following days after the explosion that it was caused by a technical failure in the vessel.

This week, security apparatus discovered a second dead body the sources think it is of a fisherman. There was no evidence indicating any relationship with the incident.

Yemeni investigators think it's possible the attack was carried out by using a boat with a remote control device, or a sea mine.

Sources close to Yemeni investigation committee have quoted an American investigator as saying that the way the operation was implemented was different from other

operations carried out by al-Qaeda linked groups.

The sources said that the American officer told Yemeni and French investigators that the method used in this operation would help better understand terrorist methods, regardless of the identity of its implementors.

The October 6 explosion killed one crewman.

Yemeni, French and U.S. investigators "will continue their cooperation to...arrest all the elements involved in this terrorist act and those behind them," the minister said.

It's believed the ship will be moved to Dubai, as early as Oct. 20, where it might be repaired.

French diplomats, the Limburg's crew and its owner, Euronav SA, had said from the start the blast probably happened after a small boat rammed into the tanker's hull.

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Tension with Eritrea continues

MOHAMMED AL-QADHI
YEMEN TIMES STAFF

The Yemeni-Sudanese-Ethiopian trilateral summit which concluded in Sana'a last Tuesday has called on the Eritrean government to deal with its neighbors in a responsible way that does not interfere in their affairs.

A press statement issued by the summit called on Eritrea to not repeat the mistakes of the past and stressed that Eritrea should be a vital player in the region a force of stability and security in the region, as this will lead to the prosperity of the Eritrean people, living in a democratic society.

The three countries leaders, Ali Abdullah Saleh, Omar al-Bashir of

Sudan and Melis Zenawy, PM of Ethiopia condemned that attack on Sudan from its borders with Eritrea.

The Eritrean president said the summit was mobilized by Sudan in an attempt to isolate his country. He said in a press conference that he will not heed threats of these countries which he accused of working against Eritrea. But he stressed that his country is able to defend itself against any attack.

Eritrea has been accused of causing trouble in the region as it has had disputes with the three summit countries. It has been accused by Sudan of supporting the fighters in the south. It is also being accused by Yemen of giving a misinterpretation to the international

arbitration verdict pertaining to fishing in their waters. It is also on bad terms with Ethiopia and has engaged in war from time to time.

The statement expressed support for efforts to achieve peace agreement between the government and the fighters of the south. They welcomed the agreement of Mashakus and refused interference in the internal affairs of Sudan.

The three leaders also focused on the Somali problem and the reconciliation efforts to bring the fighting groups together and sign peace agreement. The summit statement called the fighting groups to make the reconciliation conference. The statement also said the summit braised the role

played by Ethiopia at the regional level to settle down border disputes in a peaceful manner as well as its role in preserving peace and stability in the region.

The leaders also discussed the situation in the Palestinian territories and condemned the atrocious acts of the Israelis against the Palestinians. They also stressed that diplomatic efforts should be used to settle the differences between Iraq and the US. They expressed refusal for all sorts of war as well as terrorism.

The three countries also discussed the cooperation between them and pointed out the importance of increasing investments among them and getting agreements signed.

Yemen signs agreements with GCC

The Yemeni government and the Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) signed last Wednesday the agreement of joining Yemen in four institutions of the GCC.

The GCC approved Yemen's joining the institutions of education, health, labor and social affairs, and the football tournament. The signing ceremony was conducted in the presence of President Saleh, Vice President, Hadi and the ambassadors of the Gulf countries to Yemen as well as Yusuf Bin Alawi, the Omani Foreign Minister and current chairman of the minister council at the GCC and Abdulrahman al-Attyah, Secretary-General of the GCC.

Mr. Al-Attyah said the event comes to stress the willingness of pushing forward

the relationship between Yemen and the Gulf countries in all aspects as this will promote stability and prosperity of the people of Arabian Peninsula. He also highlighted Yemen's effective role in promoting security of the region.

Official sources said president Saleh ordered a Yemeni team should be set up to continue working with the GCC and study the similarities between the programs of economic and administrative reform in Yemen and laws in the GCC countries as well as studying the possibilities of Yemen's participation in the economic and other aspects of cooperation with the Gulf countries. Saleh stressed Yemen's interest to promote its relationships with the GCC countries.

Symposium on the revolution

A scientific symposium on the Yemeni Revolution, Part 2, about the October 14 Revolution, concluded last Thursday.

It included a profile of the revolution, its causes, and a review of armed fighting for independence. The symposium comes on the 39th anniversary of the October 14 revolution in the southern part of the country and the dismissal of the British colony from Aden.

The symposium which was organized

by the armed forces, aimed at establishing a solid documentary for the historical events of the revolution. The participants of the symposium confirmed the seminar comes in time for the public to talk about what they think about the Yemeni revolution.

The symposium dealt with 26th of September revolution in its first part. The closing ceremony was attended by Vice President Abu Rabou Mansour Hadi and a number of officials.

Is voter registration going well, or not?

YEMEN TIMES STAFF

The registration process showed that the number of citizens registered up to October 20 is exceeding five million.

"And the process is very successful carried out by multi-parties members," said Mr. Abu Al Janadi, chairman of the information committee of the Supreme Election Committee in a statement to the Yemen Times.

He made the comments despite many reports of tension and violence at at least some registration booths during the last several weeks.

Despite reports otherwise, Abu said the GPC and Islah are observing each other and there is a complete discipline in the electoral committees.

"About what has been said by the Joint Meeting Parties JMP that we reduced their share, I can say it is baseless statements and no change take place in the committees out of the supervision committee knowledge. Furthermore, no committee is formed from one party alone," Al Janadi concluded.

Opposition parties, including Islah, said earlier this month that there is a number of violations by the ruling party GPC in some committee.

"The ruling party's violations still continuous and the terrorist acts and law slighting are still practiced all over the constituencies as they insisting in loosing the country big damages because of their shameful acts such registering young people under 18 years old," a report for the Islah party said.

On the other hand, the ruling party accused the opposition parties of number of violations namely Islah and socialist parties as inciting distur-

bances, repetition of names and hindering the voter's registration in different committees.

Mr. Ali Saleh Obad, secretary general of the socialist party, warned the field committees and the parties which try to distort the democratic image through forgery.

An official sources in Allow foundation for legal professions and consultations, followed Mohammed N. Allow, PM from Islah, said that the court of west Sana'a will look next week into the two cases filed by the Allow foundation against chairman and members of the Supreme Election Committee and the head of the security committee, Ali Mohammed Salah.

The source pointed out that the first case is concerns the distribution of the electoral cards before completing the final records and the second case concerns the violations committed by the head of the security committee, Ali M. Salah, as he issued a publication for security forces to register their names out of their legal constituencies which is considered an electoral crime according to election law.

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US offers nine patrol boats

Yemen gets help to patrol waters

BY MOHAMMED AL-QADHI
YEMEN TIMES STAFF

In the wake of the explosion of the French supertanker Limburg, a top American general says the US is planning on giving nine patrol boats to Yemen to help protect its massive shoreline from terrorists.

Commander General Tommy Franks, who was here on Thursday to meet with President Ali Abdullah Saleh, discussed the boats as part of the helping the Yemeni coast guard to patrol its 2,400 kms coastline.

He said in a press conference at the US embassy and after a meeting with some Yemeni officials from the coast guard police that the project, an initiative of President Saleh, is vital for the security of the region.

While at least 100 patrol boats are needed, the American donation is a

start. "I have been associated with a creation of a coast guard for Yemen over a long time. When you consider that Yemen has a coastline of more than 2,400 kms, you can see the value of the project," Franks said.

He pointed out that the project would stop the penetration of terrorists, using the Limburg as an example. He also said it is good for the protection of fisheries as well as for controlling illegal immigration.

Franks said that Yemeni officers are now being trained in English and that by the end of this year they will receive coast guard schooling, either in Yemen or Europe.

An American expert is now working with the Yemeni coast guard authority.

The nine boats are to arrive by next

summer. General Franks, who paid a visit to some Arab countries to gain support for a possible US strike on Iraq, stressed that his country would provide any sort of assistance Yemen would request in order to build the coast guard.

Discussion between the US general and President Saleh focused on the war on terrorism and regional issues, mainly the situation in Palestine and the US threat to strike Iraq.



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AMIDEAST launches new programs

Two new training programs to help Yemeni's get better training have been launched by AMIDEAST, a non-profit organization between Americans and the people of the Middle East and North Africa.

Edward Prados, Director of the AMIDEAST, Aden and Shaker al-Hawid, Training and Development Officer, said these programs have been sponsored by the Dutch Embassy.

Under the programs, 128 female professionals will be join long-term training programs.

AMIDEAST, Aden is also training ten journalists as part of an initiative funded by the American Embassy.

AMIDEAST, Aden trains students at both on-site and off-site locations, using the latest techniques, advanced curriculum, and excellent instructions.

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as providing a quality resource center for learning about higher studies in North America. It helps students prepare for and take tests such as TOFEL, GRE, GMAT and SAT.

The tests are part of the process of administering scholarships such as the prestigious Canadian Nexen scholarships, RNE scholarships and the Fulbright grants.

Shamil Bank of Yemen and Bahrain inaugurated

Within the celebrations of the Yemeni revolutions, the Yemeni Bahrain Bank was inaugurated on Sunday October 13 by the Trade and Industry minister, Abdurahman M. A. Othman. The inauguration took place in Sana'a, attended by Ali Assyagi, Trade and Industry vice minister, VIPs, businessmen and bank chairmen.

Trainers get trained in human rights course

The Training of Trainers course on Human Rights and Gender concluded in Taiz last Wednesday.

The course was organized by Women Forum for Research and Training (WFRT) in cooperation with Oxfam.

In the closing ceremony, Taiz deputy governor, Mr. Mohammed Al Ansi attended.

The 27 participants, who represent 15 NGOs and associations, were given certificates of merit delivered by the deputy governor. The participants listened to different lectures on the concept of the gender, and were trained on how to train other people using the modern scientific methods.

Sua'ad Al Qadasi, chairwomen of the WFRT said in a statement to the Yemen Times, "Most of the NGOs have



no specialist trainers in human rights, so this course comes due to the dire necessity for such qualified trainers."

Al Qadasi added that at the end of the course that some of the participants will be chosen carefully to attend another advanced course in Cairo or Lebanon and then five persons will be selected to take part in a specialist course for train-

ers in Holland or London.

"At the end of this year, we'll have five well qualified trainers whom we may depend on to train others in human rights and gender in Yemen," Al Qadasi said.

Noradeen Al Aza'azi, a participant, said that the course is very qualitative and there is a need for such courses. "The course concentrated on the concept of human rights and it came out with a positive results," said another participant.

Mutaher Ashargabi, a participant from the WFRT said, "We got reasonable amount of experiences and skills which enable us to train others on the Gender and human rights and we also got acquainted with different training theories."

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Arab scientists meeting in Taiz agree that . . .

Science is a valuable tool

YEMEN TIMES STAFF
TAIZ BUREAU STAFF

Yemeni society needs to depend more on accurate scientific research according to participants of an annual science conference which drew hundreds to Taiz last week.

Organized by the Yemeni Scientific Research Foundation, (YSRF), the 5th annual Taiz Science Conference concluded last week in the Sofitel Hotel.

More than 500 participants from 18 foreign and Arab countries attended the conference and almost 300 scientific research papers were presented and discussed. It was a gathering of Yemeni scientists as well as Arabs from the four corners of the globe.

Participants at called for the need to depend on the scientific research for the benefit of the society. Key recommendations follow:

1 - Lobby the government to adopt the El-Baz proposal put forward to get one Ryal discount for each telephone call for the benefit of the scientific research.

2 - Arabicize the practical sciences.

3 - Lobby the government to adopt the proposal put forward by Dr. Mustafa Bahran concerning the future strategy for the scientific researches in the following fields:

Environment & energy

1 - Establish a joint Arab center for an environmental cooperation.

2 - Establish energy studies center comprising Yemeni scientists and experts as main resources to generate energy, particularly in the remote and backwater areas.

Geology

1 - Take a keen interest on the practical geological researches along with



Dr. Mohammed A. al-Qadasi



Prof. Farouk El-Baz



Dr. Mustafa al-Absi,



Dr. Mohammed Bamashmoos



Dr. Abdulkareem al-Iriani

supporting the basic infrastructure of central labs.

2 - Establish the Yemeni Center for Remote Sensing Control to establish a mineral wealth database, and conduct geographical surveys for the benefit of agriculture, dams and water catchments. This will enable researchers to know all there is to know about the physical, chemical, and biological changes that the earth has undergone.

Engineering

1 - Make use of local raw material such as marbles rocks and mud. These materials contains a valuable properties.

2 - Promote the compound industries in the field of synthesizing industrial limbs, and teach it as a main subject at the Engineering Faculty.

3 - Maintain and operate the irrigation installations effectively, and raise awareness among farmers to maintain the agricultural equipment.

Mathematics

1. Use mathematical applications and statistical means to solve the geometrical problems that may occur in our practical life.

Agriculture & veterinary medicine

As a result of the rapid increase on importing the vegetable oils and its high consumption along with slow-down of the domestic oil production,

participants suggest to:

1 - Co-operate between the agricultural and the industrial sector.

2 - Expand agricultural production, specifically oil vegetable production and making use of it.

3 - Consume more natural vegetable oils particularly, the sesame oils to be used in the industries.

4 - Establish special centers for extracting natural insecticide. Studies in this regard have been confirmed that some of natural seeds have chemical properties in eradicating and lessening the plant epidemics.

5 - Make use of the plants that have medical properties.

6 - Conduct nationwide surveys in the country in order to know all there is to know about the wild animals.

Biology

Participants made several recommendations to adopt the program of animal wealth species in our country through:

1 - Taking advantage of the hybridization in order to produce hybrids among different species.

2 - Raising awareness among students of the great importance of the hygienic education along with taking a keen interest of the tamed animals, such as, goats, rabbits, chickens, and birds.

Medicine

1 - Provide treatment, preventive healthcare, and hospitalization in the backwater and remote areas.

2 - Raise awareness among working-class population in these remote areas especially of the hereditary diseases as well as cancer and reproductive diseases.

3 - Establish an eye bank for eye transplantation.

The three-day Science Conference also dealt with three major lectures delivered by Dr. El-Baz, the Director of the Center of Remote Sensing from Boston University in the USA. In his lecture, Dr. El-Baz discussed the use of satellite images in groundwater.

Dr. J. A. Bazzaz, a Professor in Biology at Harvard University spoke on how carbon dioxide is damaging the atmosphere.

Dr. Mustafa al-Absi, the Director of the Behavioral Medicine and the Chief Scientist, of STAR and BPASS Research Programs at the University of Minnesota School of Medicine in the USA delivered a lecture on factors of heart diseases and strokes.

In the same context, Dr. Mohammed Bamashmoos of the Italian National Research Council talked on "What contributions are the drug eluting stents going to give in the treatment of coronary artery diseases".

Dr. Abdulkareem al-Iriani, the

SANAA INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL

Box 2002, Sanaa, Yemen
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Chairman of the Board of the YSRF, summarized the conference.

"The YSRF was established in 1996. Its main objective is to support Yemeni researchers and experts in all scientific approaches. It has gained the attention focus by the wise leadership chaired by the president of the republic, Ali Abdullah Saleh. The Yemeni Science Magazine has been issued by the YSRF," he said.

"The YSRF has taken a deep interest to hold this conference in different cities of the republic in the field of the scientific researches."

The YSRF chairman of the board said: Undoubtedly, the YSRF has been

a positive and that a number of participants along with vital researches have deeply and logically dealt for the benefit the society and development.

Dr. Mohammed Abdulbari al-Qadasi, chairman of the preparatory committee, said that the recommendations of this year are fruitful, abridged, and yielding.

"The conference was attended by the eminent Yemeni as well as Arab professors including Dr. Mustafa al-Absi, Mohammed Bamashmoos, Dr. Mahdi Qaderi, Dr. Naser Zowia, Prof. Farouk El-Baz and Fakhri El-Bazzaz and a host of others," he commented.

بعد النجاح الهائل وإثبات مصداقيتها في مسابقة الملايين الكبرى في عام ٢٠٠١

YEMEN TIMES

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مسابقة الملايين

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(مائتا الف ريال) الفائز الثاني

(مائة الف ريال لكل من) الثالث حتى الخامس

جوائز بملايين

الريالات

سارعوا بالمشاركة

بمسابقة الموسم

إبتداء من العدد القادم للإستفسار

هاتف: ٧٣٨٩٣٣٥١

بالإضافة إلى العديد من عشرات الجوائز الأخرى بمئات الآلاف

Women's shelter is a light in the darkness

Challenged women find dignity at centre

BY FAHMIA AL-FOTAIH
YEMEN TIMES STAFF

If societies overlook their healthy and productive women in general, and underestimate their abilities, how are women treated if they are handicapped and disabled? Without doubt they are considered a heavy burden.

These women who are fated to live handicapped lives are suffering much, and their families and society find it's not easy to bear their disabilities.

Still, many say they want a chance and some encouragement to prove for all people they can do things even better than some of those who enjoy health and ability. That's what I have tangibly witnessed through my visit to Handicapped Women Challenge Association.

Not convinced

Members are not convinced that their disabilities hinder them from participating in community activities. The Handicapped Women Challenge Association stands beside women, where society and families can't.

The association has many objectives. It tries to rehabilitate handicapped women and incorporate them in the community, as well as provide them with job opportunities to become productive for themselves and society at large.

The deputy of the general manager of the association, Mrs. Enteesar al-Gawfi, has talked about the various activities and services that the association.

"Yemeni Handicapped Women Welfare Challenge Association is distinguished from other organizations in the fact that it has its own internal regulations and objectives that differs from

other similar organizations. It is to help women have a chance to practice and enjoy their legal and constitutional rights in every walk of life, practicing their duties and activities in all social, service and cultural fields" she began.

Forgotten issue

"The handicapped women issue is relatively ignored and forgotten so our association exerts efforts to make it publicly by either conducting awareness lectures and preparing bulletins targeting handicapped women rights, or sometimes making awareness campaigns about the difficulties and problems that handicapped face, as well as holding special symposiums targeting handicapped parents and guardians," she said.

Illiteracy among handicapped women represents about 85% so the association tries to reduce it through qualified and specialized teachers, as well as cooperating with governmental girls schools to incorporate the young handicapped, who have already been rehabilitated, in those schools. According to the illiterate grownups the association tries to educate them within the association, and after that gives them training courses in the sewing, vocational, printing and computer fields.

The handicapped has more obstacles than the association can deal with, said Enteesar. She said handicapped women can't find jobs despite the Ministers Council's issue that gives them 5% of the governmental jobs.

Moreover, medical reports that would help understand disabilities are at times hampered and blocked in the Health Ministry and in the Supreme Medical Committee, she said.

Aids total about YR 1000 for each handicapped person, from Social

Insurance. It is not enough and does not meet their needs, especially those who are completely disabled or have a double handicap.

Another problem is the parents who have handicapped woman, strongly refuse let their handicapped girls from getting out of the house.

The Yemen Times has tried to shed light on such concerns of some handicapped women' concerns. Following are comments of some challenge association members who talked about their dreams and hopes, about their experience in their families and society, about the past, the present, and the unknown future.

Saba al-Tairi said, "I am so happy here in the association. It is better than sitting at home. Here I have been learning many things as sewing, printing and computer. The society looks at the handicapped sometimes with sympathy and mercy or they rarely look at him or her as normal," she said "I wish to get a propitiate job, so I can depend on myself," she added.

Beautiful girl

Hadhia Ali al-Masswari is a beautiful girl with a lovely voice and she likes singing. She could not believe that one day she may be a singer.

"Frankly, I find myself here for the first time and find people who love me with the same disability I have" she said. "I used to be student at school but, I have been bothered a lot then I have dropped out as no one could accept me as a handicapped.

"Before coming to the association I was so sensitive and relatively introverted, but now I feel that I am so comfortable and confident and I can overcome my problems. Besides my friends and I have been taught many useful things. My wish is to have a job to secure my unknown future."

Horia al-Matari said, "I am glad that I am here instead of sitting at home where I feel that I am aloof and useless," she said.

"In school I have suffered a lot. It was hard to me to walk in the yard of the school and get upstairs to my class. Then I stopped and I came here where I have received support and kindly care. I like drawing and designing, so I learn sewing in which I can apply my drawings and I can see my production."

Zamzam al-Hadhrami refused to speak in the beginning but after insisting, she talked in a deep sound in which



Members of Handicapped Women Challenge Association.

I could feel a deep pain. "The normal people look at us with sympathy. They do not let us feel that we are humans who have rights and dignity.

"I like the scientific subjects and I wish to complete my studies, but I left the school which complicated me. The headmistress used to bother me and made it difficult to me to continue as if I disgraced the school," she said.

A miracle

Samia Mohammed Ali is a miracle who can paint splendid pictures. I have thought her pictures belong to a famous artist, as they're hanging on all the walls of the building.

"To be honest, I was nothing at home, but now I feel that I am something and I am so happy that the association has adopted us and tried to make us efficient members in society.

"I thank the association representing in Mrs. Gamala and Mrs. Enteesar, and all the staff who make us feel that we are family. I also thank our government represented in our leader and president Ali Abdullah Saleh, as well as the charitable associations for all the help and the support they give to the us."

"I hope to be educated and to be a creative one for being an efficient member in the society. My sole wish if

for all people not to forget us and try to closely know our problems and needs," she added

Real home

Samah al-Tairy said, "This association is my real home and these girls are my lovely sisters. My family has never paid attention to me. On contrary they let feel that I am not acceptable and I am a big burden on them that they want to get rid of."

Huda al-Garadi is a girl that came from a village where a landmine had

taken her legs. "I came from the village where there is no attention in handicapped ones and they consider them as any thing on the way"

"I came to the association where, besides learning sewing and other activities, I've been helped to learn to depend on myself."

Such are some of the women who live here. Anyone who sits with them and sees their routine life and what they produce, will notice in many ways they are much better than people gifted with health.



Teaching handicapped women is prime way to eradicate illiteracy.



One of the activities performed by the handicapped women.

Deputy minister of oil says transporters will be leery and buyers may be lost

Limburg blast to bring new risks to our economy

The discovery of oil and gas in large quantities, along with geological analysis suggest Yemen has great oil exploration potential across the republic.

The recent explosion of the oil-tanker Limburg, however, is expected to have great impact on Yemen's economy as well as its territorial seawaters.

Yemen Times reporter, Hassan Azaadi met with Abdulmalik Alama, the Oil Deputy Minister to find out more about oil and its future in Yemen.



Abdulmalik Alama

Q: What kind of economic risks exist due to the accident?

A: This media circulation of the news about the accident will make international oil and transport companies feel worried, and this will give insurance companies chances to raise prices. Thus we will not be able find buyers for the oil and consequently, oil production will be suspended in the different oil sectors of the eastern region.

Q: You have participated in the Conference of the North held recently. What did you come out with?

A: The North Conference included 1,200 oil investment companies and manufacturers of oil equipment. We seized the opportunity to promote investment in Yemen in the coastal areas. We have talked with many international authorities like Norway Oil Organization and we exchanged ideas and experiences regarding investment in protecting marine environment of Yemen.

Q: What about seismic surveys in the Yemeni marine?

A: The companies are now doing surveys to get a clear view of the bio-

logical structures, to check the locations expected to be gas and oil wells.

According to the seismic survey in sector 15, it was proved that there are unique seismic structures, and oil was discovered by a British company. There is another oil field called Nazma No.2 which produces about 350,000 barrels daily.

Q: What about the Saudi oil pipe which will go through the Arabian Sea?

A: There are many different Saudi investment companies which want to have their oil pipe go through the sea but it still under studying. Further, the environmental risks which may occur from oil leaking into the sea water at 50,000 barrels, which led to the death of many marine livings.

Q: Do you think that the September 11 attacks hurt oil investment in Yemen?

A: In fact, we suffered a lot from large mounts of insurance costs including the oil establishments, working foreign companies, foreigners insurance costs which was raised dramatically in the year 2001-2002.

there was an attendance to get a productive sectors by international companies and we signed many agreements and memorandums of understanding on the oil investment in Yemen.

The accident to the French ship will be used badly by insurance companies and enemies of Yemen which will try to maximize the problem from a simple accident to a regional and international issue, under the terrorist umbrella, but the results of the investigations will display the whole truth.

The security forces in coordination with the concerned authorities have taken different precautionary measures to protect oil establishments and properties since the September 11 attacks.

Q: What are the measures taken by the ministry to reduce the catastrophe effects?

A: I want to assure all the oil companies in Yemen and buyers company that there are big efforts to develop the security plans for Yemeni ports to confront the problem of this kind, and oil companies shouldn't follow the media scare, which made doom out of one incident. Yemen is a developing country, and good investment chances are not available everywhere.

Apollo organizes Expo

Within current preparations for the Holy Month of Ramadhan, plans to hold the food and household equipment exhibition are in full swing. The exhibition which is organized by Apollo Company for international exhibitions, is to be held at the Expo Sana'a from October 21 to November 8. It will include household equipment, detergents, furniture, electronics, food, dairies, and sweets.

"This exhibition is holding annually to meet people demands specially those of low incomes and provide a range of Ramadhan needs with reasonable prices," said Mr. Omer Anahmi, marketing manager of Apollo.

He added that many major companies will take part on this event and will provide a good variety of Ramadhan requirements. The exhibition is part of a series of exhibitions held by Apollo in domestic, regional and international levels.

هل تريد تطوير مهاراتك العلمية؟
هل تريد التحدث باللغة الإنجليزية بطلاقة؟
هل تريد المشاركة في التصفح والعمل على الإنترنت؟
هل تريد تطوير مهاراتك الهندسية والمعمارية والإنشائية بواسطة الكمبيوتر؟

اقرأ للكمبيوتر واللغات

لتطوير المهارات العلمية والمعرفية، نحن هنا لذلك وعلى أيدي متخصصين وبكفاءات عالية. كما نعلن عن افتتاح قسم لتعليم الكمبيوتر للصحف والكمبيوتر مجاناً

المعلا، حافون - عمارة الصافي - الدور الأرضي
خلف بناية اخوان ثابت، شارع الصعيدي
تلفون: ٢٤٢٥٩٣

الدوام: من التاسعة صباحاً وحتى الواحدة ظهراً،
ومن الرابعة عصراً حتى الثامنة والنصف مساءً

Iraq crisis US compromises at UN; leaves room for attack

UNITED NATIONS, Oct 18 (Reuters) - The United States has offered a compromise U.N. resolution that drops explicit authorization to use force against Iraq but still provides some international legal cover to attack Baghdad, according to excerpts from the U.S. draft.

Although U.S. officials stressed again on Friday they could strike Iraq at any time in self-defense and without U.N. approval, even close ally Britain would have second thoughts about joining a military action without some kind of new United Nations Security Council resolution.

Almost every nation in the world expressed apprehension about a war in the Middle East in speeches before U.N. Security Council members on Wednesday and Thursday.

Most advocated that U.N. arms inspectors return to Baghdad to search for weapons of mass destruction and that any use of force has to be authorized by the 15-member council.

But Western nations admitted that Iraq would not have agreed to readmit the U.N. inspectors, after a four-year hiatus, without Washington's military threat.

Even Russian Foreign Minister Igor Ivanov said on Friday that Moscow would support the use of force if a decision were made by the United Nations.

Bowing to worldwide criticism, the Bush administration deleted from its revised text a key provision that automatically authorized a U.N. member, like the US, to use "all necessary means" whenever it decided Iraq violated U.N. disarmament demands.

Instead, the new U.S. proposals would call on U.N. weapons inspectors, searching for Iraq's weapons of mass destruction, to report to the Security Council any violations by Baghdad, which could delay any military strike Washington has in mind. The 15-member body would then meet to consider action.

France hesitates

But should the council not authorize force, the United States could point to provisions in its new proposals that warn Iraq of "serious consequences" and state that Baghdad has been in "material breach" of U.N. resolutions.

For this reason France, which had welcomed the American compromise, hesitated on Friday in approving a U.S. draft resolution before it saw the full text. Diplomats said Paris feared that Washington and London were trying to insert a trigger for military action through the back door.

"The French were ready to go on Thursday but now they are considering new bits of the text," a council diplomat said. The United States, France, Britain, Russia and China are permanent Security Council members with veto power.

France wants two resolutions, one to lay down demands for Iraqi disarmament, and a second to authorize force. The new U.S. proposals open the door to a second vote. But U.S. officials, wary of giving the United Nations a veto over their conduct, insist no second resolution was necessary.

"We believe one resolution is appropriate, and obviously the council can always go off and have other discussions at any time it chooses," Secretary of State Colin Powell said.

He also said Washington had the right to attack Iraq now on grounds of self-defense and build its own coalition, although diplomats believe support is questionable.

Few legal experts, outside of the United States, agree that the U.N. Charter covers Washington's right to self-defense in this case. Therefore, analysts say, Washington has pushed for at least one resolution in the U.N. Security Council that would cover a future attack against Iraq.

Israel arrests militants amid U.S. calls for calm

NABLUS, West Bank, Oct 19 (Reuters) - Israeli troops raided houses in the West Bank on Saturday and arrested at least eight suspected militants, continuing their crackdown on a Palestinian uprising despite calls for calm from Washington.

The pre-dawn swoops centred on the city of Nablus and the men who were detained belonged to President Yasser Arafat's Fatah faction and the militant Islamic group Hamas, the army and Palestinian witnesses said.

Witnesses said troops searched six houses whose occupants had already fled. Four soldiers were injured as they blew up the door of a wanted man's house in the city's Balata refugee camp.

The sweep came a day after Israel announced it would ease its hold on two restive West Bank cities, as Israeli Prime Minister Ariel Sharon returned from Washington talks and a U.S. envoy set off to the Middle East with a peace plan in pocket.

Washington, Israel's closest ally, is keen to see Israel ease its curfews and closures as it tries to rally Arab support for a possible war against Iraq.

Israeli military and security sources said the army suspended its curfew indefinitely in Jenin, a militant bastion like Nablus. It would also minimise troop presence in Hebron ahead of talks on a potential withdrawal.

Restrictions on movement were also eased in Hebron, Tulkarm, Nablus and Qalqilya, the army said.

But the measures were unlikely to calm tensions aggravated by Israeli shelling that killed six Palestinians after militants fire on an army outpost in the Gaza Strip on Thursday.

The United States called for an Israeli investigation into the killings.

"We are deeply concerned by reports that civilians and children were among those killed and injured," a State Department spokeswoman said.

The new violence soured the atmos-



Angry Palestinians chant anti Israeli slogans during the funeral of six Palestinians, who were killed on Thursday when Israeli tanks fired shells at Rafah refugee camp south of Gaza strip on October 18. REUTERS

phere before a two-week Middle East tour by U.S. envoy William Burns and imperilled Israeli-Palestinian talks planned for coming days to build on a high-level meeting on Wednesday, the first in weeks.

Burns arrived in Cairo on Friday and will visit Israel and the Palestinian territories during his trip, intended to encourage efforts to end violence that has raged since Palestinians began an uprising for independence two years ago.

On the agenda will be a phased peace plan starting with Palestinian reforms and a greater effort to rein in militants, together with an Israeli mili-

tary pullback from West Bank cities occupied in June following a series of suicide bombings.

Arafat to unveil new cabinet

Bush sketched the outlines of the plan in June, calling for a provisional Palestinian state to be declared in about 18 months after reforms take effect and a final peace settlement between the sides in three years.

The plan stressed Palestinian efforts to reduce violence and Israeli commitments to ease the army clampdown and curtail Jewish settlement building in occupied territories.

Arafat is due to unveil a new cabinet over the weekend to serve until elections planned for January as part of the reforms. His previous cabinet resigned last month to avert a no-confidence vote by the reform-minded Palestinian parliament.

In the northern Gaza Strip on Friday, troops shot and killed a Palestinian after he attacked their outpost with explosives. Hamas claimed the man as its own.

At least 1,623 Palestinians and 604 Israelis have been killed since the Palestinian uprising began in September 2000 after peace talks on a Palestinian state foundered.

Continued from page 1

Yemen gets \$2.3 billion

"Yemen is on the front line against terrorism," he said.

Events such as the attack on the French tanker "limit private investment and tourism", he added.

Volatility
Yemen's main source of revenue is its oil, and volatility in crude prices has disrupted attempts to improve the lot of its citizens.

The meeting last week in Paris with business leaders is intended to help improve the investment climate.

Helping Yemen continue its reforms, including bringing more women into the workforce, were among the goals of the World Bank and other donors who met at the meeting in Paris.

Held at World Bank headquarters Oct. 16 and 17, the conference was attended by more than 100 participants representing Yemen, regional countries, organisations and funds in addi-

tion to Yemeni, Arab and foreign businessmen.

The conference cast light on economic and developmental achievements Yemen has so far accomplished within the program of economic, financial and administrative reforms.

The donors promised to support the state's efforts for mitigating poverty and curbing its aggravation through the creation of a social security net, through the social fund for development.

The donors also promised to fund social projects related to Yemeni women.

Abdulqader Bajammal told the gathering his country was founded on deeply establishing political, economic, legal and administrative reforms.

He further stressed the intention of cementing regional relationship with neighbouring countries and providing conditions of partnership in develop-

ment with all. He emphasized his country's serious and effective political contribution to peace and stability and fighting terror and realisation of integration with the new and just world order.

Yemen has asked all participants to conclude a genuine partnership with Yemen for integration, increase of mutual benefits, realization of exchanged interests and development and activation of cooperation as all that represents key for advance towards safe future and objective foundation for creating integration with all regional and international economies.

The prime minister reviewed the political and economic developments in Yemen within the framework of reform over the last 40 years. He noted the establishment of local councils and achieving more popular participation in the political process.

CONSULTING SERVICES Expressions of Interest

The Republic of Yemen has received a PHRD Grant from the Japanese Government as part of financing the preparation of Basic Education Expansion Project-Phase II. The Ministry of Education intends to apply part of the proceeds of this Grant to payments under contracts for recruiting experts to providing consulting services in the following topics: Technical Support to MOE, Girls Education/ Gender, School Mapping, Working Children, Community Participation, Teacher Training, Pedagogy and Educational Quality, Student Assessment, Education Economy, Institutional Building and Decentralization.

The Basic Education Expansion Project now invites international, regional and local consultants to indicate their interest in providing the services. Interested consultants must provide information indicating that they are qualified to perform the services (brochures, description of similar assignments, experience in similar conditions, availability of appropriate skills, etc.). Expressions of interest must be delivered within 15 days from this notice at the address below.

Basic Education Expansion Project
Project Sector Building, Baghdad- Zubairi St.
Sana'a, Republic of Yemen
Telefax : 01- 200472
E-mail: director@beep.edu.ye

Announcement

The Local Council of Sana'a City announces its interest to consultant in establishing terms of specification for invitation of specialized firms to implement waste recycling and compost production plant in Sana'a City in the following basis:

1. Investment, monopolize and full privilege.
2. Financial facility with implementation.
3. Implementation only.

The interested specialized local or foreign consultants shall submit their offer, for achievement of the required duties in a period of one-month time from the date of announcement, to the following address:

Sana'a City Cleaning Fund
P. O. Box (16858)
Tel: +967-1-420386 (w)
E-mail: sanaaclean@y.net.ye

اعلان

يعلن المجلس المحلي للعاصمة صنعاء عن رغبته في وضع كراسة الشروط لدعوة الشركات المتخصصة لتنفيذ مشروع انشاء مصنع لتدوير القمامة وإنتاج السماد العضوي بالأمانة بالأسس التالية:

- أ- استثمار واستغلال امتياز كامل
- ب- تسهيل مالي مع التنفيذ
- ج- تنفيذ فقط

ويدعو الشركات الاستشارية المتخصصة المحلية والأجنبية إلى تقديم عروضها لإنجاز المطلوب خلال مدة شهر من تاريخ الإعلان إلى العنوان التالي:

صندوق بريد ١٦٨٥٨
تلفون: ٩٦٧-١-٤٢٠٣٨٦ فاكس: ٩٦٧-١-٤١٨٥٩٤
بريد الكتروني: sanaaclean@y.net.ye

French soldiers to monitor truce in Ivory Coast

TIEBISSOU, Ivory Coast, Oct 19 (Reuters) - French troops rolled out barbed wire and strengthened positions near Ivory Coast's front lines as they prepared to keep loyalist soldiers and rebels apart under a West African peace plan.

France, which has more than 1,000 troops in its former colony, has agreed to monitor a truce which came into effect on Thursday until a regional force can be sent to help end a month-old conflict that has frightened West Africa.

The fighting has left hundreds dead, displaced more than 200,000, intensified ethnic bitterness and raised the prospect of an all-out civil war.

French officers said they were still waiting for specific instructions on what their next moves should be, but had begun checking on the positions of the two sides so they would know where to deploy their own men.

At Tiebissou, almost halfway up the 100 km (60 mile) road from the official capital Yamoussoukro to the

rebel stronghold of Bouake, French troops brought sandbags, wire and concrete blocks to strengthen their checkpoint there.

France's Foreign Ministry confirmed that the troops would help assure the ceasefire. They have already evacuated hundreds of foreigners since a failed September 19 coup left the rebels holding most of the north of the country.

French President Jacques Chirac said during a visit to Beirut that his troops could help with logistics for a force of the Economic Community of West African States which is expected to be deployed within the next two weeks.

"Fighting is not a solution. The path of dialogue must be found," Chirac told Radio France Internationale.

There were no reports of fighting after the ceasefire took effect on Friday. The peace deal was signed by the rebels on Thursday and approved by President Laurent Gbagbo.

Congolese rebels say town of Uvira now recaptured

BUKAVU, Oct 19 (Reuters) - Congo's main rebel army said it had recaptured the eastern lake port of Uvira on Saturday after heavy overnight fighting in which scores of civilians and soldiers were killed.

"We attacked just after midnight and three hours later we were in control of the town," Jean-Pierre Lola Kisanga, spokesman for the Rwandan-backed Rally for Congolese Democracy (RCD), told Reuters by phone from Goma.

"About a 100 people were killed, some of them civilians," he added.

The town at the northern end of Lake Tanganyika was captured by tribal militias earlier this week. The RCD said the militias were acting under direct orders from President Joseph Kabila, a charge the Kinshasa government has strongly denied.

Kisanga said government soldiers were among 51 prisoners taken by the RCD.

"They had government uniforms and identity cards," Kisanga said, adding that the RCD had suffered an unknown number of casualties.

Recent fighting in eastern Democratic Republic of Congo has set back advances in a peace process that saw the retreat of most foreign armies from Africa's third largest country.

International pressure recently improved relations between the main belligerents, but local violence has flared in the wake of retreating national armies.

The war in former Zaire started in 1998 when Rwanda and Uganda backed separate rebel armies trying to topple Kinshasa's government, which has been propped up by Zimbabwe, Angola and Namibia.

More than two million people have died, most from starvation and hunger.

Response to U.S. Marine killed Oct. 8

Kuwait vows to combat extremism after U.S. death

KUWAIT, Oct 19 (Reuters) - Kuwait said on Saturday it was launching a national drive to combat extremism after a U.S. marine was killed in an attack.

"This is a call to contribute to this comprehensive national project...to defend Kuwait and ourselves against spoilers and sick terrorists," acting Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Sheikh Sabah al-Ahmad al-Sabah told parliament.

"It is our responsibility — government, parliament, institutions and individuals — to extinguish extrem-

ism and terrorism in our country and uproot it," he said at the opening of the only elected Gulf Arab parliament after a summer recess.

"It is the responsibility of the mosque, the school, the media and before all those the family to protect our country and its security and stability."

One U.S. marine was killed and another wounded in an attack 11 days ago, which followed several similar non-fatal incidents involving American troops in the oil-rich emirate. Two Kuwaiti Islamists who car-

ried out the attack were killed in a shootout with marines.

The attack came as the United States continued to pour heavy military hardware into Kuwait and the region for a possible war on Iraq. Washington has had a military presence in Kuwait since the 1991 Gulf War ended a seven-month Iraqi occupation.

The minister said Kuwait had already taken precautions to combat a list of risks, including sabotage, assassinations, random vendetta attacks and weapons of mass destruction.



Kuwait's Emir Sheikh Jaber Ahmad Al-Sabah (2nd R) is flanked by Parliament speaker Jassem Al-Kharafi (2nd L) and acting Prime Minister Sheikh Sabah al-Ahmad al-Sabah (R) at the start of the new parliamentary term in Kuwait City October 19. REUTERS

French minister meets Libya's Gaddafi in Tripoli

TRIPOLI, Oct 18 (Reuters) - French Foreign Minister Dominique de Villepin held talks with Libyan leader Muammar Gaddafi on Friday in a sign of warming ties between Tripoli and Paris, officials said. Relations between Libya and France have been strained for more than two decades and diplomats hailed the visit as representing a normalisation of relations. Officials said Villepin gave Gaddafi a letter from French President Jacques Chirac.

"Chirac hailed in the message Libya's role in Africa to achieve security and

peace in the continent. The French president also praised Libyan efforts to ease economic woes in Africa," said a Libyan official. The two countries' armies clashed repeatedly over Chad in the 1970s and 1980s and tension rose further after the 1989 bombing of a French airliner over Niger that killed 170 people.

A French court sentenced six Libyans, including Gaddafi's brother-in-law, to life imprisonment in absentia in 1999.

Franco-Libyan ties began to thaw

after Tripoli paid more than \$26 million compensation to victims' families.

A ministerial joint committee meeting on cooperation between France and Libya is to be held in Paris next week, the first such meeting in 20 years.

With U.N. talks over a resolution on Iraqi arms inspections at a crucial stage, Villepin decided to return to Paris from Libya on Friday evening rather than travel on to meet President Jacques Chirac in Beirut as planned, a spokeswoman at the French Foreign Ministry said.



French soldiers reinforce a roadblock two kilometers east of Bouake, Ivory Coast October 19. REUTERS

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Series of bombs shakes Asian country

Manila officials meet as bombings spark public fear

MANILA, Oct 19 (Reuters) - The Philippine government, shaken by a series of bombings across the country in the past three days, was meeting with Manila local authorities on Saturday.

Witnesses said members of the cabinet were holding closed-door talks with Manila mayors and police officers at the Presidential palace.

No further details of the meeting were immediately available.

In the latest bombing incident, a device exploded on a bus in the Philippine capital of Manila late on Friday night, killing three passengers and wounding around 22 others.

No one has claimed responsibility for the blast, which occurred a day after suspected Islamic radicals bombed the main bazaar in the city of Zamboanga in the south, killing seven people and injuring more than 160.

National Security Advisor Roilo Golez said late on Friday the government would step up security around high-impact targets in the country but gave no further details.

"We have identified some high impact targets and we're instituting measures to harden them," he told the local media.

Security in the country has already been increased since last Saturday when a bomb attack in neighbouring Indonesia killed more than 180 people.

Nerves across the country have been stretched taut in the wake of the

series of bombings.

In Manila early on Friday there was panic when a grenade exploded in the Makati financial district.

No one was injured. Later a bomb scare prompted the evacuation of a high-rise office building.

Text messages, the most popular form of communication in the country, have been warning the public of further attacks in shopping malls in Manila, but Golez branded the messages as disinformation.

Speaking on local radio on Saturday he urged the public to be alert but to go about their normal activities.

"You should continue going to the malls, though just be more alert. Continue to live life normally."

In the southern Philippines, security forces have launched a manhunt for four suspects in Thursday's bomb attack in Zamboanga, the heartland of a Muslim insurgency.

President Gloria Macapagal Arroyo, who visited the area on Friday morning, told reporters that troops and police had identified the suspects and were looking for them.

She refused to say whether they were Muslim radicals, but the military commander of the region said the attack bore the hallmarks of the Abu Sayyaf guerrillas, a group linked to the al Qaeda network of Osama bin Laden, the alleged mastermind of the September 11, 2001, attacks on the United States.



Philippine investigators inspect the interior of a bus October 18, after a bomb exploded at the rear of the bus, fighting for an independent state in the south. REUTERS

Indonesian police hold militant cleric

JAKARTA/BALI, Oct 19 (Reuters) - Indonesian police said on Saturday they had arrested a militant Muslim cleric in a terror probe hours after the government issued two emergency anti-terror decrees to strengthen its hand after the Bali car bomb carnage.

The arrest of cleric Abu Bakar Bashir will be welcomed by intelligence officials in neighbouring countries and the West who have pressed Indonesia for months to move against him.

The cleric has been linked to al Qaeda and a regional network of militants in Southeast Asia. He denies any terror ties.

"He's been captured and arrested. Temporarily he's still in the hospital in Solo. He's sick and tightly guarded," National Police spokesman Saleh Saaf told Reuters in Jakarta.

He said there was "an order letter of capture and arrest" for Bashir, without elaborating.

Bashir entered hospital suddenly on Friday and aides and doctors said he would be unable to travel.

He had been scheduled to face questioning over a bombing in the country in

2000. A police official in Solo said although Bashir remained in hospital, his movements were under police control and he would be held for at least 24 hours, with his status reviewed on Sunday.

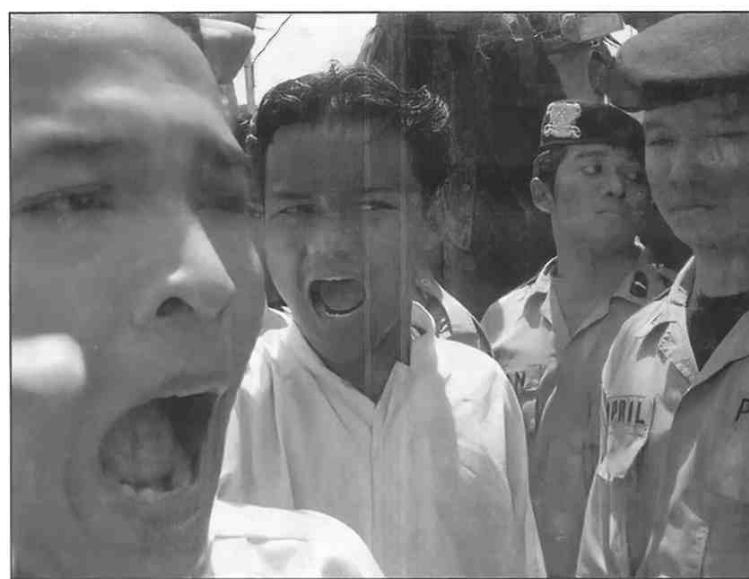
Evidence of the challenges facing the world's most populous Muslim nation came in fresh U.S. and Australian announcements about threats to Westerners in the country.

Indonesia has been under fire from critics for months for not playing its part in the U.S.-led war on terror, but the Bali attack — a massive car bomb caused most of the damage that took more than 180 lives — has galvanised Jakarta's will to act.

Midnight Decrees

President Megawati Sukarnoputri signed emergency decrees just before midnight on Friday giving authorities wide powers to combat terrorism. The regulations are to apply retroactively to cover the Bali bombings.

"Police can detain anyone strongly suspected of acts of terrorism based on



Student supporters of Muslim cleric Abu Bakar Bashir shout slogans as police block their way outside a hospital where Bashir is confined in Solo, central Java October 19. REUTERS

initial evidence for as long as seven days," the document said. For that and for longer detentions the threshold of

evidence required would be lowered from existing law and the results of intelligence operations could be used.

North Korean nuclear fears grow

SEOUL, Oct 19 (Reuters) - The U.S. special envoy for North Korea arrived in South Korea on Saturday to discuss American assertions that the communist state has admitted having a clandestine nuclear weapons programme.

Assistant Secretary of State James Kelly flew in from Beijing hours after South Korean officials arrived in Pyongyang for the first contact with the North since the U.S. bombshell announcement that North Korea had admitted to a secret uranium enrichment scheme.

Building nuclear weapons would mean that the isolated state, which U.S. President George W. Bush has said is part of an "axis of evil" with Iran and Iraq, has violated the 1994 Agreed Framework under which it promised to halt its nuclear efforts.

The development has cast a pall over inter-Korean relations and has reverberated as far away as Pakistan, a major missile client of North Korea's whose government denied U.S. allegations that it had aided Pyongyang's suspected nuclear programme.

"The situation is not good. We need dialogue at such a time," said South Korean Unification Minister Jeong Se-hyun, head of Seoul's team for four-

day ministerial-level talks in Pyongyang.

"Given that (North Korea's) nuclear programme is the root of our nation's worries and anxiety, we will clearly address the issue and other related issues to the northern side," he said.

China-US diplomacy

North Korea has so far made no public comment on the U.S. assertion that during Kelly's October 3-5 visit to Pyongyang, the North's officials confessed to running a secret nuclear programme in violation of agreements with Washington and Seoul.

China said its talks on Friday with Kelly and U.S. Undersecretary of State John Bolton on North Korea's alleged nuclear programme had been "constructive and beneficial".

"We hold that the nuclear issue in the DPRK (North Korea) should be solved through peaceful means, through dialogue and consultations," Saturday's China Daily newspaper quoted Foreign Ministry spokeswoman Zhang Qiyue as saying.

The U.S. State Department characterised Kelly's talks in China as "very useful and productive" and said the United States believed Beijing shared its concerns about the programme.

Jackies at Sheraton Sana'a Hotel

The Sheraton Sana'a Hotel has recently launched their new restaurant "Jackies" which will be offering customers a brand new look, large screen for sports, live entertainment, pool tables, a new menu and a variety of beverages. The concept is in keeping with the demand of the customers to have a casual atmosphere, great food & entertainment concept at part with anywhere else in the world. "Jackies" is open daily from 4 p.m. onwards.

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Explosion rocks Moscow suburb, kills one

MOSCOW, Oct 19 (Reuters) - An explosion struck a crowded district of southwestern Moscow on Saturday, killing at least one person, and police said it had been caused by a bomb.

Itar-Tass news agency quoted Moscow police as saying a bomb placed in a car outside a fast food restaurant had gone off at about 1 p.m. (0900 GMT). It said seven people had been injured, including a five-year-old child.

Those injured had been taken to hospital and diners were evacuated from the packed restaurant.

A police spokesman, speaking to Reuters by telephone, confirmed the explosion had taken place, but said three people had been injured.

NTV television quoted police as saying the blast was most likely to have been caused by a bomb as tiny metallic objects had been scattered around the site. A series of 1999 bomb explosions in apartment blocks in Russian cities killed about 300 people and were blamed by authorities on Chechen separatists. The blasts were cited in Moscow's decision to launch a new campaign against the rebels.

Blasts occur occasionally in market places in Russian cities, largely as a result of disputes over criminal spheres of influence.



Russian police experts inspect the wreckage of an exploded car in Moscow on October 19, 2002. REUTERS

Chirac says 'war on terror' must respect world law

BEIRUT, Oct 19 (Reuters) - French President Jacques Chirac said on Saturday the global fight against terrorism would be unforgiving, but had to go hand-in-hand with peacemaking efforts and respect for international law.

"The battle against terrorism will be merciless. But it has to be conducted while respecting human rights and the rule of law," he told delegates at a summit of French-speaking nations in Beirut.

"Using the pretext of terrorism to violate these principles would in effect play into the hands of those we are seeking to fight," he said, adding states should apply U.N. resolutions and conventions "which set the framework for this fight".

While Chirac did not mention any specific examples, his remarks come against the backdrop of a month-long deadlock at the United Nations over disarming Iraq, which pits the United States and Britain against France and several other states.

Washington, which has implied there are links between Baghdad and prime September 11 suspect Osama bin Laden, has sought backing for a new U.N. draft resolution which could pave the way for a strike against Iraq if it fails to allow unfettered weapons inspections.

The United States has also said it reserved the right to attack Iraq — part of what it calls an "axis of evil" — if it deems necessary, whatever the U.N. decides.

France leads opponents to any new resolution which would provide an automatic "trigger" for an attack. It wants any response to Iraqi transgressions to be sanctioned by the U.N.

"The war on terrorism cannot be limited to acts of repression. It has to be accompanied by determined action in favour of peace and a dialogue of cultures," Chirac said.

"Only thus can we progressively reduce the damage of generations of hatred and frustration which terrorists

exploit to perpetrate their crimes," he told a closed-door session.

A copy of his remarks was distributed to journalists. As part of efforts to reduce the threat of terror, Chirac called for the swift resolution of the Israeli-Palestinian conflict within the framework of international law.

"The Israeli-Palestinian conflict feeds the frustration and thus contributes to an atmosphere which is conducive to the development of violence," he said.

The conflict has been marked by widespread bloodshed on both sides, and a more than two-year-old Palestinian uprising against Israeli occupation has fanned anger, distrust and frustration among Arabs as well as Israelis.

Chirac said he wanted to affirm France's determination to fight terrorism, following the "heinous" attacks in recent weeks in Bali, where over 180 people were killed, and in Yemen.

Montenegro election calls for closer ties to Europe

PODGORICA, Yugoslavia, Oct 19 (Reuters) - Montenegro's rival political blocs face off in a parliamentary election on Sunday after both campaigning for reform and closer ties with the rest of Europe.

But similarities stop there. Opposition parties have accused the government of failing to crack down on corruption and organised crime and of doing little to spur the economy.

The election was called after the government of President Milo Djukanovic collapsed following his decision to bow to Western pressure to shelve plans on a vote to break away from the Yugoslav federation.

Montenegro and the more dominant Serbia are the remaining two republics of a Yugoslavia which once stretched from the Alps to the borders of Greece. The other four republics seceded in a series of wars in the 1990s.

With both sides officially backing an agreement brokered by the European Union last March to revamp the federation into a loose union of Serbia and Montenegro, the campaign has focused on Montenegro's economic problems rather than on whether it should go its own way.

Some political analysts predict the election could be a close race between Djukanovic's Democratic Party of Socialists (DPS) and its allies, and a

pro-federation group led by the Socialist People's Party (SNP).

The poll is also being seen as a test of public confidence in Djukanovic, a 40-year-old former basketball player, and the outcome could dictate his chances of re-election in a presidential election set for December 22.

"We have gone from a referendum on independence to a referendum on Djukanovic," said a senior diplomat based in the tiny coastal republic. "The campaign is heavily personalised."

SOME LOVE HIM, SOME HATE HIM

Supporters see Djukanovic as a courageous and skilful politician who defied former Yugoslav President Slobodan Milosevic before he was sent to The Hague to face war crimes charges, and secured crucial Western financial support.

Opponents accuse Djukanovic's government of failing to bear down on corruption and organised crime and say they would clean up Montenegro's act if they won the election.

"Criminals are in power," said Veselin Juskovic in the mountain town of Kolasin, an opposition stronghold.

The small pro-independence Liberal Alliance, which forced the government collapse by withdrawing its support,

sees Djukanovic as a traitor and sides with the pro-Belgrade camp.

"One side loves him and they love him to death. The other side hates him and they hate him to death," said one Western official.

Djukanovic succeeded in limiting the negative fallout from agreeing to put off independence for at least three years, political analysts said. His party gained ground in local polls in May.

His party has also made clear it has not abandoned independence for good. Outgoing Prime Minister Filip Vujanovic, a deputy party leader, told Reuters on Friday it was still the preferred option.

"I believe we will split peacefully from Serbia in three years time," said economy student Jasmina Bojagic, 20.

Opposition leader Predrag Bulatovic, who is steering the SNP party away from its pro-Milosevic and anti-West past, has dismissed the talk of a future referendum on independence as an election ploy.

The opposition argues Montenegro is too small to cope without Serbia, stressing close historic and cultural ties.

Diplomats suggest the West can work with both sides as long as they deliver on economic and other reform. "Our main interest is a stable government," one diplomat said.

IRA rejects British pressure to disband

LONDONDERRY, Northern Ireland, Oct 19 (Reuters) - The IRA guerrilla movement rejected calls to disband on Saturday by saying it would not accept "unrealistic demands" and insisted it was not a threat to Northern Ireland's peace process.

The comments, quoted by selected journalists after a briefing from "a senior IRA source", came in an apparent response to a tough speech from British Prime Minister Tony Blair calling for the movement to abandon violence for good.

"There's considerable concern within the IRA at recent developments and at the sustained efforts to present the IRA as a threat to the peace process," the Irish Republican Army source said, according to various media sources.

"The IRA is not a threat to the peace process and will not accept the imposition of unreasonable demands," the source added.

Allegations the IRA has been breaching the ceasefire it called in 1997 have provoked a crisis in Northern Ireland's fledgling peace

process, with pro-British unionists refusing to share power with the guerrilla group's political ally Sinn Fein.

In a speech in Belfast on Thursday — billed by the British government as his most important statement on Northern Ireland since the 1998 Good Friday agreement — Blair said the peace process could not continue "with the IRA half in, half out".

He was speaking days after London pulled the plug on devolved power-sharing and re-imposed direct rule.



Presidents and heads of state of Francophone countries stand for a family souvenir photo at Baabda presidential palace near Beirut on October 18, 2002. The summit of French-speaking nations and provinces, at which French President Jacques Chirac is a guest of honour, opened on Friday and runs through Sunday. REUTERS

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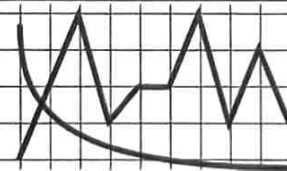
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YT Business



In light of the Limburg disaster

Oil companies need solid security



By HASSAN AZZAEDI
YEMEN TIMES STAFF

It is unusual for our country to confront such a catastrophe like that of the French oil tanker explosion of October 6 in Mukalla.

Apart from the explosion's unknowns, I'd like to ask if Yemen has the capability to confront such a disaster which has caused serious environmental damage covering 500 kms of its coast.

Further, there are capital damages and losses for the fishermen as the disaster took place on the beginning of the fishing season.

Yemen has to recognize that as its oil production increases, 475,000 barrels a day now, and as oil productive sectors here now have climbed to 70, more than two dozen international companies are working in 37 oil sectors.

So Yemen must provide its ports with the latest technology and equipment. It should be provided with security measures that guarantee the safety of the ports and ultimate readiness for any disasters which may impact its economy, environment and fame.

Oil exports

Crude oil exports from 1988 to the first half of the current year totaled 592 million barrels exported through Ra'ass Issa port on the Red Sea, and Asha'ar and balhaf ports on the Arab Gulf.

The total oil revenues for the same period is US \$10.7 billion.

Oil productive sectors in Yemen

Most of the oil productive sectors are in the middle and eastern regions. The Saudi oil pipeline which is expected to be stretched through the Arabian Sea, which has been approved recently, adds more responsibility on the Yemeni government to take all the needed measures into account.

In the oil sector 53 East Sara used by the British company in 2002, the company has completed digging three oil wells in Shairoof field and is going to conduct a seismic survey to get new oil resources. The production of Shairoof field is esteemed a 17 million barrels

and 65 million barrels are the crude oil storage.

In the case of discovering new productive sources, establishing a new oil pipe will be a must to export the oil to Ashaher Port directly, instead of connecting it to the main pipe of Maseela sector.

The quantity of oil exported to the international markets from Sara east sector (Shairoof field) is estimated at 3.1 million barrels. It was noticed that the exported quantity increased from 331,614 barrels in January to 752,380 in June with an increase averaging 127%.

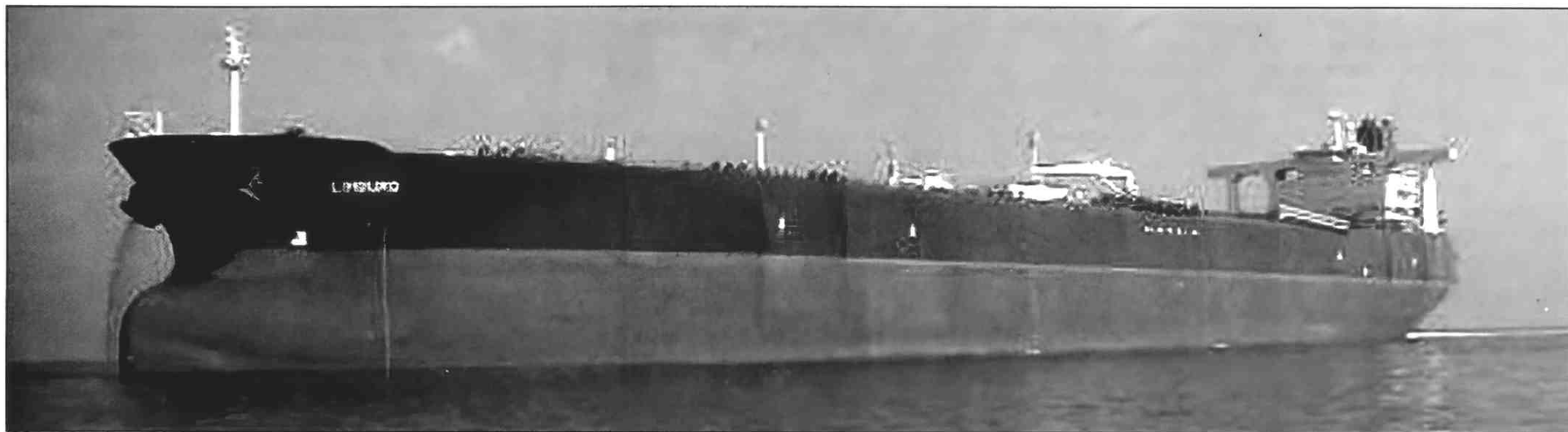
The other fields which are utilized by (DNO) company, which planned to explore another oil fields to increase productivity of the sector. The produc-

tive quantity of Hwareem for the year 2002, 3.3 million barrels of crude oil, that's a daily average of 9,000 barrels from five wells. Further, the esteemed oil storage in Hwareem sector (32) is 35.2 million barrels.

Also the total oil production from this sector for the first half 2002 is 1.8 million barrels, while the daily average of the production is 10,171 barrels.

No doubt that these sectors will utilize the port of Mukalla which lacks all the required equipments to confront an accident like that of French oil tanker.

However, we hope that officials in the related authorities will recognize the significance and seriousness of this issue which is directly linked to the safety and stability of our country.



The French supertanker Limburg before it exploded Oct. 6 off the coast of Yemen. The incident has put new pressure on Yemen to ensure foreign oil companies are given good security. (File photo)

Taiz to be developed

By YEMEN TIMES STAFF

The planning bureau of Taiz has drawn up new plans for development, public services and tourist projects.

The governorate of Taiz is a significant governorate in Yemen. It has three million people, an industrial base, spacious and arable lands, and it enjoys a tourist environment of historical fortresses and archaeological landmarks.

It overlooks one of the most important straits in the region, the Strait of Bab El Mandab.

It is qualified to be a huge commercial and industrial centre due to concentration of businesses. It is a link to domestic markets and centers of exports, and to foreign markets via the port of Mokha, known as the port of coffee, which is situated close to the provincial capital of the governorate of Taiz.

The new investment schemes include introducing solutions for finishing the incomplete projects under

contribution by the private sector and external aid.

The bureau also seeks more coordination with the local council and executive apparatuses for understanding the role of planning.

Among the work of the bureau is to survey all the districts of the governorate, to be acquainted with existing projects and institutions and to know about citizens' needs of various projects. The bureau estimates more than 800 projects were executed in the governorate from 1997 to May 2002.

The new investment law approved by president Ali Abdullah Saleh in July of this year has granted local, Arab and foreign investors better privileges. It is expected to bring a strong push to the investment movement in Yemen.

Taiz governorate is among those attracting capitals, especially of the expatriates. There is a big group of expatriates who are from inhabitants of Taiz and they can invest their money in the governorate at whatever areas of investment are available.

New taxes for ships

YEMEN TIMES STAFF

A new law that will tax ships in Yemeni waters has been ratified by cabinet.

Ships will be taxed according to their size and the type of fishing they practice. The new law also prohibits any agreement with fishing companies unless the agreements will bring economic value to the country.

The cabinet stressed there will be penalties if the fishing environment is violated. The new law states the permitted distance for fishers in Red Sea and Arab Gulf is six nautical miles.

The new legislation comes just before the 3rd Arab Conference for fishing which is to be held in Sana'a October 28 to 30, to discuss a host of issues related to Arab countries' including strategies and laws regarding fishing.

Yemen is suffering from fishing violations by fishers who pass through Yemeni waters. Domestic fishers are complaining of ships, which have contracts with the Yemeni authorities, that they do not fish in the area specified for



Fishermen in Al-Hodeida port, bringing in a haul of fish.

them. Such conduct will affect the marine wealth in Yemen negatively due to inefficient marine supervision control.

The cabinet also has ratified increasing the contribution of the Yemeni to capital of the Islamic Bank for Development. Its subscription is to be 2,481 shares, which cost about 24 million Islamic dinar according to a report by the vice prime minister of the finance ministry, Alwai Assalami.

Regarding the Yemeni Bank for Construction Indebtedness on the Janateen company for food and dairies,

the cabinet has ordered the Yemeni Economic Corporation (the guarantor of the Janateen company) to do the required legal procedures in order to occupy the company's properties and assets to guarantee returning the money paid by subscribers and protect the rights of all partners.

Yemeni banks are suffering delay of payback by debtors, which has barred its activities and forced the Central bank to undertake a number of financial policies to help commercial banks overcome the debt problems and set new policies.

Private sector helps educate Yemeni

By YEMEN TIMES STAFF

A question that is repeatedly asked in Yemen is, why does the private sector have such a wide-range of opportunity to shape the mentality of future Yemeni generations? People also wonder whether investment in education is successful as a commercial business, both economically and socially.

One would wonder how the idea of using private sector funds for education started.

To answer, some sources at the ministry of education told us that the World Bank has been the one to take

the initiative to submit the idea of expanding education as part of a project in conjunction with the ministry.

The project aims at extending education to rural areas where girls are not granted the opportunity of attending even primary school education.

Its other objectives are to carry out of a strategy for developing qualitative education, modernize curricula, qualify teachers, build effective administrations and provide a convenient educational environment.

At this stage the need has emerged for engaging private sector and local societies to contribute in building and running schools. The ministry's task is to modernize statistical information and to follow modern ways in plan-

ning and programming.

Thus, many large-scale investive projects have been made available for the private sector in the field of erecting educational projects in rural areas. Hundreds of the unemployed have in them many opportunities providing them with financial resources. Investing programs in education has also encouraged girls to enroll and attend primary schools. Educational sources have further said this investment project has created yet other opportunities for businessmen to invest in this field, especially in building educational facilities in the governorates of Sana'a, Mahweet, Amran and Dhalié.

Investment programs in education

also includes building a number of projects by using suitable architectural designs, service utilities, and provision of furniture and school equipment. Studies on economic feasibility indicate that there are many groups of educational projects still in need of investors.

Some would criticize private sector schools and universities. They say they have harmed the reputation of the educational process and do not abide by regulations that allow the public sector to run schools. They argue that the educational operation has been focusing on the goal of gaining high profits with disregard of requirements of the present stage that needs concentration on science and knowledge

made available for a generation destined to direct and lead the society.

The government does therefore encourage investment in education for implementing constructional works of educational projects and controlling private sector educational output that has led to an increase in number of graduates against a decrease in job opportunities and deterioration of people's living conditions.

To deal with this, the ministry of education has drawn up investment plans to support progress of basic education, attract businessmen to implement construction projects as being deemed new opportunities, and help reduce poverty through employment of thousands of unemployed workers.

The Road Ahead

The era of cosmetics

By RAIDAN A. AL-SAQAF
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In a world of increasing confusion and information overload, success can be a hard to achieve objective. Take a minute to reflect on the individuals you consider successful, whether they are world-famous or someone you personally know and admire. What do you think made them who they are today? Talent? Charm? Connections? Or just good old luck? Whether it's one of these factors, or a combination, or not, there is one that is of increasing importance: looks.

Any business in this world is a business of selling impressions, weather it's a retail shop or a fancy restaurant. Businesses are adding more and more cosmetics and accessories to their product-lines and services in order to enrich impressions. That is why hotel rooms include fruits and flowers, provide additional services and try to add more value to the accommodation package offered to customers. All such additions are cosmetics, added to create a better look of the hotel, and in turn create a more favorable impression for customers.

Packaging is almost everything today. The way products and services are presented plays a major role in the purchase decision of customers. For example if you were willing to buy a new vehicle, would adding a few accessories mean much to the seller? But it would certainly mean something to you, because what sells is cosmetics. The more cosmetics and accessories products have, the more they will be favored, and more of them will sell easier.

Cosmetics need not be physical accessories; they can be mental images or perceptions. In advertising, for example, marketers and advertising agencies exhaust their resources trying to differentiate their products and services from those of others. As a result, products are not actually sold on the bases of their content anymore, they are sold on their marketability. If you ask any publisher about the key to a bestseller, you would be surprised to know that it is the book's cover. When you step in a bookshop and see a book, the cover will make an impression on you about the book and the value of the information contained.

The problem is that nowadays the concept of adding accessories and cosmetics has exceeded the importance of other business strategies and affairs with people. People are being judged by their physical appearance now more than ever. If you were to hire an employee, all other things being equal, you would choose the smartest looking. The need is not only to be handsome but to also have the right style of dress and hygiene. This is why those who look forward to having extraordinary success, whether that be in their personal lives or corporate strategies, should add cosmetics.

Endnote: Looks count, whether it's one's own personal looks, or one's corporate image or brand. Looks help create a better impressions about one's self.

Words of Wisdom



The role of ethics is central to establishing acceptable norms and relations among members of the community. Degeneration of values can only lead to more trouble. Even from an economic point of view, high morals are important. I can remember a time when many deals were done on the basis of a handshake or a person's word. These days, you cannot depend even on a notarized contract, unless you have the power to make it stick.

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

OUR OPINION

Disappointed journalists

The recent attack against the French oil tanker Limburg has led to foreign journalists coming to Yemen from all over the world. I met with a large number of them and learned they were quite disappointed; not in the country or Yemeni people (in fact they all expressed admiration of the beauty of the country and the hospitality of the people), but in how the authorities treated them, especially the Ministry of Information.

I have received complaints in the past. But the latest complaint from two journalists last week was outrageous. The journalists, who requested not to mention their names, told me they were told to pay accommodation and pocket expenses for officials of the Ministry of Information who usually accompany foreign journalists on their visits.

"The escort of the ministry threatened that unless we pay him all their expenses for hotel, food, etc. he will not give us the authorization letter to work. This has prevented us from even leaving the hotel," they said.

I was shocked and amazed at such behavior of some of the 'escorts' of the Ministry of Information. I know the minister will not agree with those acts and will possibly launch an investigation. At least that is what I hope he will do, because this damages our image and reputation abroad.

Imagine how journalists will portray the obstacles and difficulties faced when in Yemen. Even though we wish they would not be discouraged by such acts, we are also responsible for removing future obstacles facing foreign journalists.

The other disappointment expressed by foreign journalists was the difficulty in getting the truth. "All that we wanted was to have a Yemeni official deliver a press conference on a daily basis providing us with all the developments in the attack against the French tanker. This would prevent rumors and false information to be circulated," the journalists said.

I would like to tell our foreign counterparts that journalists in Yemen face similar obstacles. It is true that we do not walk with 'observers' of the Ministry of Information, but we face tremendous difficulty in learning the truth because there is no mechanism providing the public with fresh and accurate information from authorities.

Holding press conferences and sending press releases are not evident here in Yemen, at least until today. This is slowly changing especially as the Yemeni government is pressured by international media to be more aware of the need of the world to know what is going on from a reliable governmental source.

The people in Yemen are starting to realize the inefficiency in our government's dealings with news events in Yemen. The public gets breaking news from global and regional networks before it gets it from their own authorities.

Change is coming, but very slowly. Unless we speed up change to cope with the worldwide media revolution, our authorities will lose credibility not only a local level, but on an international level as well. **The Editor**

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Can Muslims adapt to the 21st Century?

The challenge to Islam

BY DR. ARTHUR J. BELLINZONI
Aurora, New York

Osama bin Laden claimed that the United States has shown little sensitivity to Arab rights and Arab suffering.

American willingness to overlook Palestinian rights because of its special relationship with Israel and the continuation of the 10-year international embargo against Iraq may be evidence of misguided foreign policy by both American political parties, Democrats and Republicans alike. Nevertheless, Palestinians, Iraqis, and other Arabs must take responsibility for their mistakes as well.

Osama's war against the United States may, however, have generated exactly the opposite of what he intended. Unwittingly he has driven a wedge through the heart of the Muslim world that he hoped to restore to the prominence it experienced from the 7th to the 17th centuries. Islam had a great civilization while Europe was living in the Dark Ages, but there is no turning back the clock. Substantial political and economic development has come to the West, but it has largely eluded the Islamic world and left it far behind, both politically and economically.

A major issue for Islam in the 21st century will be how to relate to the modern world. Unlike Judaism and Christianity, which began their encounter with the Enlightenment 250 years ago, Islam did not encounter that challenge until very recently and has not been handling it very well. Indeed, many fundamentalist Jews and Christians also still act as if the Enlightenment never happened, but they are happily outnumbered, and the

days of Jewish and Christian religious fundamentalism are, I believe, numbered.

What does the future hold for Islam and for the Islamic world, especially if Islam looks to its glorious past rather than to the challenges of the present and the future?

The problem with Islam has been that its encounter with modernism was concurrent with its encounter with colonialism. European colonizers brought modernism, and the Islamic world has ever since had difficulty overcoming its suspicion of Western political and ideological systems: democracy, secularism, the rule of law, the full spectrum of human rights, and the establishment of secular nation-states.

Puppets of the British and French

At the end of World War I the British and the French carved Islam's old empires into arbitrarily drawn mandates and nations governed by hand-picked local leaders, who were puppets to the colonial masters and who served basically as landlords for the British and the French. American President Woodrow Wilson opposed this program at the time, but his untimely illness and subsequent American isolationism resulted most unfortunately in the British and the French having their own ways in the Middle East. As a result of that experience, the Islamic world resisted change and failed to develop the viable political models that are essential for living in the 21st century. Turkey is the single exception.

Most political systems in the Islamic world are either totalitarian or weak, or both. Religious fundamentalists and extremist groups often fill existing political vacuums in Islamic countries. Afghanistan under the Taliban was the

worst example of such a system, where killing infidels in the service of Allah and killing one's own people who violate Islamic law seem crazy to secularists but appropriate to religious zealots. A new Islam?

Out of this horror a new Islam will hopefully emerge, an Islam, I believe, that might actually be somewhat closer in spirit to the message of the Prophet than what is now practiced in most of the Islamic world. It is essential, however, that the new Islam be relevant to life in the 21st century, not the 7th or the 17th century. The question is whether Islam and Muslims are up to the challenge.

Can Islam function, as it does in the United States, only as a religion and not as a total way of life? Will nations with overwhelmingly Muslim populations be able to develop secular democratic states, as they must and as Turkey has succeeded in doing for the last eighty years? Can fundamental human rights, including the right to disagree and be different, be established throughout the Islamic world?

If these changes come to pass, as I believe they must and eventually will, bin Laden will, of course, have lost all of what he fought for on September 11, 2001. This change should come to Islam sooner rather than later, but come it must. Unless Islam is able to adapt to the modern world and change substantially, it will wane and eventually become an inconsequential and irrelevant religion.

American foreign policy should encourage that necessary transition to a new world order in Islamic nations, even as Americans make it appear that it's happening under its own momentum.

Revolutions not portrayed accurately

Yemen's history needs a re-write



BY MOHAMMED BIN SALLAM

Decades after Yemen's two biggest revolutions - September 26 and October 14 - their true facts remain vague.

Why do the historians and writers claim that they are just and right in everything they record? At the same time, they intentionally marginalize others' leading roles in these two revolutions.

It is crystal clear that facts and history have been written and recorded at their discretion. What has been written are mere overstatements that are lovely memories of their own.

I think that what has been recorded or written for the sake of the two revolutions, including facts called up for the holding of festivals or symposiums, are actually unfair. Those who have made a tremendous success have been completely forgotten and slipped from their memories whether they are dead or alive.

Undoubtedly, there are some revolutionary figures who lead the revolu-

tion. They are either marginalized or live far away from cities. We see them only expressing their grief or that they might despise today's claimants of history.

What is needed is to rewrite and document the history of the two revolutions and show their scrupulous adherence to their duty. There are some people who write the history just for the sake of their self-interests in order to show their lavish praise for that they have made something great.

In truth, there are reactionists who opposed the 26 September revolution and 14 October revolution and fought tooth and nail for about seven years, causing the death toll to rise to thousands.

At present, we see them, as it they were true revolutionary figures talking of the developmental projects for their people while in reality they are nothing.

Documenting Yemeni history needs strenuous efforts that should be made by specialized chroniclers and historians who have not poked their noses into political disturbances. They have to write and record honestly, objectively and impartially.

We in this case don't refer to some historians who spare no efforts to document or write the history of Yemen.

But, what I want to suggest is that these efforts are insufficient and nothing about the two revolutions has been disclosed.

There are of some true Yemeni strugglers who offer their sacrifice up for the sake of this cause. Their deeds have been totally forgotten.

Recording Yemeni history means recording particular incidents that took place in a specific time and they are in need to be fairly recorded, negatively or positively.

We are looking to see the media perform its leading role in a proper manner to stabilize the Yemeni revolution from a documentary point of view. There is everything they can depend on in order to write about the Yemeni revolution, including, historians, documentary films, memorabilia. So, why don't we use these references?

What is required in order to write the Yemeni revolution are true-blue writers and men-of-letters to shoulder the responsibility in recording the history.

We call those who document and record Yemeni history to participate again to restore the truth.

Much of Yemeni history is still unknown, and in need of searching and reshaping as it is supposed to be.

Bloody land disputes are killing us



AMIN AL-DA'ARI

It is quite disturbing to see how land disputes have claimed and continue to claim the lives of many innocent Yemenis. We've all heard of land disputes that ended in death or injury in one or another Yemeni governorate or province.

More saddening is that the government has been unwilling, or at unable to stop this. The authorities have not been able to enforce the laws that could prevent such disputes and have all disputed parties use the law to settle conflicts.

Sometimes I wonder why the government is keeping its suspicious silence. I ask myself: "Is it because the authorities are too weak to take control of the situation and bring those land looters to justice? Is the defect in the law itself? Is it due to the absence of a law regulating such matters? Is it because there are so many influential figures in the government benefiting from such disputes, or from the ineffective authorities in our long-awaited state of law and order, as it's called by President Ali Abdullah Saleh?"

These are all legitimate questions that we must answer. The dispute of lands has resulted in irrecoverable losses in lives and property. It signals the dangerous level of injustice that the country has reached and the urgent need to be halted before it is too late.

In order to solve the problem, we

have to look back to its roots, and try to curb all types of corruption through the cooperation of all. We cannot blame one side and leave the others. We are all in this together.

We should have to question ourselves first, because we should have raised awareness in political and social sectors of the community about this issue. We should also be reporting the inefficiency of the governmental apparatuses in performing their duties properly.

Only if we do so, would we be able to help prevent disputes from killing more people.

We have to be prepared and join hands to overcome the challenges, rather than destroy our own economy. These conflicts and disputes are costing us dearly. Time is running out. We should act, and act now.



COMMON SENSE

Hassan Al-Haifi

In America, all is not lost

Amidst all the ugly hate rhetoric and arrogance that one has been hearing from the United States these days, one does still hear some sensible and logical thinkers here and there with more somber and sensible views. It is no secret that American public opinion is nurtured by a loud, egotistical rhetoric that comes from well-established institutional warmongers. These 'rednecks' still think the only way America can display its true colors is by sending its war fleets to step on and destroy anything that stands in the way of their desire to fill the huge coffers of the military industrial complex that reigns supreme in the United States.

We know full well that there are many Americans who do not see eye to eye with the latest right wing American saber-rattling. We also know that there are many Americans who are governed by the desire for the United States to maintain a predominant position among the nations of the world. This egotistical current is not necessarily guided by human values and morals, but by a sense of arrogance driven by a naïve belief in the infallibility of power.

Yes, there are millions of Americans who are disturbed by the ugliness which the ultra conservative proponents of American hegemony are calling for. They even see the latter as seizing on the opportunity of exploiting the ungodly misguided acts of a few self-acclaimed "defenders of the faith", who never had any mandate from the rest of the Muslims of the world anyway.

9-11 far removed from Islam

In fact, these broad minded Americans have the sense to realize that the most Muslims see "9-11" as far removed from true Islam as the barbaric acts of Zionist hooligans in the Holy Land. It is indeed refreshing to hear these brave and well-versed American voices speak their minds out from time to time on the American airwaves. It is obvious that the latter are seeking to remind the American people that the policies pursued by President George W. Bush and his administration are also distant from true American values and mores, which many people throughout the world have desired to emulate over the past two centuries (That was the case, until the latest wave of chauvinism, which the Bush administration has found comfort in propagating). These voices have often spoke subtly and often kept their true feelings of disbelief between the lines of what they say. The fear of the possibility of a harsh counter-offensive from the right wingers and of being accused of seeking to disunite the ranks of the American people, whose anger against "9-11" must be fueled indefinitely, etc. - if not accused of treason - is eminent in the subtlety of their criticism.

Enter Harry Belafonte

However, two weeks ago Harry Belafonte, the world renowned artist of many decades, has eloquently portrayed what many Americans are beginning to sense, when they hear the likes of Donald Rumsfeld and other war mongers speak their diatribes against anything and anyone that they identify as falling in the realm of "terror" that brought on "9-11". Mr. Belafonte is a well known singer, whose voice has given comfort to millions of people, who find in the gentle voice of his melodic song comfort and relaxation, amidst all the noise pollution that the modern age has brought with it, for many decades. In addition, Belafonte is a highly cultured individual, with a sympathetic outlook towards world humanitarian concerns and a feeling that, whatever globalization entails, it surely cannot be void of justice and equal opportunity for all of humanity. His record on the humanitarian and peace tracks stands to confirm the sincere and serious weight of his opinions, whether in the United States or in the international arena.

Mr. Belafonte's criticisms of the Bush administration, while directed against some of its icons (especially Colin Powell) emphasized the need for a clearer course for American foreign policy. Moreover they insist that this course should not forsake the need for moral foundations to be an essential element of that policy, if America can hope to maintain a respectable world leadership position. In essence, Belafonte's criticisms of Powell and national security advisor Rice were meant to underscore the need for important politicians to show their true colors. Senior officials, who just obey their bosses, while not displaying any sense of personal commitment, neither to their bosses' perceptions of the world, nor to any of their personal principles and mores, if they do have any, are accountable for not truly presenting sound professional advice to their bosses and for not standing by them accordingly.

Wake up

Belafonte wanted Americans to wake up to the serious dangers that are eminent with the unpredictable and somewhat chaotic course that the likes of Mr. Bush are propagating for America to pursue. They see that this course will not just isolate America from the world, but surely backfire against American interests, as well as taint the image of the United States as a haven for a wider horizon of intellectual capacity than the Bush administration has, regrettably, been able to produce.

Christians have historically maligned Mohammad, but . . .

The Prophet's caravan goes on

By DR RAFIQ ZAKARIA
aashabab@yahoo.com

Muslims all over the world are naturally hurt and agitated against the description of their Prophet as a "terrorist," by a Christian priest but my plea to them is not to get emotionally worked up.

Right from the inception of Islam, the Christians have used the worst epithets against Mohammad. They could not tolerate the rise of Islam, which spread at their cost everywhere. When the new religion reached almost the heart of Europe, even the best intellectuals among the Christians lost their balance.

Hichem Djait, the distinguished historian attached to the Berkeley University in California, USA wrote: "Over the centuries, Christian tradition came to look upon Islam as a disturbing upstart movement that awakened such bitter passion precisely because it laid claim to the same territory as Christianity." And Islam took over country after country, which the Christians had dominated.

Frustrated Christian monks hurled the vilest abuses on Mohammad and the Quran. The situation became even worse after the Crusades. Some people in the Church led a campaign of hate, with some Christian writers and poets following suit. The anti-Islamic literature of medieval times is a painful and pathetic reflection on Christian bigotry of the time.

The Italian scholar Professor Francesco Gabrieli puts it succinctly: "We find it in various versions, inconsistent in their content, but entirely consistent in their spirit of vituperation and hatred, in the writing of chronicles, apologists, hagiographers and encyclopaedists of the Latin Middle Ages; Guibert of Nogent and Hildebert of Tours in the 11 century, Peter the Venerable in the 12th, Jacques de Vitry, Martinus Polonus, Vincent of Beauvais and Jacobus, a Varagine, in the 13th up to Brunetto Latini and his imitators, and Dante and his commentators."

The obscene diatribe used by Dante did not die with him; it became the source of the damnation of Mohammad. Even after the advent of the Age of Enlightenment in Europe, there was not much change in the Christian attitude; Luther bracketed Mohammad with his enemy the Pope and described them as "anti-Christ."

Distorted reports
In his introduction to George Sale's English translation of the Quran, Sir Edward Denison Ross has rightly observed: "For many centuries, the acquaintance which the majority of Europeans possessed of Mohammadanism was based almost entirely on distorted reports of fanatical Christians, which led to the dissemination of a multitude of gross calumnies. What was good in Mohammadanism was entirely ignored and what was not good in the eyes of Europe was exaggerated or misinterpreted."

From the time of St. John of Damascus who lived only 50 years after the death of the Prophet and who condemned Mohammad as "an impostor," the Christian church of every denomination has mounted a virulent attack on his character; their fantasy has had no bounds; they invented one lie after another.

As Karen Armstrong writes in her

life of Mohammad, pointing out the venom which was poured on the Prophet without the slightest justification by his Christian detractors: "Mohammad was an impostor and a charlatan, who had set himself up as a prophet to deceive the world; he was a lecher who had wallowed in disgusting debauchery and inspired his followers to do the same; he had forced people to convert to his faith at sword point. Islam was not an independent revelation, therefore, but a heresy, a failed form of Christianity; it was a violent religion of the sword that glorified war and slaughter."

This kind of abuse was freely used in Christian sermons year after year and would be reproduced with uncanny fidelity by not only bishops and monks but also the popes. Mohammad was the great enemy of the emerging western world, standing for everything that was evil.

Kind word for Mohammad
For some, there has been no let up in this old vituperative fantasy, which survives to the present day. Mohammad remains a villain. There are only a notable few Christians who have had a kind word for him. Only the pioneer of rationalism, Winwood Reade, frankly admitted: "Instead of repining that Mahomet did no more, we have reason to be astonished that he did so much. His career is the best example that can be given of the influence of the individual in human history. That single man created the glory of his nation and spread his language over half the earth."

Even during the Renaissance and the Enlightenment, the hostility against Mohammad continued; the best of Christian minds could not accept his immense contribution to



By Samer A.

human upliftment. In the 15th century, the tradition of hatred against Mohammad, violently propagated by Peter the Venerable, was carried forward by scholars like John of Segovia and Nicholas of Cusa. In 1453, just after the Turks had conquered the Christian empire of Byzantium and brought Islam to the threshold of Europe, John of Segovia pointed out that the Islamic menace of Mohammad could not be defeated by war or conventional missionary activity; but only by intellectual onslaught.

Prejudices
Hence the Bibliotheque Orientale of Barthelmy d'Herbelot, which was the most important and authoritative source of reference in Islamic and Oriental studies in England and Europe until the beginning of the 19th century gave the most damaging account of Mohammad. The first encyclopaedia of Islam under the heading Mahomet gave the entry: "This is the famous impostor Mahomet, author and founder of a heresy, which has taken on the name of religion, which we call

Mohammadan."
The old prejudice against the Prophet, even during the Age of Reason, was kept alive. It was so entrenched that many of these writers could not resist giving the Prophet a gratuitous swipe occasionally, demonstrating that the traditional image was not dead. Thus Simon Ockley described Mohammad as "a very subtle and crafty man, who put on the appearance only of those good qualities, while the principles of his soul were ambition and lust."

George Sale in the introduction to his translation of the Quran wrote that: "It is certainly one of the most convincing proofs that Mohammadanism was no other than a human invention, that it owes its progressive establishment almost entirely to the sword." In his essay Les Moeurs, Voltaire said that even those who regarded Mohammad as a great man knew that he was an impostor and revered as a prophet by all the rest. Even Gibbon argued that Mohammad had lured the Arabs to follow him with "the bait of loot and sex."

In short, the historical animosity Christians have against Mohammad is endemic; they have never accepted him as a true prophet. The epithets may have been modified in recent times but the hatred against him has not died. It erupts in one form or the other every now and again. In injecting this hatred against Mohammad and his followers among the Hindus here, the British played the decisive role.

Until their advent in India, there existed in none of the Indian language any diatribe against Mohammad; it is the British governors and Christian missionaries who did all the dirty work to prejudice them against the Prophet. The Quran had rightly warned the Muslims that they should never take the Christian as their friends.

After September 11, the Christian ire against Muslims is further roused. But they must ignore it because it is the result of their centuries-old enmity and frustration. Dogs will continue to bark; but the Caravan of Mohammad will go on.

Carter versus the empire builders

By George S. Hishmeh
Jordan Times

WASHINGTON — Most Americans, certainly those opposed to the hawkish policies of the Bush administration, were delighted with the announcement that ex-president Jimmy Carter has won the Nobel Peace Prize.

And many of those opposed to the ongoing US war plans against Iraq, who are increasing by the day, were particularly joyous over the slap-in-the-face that US President George W. Bush received from the head of the Norwegian Nobel Peace Prize Committee Gunnar Berge, when he unexpectedly declared that, in addition to honouring Carter, the 2002 prize should also be interpreted as "a criticism of the line that the current (US) administration has taken". Neither Iraq nor the Palestinian question were identified in his remarks.

The citation read in part: "In a situation currently marked by threats of the use of power, Carter has stood by the principles that conflicts must, as far as possible, be resolved through mediation and international cooperation, based on international law, respect for human rights and economic development."

Although the award to Carter pleased most people, there are many Arabs who were not entirely happy with his singular achievement during his tenure at the White House, namely the Egyptian-

Israeli peace treaty, which he shepherded at Camp David for 13 days and nights in 1978. The net effect of the treaty, to the dismay of many Arabs, was the elimination of Egypt, the most influential and powerful Arab country, from the Arab-Israeli equation, leaving each Arab party weakened to fight its own battle single-handedly. Witness the current case of the Palestinians, and the Syrians who are still unable to get Israelis to withdraw from Golan Heights to the 1967 armistice lines.

Deserves honour
Nevertheless, Carter is deservedly honoured for his achievements as an ex-president rather than president, since he has devoted his time (accompanied by his wife Rosalyn) unselfishly to promoting democracy and humanitarian causes all over the world. He, for example, refereed the first Palestinian national elections after Israel withdrew in compliance with the Oslo accords from Palestinian cities (which have been reoccupied since last June).

His mettle was evident in the verbal whipping that the former president gave the Bush administration in a column published last month. It was memorable for forthrightness and honesty.

He lamented that "fundamental changes" are taking place in US policies "without definitive (public) debates" on such issues as "human rights, our role in the community of nations and the Middle East peace process".

He continued: "Our country has become the foremost target of respected international organisations concerned about these basic principles of democratic life. We have ignored or condoned abuses in nations that support our anti-terrorism effort, while detaining American citizens as 'enemy combatants', incarcerating them secretly and indefinitely without their being charged with any crime or have the right to legal counsel."

The former president took jobs at Attorney General John Ashcroft and Defence Secretary Donald Rumsfeld, the latter for declaring that hundreds of captured Taleban held at Guantanamo Bay would not be released even if they were someday tried and found to be innocent. "These actions are similar to those of abusive regimes that historically have been condemned by American presidents," Carter stressed.

No danger
The former president took note of the vigorous emphasis of "foreign allies and... responsible leaders of former administrations and incumbent officeholders, (that) there is no current danger to the United States from Baghdad".

As far as the Middle East process is concerned, he sounded despondent: "Tragically, our government is abandoning any sponsorship of substantive negotiations between Palestinians and Israelis. Our apparent policy is to support almost every Israeli action in the occupied territories and to condemn and

isolate the Palestinians as blanket targets of our war on terrorism, while Israeli settlements expand and Palestinian enclaves shrink."

He once again took Rumsfeld to task for negating presidential pronouncements about the establishment of a Palestinian state because the defence secretary had said "there will be some sort of (a Palestinian) entity that will be established" and his reference to the "so-called occupation".

Divisive voices
The "belligerent and divisive voices" that Carter condemned have, in the past few weeks, prompted several anti-war demonstrations in the country. Two full-page ads in the same issue of the New York Times appeared last Tuesday (Oct. 14) blasting the war on Iraq. One of the ads displayed head photos of Rumsfeld, Bush and Vice President Dick Cheney with the headline: "They're selling war. We're not buying." This ad was sponsored by "Business Leaders for Sensible Priorities" whose president is, interestingly, Ben Cohen of Ben and Jerry's, an ice-cream firm which this year had been chastised by Palestinians for utilising waters from the occupied Golan Heights for its plant in Israel.

The reasons for the drive behind the Bush administration against Iraq has long been debatable, but without any firm conclusions. A couple of weeks ago, however, The Atlanta Journal and Constitution published a well-documented article by its deputy editorial

page editor, Jay Bookman, which provided startling facts.

Bookman thought the connection that the Bush administration has tried to draw between Iraq and Al Qaeda has always seemed "contrived and artificial". He argued that "the pieces just didn't fit" and that "something else had to be going on, something was missing".

His search led him to this conclusion: "This war, should it come, is intended to mark the official emergence of the United States as a full-fledged global empire, seizing sole responsibility and authority as planetary policeman. It would be the culmination of a plan 10 years ago or more in the making, carried out by those who believe the United States must seize the opportunity for global domination, even if it means becoming the 'American imperialists' that our enemies always claimed we were."

Ancient lure
Bookman underlined that "the lure of empire is ancient and powerful. Over the millennia it has driven men to commit terrible crimes on its behalf".

He reported that the new National Security Strategy, which outlined the Bush administration's approach to defending the US, was inspired by a report issued in September 2000, a year earlier than the tragic events of Sept. 11, by the Project for the New American Century, a group of conservative interventionists "outraged by the

thought that the United States might be forfeiting its chance at a global empire".

Many contributors
Among the contributors to the 2000 report were Paul Wolfowitz, who is now deputy defence secretary; John Bolton, the undersecretary of state; Stephen Cambone, head of the Pentagon's Office of Programme, Analysis and Evaluation; Eliot Cohen and Devon Cross, members of the notorious Defence Policy Board which advises Rumsfeld.

More intriguing is the fact that the 2000 report, according to Bookman, acknowledged its debt to a still earlier document, drafted in 1992 by the Department of Defence. The defence secretary then was Richard Cheney, and the document was drafted by Wolfowitz who, at the time, was defence undersecretary for policy.

"That (1992) document," wrote Bookman on Sept. 29, "had also envisioned the United States as a colossus astride the world, imposing its will and keeping world peace through military and economic power."

Bookman said that "when leaked in final draft form, however, the proposal drew so much criticism that it was hastily withdrawn and repudiated by the first President Bush".

There's certainly more than meets the eye in this battle under way between the traditionalists and the empire builders.

ARAB NEWS

It appears that North Korea has admitted to US officials that, despite its commitments enshrined in a 1994 agreement, it has undertaken a program to enrich nuclear fuel as part of a covert drive to acquire nuclear weapons.

North Korea, along with Iraq and Iran, comprise the states branded by Washington as an "axis of evil". President Saddam Hussein's regime in Iraq was also known to be busy trying to acquire a nuclear capability, but it is widely believed that UN weapons inspectors detected and then destroyed most of the equipment needed to create a

nuclear bomb. The new UN inspection regime probably stands a good chance of discovering and destroying any new Iraqi nuclear program.

North Korea, also like Iraq, has invaded a neighbor and obliged the UN, led by American forces, to intervene massively. North Korea's past and present leaders, Kim il-Sung and his son Kim Jong-il are like Iraq's dictator, the subject of official personality cults.

So, are the 40,000 US troops based in South Korea being quietly put on a war footing and is Washington squaring up for a second attack on an axis of evil, one which, presumably, it believes subscribes to and supports international terrorism? Apparently not. If the US has the

slightest intention of behaving to North Korea the same way that it is to Iraq, there was precious little indication of it in the hours after the North Koreans finally confirmed what the world at large had long suspected. Many White House watchers indeed detected confusion within the US administration. This is odd for a president who tells us that he is embarking upon an aggressive campaign based upon principles. It is hard to see how the principles could be applied differently toward Iraq and North Korea.

Anomaly
A further anomaly in Washington's behavior came with the spin that was put on Pyongyang's nuclear admissions. Far from being outraged that the North

Koreans had completely broken solemn and binding assurances, administration officials were saying that maybe now that Pyongyang's program was out in the open, it was a positive step. This was echoed by the South Korean government, who averred that the only reasonable course was to continue to negotiate with their northern cousins.

All of a sudden, everyone is ignoring that Pyongyang is a renegade regime which has kidnapped foreign tourists, murdered its own officials on foreign trips, very probably blown up an international airliner, sunk South Korean fishing boats as recently as three months ago, and demonstrated that any agreement to which it puts its name is worthless. Yet

Washington and Seoul seem prepared to keep talking.

This is odd. One of the main reasons that Washington and London say they need to be prepared to attack Iraq is that time and again Saddam and his ministers have proven duplicitous and slippery in negotiations in which they have been involved. They are masters at playing for time, experts at obstructing at precisely the moment when international will is weakened and extremely good at magnifying their social and economic distress and blaming them on everyone but themselves.

Yet Washington appears glad to talk to one of them while preparing to launch a major assault against the other.

North Korea treated differently than Iraq

Looking in on the history of Mareb:

The home of Balqis and Green Yemen



By SA'A SHARIF TAHIR
Nadira-Ibb

The Yemeni people have a proud history of being among the first to introduce a number of aspects of Arabic culture.

They were the first to establish states and erect places, buildings and dams. They were the first to systematize governments and train armies in ancient and Islamic eras.

They were also among the first to have as a ruler, a woman. The story of Balqis, commonly known as the Queen of Sheba, is, in fact, known worldwide.

Three thousand years ago, Jerusalem was ruled by Solomon, the Prophet and king whose name is mentioned in the Old Testament of the Holy Bible and the Holy Quran. He was graced by God for ruling the ancient kingdom of Israel, and reigned 40 years, from 972-932 B.C.

The bird Hoopoe

According to one interpretation of the story of how Solomon and Balqis met, one day he inspected his birds but didn't find the Hoopoe. When the bird came back it said, "With truthful news I come to you from Sheba, where I found a woman reigning over people and they worship the sun instead of God".

Solomon ordered the Hoopoe to return to her and give her a message calling her not to exalt herself above

him (Solomon), but come to him in all submission. When the message arrived to Balqis, she collected her people asking them for advice.

They said "we are a valiant and mighty nation. It is for you to command and we shall await your pleasure."

She said, "when a king invades a city he ruins it and enslaves its chieftains I shall send then a present and see with what reply my envoys will return". She said so to test his faith.

According to the story, Solomon rejected the present. And since he owned much land and riches and this threatened Balqis, she feared he would march against her people.

So, she visited Jerusalem. And then she became a believer in the God of Solomon. But who was Balqis? Her identity is hard to trace, because many Balqises ruled Yemen.

Some interpreters and historians say she was, in fact, the daughter of Balqis, Sharhabil, who appeared in Hamyar among Tuba's during the fourth century B.C. She has been still remembered by people and they guess that she was the one mentioned in Qura'an.

When she reigned Yemen, she constructed buildings and temples. The most famous one was "Balqis Throne" in Mareb. Some texts called it "Tehwan".

Historians call it "lower throne of Balqis". It was a huge triangular building of 1000 feet in diameter, 400 feet in length on one side, and 250 feet of another side.

The base was 5652 square feet.



Remnants of the Sun Temple, in Mareb, believed to exist in the time of the Queen of Sheba. (File photo)

Eight pillars are still seen in the site.

Though it is covered with sands, it is still beautiful and bright. Recently, it was reconstructed and its appearance that much brighter.

Hamadani said if a large number of people from a Yemeni village tried to move them, they would fail because they were so deeply fixed on a platform, and artiscally.

Mareb civilization

This ancient city is mentioned in the Quran, where it's noted, "for the natives of Sheba, there was indeed a sign in their dwelling-place, a garden on their left and a garden on their right.

"We said to them, 'Eat of what your lord has given you and render thanks to Him. Pleasant is your land and forgiving is your lord.'"

Farmers were watering their farms for five complete days. The dam was the wonder of the city though historians spoke differently about the time when it was built, and about the builder. Some says it was Sheba dhu Yashjub.

It was built with stones to hold rain-water and remained for a long time. But people were proud of their power and became tyrants, so God destroyed them and their dam.

In his book "Green Yemen. The Cradle of Civilizations," Mohammed bin Ali Al-Hawli notes, "the explosion of the Mareb dam left a deep mark on the Yemenis and Arab peninsula, and was considered as a great calamity that changed the political and natural history of "the green".

As a result, tribes migrated to different territories. The Quran adds, "lord, make our journeys longer. They sinned against their souls. So we made their fate by sword, and scattered them throughout the land. Surely, there is a sign in this for every steadfast, thankful man! (Surah 34:19). They dwell in

Mesopotamia and Syria where they established the kingdoms of Hira and Ghassan. Gorhom, the tribe, and settled also in Meccan, where they became custodians of the sacred house until Qusei slo Kilab, Mohammed's grandfather took custody. Aws and Khezrej settled in Yathrib and later supported the prophet after migration.

Now, Mareb has harsh weather, with dust and moving sands, and Yemenis are building a new Mareb on the remains of Selhin Palace, Hejr and Nashib, keeping in mind they are the descendants of those who built a great ancient capital, the lovely Mareb.

Unclear future awaits many Yemeni youth

By FAHMI ABDU AHMED NAJI
FOR THE YEMEN TIMES

Worldwide, some young people are looking forward to a promising, rosy future. Not Yemeni youth. They are pessimistic and depressed, especially the graduates.

In my opinion they have the right to be so, for many reasons. First of all, is

the absence of forethought. The government totally ignores the present and the coming generations. It does not take them to consideration. This is our status of happy Yemen.

Contrary to that, if we take examples of other developing countries, namely, America and Britain, we will find many examples which demonstrate the awareness of such two countries to the importance of its citizens, especially, the younger generation, because the governments of these countries consid-

er the young generations as the corner stone of the future. The governments give them their needs and requirements.

One example can be seen obviously with America's policy towards its citizens. America is considered to be one of the most famous industrial countries. It consumes a great amount of oil for companies and has some of its own oil. But up till now, it still basically depends on oil-imports from Gulf States, especially Saudi Arabia and Kuwait.

In other words, it keeps its oil-reserves for coming generation. That is one example which reflects the wise policy of the state towards its citizens.

The second example can be seen with British government, the idea is that the famous US car company General Motors, which has many branches in different countries at the world including Britain, has just suffered a great loss of about 30 million dollars, and decided to withdraw its branch from London to avoid similar expected loss.

But the British government interfered in the situation it lent the company the needed money to compensate its loss. Such a procedure of the British government is not an act of taking mercy on a US company, or to the advantages of the company, but it does so in order to save about 80,000 British workers from unemployment and homelessness.

This is the second example of a wise policy towards citizens which our government is not able to achieve. It does

not pay any attention to what will become of citizens.

A clear example of such an indifferent policy can be seen in the government's policy towards the graduated-students. Many students finish their university studies, but do not find even low-paying jobs to sustain their life. They hardly eke out their living.

If there is a wise future policy like that of America or Britain, there will be no excuse to be pessimistic or dejected for our youth.

MUS'ID & MUS'IDA

First Ever Yemeni Radio Series published in a newspaper

Written by
Abdulrahman Mutahhar

Translated by
Janet Watson

'Oh for a consoled heart'

M - What did the Yemeni philosopher say, Mus'ida?
Ma - Go on! What did he say?
M - He said, 'Oh for a consoled heart, that I could plough with a white ox without any cares. The delight of ploughing in winter, ploughing in winter is like fighting with the sword! How many difficulties God has solved!
Ma - Yes, exactly! 'The delight of ploughing in winter; ploughing in winter is like fighting with the sword! And there's more, Mus'id. 'Oh for the eye to have what it desires, and for the heart to have what it desires. With two young oxen I plough and rejoice!
M - And there's even more, Mus'ida! 'If only I knew what would dismiss cares. Suckling babies or furrows on the terrace!
Ma - My heart yearns for the ploughing and sowing season, for some peas from the pod, and a drink from a cold clay jug covered with wine leaves; and if only my voice was as it was before that I could sing out with all my heart. I would compare you to a branch of rue nurtured and protected by a wall, your love is a torture which needs water and tender care.
M - Come on, Mus'ida! Even if you did sing your heart out, the only people who would listen to you and appreciate the meaning would be the older generation who still

understand the old sayings, and songs, and the meaning of, 'Oh for a consoled heart, that I could plough with a white ox!'
Ma - Why would only the older generation understand, when our children, the youth of today, may God keep away the devil, are educated and graduating from our universities with certificates in computer science and foreign languages! All they need to do now is start eating *asid* with a knife and fork!
M - We don't need to worry about them. The only thing they seem to be interested in is progress and refined culture! They're only a stone's throw from reaching the surface of the moon! What I want to talk to you about is our children, the people of the land and agriculture.
Ma - That's all very well, but as long as most of the valleys are barren, and the land is dry and hard, and the young men with strong forearms are scattered around the cities and larger centers, there's no point in counting on hearts being soothed by the songs and dancing of old.
M - 'Oh you slender, elegant, beautiful one, like the neck of a smooth clay jug, love is a fire oh beauty without relief?
M - Look, that's exactly what I want to talk to you about! Last week, I went with my cousin to his village, to those people he had

a quarrel with. Later I went off for a walk to the old well which was the only one in the wadi. It's still as it was left by our fathers and grandfathers, but it's been neglected. I sat on top of the *sawuruh*, the wall of the well, praising God for his wonderful kingdom and contemplating the vicissitudes of fate. I've no idea how I came to forget my glasses on top of the *sawuruh*, but I didn't remember them until I got back to the house. Anyway, I went up to my son and said to him, 'Look, son, I went and took my glasses off and left them on top of the *sawuruh*, where I'd been sitting. Could you fetch them for me?' So he went off. Then he came back again and said, 'I don't know what a *sawuruh* is, Dad.' Do you see what I mean, Mus'ida?
Ma - That's nothing, there's worse to come!
M - Go on!
Ma - Last year, I went to the village and spent two weeks there. I walked round all the valleys, but I never heard any traditional singing or saw any dancing, and I didn't see one clay jug covered with wine leaves. The Yemeni philosopher said, 'Oh for the eye to have what it sees, and for the heart to have what it desires. With two young oxen I plough and rejoice!'

¹ The second sentence is in answer to the first.

Continued from the back page

Tourist potential unlimited in Taiz

Saber Mountains: breathtaking

Even if electricity is out, the charm of darkness, flickers of candles are sure to charm.

Its small size, crowded buildings, small streets and lanes make it something between a city and a countryside. You can see a mixture of modern as well as ancient buildings. It is actually a place where the present as well as the past have wonderfully mixed together to form a unique environment.

When electricity is out, many people find it a chance to have a trip out. Some go out to stay at cafes and keep staring at people walking up and down streets. Many others prefer walking which is a popular hobby.

It is really fascinating to spend some time walking out at night. The atmosphere keeps you spellbound and you feel as if you are in another town.

Night time in Taiz is far more different in its complexion than the day time. For all that dusty and hot hours disappear and are replaced by a heavenly quietness and stillness. The people's number becomes fewer at night than during daytime.

Moreover, Yemenis are not nocturnal people and in the cities of Yemen, tend to sleep early. The stillness and



Side photo to one of the villages of Saber mountain ringed with agricultural terraces

However, the situation has now changed upon an amazing road that has been paved from Taiz to the top of the mountain. Most of the villages have also been provided with electricity. Seeing all this at night, you can not help but wonder at the captivating and beauty of the whole scenario. Some people go up this majestic mountain to enjoy an unprecedented spectacular view.

From the top of the mountain, the whole city and the buildings seem as nothing but small spots of light and dark that glitter invitingly.

Saber Mountain has all the potential to be exploited as a fascinating tourist resort. Unfortunately, no infrastructure facilities have so far been provided. The families on a visit to the spot find it difficult to find a proper place to stay peacefully and enjoy themselves there.

It is amazing that investors have not yet opened their eyes to these enormous business opportunities that the place offers which if properly exploited can generate fabulous revenues. We do cherish the hope that the people in charge will take this on board to do something, won't they? I love imagining that they would.

UN organization still battles hunger

World Food Day was celebrated October 16



PREPARED BY ISMAEL AL-GHABERI YEMEN TIMES STAFF

It's an occasion to assess the results of efforts by the international community to alleviate hunger in the world's poorest countries, including Yemen, which now receives about \$22 million a year in food aid from the UN.

At the same time, it is an opportunity for planning future policies and programs to combat poverty and hunger, and a day of information about food issues at all levels.

TeleFood is FAO's annual campaign of broadcasts, concerts and other events dedicated to helping to reduce the number of hungry people in the world. This year's theme for TeleFood and World Food Day is: "Water: Source of Food Security."

Dr Hashim Gamal Ashammi FAO representative in Yemen currently handles a technical assistance program of 17 projects that total Yemen's US \$22 million in food aid.

Mr. Abdulmalik Al-Arashi, Deputy of the Agriculture Ministry said: "On behalf of the Yemeni government, I'd like to express my thanks to AFO's continuous assistance to Yemen."

Water is a precious and finite resources. Although it covers three quarters of the Earth, only a small fraction is accessible as fresh water. Of the total amount of water withdrawn, almost 70 per cent is needed to produce the food that fuels human activity.

Looking 30 years into the future, FAO estimates that feeding the world's population will require 60 per cent more food. Most of that increase will come from intensified agriculture supported by irrigation. But water is already scarce in many countries and the competition for water from industrial and domestic users countries to grow. So where will we find the water to feed the world?

FAO is convinced the answer lies in improving agricultural productivity and water efficiency. By using better seeds, boosting soil fertility and implementing other agricultural techniques, farmers produce higher yields, obtaining the

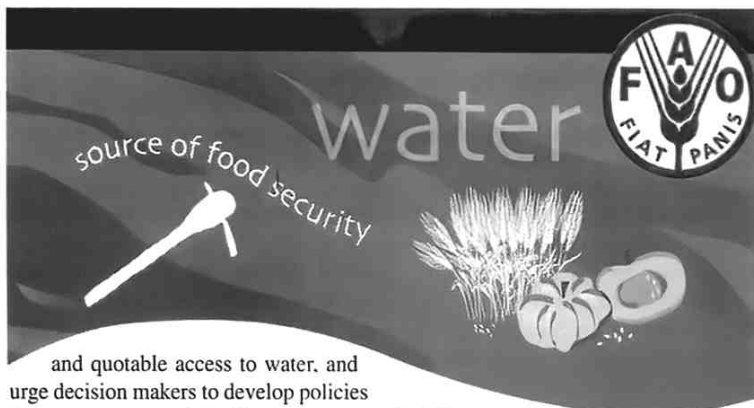
greatest gains from precious water supplies.

And through more efficient irrigation methods and enhanced water harvesting, water is used to its best advantage. Thanks for these advances, we will believe it is possible to generate the additional food with only 14 percent more water.

Efforts will also need to be made to provide users with fair and equitable access to water. At the same time, environmental concerns must be addressed. Irrigated agriculture yields two to three times as much as rained lands, but can also cause salt build-up in soil and groundwater. And the overuse of water in one area can deprive people of access in another.

This year's World Food Day theme, Water: Source of Food Security points to the essential role water plays in FAO's efforts to help build a world without hunger. People are secure when they have regular access to enough high-quality food to lead active, healthy lives.

Currently more than 800 million people do not. We can harness enough water to feed the world, but we must introduce improved technologies and train individuals to use them, help guarantee fair



and equitable access to water, and urge decision makers to develop policies that encourage sustainable water use. Our lives depend on it.

FAO programs in Yemen

FAO's association with Yemen goes back to 1960's. Since then it has collaborated in providing technical assistance in almost every aspect in food and agricultural sector from policy issues to marketing.

FAO currently handles a technical assistance program of 17 projects with a



Dr Hashim G. Ashammi FAO representative in Yemen.

total budget of about US\$22 million. Thus, currently FAO-Yemen technical assistance program is among the largest in the region.

Highlights of past and current

FAO-Yemen technical assistance cooperation are as follows.

- To date about 1,000 Yemeni officials have been sent by FAO for long-term and short-term training fellowships in different agricultural disciplines.

- FAO has assisted the country in

building - up the institutional capacity of the agricultural research and extension, by training its cadre, establishing research and extension centers, developing extension curricula, providing extension training materials, text books and audio visual aids, and establishing a documentation center in Ministry of Agriculture and Irrigation.

- Together with production, emphasis has been put on crop protection, FAO

has assisted the country in controlling crop pests and diseases, strengthened plant quarantine capabilities. Recently, FAO has assisted in effective control of Brown Peach Aphid in fruit trees through biological agents, resulting in enormous savings on pesticides and prevention of pollution.

- Yemen is a locust prone country. FAO has been assisting in controlling and combating this periodic threat to agriculture production. Recently, the work has been further systemized and strengthened by a special Program, EMPRES (Emergency Prevention System for Transboundary animal and Plant Pests and Diseases)

- It has also assisted the country in controlling major animal diseases. In September 2000 FAO assisted the country in the control of the outbreak of the Rift Valley Fever (RVF), which inflicted the livestock sector, causing severe losses to farmers, traders, and consumers. Major areas affected were the coastal areas in the western part of the country, i.e. the Tihama region, which includes the governorates of Hajjah, and Hodeidah.

- FAO has assisted in participatory demonstration of improved crop production technologies, identification of constraints and formulation of appropriate solutions.

- Yemen has given much attention to regional development as an important dimension of agricultural development. FAO has provided technical assistance to several projects such as in Hadramout and Shabwa funded from credit from IDA and IFAD. The projects' objectives were improving production and productivity, irrigation systems, farming techniques, extension services, animal production, marketing facilities.

- In agricultural development environment is a central issue, FAO has implemented several projects with the objectives: to establish an effective regional network to exchange, to create

national land use planning in order to make better use of Yemen's limited land and water resources, to stabilize sand dune and control wind erosion.

- FAO has been cleaning up 262 tons of obsolete pesticides from more than 20 different sites in the country, which were accumulated during the past 30 years.

- One of FAO's main objectives is to alleviate rural poverty. To achieve this

goal FAO, with UNDP funding will be involved in implementing poverty alleviation and employment generation program in five selected areas representing five ecological zones, through establishing at the local community level fully functioning organizational framework and process for participatory planning and implementing community based social development.

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**

In the China Aesthetic Plastic Center, the Chinese experts use Chinese traditional medical methods to treat adiposity without operation, medication and limitation of diet. Chinese experts also use the new technique and most advanced equipment made in Italy to suck fat out from you body to reshape it. It's painless, woundless and seamless. The China Aesthetic Plastic Center helps you solving the fatness problem to improve your health, extend your life and make you more beautiful.

Please contact us 24 hours a day, 7 days a week:
China Aesthetic Plastic Center
 House No. 30, Western Assafiah Haddah Street (opposite of Libyan Embassy), Sana'a
 Tel. 441039/441041 Tel/Fax 441039, email: SJBXM@y.net.ye

المركز الصيني للتجميل والتقويم
China Aesthetic Plastic Center
 中国美容整形中心

NIP programs for Yemen

YEMEN TIMES STAFF

The European Committee, represented by Mr. James Moran, and Mr. Ahmed Sofan, Minister of Planning and Development for and on behalf of the Government of Yemen, signed in Amman an agreement on 30 April 2002 on the National Indicative Program 2002-2004 for the Republic of Yemen.

The National Indicative Program 2002-2004 has been prepared in the framework and consultations with the Yemeni government and the EU Member States. It takes forward the main objectives indicated in the EU-Yemen cooperation agreement entered into force on 1 July 1998, and in the Council Regulation 443/92 of 25 February 1992 for financial and economic cooperation with developing countries in Asia and Latin America. The areas of cooperation are the following:

- Trade cooperation, with a view to diversifying two-way EU-Yemen trade and improving market access for imported and exported goods based on most favored nation status.

- Development cooperation, with a focus on reducing poverty and population growth in order to establish a favorable framework for sustainable socio-economic development.

- Economic cooperation for development of a competitive and sustainable economic environment in Yemen by supporting wide-ranging measures to facilitate business and industrial manufacturing.

Yemen National Indicative Program 2002-2004				
Priority sectors	Budget (Euros)	2002	2003	2004
Development of economic institutions	8-11			
• Business development		4-5		11-12
• WTO accession		4-6		
Food security		11-12	11-12	4-10
Poverty reduction	16-20		8-10	
• Health sector and demography support				8-10
• Social Fund for Development				
Promotion of Democracy and Human Rights	2-3	0.5-1	0.5-1	1.5-1
Program Administration	2-3	0.5-1	0.5-1	0.5-1
TOTAL BUDGET	61-70			

- Cooperation in other areas such as environment, culture, science, and social and human resources development.

The National Indicative Program focuses on the following priorities:

- **Development of economic institutions** by supporting the process of Yemen's accession to the World Trade Organization (WTO) and private sector development aiming at enhancing and advancing private sector investment and activities.

- **Food security measures** in continuation of the EC support in this area since 1996 focusing on several

development programs, food supply infrastructures, institutional capacity building and technical assistance.

- **Poverty reduction focus** by supporting the Social Fund and improvement of basic health services and further development of family planning activities.

- **Strengthening pluralism and civil society** to contribute to the promotion of democracy and human rights.

The Yemen NIP foresees programs in the following priority areas, indicatively spread over the 2002-2004 period as shown in the table.

Population National Policy in Republic of Yemen 2001-2025



Population dynamics

Birth, death, and immigration has a vital role in the process of the social development. It is therefore a prerequisite for the main essential services depending basically on these dynamics in general and fertility in particular.

Birth rate

At present the fertility rate in the republic of Yemen is very high due to the deteriorating economic and social conditions.

The gap between fertility in both the urban and rural areas have been increasingly high as a result of the development plans. The developmental projects have been implemented in the urban areas and the rural areas have been marginalized and deprived from the basic essential services.

The state of unequal imbalance of rendering services in both rural and urban areas has resulted in a huge gap on the part of fertility dynamics.

Compared to the rural areas, the fertility rate in the urban areas is higher. It is therefore higher in the most of the Yemeni cities except, the Capital Secretariat and Aden. This can be ascribed only to the

dominance of the rural life in these two cities. It has reached in the Capital Secretariat to 5.1 and 3.9 in Aden.

Death rates

As for the death rate dynamics which considered to be a fundamental criteria for a comprehensive development in general and for the social development in particular.

The death rate has been improving for the better and therefore it is parallel to the death rate in some countries of the world.

The indicator of the raw death rate has been totaling to 9.5 per thousand and the infants death rate has been totaling to 65 per thousand for the 1999 and 2002 respectively.

This slight improvement in the death rate dynamics have resulted in longevity amounting to 9.5 years which is of course too high and not similar when compared to the death rate dynamics in the rural areas.

There is of course a big difference between the death rates in rural areas and urban areas.

The infant death rate in rural areas is higher, while in urban is the opposite. That is because of gap in rendering develop-

mental projects in the urban areas rather than the rural.

Immigration

The multinational links in the field of economy, politics and cultures among nations is the reason behind immigration.

Immigration can be fallen into two categories, the internal and external.

The external one is ranked first which is undoubtedly influenced by the population dynamics. Yemen has witnessed waves of immigrants during the 1990s as a result of the regional crisis including the 1990 Gulf Crisis and refugees from the Horn of Africa.

Population statistics have indicated that the malfunction of the population dynamics has resulted in a rapid increase of the population growth in order to reach 3.7 percent.

Consequently, the population volume has reached more than 19 million people in 2002.

The overpopulation has become a critical issue on the part of central and regional authorities particularly in rendering services for the rising generation. It will also have negative impacts on the essentials and will become a stumbling block to the education, health and housing problems.

Local Press

Prepared by Mohammed Khidhr

Al-Wahdawi weekly, organ of the Nasserite People's Unionist Organization, 15 Oct.2002.

Main Headlines:

- Unidentified dead body found during investigations into Limburg incident
- Saudi Emirs behind Yemen failure in fighting terror
- Joint Meeting parties head to boycott elections in response to ruling party breaches
- A citizen killed in clashes in the capital
- Members from the ruling party in Hodeidah attack a Nasserite activist

Columnist Rahma Hujaira says in an article that al-Qaeda organization appears to have adopted the attack on the French oil tanker Limburg in Yemen, Failaka operation in Kuwait and Bali explosions in Indonesia when Sheikh Osama bin Laden congratulated Muslims on those operations, describing them as heroic. He mentioned that timing of the three incidents, a year after America pledged to destroy al-Qaeda and Taliban, were not by a chance a clear and strong message to all enemies. Al-Qaeda organization tries to benefit from all that happen of counterattacks and responses to the Zionist massacres in Palestine and American support for them, and also America's increasing aggressions on Islamic peoples. The organization wants to prove that it is still alive and running the battle which has begun.

The writer hoped that it would be better for bin Laden to have realized the effects of his statement, especially on Yemen. She says there would be an

economic bill too expensive for Yemen to pay. Politically, the statements would force more concessions and submission to American demands. Moreover, the statement could kill the hope of release many detainees suspected to have links to al-Qaeda. There would be a worse consequences resulting in adding further hundreds of innocent detainees to those who are already behind bars.



Al-Balagh weekly, Oct. 2002.

Main Headlines:

- American troops arrest Yemeni soldiers in Qatar
- Bin Laden confirms America's failure in realizing its major goals in Afghanistan
- Yemeni, French investigators preponderate possibilities of French oil tanker Limburg as hit by American rocket
- Non-Governmental organizations offer their help to bear part of losses resulted from Limburg incident
- Law suit against Proctle & Gamble filed by its employees
- UNDP resident representative: We will not observe the elections unless Yemen asks us

The newspaper's editorial affirms that Yemen's relation with America has been characterized by contradiction. America tries to keep various files open at a time Yemen has earlier got aware of that and it worked hard to close the files the U.S wants to keep open. Our country's policy has been characterized by calmness which enabled it make the U.S miss many chances, the latest of which is closure of the file of those sus-

pected to be involved in USS Cole incident and referred the case to justice. Yemen has now gone further by holding a tripartite summit grouping it with Sudan and Ethiopia. This will snatch from America one of the most important cards it playing with the region.



ATTARIQ weekly, 15 Oct.2002.

Main Headlines:

- A big power intelligence organization, could be behind the attack on the French vessel Limburg
- Expectations of 40 personalities to compete in Abyan constituencies
- Yafie forum preparatory committee, announced
- What's behind Sana'a tripartite summit?
- Chasing and fire shots in Attaq streets

Columnist Khalid Ali Tuaiman says that the helpless citizen under the burden of living difficulties, find it difficult to discover that the opposition in this country is of the type that obeys the authority's orders. Leaders of the opposition seize all opportunities to express their allegiance and obedience to the regime. They confirm that their objective is not the democratic transfer of power, but rather obtaining a portion of the "political cake", improving living and position conditions of the some who are close to them and gagging their mouths. He describes the opposition as "merely one of the landmarks and elements of the democratic *décor* in the country". The ruling elite is keen to make this *décor* as prominent for political gains inside and outside the

country. Such a type of opposition arouse the citizens 's ridicule as they are sure it only acts as a false witness on unreal rituals of democracy.



Al-Shoura weekly, organ of Yemen People's Forces,13 Oct.2002.

Main Headlines:

- America stresses importance of a military base in Aden
- Dutch divers try to solve French tanker puzzle
- Law suits against abusing rights of army and security men
- Rights and democratic freedoms defense organization begins watching election registration
- Security committees in Aden confiscate electoral committees duties
- Eight Islah members arrested in Hodeidah, other ten pursued
- Al-Zahir district governor, in Jawf governorate, killed

The political editor writes that excesses and breaches carried out within the registration process dictate on the political opposition and all forces in society to confront this miserable situations and stop the tampering that could torpedo the democratic experiment and margin of freedom in this country.

At the Joint Meeting Parties undertake the responsibility of confrontation to preserve the democratic experiment, the ruling party's insistence on considering the JMP as conspiracy reaching an extent of betrayal imposed a new challenge on the opposition and democracy supporters in the Yemeni society. It is the kind of challenge that requires from all to exert more efforts rescue democracy by curbing forgery in the new election register and the use

of the state capabilities for serving the ruling party. Unless the Supreme Committee for Elections plays its role it is entrusted with constitutionally and legally and prevents irresponsible behavior of the ruling party, it would be considered as working to change the elections into a referendum, if it accepts to be partners of the ruling party in ousting its opponents and rivals by following illegitimate ways.



RAY weekly, organ of Sons of Yemen League party, 15 Oct.2002

Main Headlines:

- Bin Laden adopts the two incident in Kuwait and Mukalla
- In Limburg vessel incident, a second dead body found
- Political forces citizens election registration process
- Yemen signs agreement on its joining the GCC
- Tripartite summit, coordination in fighting terror, a message to Eritrea

In its editorial the newspaper says that the opposition, ruling politicians and the public say the present way of election registration process is a kind of force mocking its actors and audience. It was a great victory for democracy when the political forces reached an agreement on canceling the previous records of voters and replacing it by another one. But the hustle and bustle of dividing the shares at registration committees has revealed repetition of the same factors which produced the previous record. The new modality of election registration caused about forty thousand voters to be away from their homes for more than a month and

spending large amounts of money, and the result is re-introduction of election record we have refused earlier. In conclusion the editorial urged to stop the farce and restore credibility the elections process.



26 September weekly, organ of Yemen Armed Forces, 17, Oct.2002.

Main Headlines:

- Interior minister: Limburg incident, a terrorist act.
- Official source at Defense Ministry : Armed forces and security men, citizens having the right to exercise democracy
- The president confirms Yemen keenness on enhancing relations with the GCC states
- Agreement on Yemen acceding to GCC institutions, signed in Sana'a
- America court decides release of five Yemenis and payment of USD 3 million as guarantee

Columnist Ahmed al-Zubairi says in article that the Arab, Islamic, European and African stand opposing the U.S. intention to launch a new war on Iraq and to interfere in Iraq's internal affairs by toppling president Saddam Husein's regime, all that reflects a world comprehension of dangers of this war on Iraq, the Middle East and peace and stability of the entire world. Iraq's decision of accepting return of UN weapons inspectors without conditions has stripped the U.S of its justifications of its war against Iraq. But president Bush surprises the world public opinion with new pretexts lacking the lowest degrees of convincing and keenness or peace, security and stability of the world.

World Press

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

Egypt

Al Ahram

Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak will hold talks on Saturday with visiting US Assistant Secretary of State for the Middle East William Burns over the Mideast peace process and the vision to establish a Palestinian state in the context of a US proposal that consists of three stages.

Al Akhbar

Egypt will take part in the meetings of Arab justice ministers' council which will discuss on Monday in Beirut, Lebanon, the ratification of the international draft agreements on combating corruption and transcontinental organized crime.

The two draft agreements were recently internationally adopted in Austria.

Al Gomhuria

President Mubarak will meet on Sunday with his Italian counterpart Carlo Azeglio Ciampi, who is due in Cairo on Saturday, to discuss the developments in the Palestinian territories, the Iraqi crisis and some other international issues.

Egyptian Mail

Mrs Suzanne Mubarak on Friday chaired a meeting of the World Commission on the Ethics of scientific Knowledge and Technology of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) at the Bibliotheca Alexandrina in the coastal city of Alexandria, as part of the library's celebrations of its inauguration.

Britain

The Times:

Plans for 36 days of national firefighters' strikes were Friday night threatening to shut down much of Britain's transport network, cripple industry and disrupt key public services in the run-up to Christmas. The Fire Brigades Union has announced that it will stage a series of 48-hour and eight-day-long pay strikes.

Financial Times

Stagnating tax revenues and a surge in government spending pushed public finances into the red by 12.4 billion pounds (about 19 billion US dollars) in the first six months of the year, more than Exchequer Gordon Brown's forecast of 11 billion for the whole year.

The Daily Telegraph

British firemen will stage a 48-hour national strike in 10 days time after an overwhelming vote in favor of industrial action thrust the service into its biggest crisis for 25 years. The Fire Brigades Union said 87 percent of firemen voted in favor of action, in a "stun-

ning" answer to the refusal by employers and the Government to fund a 40 percent pay claim.

The Independent

People who take regular exercises can reduce their risk of cancer by as much as 50 percent, research suggested. Academics at the University of Bristol found physical activity significantly reduced the risk of bowel cancer and may help prevent breast, prostate, lung and endometrial cancer. It also aided recovery from cancer.

The Guardian

Britain and the US Friday signalled their readiness to attack Iraq without a UN mandate if the security council fails to agree on a common course of action. As the five permanent members of the council haggled over the wording for a new resolution on weapons inspections, both the foreign secretary, Jack Straw, and the US secretary of state, Colin Powell, threatened to go it alone.

France

Le Monde

Paris and Washington reached an accord on the Iraqi issue with Washington agreeing that no military action will be launched without United Nations authorization. President Jacques Chirac has forced George W. Bush to give in.

Le Figaro

The shock waves provoked by (President of European Commission) Romano Prodi's criticism on the Pact of Stability and Growth were very strong because they hit Europe on

the eve of the decisive referendum in Ireland on the Nice Treaty. Another "no" will halt the enlargement process.

Liberation

After five weeks of diplomatic bargains with France, the United States gave up the demand of one-step process with a single resolution to solve the Iraqi issue. France won a battle as no automatic use of force will be mentioned in resolutions and the United Nations Security Council is to be consulted.

Germany

Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung

Iraqi Deputy Prime Minister Tariq Aziz expressed satisfaction in an interview with FAZ that Russia and France had stood steadfast against the United States in the negotiation over a resolution concerning Iraq.

Die Welt

Former Vice Chairman of the Free

Democratic Party Juergen W. Moellemann has plunged his party into a donation scandal with a controversial campaign pamphlet.

Sueddeutsche Zeitung

The Green party will decide today over the political fate of their incumbent chairmen Claudia Roth and Fritz Kuhn.

Japan

Manila Bulletin

A grenade exploded atop a flyover in the financial district of Makati in the Philippine capital area early Friday morning, but no one was injured. Later a bomb threat was received at a building housing several foreign embassies in Makati.

Authorities dismissed any possibility that the incidents were the work of terrorists.

The Philippine Star

Three persons were killed and at least 19 others wounded when a bomb exploded inside a packed bus in Metro Manila on Friday night. Police were probing the possibility of premature

explosion of the bomb as they initially suspected that two of the dead without any identification papers could have been the perpetrators.

Philippine Daily Inquirer:

President Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo said on Friday that authorities had already identified four suspects responsible for Thursday's twin bombings in the southern city of Zamboanga which killed seven people and wounded over 150 others. But she declined to confirm the military's initial claim that the Abu Sayyaf and the militant fundamentalist group Jemaah Islamiyah in Southeast Asia were responsible for the bombings.



Arab News - Khalil's cartoon

India

The Pioneer

India Friday lashed out at the United States and other developed nations for holding only developing countries responsible for pollution without pointing a finger at their own industries and associated emissions.

The Hindu

Concerned over the deteriorating fiscal situation of Center and States, Prime Minister Atal Bihari Vajpayee Friday appealed to Chief Ministers to evolve a political consensus on critical developmental and governance reforms for better fiscal discipline.

National Herald

At least 11 Sikh pilgrims, including eight women and two children, have been killed and 57 injured, in two road mishaps in Madhya Pradesh in central India since Thursday night, police said here Friday.

This Day

Nigerian President Olusegun Obasanjo said Friday his government is committed to curbing excessive spending through "belt-tightening" policies aimed at reviving the nation's economy.

Pakistan

The Nation

President Pervez Musharraf is ready to meet politicians for government formation consultations, Information Minister Nisar A Memon said on Friday.

The News

President Pervez Musharraf said on Friday that there was no nuclear cooperation between Pakistan and the Democratic People's Republic of Korea as was reported by The New York Times.

The Statesman

Pakistani stocks closed at a new seven-year high on Friday as investors responded positively to Islamabad's decision to redeploy its troops to peace-time locations from the border with India. The Karachi Stock Exchange's 100-share index closed up 18.93 points, or 0.90 percent, at 2,111.72.

Nigeria

The Guardian

Rebel leaders in Cote d'Ivoire are trying to persuade their troops that signing an end to hostilities with the government is in their best interests.

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وظائف شاخرة

٧١٩٠٧٠٩٤

- اسامة محمود الاديمي: خبرة مطلوب مترجمين في مجال التسويق، مراقب (عربي) إنجليزي، مبيعات، حاصل على رخصة إنجليزي (عربي) ذو خبرة للإستفسار ٥٨٣٢١٩١
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- عبد الرحمن محمد عاش: يكونوا اجانب، كما يعلن عن حاجته الى سكربتيرة تجيد اللغة الانجليزية والكيبورت ذات شخصية قوية. يطلب عملاً (تدريب، تدريسي، رياض، حراسة شخصية للأفراد) هاتف: ٢٧٣٣١٧
- مطلوب مندوبي تسويق للعمل لدى العزم للدعاية والإعلان والتسويق، هاتف: ٤٤٩٤٠١

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المفنون: الجد احمد عبد الله شمسان والعائلة، وخالد احمد عبد الله شمسان، وعائلة سعيد سلام حاجب وجميع الاهل والاصدقاء

نزلنا عبد الملك عاصم: اذاب انجليزية، طباعة على الكمبيوتر عربي/انجليزي، ت: ٧١٧٨٢٨٢ شارع حدة، جوار مطعم ضيافكو. باحثون عن وظيفة

Former world champion motorcyclist

Barry Sheene fights cancer with faith

BY GREG BUCKLE

PHILLIP ISLAND, Australia (Reuters) - Britain's former world champion Barry Sheene said on Friday he was counting on alternative therapies, support from fans and a belief in God to win his battle with cancer.

Sheene, who has lost five kgs since he was diagnosed with cancer of the stomach and oesophagus in July, flew a helicopter from his Queensland home to the Australian Grand Prix in Phillip Island, near Melbourne this week to continue his television commentary duties.

The popular 52-year-old, who has lived in Australia for 16 years, said he had been dumbfounded by the support he had received from Australia fans, including more than 20,000 e-mails.

"You cannot believe the compassion," Sheene told reporters at the track on Friday. "It brings tears to your eyes.

People write to me and say 'I'm praying for you'. It's just fantastic.

"My whole life I've spent as an optimist and I'm not going to start

being a pessimist now."

Sheene, who won two world 500cc titles, said he did not feel too bad and added that without the weight loss,



Former world champion Barry Sheene says he is stunned by the support he has received from Australian fans. REUTERS/file photo

most people would not realise he was ill.

Sheene said he had undergone some alternative therapy in Western Australia.

"I believe in it. I believe in God. When you think of the accidents that I have got over and got away with, then there's got to be someone looking after me. You can't be that lucky all the time," he said.

Sheene recalled going to the local hospital for a routine medical appointment in July.

"By half past 10 I was a cancer patient. It's scary. It's stomach and oesophagus cancer," he said.

"Apparently that type of cancer is a really difficult cancer. I don't believe in chemotherapy so I'm not getting involved in that.

"I listen to what the medical people tell me but ultimately it's my decision and my life and it's up to me the way I spend it. I'll do it the way I want to do it and if it doesn't work it's my funeral."

Police question United's Barthez

LONDON (Reuters) - British police have questioned Manchester United's French goalkeeper Fabien Barthez about an alleged bottle-throwing incident in the English team's 1-0 premier league defeat at Leeds United last month.

A spokeswoman for Manchester United told Reuters: "Fabien has voluntarily been helping the police in connection with the ongoing police investigation. The club are not commenting

any further."

When asked whether Barthez had been questioned, a West Yorkshire police spokeswoman added: "I can confirm that a 31-year-old man attended a police station in Leeds where he was arrested on Thursday and interviewed in connection with an allegation of assault on a man on September 14 at Leeds United football ground.

"He has been bailed pending further inquiries."

West Yorkshire police have been investigating allegations that the Frenchman threw a bottle into the crowd after Harry Kewell scored Leeds's winning goal at Elland Road.

Feelings were running high among the crowd since it was England defender Rio Ferdinand's first visit to his former club following a move to United in the close season.



Fabien Barthez has been quizzed by British police. REUTERS/Jacky Naegelen

Madrid Masters

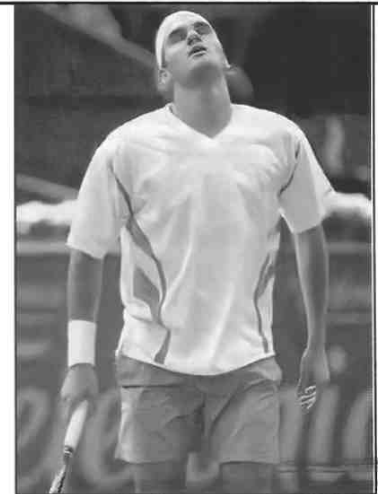
Santoro upsets Federer

MADRID (Reuters) - French qualifier Fabrice Santoro has upset 12th seed Roger Federer 7-5 6-3 to reach the semi-finals of the Madrid Masters.

Santoro's ability to mix up his game with subtle chips and flicks unsettled his Swiss opponent and took him through to a clash with Jiri Novak for a place in the final.

Federer handed Santoro the first set on a plate, missing the simplest of forehand volleys at the net when he seemed certain to save break point.

Santoro took an earlier break in the second and once again a forehand mistake from Federer saw the Frenchman clinch the win in 78 minutes on Friday.



Roger Federer reacts after losing a point to Fabrice Santoro. REUTERS/Andrea Comas



Fabrice Santoro serves on way to win. REUTERS

The Universal Crossword

Edited by Timothy E. Parker

ACROSS

- 1 Work units
- 5 Dutch island in the Caribbean
- 10 Hoax
- 14 Potato complement
- 15 Pinball move
- 16 Oscar-nominated role for Shirley
- 17 Deli offering
- 19 Crazy-sounding bird
- 20 Place for Plato
- 21 Rational
- 22 Stomach-turning
- 23 One way to go
- 25 It may be loaded
- 27 Elbow counterpart
- 28 Sore
- 31 HS underlings
- 34 Pacific island group
- 36 Succeed
- 37 Collar
- 40 Muscular canine
- 42 "___ will be done"
- 43 School no-show
- 45 More loathsome
- 47 Swinging joint?
- 48 Hunt for
- 49 Send out
- 53 Goldsmith's concern
- 55 Llama cousin
- 57 World's most northern desert

DOWN

- 1 Start out
- 2 Bonzo's 1951 co-star
- 3 In great numbers
- 4 O. Henry collection
- 5 Winner on court
- 6 Alpha, beta and gamma
- 7 Major constellation?
- 8 Outlaw hunter's reward
- 9 Fossilized resin
- 10 Computer chip material
- 11 Working mom's cooker
- 12 Out of control
- 13 Umpleen
- 18 One of the Bobbey clan

ACROSS

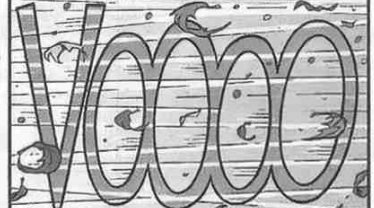
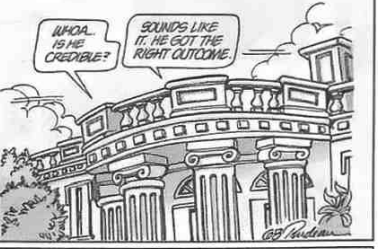
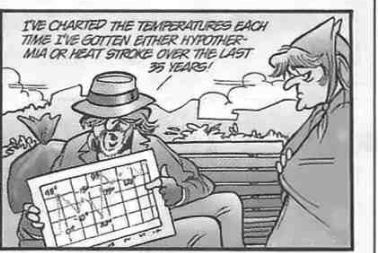
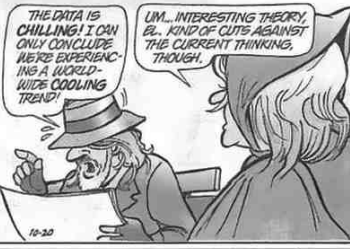
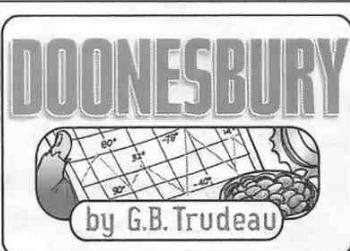
- 24 Full range
- 26 Etymologist's interest
- 29 Gen. wannabe
- 30 Share and leather
- 32 Come again?
- 33 Hog home
- 35 Doubledeed of baseball myth
- 36 Bohemian dance
- 37 Certain degree
- 38 Shipping magazine Onassis
- 39 Kids' spacesaver
- 41 Peter out
- 44 Con
- 46 Hold back

PREVIOUS PUZZLE ANSWER

A	T	A	L	P	O	S	B	I	F	O	C	A	L	
R	E	V	E	N	U	E	A	L	J	B	A	B	A	
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F	I	R	E	R	T	O	N	E	N	E	Y	A	M	
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Horoscope

by Boadachia

- Aries (Mar 21 - Apr 19)**
It's time to explore your life's history, because a lot of assumption's were made along the way that now need to be undone in order to move forward and find a purpose.
- Taurus (Apr 20 - May 20)**
Even if your life is a real mess, or you're not the person you know you can be, you can still be attractive if you're honest about where you're at right now.
- Gemini (May 21 - Jun 20)**
Before you take the next bite out of life, ask yourself, "Is this the best bite I can give myself? If yes, go for it. If no, think twice and make a better choice.
- Cancer (Jun 21 - Jul 22)**
You shouldn't say things without being able to guarantee them or back them up. It could make you appear shallow right now and needing to eat your words.
- Leo (Jul 23 - Aug 22)**
No one gets through life without some regrets. It's those who learn from and let go of past experiences that are able to count their blessings and reap good fortune.
- Virgo (Aug 23 - Sep 22)**
You are the steward of your own life, not your parents, not anyone. You, and you alone, have the ability to become whoever you desire.
- Libra (Sep 23 - Oct 22)**
Hang in there. You're about to enter some wild, remote space, which is rather inhospitable and difficult to traverse, seemingly harsh and barren.
- Scorpio (Oct 23 - Nov 21)**
Life is fleeting, it only lives in the moment. Decide now, if you want to embrace people and smile, or engage in fighting and frustration.
- Sagittarius (Nov 22 - Dec 21)**
It's a challenging week for everyone, and you're no exception. Watch out for what appears to offer much, but actually has little value.
- Capricorn (Dec 22 - Jan 19)**
Managing your time isn't going to be easy this week, as it will feel as though there just isn't enough time available. Don't exhaust yourself.
- Aquarius (Jan 20 - Feb 18)**
It's time to revisit someone from your past, which will bring you an enhanced sense of belonging to life again and enhance your self-esteem.
- Pisces (Feb 19 - Mar 20)**
Don't follow his path by exerting so much energy on negative factors out of your control.

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زورنا على العنوان التالي: الشيخ عثمان - عدن - الجمهورية اليمنية - هاتف: 385005، فاكس: 385006

احتفالات شعبنا اليمني بأعياد الثورة قام

بمناسبة معالي وزير الدولة لشئون مجلس النواب السيد علوي العطاس بمعية الأستاذ طه احمد غانم، محافظ محافظة عدن، والأخ عبد الكريم شائف، نائب محافظ عدن، يوم الاثنين 14 أكتوبر 2002 بافتتاح سوق عدن الدولي وكان في استقبالهم السيد حيدر سعيد العولقي، مالك السوق، حيث قام معالي الوزير بقص الشريط إيداناً بافتتاحه رسمياً.

كما قام معالي الوزير ومرافقيه بجولة داخل أرجاء السوق تفقد فيها النشاطات التجارية التي يضمها السوق، كما استمع إلى شرح تفصيلي من السيد حيدر سعيد العولقي، مالك السوق، عن الأقسام التجارية والخدمية والتي استطاع بها هذا المركز أن يغطي جميع الاحتياجات التي تهم المستهلك.

ويهذه المناسبة عبر معالي الوزير عن إعجابه بمكونات السوق وكذا بالتخطيط المعماري والهندسي مما يجعل حركة الزائر سهلة ومريحة ويعيد عن الازدحام، مشيداً بدور قطاع الاستثمار، وبأن اليمن بحاجة إلى مثل هذه الاستثمارات والتي ستقوم بانعاش الحركة التجارية في البلد



Aden International Market Inaugurated

On the occasion of the our national celebrations of the Yemeni revolution, Mr. Alawi Al Attass, the state minister for parliament affairs along with Mr. Taha Ahmed Ghanim, governor of Aden and Abdulkareem Shayef, deputy governor of Aden, inaugurated on October 14 the Aden International Market.

They were received by Mr. Haidar Saeed Al Awlaqi, the owner of the market. Then the state minister officially inaugurated the market and toured inside it and listened to a detailed information about market departments, services, and facilities which meet consumer needs.

The state minister expressed his relief on the market components, design, and architecture which made it the shopping easy and interesting away from crowds. He also called other investors to invest in such projects, which he said would

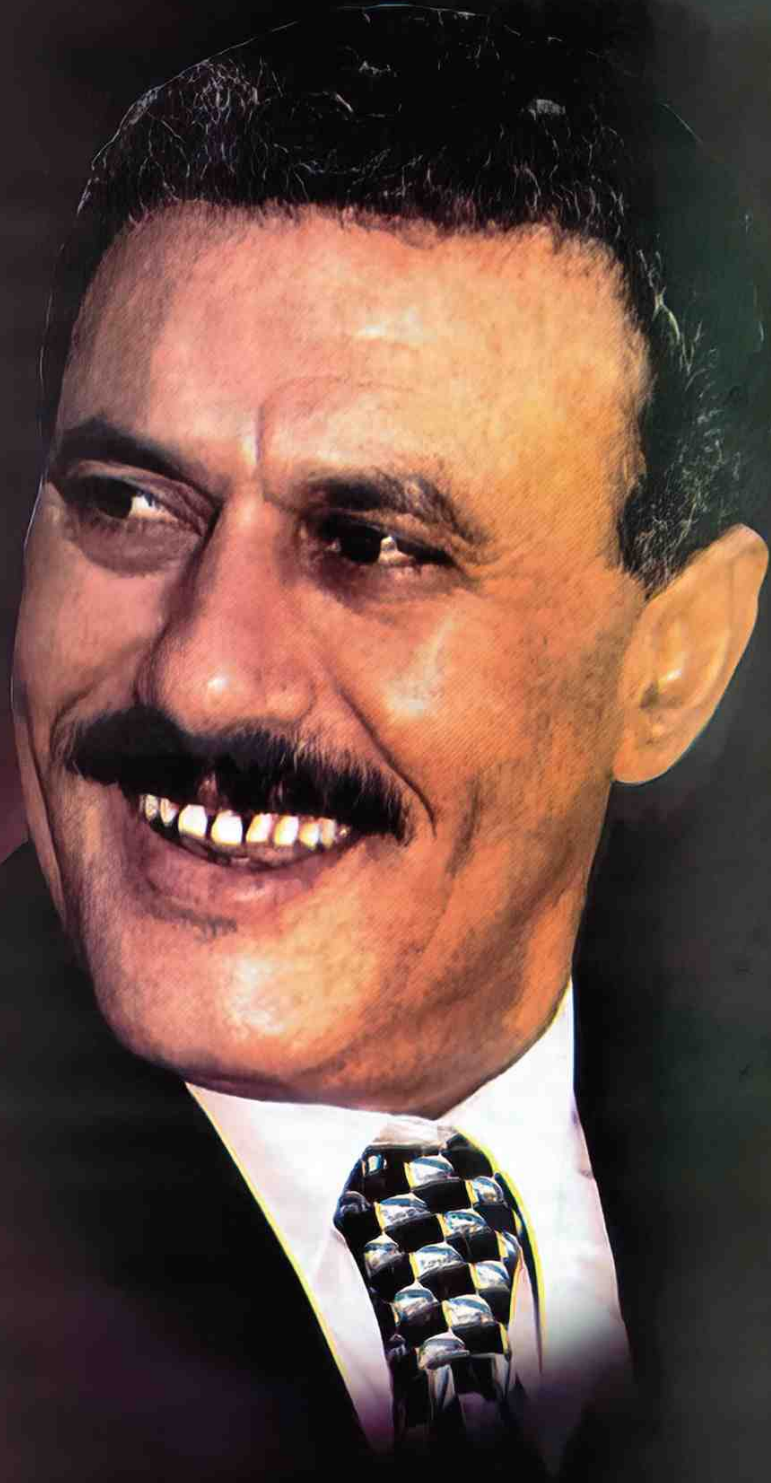
revive the trade activities in the country. He then wished the project owner and his staff good luck.

Mr. Haidar Saeed Al Awlaqi praised the supports and facilities he was given from the political leadership represented by the president of the republic, Ali Abdullah Saleh for his ultimate support for investment and his outstanding role in bringing the project into light. He said that the project consists of two floors and includes 200 shops besides the unique design and separated praying place for women and other services.

Mr. Anwar Hussain Omar, project manager, said that the Aden International market was built on 700 square meters and costs about 350,000,000 YR. A unique design which makes it an architectural masterpiece and a good front for the economic capital of Yemen.

The inauguration ceremony was attended by many political figures, businessmen, and citizens who showed their admiration of the market.

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present their heartiest congratulations to

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President of the Republic of Yemen,

and to the Yemeni people

On the 39th Revolution Anniversary, 14 October

We wish Yemen the best of success and
progress towards
building a strong country headed by his wise
leadership for years to come.

Many Happy Returns

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Tourist potential unlimited in Taiz

Saber Mountains are breathtaking

BY TAWFEK ASHARA'ABI & ABDUH. M. ASSABRI
SPECIAL TO THE YEMEN TIMES

Since time immemorial, Yemenis lived on the top of mountains to be secure from invaders. Forays that used to take place from time to time prompted Yemenis to retreat to mountain fortresses.

The way they used to build their houses, in the midst of mountain breezes, is enchanting and enthralling.

The Saber Mountains have had some of those homes.

The highest mountains in Yemen with an altitude of 3070 meters, the Saber Mountains have springs and streams with sounds of murmuring waters, something beyond description. The lights of its cliff-hung villages are at times mistaken for stars.

A winding road leads from Taiz to



A young girl wears a traditional costume still common in Saber. (File photo)

the top of the mountain.

The road is filled with the activity of a living mountain's vendors of fruits and roses, well-dressed in their traditional gowns which possess unsurpassed originality, treading softly the roads with their wares in baskets balanced on top of their heads.

Farmers and visitors in four-wheel drive vehicles vie for right of way with goats, sheep and cattle.

Saber comprises a chain of lined-up mountains, which falls into three districts.

1 - Saber al-Mawadem District:

It is the closest to Taiz City and consists of several villages scattered through the mountain. It extends from the northeast to the northwest of Taiz City.

The highest peak of the mountain is above 3200m above the sea level. It is called al-Arooss peak.

2 - Mashra'ah & Hadnan District

It is in the middle of the mountain and is considered the most overpopu-

lated districts in the Republic. It is 8 km in size.

3 - al-Mesrakh District:

It is situated in the west south of the mountain.

Taiz, nowhere compares to any glittering skyline of a cosmopolitan city in any country, has a special charm of its own. Despite the blackouts and shortage of electricity from time to time, Taiz spreads its spell over the whole atmosphere.

Continued on Page 14.



Enthralling scene of Taiz at night from the top of Saber Mountain. (Dan Westin's photo)

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