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Long awaited verdict would probably approve the most feared: Al-Mouayed expected to be handed to USA

By HASSAN AL-ZAIDI
YEMEN TIMES STAFF

A verdict ruling in Germany scheduled to be issued today, Monday July 21, will probably result in having the German government hand Al-Mouayed over to the USA after the latter provided evidence linking Al-Mouayed to al-Qaeda.

This comes despite intense efforts by the Yemeni government and leadership to have him sent home for trial. The ruling is expected to trigger a wave of anger among Islah members and Islamic figures, who believe in his innocence and express disbelief in US evidence, which cannot be declared to the public due to international regulations.

Meanwhile, German Ambassador to Yemen demanded German citizens working in the country to be on alert during the current week for any possible reaction that might result out of such a verdict.

The German embassy has repeatedly stated that all the happenings concerning Al-Mouayed's case are subject to international treaties signed with countries including the USA in the field of terrorism. "Those laws

are abiding, we simply cannot walk away... I hope Yemenis believe in that this does not and should have any effect on our bilateral relationship" a source at the German embassy said.

The German embassy also stressed that Al-Mouayed will not be sent to Guantanamo and will never be sentenced to death according to prior conditions set by the German government.

Islah sources told Yemen Times that handing al-Mouayed over to the USA doesn't mean the end of his case. "There will still be opportunities for advocates to defend him and continue their efforts to prove his innocence," the source added.

On his part, Mohammed Qahtan of the Islamic Islah Party told the president's mouthpiece Assahwa weekly that the president's statement during his last visit to Germany regarding al-Mouayed's case has merely

resulted in an increase of security in German procedures. Qahtan said that efforts exerted so far may not be enough to prevent a verdict that may end up in sending Al-Mouayed to the USA.

He told Yemen Times that the al-Mouayed's advocates had already presented their final defense statements. He demanded that the Yemeni authorities put greater pressures on the USA to set him free along with his associate. "The government should be held accountable for its citizens and not to the party al-Mouayed belongs to," he said.

The elder son of al-Mouayed hoped that his father would be set free within this week, despite growing chances of having him sent to the USA.

However, a possibility of a further extension of the trial and Al-Mouayed's stay is also there, but it is quite unlikely that he will be returned to Yemen for trial as demanded by the Yemeni authorities.



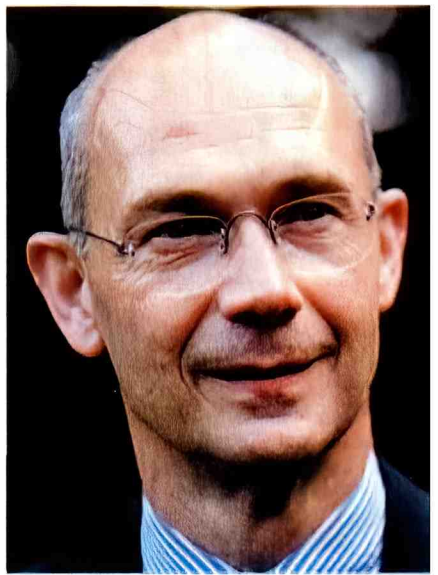
Al-Mouayed

In a statement to Yemen Times, EU Trade Commissioner Pascal Lamy asserts EU's help to Yemen: EU accelerating Yemen's accession to WTO

YEMEN TIMES STAFF

In a statement to Yemen Times during a seminar on European Union's (EU) trade policies in Brussels on July 15, European Trade Commissioner Mr. Pascal Lamy told Yemen Times that Yemen will continue to receive support from the European Union to enable Yemen to meet the standards required to join the World Trade Organization (WTO). "We are supportive of Yemen's efforts to join the WTO and we will continue providing the help needed to accomplish this, whether in technical assistance or in any other means," he said.

When asked by YT about whether Yemen should be assisted in building a proper trade and investment-friendly infrastructure to promote trade and commerce internally before approaching the global market by involving in the WTO, Mr. Lamy replied, "It is up to the Yemeni government to provide the list of priorities on which our assistance should be based. We can help in the infrastructure if needed, or we can also continue... We believe that there are different ways and means to help developing countries including Yemen to enhance their trade standards, and we are committed to helping those countries over-



Pascal Lamy



come their difficulties." Five Euros millions have been donated to Yemen to go toward technical assistance for the Yemeni government over the next five years to ready the country to become a member of the WTO, according to an agreement signed in Sanaa months ago.

Furthermore, Mr. Lamy asserted that Yemen and other developing countries still not members in the WTO need to realize the value of attaining membership to this global organization. "It is in favor of non-member countries to become members not because

the WTO needs them but rather because they need such a strong organization to protect their rights in international trade when confronting more powerful countries, which are restricted to the rules and regulations set by the WTO."

The seminar held in Brussels was part of the EU's preparations for the fifth WTO Ministerial Conference to be held in Cancun, Mexico from 10 to 14 September 2003. The main task in the conference will be to take stock of progress in negotiations and other work under the Doha Development Agenda.

Continued on page 3

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In Yemen:

195 al-Qaeda suspects arrested

BY HASSAN AL-ZAIDI
YEMEN TIMES STAFF

SANA'A - Minister of Interior Rashad Al-Alimi revealed that 195 al-Qaeda suspects are currently kept in prisons throughout the country. Those suspects have been arrested during the last few years for suspicion of links to al-Qaeda network.

Some of those detainees have been recently arrested in Huttat area, Abyan governorate following the clashes that took place a few weeks ago in that region.

The prisoners are believed to be kept in prisons in different governorate of the republic.

Eight of those are thought to be directly connected to the attacks on the USS Cole attack in 2001 and the French Oil tanker 2002. Five of those might have died.

Brig-Al-Alimi added in a report presented to parliament last Wednesday that all 195 people are accused of belonging to Al-Qaeda and will remain in custody for their insistence to hold on to ideas promoting violence, extremism and hostility to Westerners.

The report was presented to the parliament during a debate on terror-related detainees.

"Around 95 others have been released after they were persuaded by leading clerics to turn their back on extremism and correct their beliefs," he said.

Of the 195, five are thought to have direct links to the suicide bombing of the USS Cole Navy Destroyer that took place at the southern port of Aden in October 2000.

The minister revealed that eight other accomplices are still on the run.

Earlier this week, Al-Alimi told journalists that Saudi Arabia would extradite to Yemen eight fugitives, some of them thought to have been involved in the Cole bombing that killed 17 US sailors.

Al-Alimi stressed that the concerned bodies are still hunting down USS Cole suspects in Arab countries as well as in Yemen.

Five of the prisoners are thought to have direct links to the explosions that were carried out by the so called "Qaeda Sympathizers" in Sana'a. Other suspects who are thought to have been involved in the explosions are believed to have died in the explosions.

Among the detainees were also 19 suspected in the assassination of former YSP assistant secretary-general and the killing of the three US doctors in Jibla.



Rashad Al-Alimi

Concerning the attack on helicopter that belongs to Yemen Hunt Oil Company, at least five suspects are currently held.

In addition, 2 people have been detained when they attempted to carry out an explosion in an installation in Taiz, while a third was able to escape and is currently being racked by security bodies throughout the country.

Trial of of US doctors' killer continues

BY MUJEEB ABDULRAHMAN
IBB CORRESPONDENT

The Ibb court of appeal had on Monday 14 July held the second sitting for trying killer A'bed Abdulrazzaq for the murder of the three American doctors at Jibla hospital months ago.

This is the second sitting after the court of first instance had issued its death sentence against him.

The trial sitting was attended by representatives from the American embassy, among them a woman representing wife of one of the victims, and a man.

The first appeal session came out with the court demanding the defense to present his demands he wanted to offer. A woman from the American embassy was retained by the wife of one of the victims of the incident.



A'bed Abdulrazzaq

US gov. hails Yemeni leadership

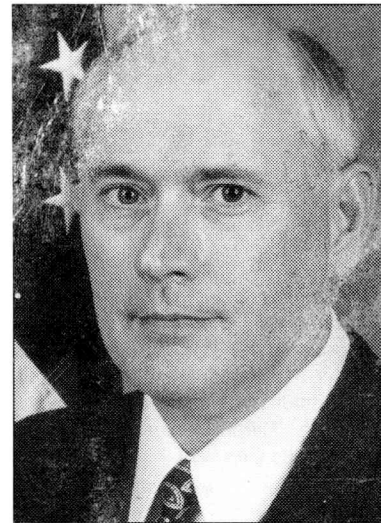
Sanaa - US Ambassador to Yemen J.E. Mr. Edmund Hull praised in a press interview with official weekly 26-September Yemen's leadership represented by President Ali Abdullah Saleh. He described President Saleh's actions as wise and successful in security and development fields, resulting in enhancing stability in the whole region.

The ambassador stressed that the US government gives the Republic of Yemen special attention and works on packages that would provide Yemen with aid to develop remote areas, such as Marib, al-Jawf and Sada'a.

Mr. Edmund Hull had previously described those areas as possible havens for terrorist elements due to lack of developmental projects. This resembles the ambassador's viewpoint that there can be "no security without development and no development without security."

The three mentioned governorates witnessed a recent wave of attempts to purchase all light weapons possibly to limit the number of weapons significantly, hence increase stability and enhance security.

A tribal source said that Saudi Arabia stands behind this recent action to buy weapons and asserts that it has nothing to do with the USA.



Edmund Hull

It is worth noting that Yemen has almost one tenth of the world's light weapons estimated at around 60 million pieces of arms distributed mainly in tribal and rural areas throughout the country.

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Yemen Times is reintroducing a popular feature "Readers' Voice" - formerly known as YT Opinion Poll.

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THIS WEEK'S QUESTION:

Do you approve Yemen's accession to the WTO?

- Yes
- No
- I don't care

LAST WEEK'S QUESTION:

Do you think president Salah would run the coming presidential elections?

Yes	73%
No	21.9%
I don't know	4.9%

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Population growth signaled as country's major challenge

Sanaa - On the occasion of the World Population Day on July 11, the Islah Charitable Welfare Society launched its awareness campaign in Sana'a in which it declared population growth as a major challenge to our country's development.

The Chairman of the Islah Charitable Welfare Society, Dr. Tareq Senan Abu Lohom dealt with the society's main activities in the field of promoting reproductive health and family planning and indicated the threats awaiting Yemen if the population growth rate is not reduced.

The representative of the United Nation Population Fund indicated in her speech that Yemen will face serious population problems in the future and that 50 percent of the population, which constitutes of the youth, will be in urgent need of massive awareness campaigns of reproductive health and family planning to control the staggering 3.7% annual population growth, which is the highest in the world.

On his part, the Minister of Development and International Cooperation, Mr. Ahmed Sofan said that Yemen's population might reach 40 million in 2025, which could possibly result in devastation for the country's economy and development and if not dealt with quickly, would result in ending Yemen's dream of establishing a modern state with quality life standards for its citizens.

Development and International Cooperation, Mr. Ahmed Sofan said that Yemen's population might reach 40 million in 2025, which could possibly result in devastation for the country's economy and development and if not dealt with quickly, would result in ending Yemen's dream of establishing a modern state with quality life standards for its citizens.



Family-community training course held

Sanaa - Under the auspices of the Minister of Human Rights Mrs. Amat al-Aleem Al-Sawsuwa, a family and community-related training course organized by the Civil Society Forum in cooperation with the International Institute for Islamic Studies was held during July 20-22 in Sana'a.

The three-day training course was aimed at basically promoting local activists' capabilities on human rights in the context of the family and community.

Around 30 representatives coming from different local organizations have taken part in this training course.

Park doors at capital secretariat closed

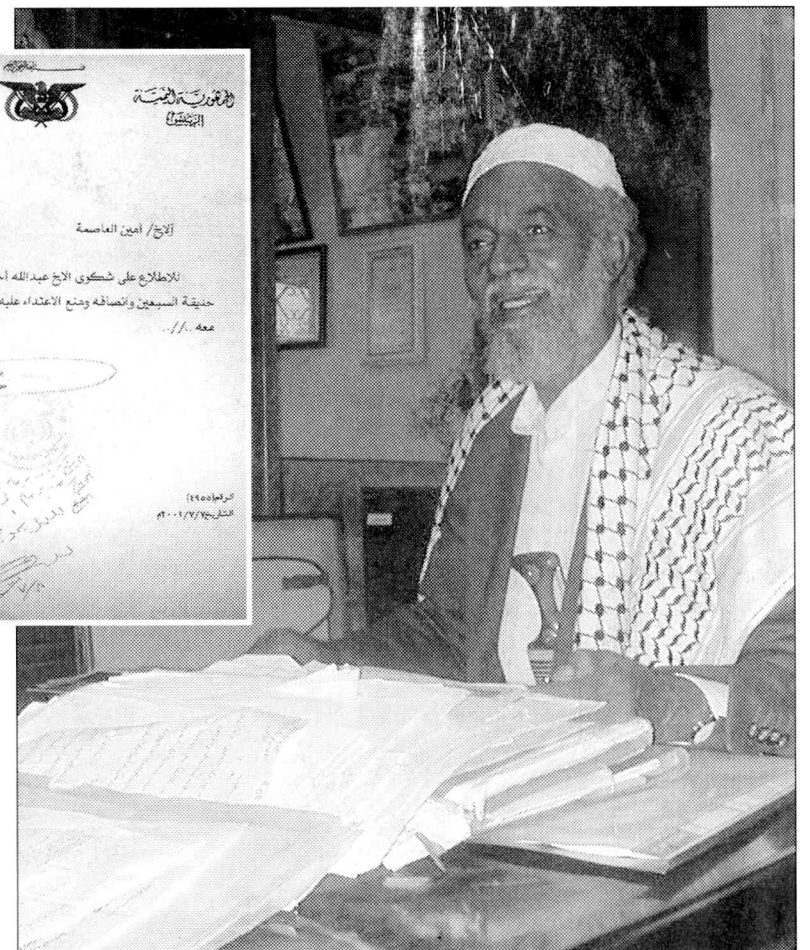
BY YASSER AL-MAYYASI
YEMEN TIMES STAFF

Yemeni investor Abdulla Ahmed Abdulla al-Maghshi, owner of al-Sabeen park in Sana'a on Wednesday 16 July filed a complaint with the general prosecution against closure of the park by the capital secretariat. Al-Maghshi said in his complaint that for personal reasons the park's director general had sent a false report to the concerned authorities alleging falsely there were violations and weak justifications.

The park owner confirmed that the capital secretariat had no right to close down the park without consulting the general prosecution, Yemen Times has got a copy of the complaint letter and other copies of several cases the investor had been exposed to before. The copies also show a number of complaints had been filed with the presidency office and that president Ali Abdulla Saleh had ordered to be treated fairly and to prevent any attack on him and the contract signed with him should be implemented properly.



Chained-and-locked park gate



The owner of the park is showing journalists heaps of documents and files



Children need to have fun in those empty parks

In UNDP's 2003 Human Development Report:

Yemen's human development deteriorates

BY MOHAMMED BIN SALLAM
YEMEN TIMES STAFF

SANAA- The recently published Human Development Report 2003 by the UNDP revealed that Yemen dropped four ranks this year to become number 148 after being 144 in last year's ranking. If this continues, Yemen may well drop below many African countries, which are still behind it. The country continues to maintain a very low rank in human development, possibly proving the graveness of the challenges facing the new government concerning human development.

The report was handed over officially to Foreign Minister Dr. Abu Bakr Al-Qirbi by UNDP Resident Representative James Rawley. It was quite obvious that Yemeni officials did not have much to cheer about as numbers continued to fall this year as well. The report indicated that Yemen is the least developed Asian country at all -except for Guinea if we were to consider it in Asia and the least developed Arab country just before Djibouti.

Realizing the critical state of Yemen's human development, Dr. Al-Qirbi pledged to work extensively on the priorities set by the UNDP to tackle the country's major problems "We have to deal with poverty,



Globalization shouldn't result in having the rich countries grow richer and the poor countries become poorer," the foreign minister said.

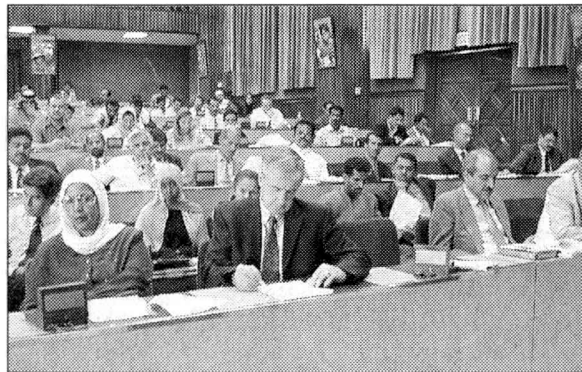
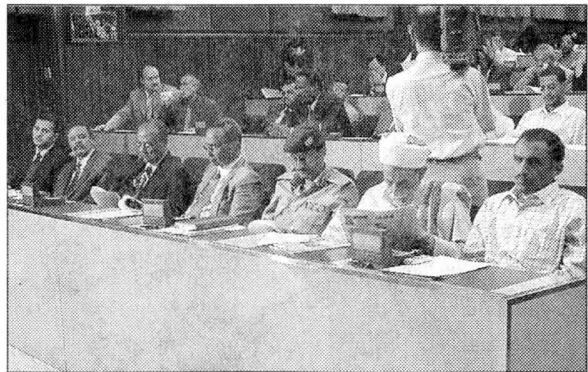
According to the report, Yemen ranks extremely low in education, income, health, water, civil services, and virtually all other aspects.

Furthermore, all countries less

developed than Yemen are all in Africa except for three countries (Haiti, Guinea, and Guinea-Bissau). If the same rate of development continues, there may be no other non-African country less developed than Yemen, especially as Haiti is just tracing it.

What makes it much more difficult for Yemen is the extremely high rate of

population growth of 3.7%, which is the highest in the world and will definitely contribute negatively in Yemen's developmental efforts if not tackled.



Attendees during the launching the UNDP 2003 Global Human Development report

Kuwaiti Information center to be established in Sana'a

SANA'A- Sheikh Mubarak Duaij Al-Subaa, the Deputy Kuwaiti Information Ministry for Foreign Media told Yemen Times that the gap among Arabs concerning stances on Iraq's invasion of Kuwait 1990 needs to be bridged, and partly a Kuwaiti information center in Sanaa will help achieve this goal.

He said that Kuwait has a real desire to establish contacts with Arab brothers particularly Yemen. He affirmed that a Kuwaiti information center in Yemen, to be established soon, could be a good example for others to follow.

He added that the information center would enhance cooperation and contacts between the two countries.

"The new center will promote and strengthen bilateral relations for a bet-



Sheikh Mubarak Duaij Al-Subaa

ter future in the benefit of the two countries." He said.

"Kuwait is a peaceful country that does not interfere in other countries' affairs and we believe in a strong and strong united Arab stance concerning vital issues including the issue of Palestine," he confirmed.

Continued from page 1

EU accelerating Yemen's accession to WTO

Mr. Pascal also noted that as a country belonging to the Least Developed Countries (LDC) category, Yemen is entitled to several facilities and means of support to help it meet the standards of the WTO. "Among our top priorities is accelerating the procedures for accession of LDCs including Yemen to the WTO," he said.

This comes after the WTO General Council had agreed months ago on a simplified and accelerated procedure for accession of LDCs to the WTO. This move culminates the initiative launched by the EU in 1999 aimed at facilitating accession of poorest countries to the WTO, taken up in turn by the Third UN Conference on LDCs in Brussels in May 2001. The procedure was applied to LDCs currently in the accession process including Yemen.

Lamy had also said that the "accession to the WTO is a crucial step for LDCs striving for development and integration in world trade."

It is worth noting that Yemen would get several benefits if it becomes a WTO member. The benefits include more access to international markets for Yemeni commodities and services, and increased trade and investment volume and possibilities. A country that meets WTO membership requirements also offers a stable and globally accepted business environment, which encourages increased trade and investment.

Accession to membership is also expected to have profound effects on the Yemeni economy, opening a variety of markets and creating business opportunities for the country.

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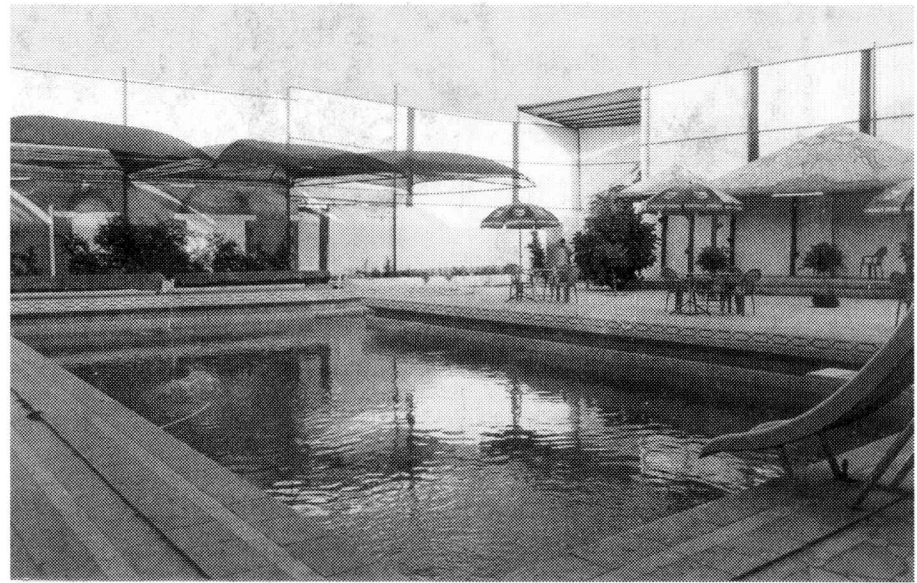
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Marking 25 years of rule by President Saleh:

Cultural activities in Taiz

Yemen Times Staff
Taiz

TAIZ - On the occasion of his silver jubilee since he became president, President Ali Abdullah Saleh was hailed in Taiz last week through a number of cultural activities in Taiz signaling the President's achievements during the last quarter of a century includ-

ing reuniting Yemen and establishing democracy and political pluralism.

A grand festival was held on July 17 at al-Shuhada (Martyrs) square in Taiz City. During the festival, a speech was delivered by Mr. Abdulqader Bajammal, the cabinet premier in which he praised President Saleh's achievements and accomplishments for Yemen. Another speech was deliv-

ered by Taiz Governor, Judge Ahmed Abdullah al-Hajri, followed by a number of folklore dances and songs representing different Yemeni governorates. Around 350 musicians, dancers, and artists took part in the event.

The festival was sponsored by the Hael Saeed Ana'am Group of Companies represented by Mr. Showqi Ahmed Hael Saeed Ana'am.

The festival was attended by a number of ministers, members of the Shura Council and the parliament, dignitaries, and a host of others.

Other activities, which were organized by the Taiz-based al-Saeed Foundation for Science and Culture, included a plastic art exhibition held during July 17-26 at the foundation's exhibit hall and a lecture entitled "July 17 and first seeds democracy" to be delivered by Mr. Abdullah Sultan today, July 21.

A number of literary lectures to be presented by young Yemeni talents on this occasion area also scheduled to take place at the foundation's headquarters on July 24.



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Juveniles between the reality and ambition

BY YEMEN TIMES STAFF
TAIZ

“Juveniles between the reality and ambition” workshop held by WFTR last month in Aden came out with a number of recommendations. Eight working papers were presented at the workshop, all of which tackled with an ambitious project regarding the reality of the juveniles and street children in Yemen.

In spite of the importance of the workshop, the question that strongly forces itself is whether this workshop would form a strategy for a serious work to solve this problem.

The reality confirms that the number of street children has been increasing day by day and the ambition is still kind of hopes in a society oppressed by poverty and haunted by illiteracy and employment.

Painful scenes

Gamil Massoud al-Wasabi, 12-year-old, loiters bare-footed in Aden streets for two years, putting on shabby dirty clothes and he was supposed to be in school and under the care of his family, school and government that still adopt an unclear policy in this respect.

Being so young has not softened the heart of his father heart who wants him to go out begging in the streets or to work for providing money for his family.

He said “My father is jobless and everyday he severely hits me, so last year I decided to escape from the house to Hodiedah and spent a month there and then I to Aden I am not alone. I have friends that we together

sleep in the streets and in front of mosques and restaurants. We are from Taiz, Ibb, Thamar, and Hodiedah”

He continued “we eat food leftovers in restaurants and we are exposed to harassment daily”

A small girl, from the (Al-Akhdam) was sitting beside one of the restaurants having some remaining rice said, “We are so poor people. My father has no job and my mother, sisters and brothers and I go everyday to beg in the streets and restaurants to get money and food remaining all the day. We are exposed to beating and abuses by owners and the employees of restaurants and sometimes by customers who get annoyed of us.”

The size of street children phenomenon in Yemen

Studies conducted on child beggars estimate their number in Sana'a in 1993 at about 562 female and male children. While experts see that these estimations do not go with results of the census of 1994 that estimated them at 4000 children in Sana'a only.

However, the analyses of 1997, organized by the UNCIF and the World Bank for the children who work in Sana'a streets and other Yemeni cities said they were 3000-6000 children.

On the other hand, the results of the National Council for Childhood points out the primary estimations are 7000 children in Sana'a alone.

We have to admit that the prevailing opinion does not recognise the fact about street children but in narrow range. This can be attributed to the nature of development programs implemented on the ground.



Reading painful reality

To know the reality of street children is difficult, had it not been the study that WFTR had conducted and discussed the reality of street children.

This study included a sample research about street children including 140 children in streets of Sana'a, Aden, Taiz and Hodiedah who are between 5-17 years old.

The results of this study, that can be considered the only reference till now in this field were:

42.9 9% of street children are exposed to attempts of actual sexual attack and 22.9% of them are exposed

to actual sexual attacks.

On the other hand, 15% are exposed to road accidents and 37.9% exposed to adult violence as well as 33.6 % are arrested by police.

Children below 17 and other just 10 years old sleep, and eat in the streets, and their life is spent in streets. What is expected from them in future if 94.5% assured they are exposed to harassment?

The study confirmed that one of the main reasons of children's leaving school and stay in the streets is the deteriorated economic situation of the family and its inability to pay educa-

tion expenses, and these children form 48.51% and 15% of them is attributed to their failure in their study.

The children who do not have a chance to go to school are 47.1% against 38.6% who are school-dropping. One of the parents marriage forms another cause for children to go to the streets and these for about 13.6%. 70.7% of street children earning goes to help their families regularly.

Family social condition

The family situation: The poverty and loose relationship inside the family greatly affect life and future of children. It has been certain 24.3% of street children belong to divorced parents. While 67.1% of them are from families the parents are not divorced.

So the family poverty and differences between the parents are the main factors for the increase of the phenomenon of street children and juveniles delinquency.

8.6% of those children say they do not know about their families anything and 33.6% of them say their parents are continuously in a state dispute and 25% say their fathers are married to another woman.

Juveniles centers

A center for juveniles is founded in Aden, however, according to Mr. Abdullah Ibrahim, the finance manger of the centre the experiment had failed for lacking of due the non-existence of a nucleus capable of running programs of such centers. He added that some managers of these centers were instead of implementing the program for the juveniles they tried to carry out the manager's program,

and instead of taking care of children they left them go begging in the streets.

There are other new civil organisations such as the association for juveniles care and the safe childhood center that belongs to the Women Association for Combating Poverty but it lacks the specialized staff and has been almost the major cause behind children escape from the center.

Reading in juveniles law

According to judge Ali Ahmed Ba'shan, the head of juveniles court in Aden, the law of juveniles care No. 24 of 1992, amended with the law No. 26 of 1997 the criminal treatment of the child is defined by 4 aspects of which is the special care for children under difficult circumstances where it seems that the child care is under protection of the law against homelessness phenomenon and mixing with street children.

He has stressed that protection of children in general is achieved by watching their families that are mainly responsible for bringing them up and caring for them. Parents should be punished for a negligence leading to children deviation of any sort.

The conclusion

The problem is not ascribed to the law but rather the economic situation of families, and spread of illiteracy, which would remain the main causes of crimes in the Arab homeland. If there is no compulsory primary education and real plans for fighting poverty, hundreds of children in the streets would constitute an aggravating social problem threatening the society structure in the Arab homeland.



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US soldier killed in Iraq:

UN may be asked to help

BAGHDAD, July 19 (Reuters) - Attackers firing guns and rocket-propelled grenades killed a U.S. soldier in Baghdad on Saturday as Washington considered asking the United Nations to help restore order in Iraq and contain a guerrilla insurgency.

A U.S. spokesman said the soldier was attacked in the early hours as he guarded a bank in western Baghdad. He was the second soldier killed in Iraq in 24 hours, bringing the number of U.S. troops to die from hostile fire to 149 — more than the 147 killed in the 1991 Gulf War.

The spokesman said four soldiers had also been wounded in the Rashid district of Baghdad on Saturday morning when a home-made bomb was detonated near their patrol.

In another expression of Iraqi anger, more than 10,000 Shi'ite Muslim protesters marched through the capital to demand an end to alleged U.S. harassment of Shi'ite leader Moqtada al-Sadr. Sadr on Friday denounced Iraq's new U.S.-backed Governing Council, saying it did not represent the country.

Facing daily attacks, Washington may turn to the United Nations to try to persuade countries to send soldiers or share costs, running at around \$4 billion a month, diplomats said.

The State Department said Washington was open to giving the United Nations a bigger role in Iraq, especially if other governments respond by offering more to peacekeeping and reconstruction.

"We're open to this prospect. We're indeed talking about it with other people, but at this point I can't draw to

a conclusion," spokesman Richard Boucher said.

In his first major report on postwar Iraq, U.N. Secretary General Kofi Annan said Iraqis did not want democracy imposed by outsiders and rated lawlessness as their main concern.

Annan, who sent the report to Security Council members on Friday for discussion on Tuesday, also envisioned an ambitious U.N. role in Iraq in the transition to help form a new Iraqi government. He made clear that role would exclude responsibility for law and order.

Guerrilla war

In attacks on Friday, one American soldier was wounded when a convoy came under fire from Iraqis with guns and grenades in the town of Miqdadiya, northeast of Baghdad. Another U.S. soldier was killed when his Humvee drove over a makeshift bomb in the restive Sunni Muslim town of Falluja, west of Baghdad.

Lieutenant General Ricardo Sanchez, commander of the U.S. ground forces in Iraq, told a news conference that the wave of attacks would not weaken Washington's resolve.

"The war that we are fighting is against the former regime leadership. It is against terrorists and criminals," he said.

"We are winning this war and ultimately the end state will be whether Saddam Hussein comes back into power. That will never happen. Everybody has to believe that."

U.S. officials concede that their failure to find Saddam has emboldened



Lieutenant General Ricardo Sanchez, the commander of U.S. forces in Iraq, addresses a press conference in the capital Baghdad July 19. A U.S. soldier was killed in Baghdad on Saturday and Washington considered asking the United Nations to play a bigger role in Iraq, where it is facing a high cost in casualties and cash as it tries to control the country. REUTERS

guerrillas attacking American forces.

"It is important that we bring this to closure, and we are focused on finding, killing or capturing Saddam Hussein and his sons," Sanchez said. "It is unquestionably critical for us and the security situation of Iraq."

An audiotape said to be made by Saddam was broadcast on Arabic television this week, urging Iraqis to launch a jihad, or holy struggle, to oust occupying troops.

U.S. Deputy Defense Secretary Paul

Wolfowitz, one of the key architects of the war to topple Saddam, visited the Shi'ite cities of Kerbala and Najaf on Saturday, meeting military officials and local leaders. Wolfowitz also toured the site of the ancient city of Babylon, and visited a nearby mass grave.

U.S. soldiers began recruiting for a new Iraqi army to replace the force that collapsed with barely a fight in the war that deposed Saddam. American troops handed out hundreds of 18-page application forms in central Baghdad.

Palestinian gunmen free Jenin governor after 5 hours

JENIN, West Bank, July 19 (Reuters) - Palestinian gunmen abducted the governor of the West Bank city of Jenin on Saturday after he tried to crack down on their militant group, but freed him five hours later on President Yasser Arafat's orders.

The abduction highlighted Palestinian Prime Minister Mahmoud Abbas' difficulties reigning in militants under a U.S.-backed peace plan, and underlined Arafat's continuing influence with some groups despite U.S. and Israeli efforts to sideline him.

The local branch of the Al-Aqsa Martyrs Brigades, an armed group with links to Arafat's mainstream Fatah movement, said it had abducted governor Haider Irseid after he ordered supporters to shoot some of its members.

Shouting "Collaborator! Collaborator!", about 20 men seized Irseid, 47, as he was walking near a square in central Jenin, witnesses said.

They beat him with sticks, rifles, fists and feet until he screamed in pain and bled from his face, neck and hands, witnesses said. They then took him to the nearby Jenin refugee camp, a warren of alleys where they could hide.

"He (Irseid) sent his men to shoot at members of the Al-Aqsa Martyrs Brigades and tried to assassinate others," local Brigades leader Zakariya Zubeidi told Reuters.

He said this amounted to collaboration with Israel, and accused him of corruption. His group demanded Irseid's resignation and said he should be tried in a Palestinian court.

But Zubeidi later announced his release, saying: "We released him because we received instructions from the president to do so. We do not question the president's instructions."

Witnesses said Irseid, who has denied any wrongdoing, seemed to be in good condition but he went to hospital to be treated for bruises. He declined to talk to reporters.

Israel seeks crackdown

Palestinian Information Minister Nabil Amr condemned the abduction as a "regrettable act" and said: "Law will be enforced. Nobody can act outside this cycle of law."

The incident could embarrass Abbas ahead of talks on Sunday with Israeli Prime Minister Ariel Sharon, who is likely to call again for a crackdown on militants before the two leaders go to Washington for separate talks with President George W. Bush.

It also highlighted the divisions within Fatah and showed Arafat retains some influence even though Israel and the United States refuse to talk to him after accusing him of fomenting violence in the 33-month-old Palestinian uprising for statehood.

Iraqis sign up for new national army

BAGHDAD, July 19 (Reuters) - American troops began recruiting Iraqis on Saturday to form a new army in place of the force that collapsed with barely a fight to defend Saddam Hussein three months ago.

In central Baghdad, American soldiers handed out hundreds of 18-page application forms to men who want to join what the U.S. occupying powers are calling the New Iraqi Army.

"Test pilot! Test pilot!" said Raad Mahmoud, pointing at himself as he tried to convince an American soldier he should be signed up immediately. "Very good," said the visibly unimpressed infantryman, moving him along.

Mahmoud said he was an aircraft engineer in Saddam's forces. "We will have good military compatibility with the Americans, but their equipment is

better than ours," he told other Iraqis clutching their forms.

"Have you seen those guys sitting on the tanks wearing their water supplies in those special backpacks?"

Much of Saddam's once vaunted force of, notionally, 350,000, simply melted away in the face of the invasion in March. That let the Americans reach Baghdad in three weeks.

U.S. and British troops are trying to restore security, but the Iraqi army would be mostly guarding the frontiers.

However, as in the new interim Iraqi governing council which started work a week ago, the Iraqi military will remain limited in scope and answerable to the U.S. forces for some time yet.

National pride, need for cash

By midday, more than 100 men were processed at centres in Baghdad, Mosul

in the north and British-run Basra in the south. The first training will start in August in Kirkuk and the new army's first battalion of 1,000 men will graduate in October.

"It's kind of chaotic out here," said Private First Class Christopher Hart, trying to control the crowd.

The Iraqis will be trained by the U.S. company Vinnell.

Many Iraqis said they were suspicious of that foreign influence and control. But with few other jobs on offer, the \$60a month wage and other benefits attracted hundreds of hopefuls.

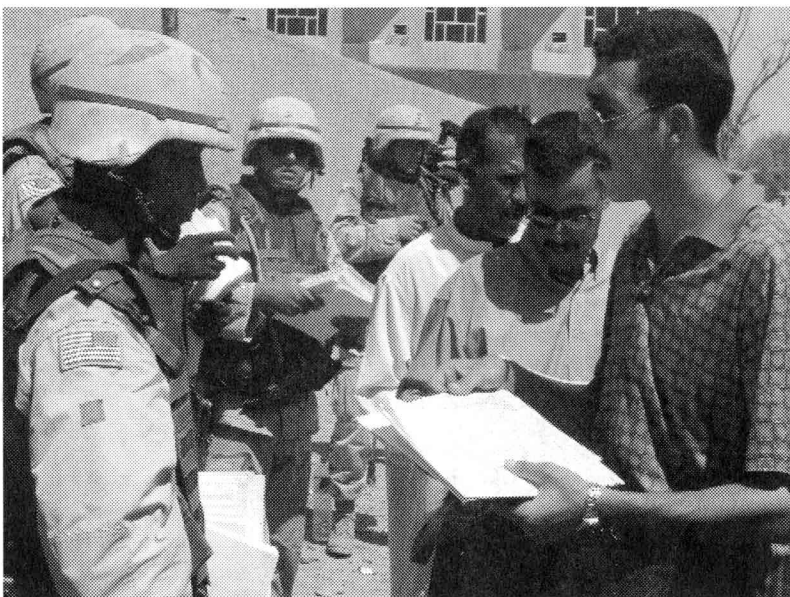
"I would not consider it as working with the Americans but more as defending my country," said Jawad Kathim, an 18-year-old labourer. Like the others, he had to respond to questions about his military experience, schooling and ethnic background.

Those with criminal pasts and senior members of Saddam's Baath party are excluded. Officers in the old army may apply but will have to start out again in the ranks.

After the U.S. authorities formally dissolved the old army in May, thousands of Iraqi soldiers demanded compensation, threatening suicide attacks. There is some sign that some of the daily attacks on U.S. troops are the work of former soldiers.

U.S. and British officials call the recruitment the "seed" of a future army whose final size will be determined by Iraqis themselves, once they have their own government.

But it is unlikely that Washington would smile at a force anything like the size of that used by Saddam, who turned one of the world's biggest armies against neighbours Iran and Kuwait.



Iraqi men receive application forms to join the new Iraqi Army from U.S. soldiers in Baghdad July 19. Training is scheduled to begin next month for the armed forces which is undergoing a renaissance. REUTERS

US urges Syria to do more

WASHINGTON, July 19 (Xinhua) — US Secretary of State Colin Powell said Saturday that Syria needs to do more though the country has made some progress in addressing US concerns.

"They have taken some minor steps with respect to the activities of terrorist organizations who are located and headquartered in Damascus," Powell said in an interview with Radio Monte Carlo.

"They have done a better job in making sure that people who are trying to escape from the justice of the Iraqi people are not finding haven in Syria," he said, but noting that "there is much more that Syria can do."

The secretary urged Syria to end efforts to seek weapons of mass destruction, stop supply of arms to

Hezbollah, and expel activists of Hamas and Palestinian Islamic Jihad based in Damascus.

Talking about Syria's partial troop withdrawal from Lebanon which began Monday, Powell said that he was pleased with the development but noted that Damascus must completely end its "occupation" of its neighboring country.

"We have to take note of the fact that Syria is occupying a country that is not part of Syria," said Powell, who paid a visit to Syria in May.

"I am pleased that in recent weeks Syria has withdrawn more of its troops, and I hope the day will be reached when, with the agreement of all the parties, the Syrian army will be back home," the top US diplomat said.

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For links with Taliban & Al-Qaida:

50 arrested in south Afghanistan

KABUL, July 19 (Xinhua) — Security authorities in south Afghanistan's Kandahar province have arrested some 50 people for suspected links with the ousted Taliban and terrorist al-Qaida network, a local security official said on Saturday.

"Security troops arrested have some 50 suspects in Kandahar province during the five-day operation this week with the participation of 400 soldiers," provincial security commander Akram Rezwali was quoted as saying by the state-run Bakhtar Information Agency (BIA).

The operation, launched earlier this week, aimed at purging remnants of the Taliban and their al-Qaida allies in the former stronghold province of the

radical movement after Taliban fighters made a bloody ambush on a local police station, the official said.

A group of gunmen stormed the police station in the remote district of Ghorak of the province on Tuesday, killing five policemen including the security commander of the district.

Rezwali said security troops also have seized about 80 Kalashnikov rifles, some landmines and other kinds of weapons during the operation.

"After the recent operation, security situation in Kandahar would improve," he said.

Meanwhile, security authorities in the southeastern province of Ghost on Saturday arrested a man who was planting explosives in Ghost city, the province capital, BIA said.

India's Hindu ruling party demands Ayodhya temple

RAIPUR, India, July 19 (Reuters) - India's ruling Hindu nationalists, with an eye on looming state and federal polls, demanded on Saturday the coalition government approve a controversial Hindu temple on a site holy to Muslims and Hindus.

The Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) national executive urged the government to pass a law to allow Hindu groups to build the temple in the northern city of Ayodhya, bypassing the courts which have been considering the issue for decades.

Although the motion is not binding on the government, its timing adds to pressure on the BJP from its hardline Hindu allies ahead of elections in key states this year and a national poll in 2004.

Ayodhya symbolises the often bloody divisions between India's Hindu majority and minority Muslims

and is one of the country's most emotional and controversial disputes.

In 1992, Hindu militants destroyed a 16th century mosque in Ayodhya on the site of what they say is the Hindu god Ram's birthplace, triggering communal riots that killed more than 3,000 people across the country.

The BJP won power on the back of a Hindu revivalist campaign, including support for a temple in Ayodhya, but the realities of coalition rule with secular parties meant it could not push the temple issue.

However, the party's stand has angered its Hindu allies, hardliners within the BJP and many of its core supporters and Ayodhya will become a key issue in the lead-up to the polls.

The BJP could only pass a law approving the temple and bypassing the courts with the support of its coalition partners, which is unlikely.

Congo's new government cancels first meeting

KINSHASA, July 19 (Reuters) - A new power-sharing government aimed at reuniting Congo after five years of war suffered another setback on Saturday when its first meeting was cancelled over a row about an oath, officials said.

The administration was launched on Thursday to steer the country to its first elections since independence from Belgium in 1960, representing the culmination of a long series of tortuous peace talks.

The information minister in the new government, Vital Kamerhe, said a planned inaugural meeting of the cabinet on Saturday had been cancelled while a dispute over an oath used for swearing-in ministers was resolved.

"The meeting will not take place. We are awaiting a decision over what should be done about the issue of swearing in, before proceeding," Kamerhe told Reuters.

Ministers from the Democratic Republic of Congo's two main rebel groups — RCD-Goma and MLC — boycotted a swearing-in ceremony for

the transitional administration on Friday, revealing early divisions.

The ministers objected to what they described as an oath of personal allegiance to President Joseph Kabila, who will head the new government. They said they wanted to take a pledge to uphold the institutions of the Congolese state instead.

Other participants in the new government, including representatives from Kabila's administration, civil society and political parties, went ahead without the rebels at the swearing-in ceremony on Friday.

The war in the former Zaire, which began in 1998 when Rwanda and Uganda invaded to back rebel groups, sucked in six foreign armies at its peak and has led to the deaths of an estimated three million people, mainly through hunger and disease.

Fighting has continued in the country's lawless and mineral-rich northeast, casting a cloud over the new government that is tasked with holding elections in two years' time.

Embattled HK leader gets backing from China

By Brian Rhoads and Alison Leung
BEIJING, July 19 (Reuters) - China threw besieged Hong Kong leader Tung Chee-hwa a political lifeline on Saturday with a strong endorsement of his leadership after massive protests led to demands for his resignation at home.

President Hu Jintao and Premier Wen Jiabao backed Tung's government, which was thrown into crisis after half a million people took to the streets to denounce an anti-subversion bill in the biggest protest since 1989.

"The government led by Tung Chee-hwa can definitely lead the Hong Kong people to overcome their current difficulties," Wen told reporters, adding he was confident the Hong Kong people would recognise the need to maintain stability in the territory.

Publicly, Beijing offered no sign of displeasure with Tung, who had sought — and won — its renewed blessing after three weeks of crisis, which led Tung to shelve the security bill and brought the resignations of two unpopular lieutenants.

But behind closed doors, diplomats said leaders might have pressed Tung to explain how he underestimated the July 1 protests, the largest since the Tiananmen Square massacre in Beijing in June 1989.

Tung appeared relaxed at Beijing's cavernous Great Hall of the People in meetings with Hu and Vice President Zeng Qinghong, a key ally of Tung's patron, former President Jiang Zemin.

The chief executive received a warm welcome from Hu, who according to the Xinhua news agency praised Tung for his "great contribution made in

successfully implementing the 'one country, two systems' formula governing Hong Kong and in maintaining its prosperity and stability.

Hu also endorsed Tung's climbdown on the controversial security bill, but indicated China still expected Tung to push for it. Hu said he believed it would eventually pass after broad consultations with the Hong Kong people.

Tung told reporters later he won backing from Wen to expand access for Hong Kong firms in telecommunications, tourism and financial services.

Beijing is keen to help Hong Kong revive its battered economy to assuage public anger and get people's minds off protest.

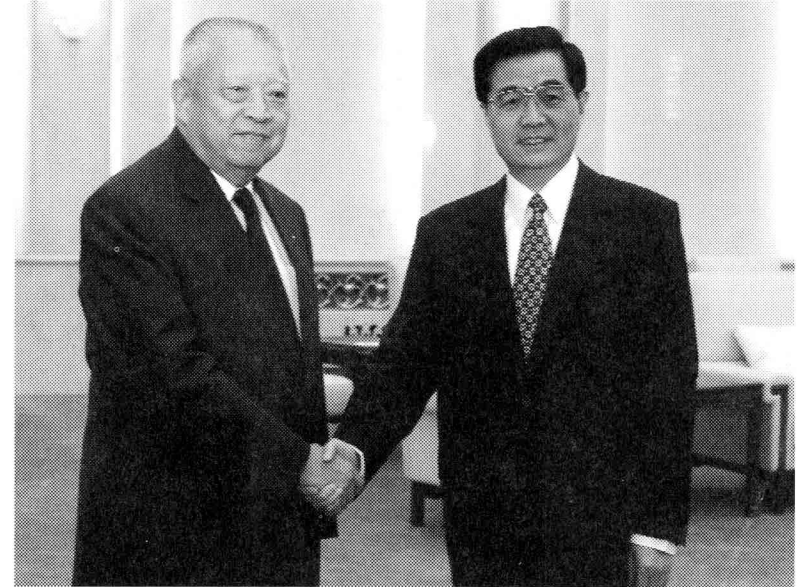
Biggest test yet

But behind the smiles, China is grappling with the biggest test yet of "one country, two systems", under which the former British colony returned to China in 1997. The crisis has cast doubt on Beijing's hopes to use the model to lure Taiwan back to the fold.

"I still believe 'one country, two systems' has powerful life in it, and cannot be shaken by anything," Wen said. "I still believe Hong Kong's future will be even better."

Diplomats said the scale of the protests had caught Beijing off guard and left it fumbling for solutions, its options limited as it cannot be seen to be overtly meddling in Hong Kong.

The anger sparked by the security bill has become a catalyst for the biggest pro-democracy push in Hong Kong in years, and China fears the sentiment



Hong Kong Chief Executive Tung Chee-hwa (L) shakes hands with Chinese President Hu Jintao at the Great Hall of the People in Beijing July 19, 2003. Tung, the man China entrusted to lead Hong Kong, received a warm welcome from China's leaders on Saturday as he sought their political and economic support after massive anti-government protests and widespread calls for more democracy.

might spill over to the mainland.

Tung ended his one-day trip Saturday night and returned home to begin rebuilding his government and find successors to fill the security chief and financial secretary posts vacated last week by deeply unpopular incumbents Regina Ip and Antony Leung.

Tung also said he would begin work immediately on efforts to expand market access to the mainland, and explain the impact on Hong Kong hopefully in a few weeks.

Economists say, however, there is little the government can do to kick start the economy until the U.S. economy —

its second largest trading partner — shows a significant recovery.

While unemployment is at a record high and consumer confidence is woefully weak, a stimulus package would aggravate a ballooning budget deficit, which is fast gobbling up the government's foreign reserves, they said.

Reviving the former shipping tycoon's unpopular image will be even harder. Seen as stubborn and distant, Tung has faced calls to quit for trying to railroad through the anti-subversion bill, which critics say tramples on basic human rights.

Blair under pressure over death of Iraq row "mole"

TOKYO, July 19 (Reuters) - British Prime Minister Tony Blair, looking tired and drawn, called on Saturday for restraint in the search for answers over the death of a government adviser on Iraq's weapons, as the affair cast a shadow over his Asian tour.

The death of defence ministry biologist David Kelly, whose body was found on Friday, has caused a political storm in Britain and raised questions over the government's handling of a dispute over Iraq's weapons that has eroded trust in Blair.

After meeting Japanese Prime Minister Junichiro Koizumi near Tokyo, an emotional Blair told a news conference that a judicial inquiry had been set up and people should await its conclusions.

"In the meantime, we should show respect and restraint, and let me express once again my deep sorrow for the tragedy that has come about," he said.

He tried to turn the focus of the news conference to the North Korean nuclear crisis, which is supposed to be a central issue on his Asian tour in talks with leaders of Japan, South Korea and China.

But British reporters travelling with Blair wouldn't let up on the Kelly story, with one asking if the death was on his conscience.

His voice occasionally cracking, Blair said he would say no more until the inquiry was complete. A question on whether he was considering resigning was left unanswered, so too was one asking if he had blood on his hands.

British ministers had identified Kelly as the probable source of a BBC report that alleged that government officials had "sexed up" evidence of Iraq's lethal weapons to justify the war.

Dramatic twist

The death of Kelly, who led a team of biological weapons inspectors in Iraq after the 1991 Gulf War, marked a dramatic twist in a political crisis over Britain's intelligence before the Iraq conflict.

News of his death, which British police said on Saturday was the result of a slashed wrist, hit sterling on international currency markets as strategists said it further damaged the government's credibility, undermined by the raging weapons row.

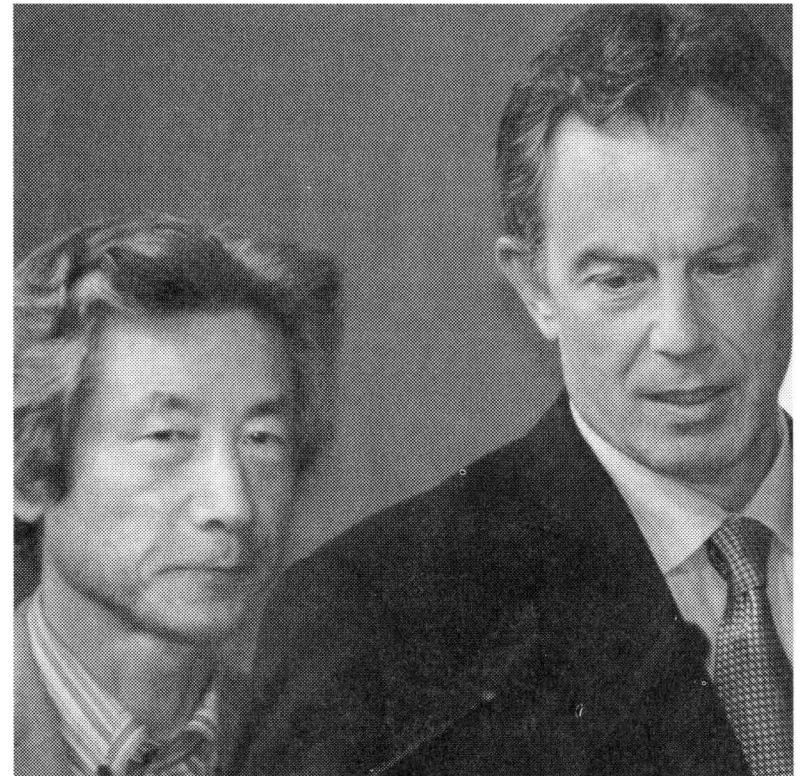
The opposition has called for Blair's resignation, saying he exaggerated the case for war.

Kelly's death puts a question mark over the future of a top Blair aide, communications chief Alastair Campbell, and a number of government ministers who had named Kelly as the likely source of the BBC report.

The affair looked set to overshadow Blair's week-long tour of the Far East, but his spokesman insisted on Saturday that the trip would not be cut short, as the opposition had demanded.

Kelly was grilled in parliament on Tuesday after admitting he had met a BBC correspondent who aired the report over the alleged doctoring of intelligence.

Two days after the inquisition, Kelly, visibly uncomfortable in the media spotlight, went missing. British police said on Friday they had found a body matching his description. They were not treating his death as suspicious.



British Prime Minister Tony Blair (R) is escorted by Japanese Prime Minister Junichiro Koizumi as they enter a news conference room following their summit talks at the hot spring mountain resort of Hakone in Japan July 19. Blair, who hailed Japan's role in maintaining global security, called for an end to speculation over the death of a government scientist who was embroiled in a row over the Iraq war as the affair threatens to bring huge political fallout at home.

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UK police say WMD scientist died of slit wrists

LONDON, July 19 (Reuters) - British police said on Saturday a WMD scientist whose death has plunged the government into crisis had died of a slashed wrist, leaving little doubt he had taken his own life.

"I can confirm that the body at Harrowdown Hill that was found yesterday at 9:20 a.m. has been identified as David Kelly," a police spokesman told a televised news conference.

Kelly, a mild-mannered biologist and expert in weapons of mass destruction, had been named by the government as a possible "mole" and the source for a BBC news report accusing officials of hyping intelligence about Iraqi weapons to justify war in Iraq.

"The post-mortem has revealed that the cause of death was haemorrhaging from a wound to his left wrist. The injury is consistent with having been caused by a bladed object. We've recovered a knife and an open packet of Coproxamol tablets at the scene," the police spokesman said. Coproxamol is a painkiller.

"Whilst our inquiries are continuing, there is no indication at this stage of any other party being involved," he said.



Police search a path near the home of former U.N weapons inspector Dr David Kelly in Southmoor, Oxfordshire, July 19. Kelly, who was dragged into the heart of a row over whether Britain's government warped intelligence to justify war in Iraq, disappeared on Thursday after taking a countryside walk from his family home. A body matching his description was found on Friday and is expected to be formally identified by Thames Valley Police on Saturday.

REUTERS

Albania ministers quit in fury at PM's "hypocrisy"

TIRANA, July 19 (Reuters) - Albanian Foreign Minister Ilir Meta resigned late on Friday amid a power struggle with Prime Minister Fatos Nano in a move that will deal a blow to the ruling Socialists' prospects in the October local elections.

Angered by Nano's comments during a cabinet meeting, Meta resigned shortly before midnight on Friday in protest at Nano's "nihilistic, tendentious and denigrating" criticism.

"I resign because I do not want to be part of your governing falseness and hypocrisy. I consider your actions as part of your struggle to put the government under your absolute personal control," Meta told Nano according to a statement.

European Integration Minister Sokol Nako, a supporter of Meta, also quit on Saturday.

Just two weeks ago, the ruling Socialist Party called a truce in the long-running spat between Nano and Meta, who is also deputy prime minister, until after local elections scheduled for October 12.

Nano, who succeeded Meta as premier a year ago after launching a campaign to clean up the Socialist administration, said Meta should have defended his own record rather than take an "unexpected and incoherent step".

It is not clear whether Meta will try to block the nomination of new ministers using the votes of the MPs who back him.

Germany to cut Afghan deployment by September

BERLIN, July 19 (Reuters) - Germany said on Saturday it would cut the size of its force in an international peacekeeping mission in Afghanistan to 1,500 from 2,300 by September.

A Defence Ministry spokesman said the reduction had nothing to do with a suicide attack on German troops in June that killed four soldiers and wounded more than 30.

He said fewer German soldiers would be needed.

"We were a lead nation for a half-year and it was always clear the size of the force would be reduced afterwards," he said, referring to the command of the 5,000-strong International Security Assistance Force (ISAF) providing security in Kabul.

Canada plans to become the biggest contributor of troops to the ISAF in Kabul when NATO takes over command in August. Canada will deploy some 1,800 troops.

Seven German soldiers were killed

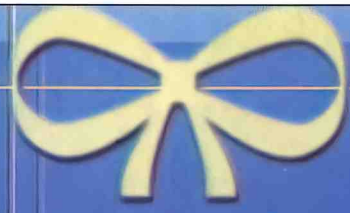
when their helicopter crashed on a mission near Kabul just before Christmas.

Some politicians in Germany called after the attack last month for its soldiers to be withdrawn, while others urged the government to increase the size of the deployment.

ISAF, drawn from 29 countries and currently under German-Dutch command, is separate from the 11,500-strong U.S.-led taskforce hunting Taliban holdouts in Afghanistan.

The past few months have seen a spate of rocket and bomb attacks on ISAF blamed on fugitives of the Taliban, its al Qaeda allies and forces of renegade warlord Gulbuddin Hekmatyar who oppose the presence of foreign troops on Afghan soil.

German troops have been in the mission since December 2001. The mandate for the mission was extended by parliament for a second year in 2002 and will expire in December unless renewed by parliament.



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YT Business

Authority and opposition lash out at corruption

By MAHYOUB AL-KAMALI
YEMEN TIMES STAFF

The authority and opposition forces have been unanimous to a great extent that corruption is creeping steadily inside the government institutions in Yemen like the incurable cancer. Both are also in accord that it needs surgical operation to be taken out for good. Nevertheless the two sides do not offer clear solutions for uprooting corruption in those institutions.

By diagnosing corruption the government admits that there has been manipulation in the distribution of public jobs and the opposition says that the seminar-

ies of the corrupt have exploited certain criteria and controls for distributing jobs in their favour and therefore committed certain violations.

On its part the government is of the opinion that corruption existing in the judiciary apparatus, the civil service, and the financial departments must be controlled and violators should stand trial. But the measures are meager and would not be implemented due to not determining the corrupt and sending them to justice.

Specialists confirm that complication of measures and their non-elasticity, violation of regulations and laws, inefficiency of the judiciary system and its administration led to abstention of many busi-

nessmen and industrialists from resorting to courts especially also because of prolonged procedures and conflicting legislation related to investment and investors.

Corruption in endowments: In this regard the council of ministers urged the ministry of endowments to take measures to safeguard endowments and deter those who try to infringe upon them whereas corruption has affected endowments estates and the law of legal endowment. Large properties that were endowed to persons and families have been changed upon various names and justifications. Corruption has also benefited from endowments' properties that have been dealt with as private proper-

ties, and monopoly contracts have become prevalent on the legal endowment.

In reality the so-called lands and estates of the state have been seized by some influential personalities under very weak justifications under the very nose and help from concerned authorities. Despite the existence of the apparatus of audition and accountability, the Yemeni opposition says its performance is weak compared to strength of corruption lobby. That criticism has led to changing the head of the apparatus and replaced by another official in the hope he would manage to make accountable those who violate and abuse their authority and duties.

The opposition also says the faithful employees working for official institutions and departments do not receive allowances and are not promoted to higher positions because they work silently, whereas those whose production is weak entertain privileges and travel allowances.

This contest between the opposition and the government denotes the volume of the problem of corruption inside the government establishments. This situation needs practical measures to replace the corrupt and adopt the reward and punishment principle and transparency in running those institutions to attain improvement of the economic performance in general.

To achieve goals of the millennium

Yemen needs \$30 billion till 2015

By YEMEN TIMES STAFF

Acting resident representative of the United Nations Development Program (UNDP) in Sana'a Maeen Kareem has estimated Yemen's needs for realization of objectives of development till the year 2015 an annual growth by 8% and to bridge the financial gap for around \$30 billion in the coming 15 years.

In the ceremony of inaugurating the world Human Development report of 2003, Mr Maeen said the role played by Yemen in preparing the first report on human development for the third millennium had made it occupy the second place among the Arab countries.

Dr Abu Bakr al-Qirbi, Yemen's foreign minister has affirmed the importance of the report for the contribution to help the poor countries with the aim

of ending the economic and development problems in their respective countries. Dr Al-Qirbi called upon the advanced countries to help the poor countries in the third world to surmount the problems they are suffering in various life areas. The Yemeni minister has praised the role played by the donor countries for Yemen especially in development areas. The development report concentrated this year on fight-

ing poverty, improvement of woman situations, narrowing gaps of gender, reduction of debts which the poor countries are unable to bear, such as Yemen. The report includes a confirmation on Yemen's endeavour for achieving some five targets, namely, the economic development and diversification of the economy base, development of human resources, improvement of the poor life through developing the infra-

structure and enhancement of the systems of social enthusiasm, development of administration and rule and enhancement of partnership and cooperation.

The national strategy for the reduction of poverty has defined the period 2003-200 as a time space for implementation of primary policies and programs for human development in Yemen.

The Embassy of The United States of America announces for an immediate job opening within its organization.

“Electrician”

The position is located in the Facility Maintenance Section, American Embassy, under the immediate supervision of the Facility Engineer and the Facility Maintenance Manager (FMM). Employee will be responsible for performing electrical repairs, trouble shoots and preventing maintenance on the Embassy's complex. State-of-the-art electrical systems and equipment including but not limited to electrical installations, modifications, repairs, etc. as deemed necessary in connection with all electrical systems and such equipment as switch gear, UPS systems, all circuit breakers, transformers, switches, fusing starters and control panels and similar equipment. The incumbent may also run new line and installs new equipment and must be trained in high voltage equipment. Also, assists in performing housing maintenance, preparing reports necessary for record keeping, and assisting on computer with work control system as needed.

Required Qualifications:

Education: Graduate of secondary school is required, apprenticeship, or college specialized as applicable for commercial industrial electrical installations is desirable.

Prior work Experience: At least 3 year at journeyman level and 2 years of additional experience with high voltage systems is required.

Language Proficiency: Must be able to read and write English at level III and have well spoken English skills.

Knowledge: Knowledge of the US electrical code standards and a background in electrical systems for large commercial building inclusive of electrical theory transformers, loading and line losses 1) electrical load distribution including all calculations as well as detailed knowledge of high voltage systems.

Abilities: Ability to use a variety of powered and non-powered handtools as well as ability to act in emergencies such as power restoration thru emergency generation and UPS systems. Ability to interpret wiring schematics.

Grade/Salary: *EFM/MOH/Non Ordinarily Resident: FP-9 (to be confirmed by Washington)

* Ordinarily Resident: ERR-05

How to apply: All interested nationals should complete OF-612 or submit a current C.V. (with awards, recommendation letters, copies of degrees earned) that addresses the qualifications and requirements of the position as listed above and send it to the Embassy Personnel Office, American Embassy, Dhahr Himyar Street, P. O. Box 22347, Sanaa, Yemen, Tel: 303-155, no later than July 30, 2003.

NOTE: All ordinarily resident applicants must be residing in country and have the required work and residency permits to be eligible for consideration.

Priority to industrial sector, YR 9 billion cost of new investment projects

YEMEN TIMES STAFF

The investment projects in various sectors, registered during the past three months, amounted to 81 with estimated cost of YR 9 billion and 700 million. Statistics issued by the state body for investments lately mention that the projects registered during the period from April to June 2003 have been distributed various areas in the country: 51 projects in the capital secretariat, 15 in the governorate of Hudeida, 8 in the governorate of Aden, 5 in Taiz and 3 in Hadramout.

The statistics also mentioned that the projects include food industries, fishing and exportation, iron, engineering and electrical industries and building swimming pools and recreation parks and others. The project would provide work opportunities for about 2000 people at the beginning of operating them, a result the official circles hope for reducing the rate of unemployment.

Industrial projects have occupied the first priority of a total number of 46 projects out of the 81, at a cost of YR 5 billion. The second place is the share of services sector including 14 projects costing YR 997 million and 114 thousand. The tourist projects take the third place including 12 projects costing more than YR one billion, 400 million and 300 thousand.

Pursuant to the statistics the majority of investors are from local private sector and others are Arabs, most of them from Saudi Arabia.

According to this new batch of projects, the total investment projects in Yemen registered with the state

investment body, since 1992 and till March 2003, reaches 4448 investment projects at a cost of YR 826 billion, 574 million and 548 thousand which they contributed to creating about 144 thousand jobs.

Call

To: Public Relation at the justice, Ministry, and Singapore government

I am, Mohammed Ahmed Ali Al-Tway resident of Al-Mansoorah in Aden, the legal heir.

Judge Abdulhafiz Al-Yosifi and authentication qalam altawtheeq Mohammed bin Mohammed Al-Dailami instituted a general power of attorney to a person living abroad so as to authorize him to sell possessions of Ms. Amnah Aboobaker Mohammed Lajam who is more than 102 years old and who resides in Singapore. Assts of the mentioned lady were sold with this attorney which is kept in the High Court in Singapore.

I plead taking both men responsible for their act and accounting them before justice also the writer of the attorney Lutf Mohammed Al-Izzi.

Yemeni national Lutfi Abubakr Lajam has taken the mentioned attorney and used it to avail the property worth 3 million USD. He has Singaporean nationality or NRIC No. S2644162E

The mentioned man modified the selling documents after three months of the death that took place on 29th September 1999, which is an illegal act.

The Road Ahead

The Yemeni approach

By RAIDAN A. AL-SAQQAF
r_saqqaf@hotmail.com

Business in marketing, and marketing is advertising, and the advertising industry in Yemen is a bunch of so-called advertising agencies which aren't working hard enough to make good advertising, exceptions are always there but what is the problem with our advertising industry?

Yemen advertising agencies have to work much harder than they think they should, for example pointing out the matter of cost, what should advertising always been treated as a heavy expense? Why does it cost a lot if you need to come up with an innovative advertisement and go overseas for execution, get materials from the far east and make the promotional campaign in Dubai, can't we build successful and innovative advertising with our own intellectual property?

So the problem may be with people, good talents are always exported because as a friend of mine quoted, Yemen is the graveyard for talent. It is only appreciated when it's dead. And in turn advertising as well as many other creative and talent bases businesses suffer.

But how can we retain such talents in Yemen? There is that fine difference between managing efficiently and inspiring powerful loyalties, and in the advertising business most creative people do not work for the money and like their pay as much they like their work and job environment. Times are slowly, and if this bunch of using their own intellectual talent, I hope they die a quick death.

Advertising is a very important yet sensitive task; in advertising there is a group of people whom you want to talk to; the "who-to-say-to" And you want to change their minds and perceptions with a message; the "what-to-say". The advertisement you create is "the-how-you-say-it", which is the most critical of all. Only when advertising agencies think about this carefully they cannot go wrong, at least they may stop the mumbo-jumbo they are doing.

Endnote: We do have to meet our advertising peers overseas, but with our own intellectual talents and our advertising agencies.

Words of Wisdom



It is in my belief that grass-roots level organizations such as unions and syndicates are vital contributors to the system because of their broad-based interaction. They give tangible meaning to popular participation within a democratic context. Therefore, any effort to broaden the participation base of decision-making in this country should, in part, involve the unions and syndicates. This means letting these organizations do their job.

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



OUR OPINION

Law and order is all we want

A fabulous and excellent remark done by President Ali Abdullah Saleh in his latest interview on al-Jazeera Satellite Channel was "Yemen of law and order". This is the key statement that would have Yemen take off again and become a modern state just like many others.

It is quite straightforward and common sense to see that establishing a state of law and order is instrumental for the welfare and progress of any country.

Furthermore, we cannot deny that Yemen has gone far beyond the acceptable limits concerning the implementation of law and order. We have reached a stage, where the implementation of final court rulings is the exception while the un-implementation of those rulings are the norm.

If you sit alone and think of Yemen's real problems you would realize that they all come out as consequences from the failure of the government to apply the law on all citizens equally.

We can even take case studies and see what is going on. Firstly, the implementation of judicial rulings rarely takes place. And even if it does take place, it is implemented because the verdict was in favor of the powerful party, who pays bribes to have police forces and authorities move to do their duty. If the ruling were to be in favor of the weaker side, he may eventually die before implementing one letter of the final judicial ruling.

When we come to the judiciary system itself, we would also realize that corruption and mismanagement have caused tremendous damage to the so-called 'independent' judiciary system. There is an enormous number of unjust rulings that were applied either because they were bribe-driven or because of the inefficiency and incompetence of the judge(s) involved.

When we come to the other aspects of implementing the law, we would see that because of lack of supervision in governmental institutions, employees usually break the law and do not process applications without getting bribes and gifts. This is the case for the whole ministry from top to bottom. The only difference is that the unmonitored-minister gets illegal commissions in the millions, while the lower-ranking employees get them in the thousands of Yemeni rials. So it ends up that government authorities do not operate properly resulting in a weaker health, education, and civil service system that signals the weakness in enforcing law and order.

But there is always an excuse that the government comes up with when attempting to enforce the law, and that is "we have no resources" to do so. Well, if we have a look at the huge commissions, bribes, and cash presented to ministers and deputies and other officials, we would realize that this money is more than enough to cover the needed raises in salaries of government employees. Resources are there but are not appropriately channeled. This requires a lot of effort and monitoring by the head of state to his cronies and the ones below them to ensure that a proper system is in place. The media can then play the role of a watchdog to monitor things on the ground.

In brief, it is possible to have the law enforced on every citizen, no matter how powerful he is, but it needs our president's commitment to do so. He looked committed on the screen, and I believe he sincerely meant what he said. He has said the words, now it is time for action

The Editor



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First English Newspaper in Yemen, founded in 1991
by Dr. Abdulaziz Al-Saqqaf

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Terrorism, dead-end with no future

YAHYA RABAH
AMBASSADOR OF STATE OF PALESTINE
FOR THE YEMEN TIMES

Terrorism, an accusation that we in the Arab world carry and pay a heavy price for. Terrorism that distorts the image of the Islamic and Arab world and makes us scared creatures hiding in caves of the past and it does not allow us to move forward and see the light. From the beginning we say that this terrorism has nothing to do neither from objectives or from reasons with the legal resistance which nations maintain to fight for their freedom against occupation and injustice that they face.

On occasions like that, when cruelty prevails and evil dominates, freedom fighters will to sacrifice their lives for the sake of their countries even if it means losing everything. And so they are forced to carry whatever arms they could avail in order to combat occupation. And this is a noble mission that has no relation whatsoever to terrorism. Because terrorism, a phenomenon which some extremist groups adopt in order to impose themselves under a religious, social or national umbrella or to appoint itself as a decision maker with no legal authority has become a reason for all other legal and justified groups to be fought because their image is distorted and they are put in the same category.

Although our holy religion respects human life and glorifies humanity and defends all aspects of ordered life, terrorism uses this religion against its principles as a cover for its so un-Islamic acts through taking bits and pieces of incomplete texts of the Quran or interpreting Quranic verses to suite their own whims.

It is astonishing how this religion that had come to unite humanity and to establish peace and justice is used as an excuse for war and conflict. Yet in order to combat all those misconceptions and establish awareness of the true essence of Islam that must be spread and stand against any forces that aim to spread terrorism in the name of Islam. It is enough to review honestly the recent history of our countries to realize the amount of unjustified deaths and mass killings that were committed because of this conflict. Not only within the Arab and Islamic nations but also this has given the external powers authority and means to interfere in our internal affairs and look down upon us.

Confusion

This terrorism has stamped our Arab and Islamic nations in the eyes of world with an ugly image. And in order to rectify the situation we need to join forces and work hard to establish real Islamic nations and retrieve the essence of Islam for us and to show the world what the truth is. This is

essential for the happiness and development of our nations' future. We know clearly that terrorism is not linked to a certain community, but it could exist in any form and in any place or time. And to link terrorism with Islam is only a trick played by certain powers that aim to destroy Islam and the Muslim world. What the terrorists fail to realize is that this is a double-edged weapon that eventually harms all. And consequently no one is saved from the harms of it. We must act quickly, all must ask themselves questions and answer honestly. Because only if we are true with ourselves we can find the core of the problem and eliminate it. We should have freedom in thinking and in action, and not be isolated or confounded within red lines and be run around the same circle. We should break through and join the rest of the world in the developments of this century, and combat terrorism whatsoever without falling in the traps made by the image and stereotypes. Firstly we must admit that yes terrorism exists, then we must understand it and start arming ourselves in this hi-tech world where mass destruction weapons and star wars are dominating. Where a unipole system is dominating and controls the world. We must stand up for ourselves and our nations and not drown in our blood arguing about issues that have been decided and solved by our ancestors 15 centuries ago.

When Yemeni employees suffer

ABDULWAHAB ABDULQAWI AL SOFI
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Yemeni employees who work in the private sectors are quite persecuted. They are suffering from their managers. Their rights are plundered. Their voices are thrown in the limbo. Abusive instructions on them are applied. Managers enjoy the suffering of their own employees. They make employee reluctant to do their work properly. They give you a fake smile in which you can read many meanings of duplicity and deceptions. Instead of private sectors render thanks to God that they get labors working with simple salaries, they kill youth ambition and potential energy. They exploit the necessary needs of youth and the bad economical status for many families. Yet, they are obliged to continue. The difficulties of life impose the slavery on them. The final arbiter drives them to this bad position. Employees have

no alternative but to accept this opportunism and tyranny. They are in between hammer of private sector and the anvil of bad livelihood. This is because no one can support them. The laws are completely against them. We try to make a union demanding only simple rights but are strictly repressed. In general, people who work in the private sector need help. For instance, the labor affairs office in Hodeidah is helpless. Instead of supporting employees to improve their salaries, the office conspires with the companies to extinguish our fire and eagerness for change. Hence, we are burnt internally. In Hodeidah, shipping companies have independent laws against Yemeni employees. Employees collect thousands of dollars to them against only YR 10,000 salary. He must calculate accurately. He must not forget even by mistake one single dollar; otherwise the entire amount will be certainly debited on him. Yet, Yemeni employees have no authority to negotiate their salaries. It is prohibited to discuss any

comparison between Yemeni employees' salaries and those of foreigner 'experts' working with huge salaries in the same company. Even though it is cruelly illegal for Yemeni employees to throw out their local employees in their company, yet it happens all the time. According to recent statistics, fifty percent of local employees became either crazy due to liability of heavy debts, or catch dangerous diseases such as diabetes, blood pressure and heart diseases. This human disaster is happening repeatedly without our knowledge. We have many well-qualified employees who don't get a job. If we give them an opportunity and confidence, they will be replacing foreign employees. It is a pity that foreign employees are usually nominated to be our bosses as if they were the only citizens, while we are not! I have a specific question, for which I have been looking for an answer since 1995. When will our government establish a clear policy to replace foreigner employees by local employees? Will it ever happen?

Letters to the Editor

Again we see another game

Does the history repeat itself? Definitely, the history revolves along with good and bad things. When we recollect the events of ante-second Gulf war in 1991, we will certainly realize that there is no big difference between the peace process and the road map which both were drafted by the same hands.

After Saddam had invaded Kuwait, Bush - the father departed what was called 'the peace process' and promised the Arab leaders to put an end for the Palestinian-Israeli conflict.

President Bush skillfully manipulate the crisis by reassuring that he will oblige Israeli government to sit down with Palestinian negotiators, and actually he could bring both sides to Washington. About ten years of exhausting negotiations, nothing could they achieve because most of the Israeli government took hard lines in its policy with Palestinians. By the summer of 2000th, Sharon broke into Al-Aqsa mosque, declaring that the game is over.

Now, the Engineer is President Bush - the son - who had departed the road

map, making use of his father's policy. Bush wanted to build an alliance like that one his father did. To do so, he has to present a new vision for the Palestinian issue, so that he can get some support from the Arab countries in the region.

Having war on Iraq finished, Bush's vision appeared to be another game, which would likely turn into mirage.

Ali Alward

Government failure persisting

As a Yemeni passport holder, it seems that the environment around you makes you feel with no value as no one gives respect even to the name Yemen especially in Gulf States. I wish the Yemeni government all the best soon as it will have to work hard to prevent failure due to inefficiency in managing the country.

The Yemen Times may be able to make a sample poll asking people if current governments have failed to rule their countries and if they approve another occupying force to rule them to make their life better than it is now.

Letters to the Editor

The recent UN report made by professionals from Arab States attested to the failure of all Arab countries economic and social development due to many factors. I am sure you have read that report. I think the report should be frontline news everyday for Yemen.

A. Ghalib
Aghalib2002@yahoo.com

Strong Arab unity should emerge

As a non-Arab, and a non-Muslim at that, I have no right other than that of an interested observer to comment on Yemeni affairs.

Yet your plea for Arab unity in Issue 651 of the Yemen Times was so eloquent as to demand a supportive word.

Of course individual countries, particularly those who have cherished a protective isolation as Yemen has until recently, are beginning to realize that only by forming alliances with neighbors can their voices be heard in an increasingly globalizing world.

And, as you point out, the Arab world, with its unifying language and religion, to say nothing of broad cultural ties, has perhaps the greatest

advantage in this respect.

Why then, you ask, has such unity not been achieved? And the answer is simple and obvious, though perhaps hard to stomach.

In a recent visit to Yemen it became clear to me that before the Yemeni people can fully enjoy some of the benefits they deserve as individuals, the social problems that continue to exist need to be worked out... education and public health being perhaps foremost amongst them. All Yemenis understand, I know, the other great problems that confront your country, but it would be impolitic, of me to mention them here.

With those problems dealt with, not only in Yemen but in many, many areas of the Arab world, then maybe one day in the not-too-distant future a genuine and forceful Arab League will emerge to take its place amongst the leaders of the world.

Yemen is a beautiful country, and its people are resourceful, intelligent and often beautiful too. I hope to see you all again soon.

Michel Dignand
Australia
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COMMON SENSE



By Hassan Al-Haifi

How fundamentalist are "fundamentalist Moslems"?

This observer was struck by two items last week that are surely worth comment by any Moslem who has a sense of the real fundamentals of Islam and is disturbed by the ugly misconceptions that are being propagated by so called fundamentalists, who have taken it upon themselves to act on behalf of the Lord to pass judgment on not only on their fellow men, but even on their fellow Moslems. The first was the disturbing shocking news that a bunch of mentally deranged hooligans went into a mosque in Karachi where hundreds of faithful Moslems were carrying out their prayers. Once inside they let loose a random barrage of gunfire and explosive ordnance that took the lives of some 50 fellow Moslems and injured hundreds of others. Let us make it clear that, by this horrible act and any other horrible acts they have undertaken before, these murderers have come out of the fold of the faithful. This disturbing news surely does not speak very well of these hate mongers among these fanatic Moslems, who have taken it upon themselves to eliminate all that is good in Islam and project an ugly image of Islam that they will in the end be accountable for and be damned in hell forever. There is absolutely no fundamental root in Islam that justifies such insanity whatsoever. These people and those who stand behind them are nothing but deranged morons, who have been given arms and money to distort the image of Islam and create great schisms amongst the faithful grassroots of Islam throughout the world, thus serving the purposes of the enemies of Islam so faithfully. The object of this bloody madness is to implant sectarian strife among Moslems so as to have Moslems busy themselves with trivial conflicts that do not serve the religion or the faithful in anyway whatsoever.

All faithful Moslems should condemn such horrible acts and declare them out of the context of anything that is attributable to Islam. In fact they should damn the perpetrators of such maniacal act and demand that people in every Moslem country, who fall within such organized cliques (unfortunately such maniacs have been allowed to become organized in almost every Moslem country thanks to the petrodollars that have been funneled to plant such clandestine gangs) be eliminated once and for all.

Isn't it enough all the damage such distorted freaks "in Islam" have caused to the nation? In fact, all the suffering that the Moslems are presently undergoing from Chechnya to South Africa and from New York to the Philippines (going Eastward) stem from two sources: these freaky clandestine "fundamentalists" who have wreaked havoc throughout the world and which Islam is completely innocent of and the rulers of most of the Moslem world, who have failed to create the proper political and social environment that would not provide the breeding grounds for such horrible renditions of "Islam" to generate, if they have not themselves have not helped in their development (with returns of funding and political support).

Another incident involves a report on "Tablegh Jameat", which is a missionary group that supposedly aims for the propagation of Islam among Moslems and non-Moslems alike. This so called fundamentalist group has been in existence for some seventy years, starting in the Indian Sub-continent and spreading throughout the world, with obvious funding from petrodollars. While the group seeks to project a supposedly fundamental platform, following in the footsteps of the "Prophet Mohammed (PAUH) and his early followers" (we are not aware that these early predecessors wore baggy pants and beards that hung to their knees), it seems to instill many misguided notions of Islam that unfortunately lead to the fanaticism that we see in Algeria, Pakistan, Saudi Arabia and other countries, where such notions have been allowed to become standard norms amongst followers of such fanatics. One corny illustration of these fanatics was a lecture given by one of their supposedly learned "clerics" (there are no clerics in Islam) to a few women, with the man sitting in one room and his women listeners sitting in another room with both rooms locked up and God knows who was holding the key! If that is not one of the corniest renditions of Islam that one has ever heard of, then what is it? Mind you, this is happening in the United States of all places. Yet, this group seeks to project an image of innocence and downright piety, while it is noted that many of the known hardcore radical fanatics that have carried senseless acts of violence emanate from this so called missionary group. What is amazing is that this group has branches throughout the world and obviously has ample funds for its seemingly innocent programs.

It is time that Moslems throughout the world rise up against such small groups that have been able to recruit and brainwash thousands in their fold, and allowed to set up armed paramilitary operations wherever they exist. It is also time to reinstall an important fundamental of Islam amongst all Moslems, which is found in the Quran: "Whoever kills a soul, is like one who kills every soul on Earth and whoever gives life to a soul is like one who gives life to every soul on Earth", this includes all souls, Moslem and non-Moslem. We therefore can't think of anything more fundamental than for these so called fundamentalists to learn and abide by before they can ever be labeled as "fundamentalists".

False Iraqi-Niger nuclear weapons claim is old news

BY MICHAEL HESS
BBSNEWS

We reported a US State Department release about the Iraq-Niger uranium forgery on March 14th, 2003 that related a press pool question about that topic asked during a regular State Department briefing and answered later in a statement released to the press: "Did we send anyone to Niger to explore this issue?"

Answer: "We did not send State Department personnel to Niger for the specific purpose of discussing this matter. However, our Embassy in Niamey raised the issue with Nigerian officials on several occasions and we were satisfactorily assured that they did not sell uranium to Iraq."

Almost four months later, Democrats are belatedly questioning the currently stunning denials by the Bush administration, maybe the most spectacular of which appeared in NPR on Sunday. Senator Jay Rockefeller (D-WV) said "I cannot believe that Condi Rice... directly, from Africa, pointed the finger at George Tenet, when she had known — had to have known — a year before the State of the Union."

"The entire intelligence community has been very skeptical about this from the very beginning," Rockefeller says. "And she has her own director of intelligence, she has her own Iraq and Africa specialists, and it's just beyond me that she didn't know about this, and that she has decided to make George Tenet the fall person. I think it's dishonorable."

Photo at left by an unknown photographer, August 3, 1965 "Da Nang, Vietnam...A young Marine private waits on the beach during the Marine landing" 1998 print. Records of the U. S. Marine Corps. Photo to the right shows Private First Class Heather Cosby, Marine Attack Squadron-211, tightens a bolt to secure an inert practice bomb to an AV-8B Harrier, March 2003. Photo by: Sgt. Molly C. King, US Marines. BBSNews March 16th, 2003. "Not a Dime's Worth of Difference." On the 16th of March

2003, BBSNews opined prior to the war: [There's] "Not a Dime's Worth of Difference" between what's gonna happen in Iraq and another good old fashioned guerilla war we had thought we left behind us, Vietnam. At least 79 US troops have been killed in Iraq since President Bush claimed the US-Iraq war over. US Defense Secretary Donald Rumsfeld has revealed that the monthly cost of the continuing US presence in Iraq will be double earlier estimates. US troops have pulled out of Fallujah according to the Washington Post. Citing rising tensions and repeated attacks troops have been pulled back to give more control of the city to Iraqi's who may or may not be well trained enough to control the city.

No weapons of mass destruction have yet been found. Many Americans that supported the "pre-emptive" attack on Iraq by the United States, who are used to X-Files type US government technology as being all seeing and all knowing, may now start to question the very basis of the US-Iraq war. And they may start questioning the value of such technology and all the other foreign and domestic policy decisions that are based upon "intelligence" from such sources.

A State Department release at the onset of the US-Iraq war stated "in the Authorization for Use of Military Force Against Iraq Resolution of 2002 (Public Law 107-243), that:

"Iraq both poses a continuing threat to the national security of the United States and international peace and security in the Persian Gulf region and remains in material and unacceptable breach of its international obligations by, among other things, continuing to possess and develop a significant chemical and biological weapons capability, actively seeking a nuclear weapons capability, and supporting and harboring terrorist organizations."

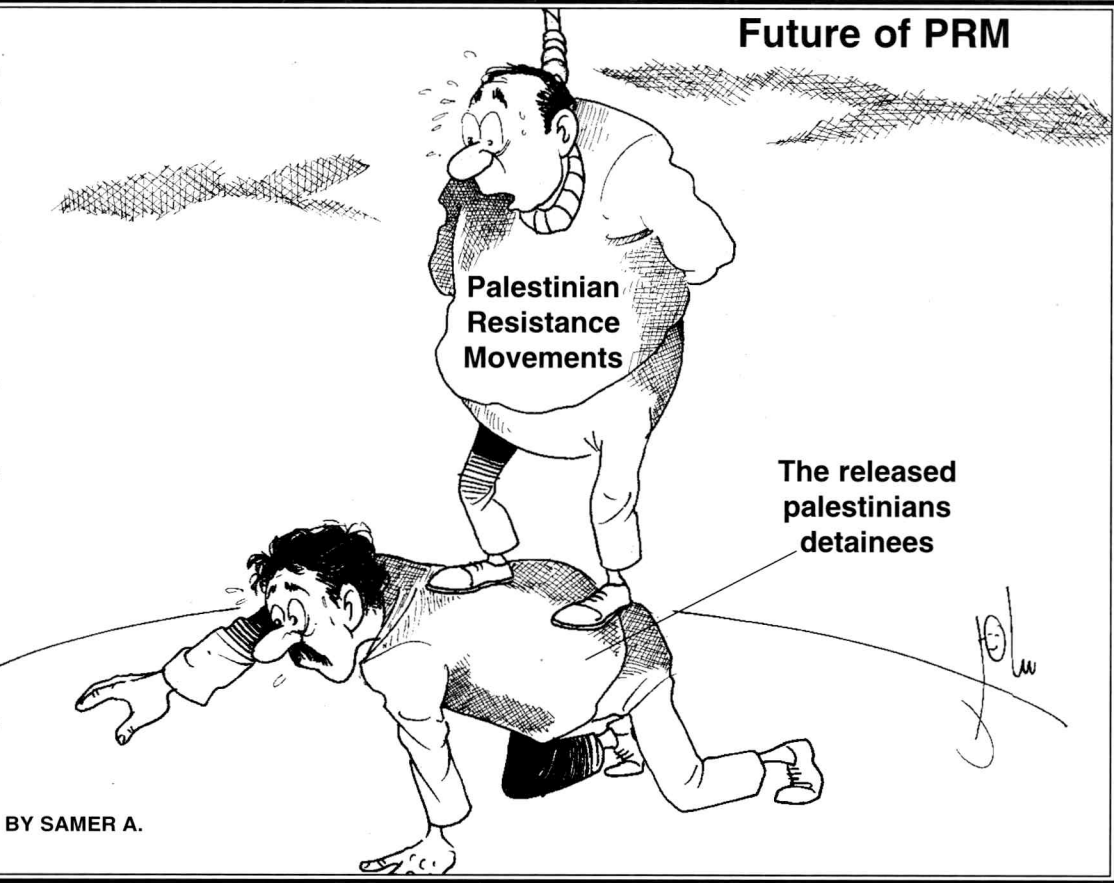
Two days before, Vice President Dick Cheney said on Meet the Press: "We are now faced with a situation, especially in the aftermath of 9/11, where the threat to the United States is increasing, and over time, given Saddam's posture there, given the fact that he has a significant flow of cash as a result of the oil

production of Iraq, it's only a matter of time until he acquires nuclear weapons. In light of that, we have to be prepared I think to take the action that is being contemplated, to insist that he disarm. And if the U.N. won't do it, then the United States and other partners of the coalition will have to do that."

According to Time Magazine today, Vice President Cheney's interest in the Niger-Iraq uranium claim was investigated by a former US diplomat sent expressly for that purpose: "Wilson spent eight days sleuthing in Niger, meeting with current and former government officials and businessmen; he came away convinced that the allegations were untrue. Wilson never had access to the Italian documents and never filed a written report, he told TIME. When he returned to Washington in early March[2002], Wilson gave an oral report about his trip to both CIA and State Department officials. On March 9 of last year, the CIA circulated a memo on the yellowcake story that was sent to the White House, summarizing Wilson's assessment. Wilson was not the only official looking into the matter. Nine days earlier, the State Department's intelligence arm had sent a memo directly to Secretary of State Colin Powell that also disputed the Italian intelligence. Greg Thielmann, then a high-ranking official at State's research unit, told TIME that it was not in Niger's self-interest to sell the Iraqis the destabilizing ore. "A whole lot of things told us that the report was bogus," Thielmann said later. "This wasn't highly contested. There weren't strong advocates on the other side. It was done, shot down."

Not on the eve of war it wasn't.
As the editor of BBSNews I can truthfully say that this publication has been anti-war from the start. We opined that sanctions and inspections in Iraq under an international coalition should continue. But I personally watched Tim Russert with Dick Cheney on television as countless others did. This drumbeat of nuclear pretensions on the part of Iraq put forth by the highest of George W. Bush administration officials started

SKETCHED OPINION



BY SAMER A.

having an effect on my own personal thoughts on the possible war.

I underwent the under the school desk drills common to aging baby boomers who remember the Cold War readiness preparation taught in public schools throughout the nation. Further I was born a military brat. I was steeped in preparation for the worst and the nuclear scenario has long been the worst fear of the United States and the rest of the world.

BBSNews did not and has not changed its editorial position on the US led war in Iraq, it was wrong. Yes Hussein was a despicable despot that the world would be better off without; but was he worth the United States throwing away all that made it great?

I was fearful of what Vice President Dick Cheney articulated. His words made my personal resolve against the war waver. I believed in the vaunted and extremely accurate "intelligence" that most Americans and indeed most world inhabitants believe in. When Cheney played the nuclear card I too got the Cold War chill, the memories of the movies shown in school for emergency preparation, the drills, the very real possible consequences of horrible and quick death from an unleashed nuclear weapon came flooding back and I hoped fervently that these terrible weapons did not exist in Iraq's purported arsenal and would not be unleashed.

It is now very clear though that this whole nuclear pretense was simply made up. George Tenet "falling on his sword" cannot deflect this glaring defi-

ciency in truth, in one of the most sacred of American traditions, the State of the Union Address. All the statements and press releases are "out there." Elementary schoolchildren could easily gather enough material from the internet to do a report on this subject. The Niger-Iraq uranium claim was based upon some dubious forgeries originally surfacing in Italy early in 2002. They were fairly quickly debunked many months before an October 2002 presidential speech in

Ohio where George Tenet got the unsubstantiated reference removed. President George W. Bush's State of the Union Address January 28th, 2003 inexplicably included this untrue claim. Indeed long before the clamorous and climactic drumbeat for war ended in attack the US and Britain painted Iraq as a nuclear threat right up to the day when the first US fired missile struck Baghdad.

Perhaps the most compelling question is where is Osama Bin Laden?

Paying for the journalistic chaos in Iraq

ANTHONY BORDEN
THE DAILY STAR

Efforts by the US-led authority in Iraq to establish responsible media are in crisis, with bitter inter-agency rivalries, senior staff changes and poor planning undermining early efforts to start programming and lay out a framework for media development.

The stakes are high. A prerequisite for any kind of emerging democracy is a professional and trusted media to convey facts, support responsible debate and represent the diversity of communities and views within Iraq. But the absence of a reliable Iraqi media only exacerbates the population's frustration. Powerless and uncertain, Iraqis need a voice.

There has been a dramatic post-war boom in local media, with the establishment of up to 150 newspapers and many radio stations. Indeed, there is a bewildering - exciting - diversity of new voices for a changed Iraq emerging from decades of dictatorship. But the majority are highly partisan media established by rival political interests jockeying for position, and could be destabilizing in a fragile post-conflict environment. Many are directly produced by political parties or by former senior Baathists or other figures with a political rather than a journalistic orientation. An informed media engaging in balanced reporting is largely absent. These are among the conclusions of an independent needs assessment of the media in Iraq, coordinated by the Institute for War & Peace Reporting in association with the publication Index on Censorship and the media development group Baltic Media Center, with project support from International Media Support, Denmark.

The central problem is a conceptual one: The US administration has not firmly separated its policies for media from its agenda for public diplomacy. Both are important objectives - the occupying authority has a responsibility to communicate with the population to allay fears, provide basic information and explain the purpose and potential of its intervention. But independent and reliable reporting is entirely different and must be structurally separate, which is not the case in Baghdad. In particular, the Iraqi Media Network (IMN), the occupying authority's media team, has been tasked with both, broadcasting and regulatory authority - with producing media and with providing information for the Coalition Provisional Authority (CPA).

Compounding the problem, bitter rivalry between the US State Department and the Pentagon has led to an absence of strategy, bad hiring and purchasing practices, and debilitating internal dis-

putes. TV programming in particular has been poor. As a result, the IMN television news neither provides clear and basic information to the population, nor does it serve as the flagship fresh face of a new and democratic Iraq. The assessment report identifies a broad range of recommendations for contributing to a truly independent media culture. These include the need for:

1 A transparent media policy: This must include consultation on media laws and regulations with Iraqi media professionals, and should draw on international expertise.
1 The dismantling of the Iraqi Media Network: IMN should be terminated and its separate competencies for media regulation and media production located in distinct independent bodies, including a public broadcasting corporation and a media commission.

1 Media professionalization: Efforts to help professionalize Iraqi journalism should include training and media monitoring and the formation of independent Iraqi professional associations and media institutions.

1 Accessible official information: The CPA must speak to the Iraqi press in Arabic and Kurdish and must establish contact points throughout the country outside militarily protected former presidential palaces.

1 Regional Media: International donors should reserve development funds for incubating regional media, especially in southern Iraq, and national media can improve the flow of reliable information from and to regions outside the capital.

1 De-Baathification: International policy on removing ex-members of the former ruling party should be clarified, and vetting procedures agreed for media projects operated or funded internationally.

The difficulties facing Iraq are extreme. It will not be easy to overcome years of censorship and brutal repression of dissent. Yet Iraqis are confronting this huge challenge with considerable energy and initiative. The highly educated population has shown an enduring desire, even through the stultifying decades of Baathist rule, to be informed. The potential for a responsible press and sophisticated audience is evident - it can help spur a revolution in open media for the region as whole.

This only makes the loss of such an opportunity all the more disappointing. The information chaos in Iraqi undermines both US and Iraqi interests, and urgent steps to chart a fresh course for a clear new democratic media voice in the region must not be missed.

Anthony Borden is executive director of the London-based Institute for War & Peace Reporting.

How to negotiate a dangerous path in Iraq

BY L. PAUL BREMER
INTERNATIONAL HERALD TRIBUNE

Baghdad Americans can be proud of the role their fighting men and women played in freeing Iraq of Saddam Hussein and his cronies. The people of Iraq are now on the road to political and economic independence.

The first official step in this political transition at the national level occurred Sunday, with the convening of the Iraqi Governing Council. This is the latest sign of progress. For the first time in decades, Iraqis are truly free. More than 150 newspapers have been started since liberation. All major cities and 85 percent of towns now have a municipal council where Iraqis are increasingly taking responsibility for management of local matters like health care, water and electricity.

Iraqis are speaking out and demonstrating with a vigor borne of 35 years of imposed silence. This is not yet a full democracy, but freedom is on the march, from north to south. Sadly, this progress is despised by a narrow band of opponents. A small minority of bitter-enders - members of the former regime's instruments of repression - oppose such freedom. They are joined by foreign terrorists, extreme Islamists influenced by Iran and bands of criminals. These people do not pose a strategic threat to America or to a democratic Iraq. They enjoy no support since their only vision

is to reimpose the dictatorship hated by Iraqis. Our military will hunt them down and, as President George W. Bush said, "They will face ruin, just as surely as the regime they once served."

These shadowy figures are killing brave Iraqis working with us, attacking soldiers and civilians and trying to sabotage the fragile infrastructure. The attacks have drawn concern worldwide. My coalition colleagues and Iraqi friends have noticed that the attacks are often aimed at successes in the renewal of this nation. A week ago, an American soldier was mixing with students at Baghdad University, which reopened on May 17. Their presence was testimony to the educational progress that is blossoming here (public schools have also reopened). But our enemies fear enlightenment, so one of them killed the soldier.

The day before, 250 Iraqi police recruits graduated, the latest success in restaffing law enforcement. Tens of thousands of Iraqi policemen are now on duty. But the enemies of freedom correctly felt threatened by the cooperation and professionalism the day represented, so they set off a bomb that killed seven new officers. Before the war, women had to travel miles for propane. Now, local councils are establishing distribution centers that make the gas available to households. On June 18, one American soldier was killed while guarding a center. The June 24 explosion at an oil refinery in Barwanah is another example of political sabotage on

Iraq's energy supply.

With these attacks on Iraq's new successes, citizens of coalition nations ask how long we will remain in Iraq - and some Iraqis may doubt our ability to improve their lives. As Bush has made clear, we are committed to establishing the conditions for security, prosperity and democracy. America has no designs on Iraq and its wealth. We will finish our job here and stay not one day longer than necessary. We have a plan to support the establishment of this government of, by and for Iraqis. After months of consultations with Iraqis, we have taken the first step in establishing an interim administration. The Governing Council of Iraq met on Sunday. It represents all the strands from Iraq's complicated social structure - Shiites, Sunnis, Arabs, Kurds, men and women, Christians and Turkmens. The council will immediately exercise real political power, appointing interim ministers and working with the coalition on policy and budgets.

At the same time, the council will establish procedures to write Iraq's new constitution. Once it is ratified by the people, elections can be held and a sovereign Iraqi government will come into being. So the question of how long the coalition will stay in Iraq depends in part on how quickly the Iraqi people can write and approve a constitution. The coalition recognizes the urgency of marrying economic well-being to political freedom. For 35 years, the country's assets were misappropriated or stolen.

We are pouring resources into re-establishing basic services and creating jobs. Our economic reform plan will entail a major shift of capital from the value-destroying state sector to private firms.

We are also creating a social safety net for any resulting disruptions. And we believe that a method should be found to assure that every citizen benefits from Iraq's oil wealth. One possibility would be to pay social benefits from a trust financed by oil revenues. Another could be to pay an annual cash dividend directly to each citizen from that trust.

In all this, the coalition is working closely with Iraqis who will eventually be responsible for their country's well-being. For our three priorities - security, politics and the economy - the strategy provides for the successful transition to a stable and reformed Iraq. This does not mean that the road ahead is without danger. The combination of a broken infrastructure and acts of sabotage could mean a rough summer. We will suffer casualties, as the bitter-enders resort to violence. We are also braced for an increase in terrorism by non-Iraqis, but no one should doubt our determination to use our power in the face of violent acts.

Once our work is over, the reward will be great: a free, democratic and independent Iraq that stands not as a threat to its neighbors or the world, but as a beacon of freedom and justice.

The writer is the senior American administrator in Iraq.

Beni Hushaish: Valley of grapes and raisins



BY IRENA KNEHTL
FOR THE YEMEN TIMES

Drive to the north-east from Sana'a for about an hour and the contrast in scenery is amazing. First the Beni Hushaish area, up the Wadi Sirr and Rajam where in season there is an abundance of grapes, raisins, but also wheat, barley and millet, all irrigated by well water. Beyond, the landscapes change into mountains and dry waddies... The mountains are a testament to some previous geological ages, when they were pushed up, folded and subsequently heavily weathered by wind and water. Further to the east still they give way to a broad plain dotted with volcanic craters and crisscrossed with more dry wadi beds and dirt roads.

You would never believe that the Beni Hushaish valley is actually en route for one of the most famous agricultural areas in antiquity... The cold was deep now, the wind was singing, when the sun was high in the sky. The mountains of Sirr and Rajam were drawing themselves up, away from the desolation of their feet. Life here was made out of careful harmony. Stone houses build out of imagination and to be lived in, retain warmth and softness. Thousands of grape clusters were drying on flat roofs and nearby grapes gardens.

The Earth. The Water

Dark grape leaves were once again displayed like dropping combs on the monsoon sky. Heaven opened and water hammered down, reviving the



Beni Hushaish valley produces elite grapes, well-known round the country

reluctant old wells. The grapes gardens looked wet green and pleased. Fine rain from a thick cloud poured down like a summer shower. In a while the rain slowed down to a drizzle and then stopped, the breeze shook off water from the grape trees leaves and for a while it rained only under them. Wet grape leaves shimmered like beaten metal. Countless grape gardens were once more full of delicious fruit, the grapes.

The road rose to meet us. Though you can see the Beni Hushaish valley from any house, it was now covered in a veil of peace and serenity, as if created for them, for their eyes, their limbs and their hearts. Their eyes carry a magic secret for the earth to become what it is, for the oceans to part and for mountains to rise. The grape gardens were silent now. The Beni Hushaish valley full of whisper and small lives fearing for their dreams.

Grapes and Raisins

Our hosts were of very pleasant manner and missed no time to tell us about the valley and the villages. How they belonged to it, it belongs to them the Beni Hushaish valley long, like a long green ribbon. Raisins are pressed upon us, but also almonds and nuts. Also fresh grapes, and juice made from raisins. Raisins in all forms, shapes and colors, red white and dark blue or black, small medium or large. Raisins as appetizers and farewell.

Raisins from Beni Hushaish have no respect for political boundaries or other man-made boundaries. From the souks of Sana'a, bazaars of Jeddah and Riyadh, and Dubai, they are there. They star in poetry and stories. Raisins for love, hope, sadness and regrets, and peace... They reveal what words do not. Raisins and grapes in Beni Hushaish are the stuff of life. A day without them is unthinkable. They are part of every day meal day by day, year by year. They have meaning and importance in their lives which has nothing to do with monotony.

During the afternoons visiting begun, confirming once more ties that bind with bonds of trust. Incense burners release fragrant whisper of smoke. Sun is about to burst behind Rajam mountains. Which is there more of, land or the sea is being asked. The sea comes with the reply. No. It is the land, for the sea itself is set upon the land, I am told.



Henna

MAYASA MOHAMMED GAWAD
YT STAFF ,TAIZ BUREAU

Henna (camphire) is one of the bush plants famous in the Arab-Islamic world, known as a means for beautification and treatment of the body and hair too. Despite the various kinds of hair dyes, henna comes to be the first kind of dyes used in the world. Henna's origin is India or Iran and the well-known kinds of henna are the Indian, Shami, Baghdadi, and al Shaeka.

Hands and feet of the bride are decorated with beautiful forms. To apply henna, mix the powder of henna with warm water till it becomes a paste. Then put it on your body or hair 1-2 hours. It is then you can get darker red color. Many women take it a job to decorate the body so as to earn money. They, sometimes, use hand-cut stencils and in Yemen, you can find beautiful stencils.

Dye hair with Henna

Since a time immemorial, women in the Arab and Islamic world have



Henna of Yemen is that from Hadhramout and Aden. In Yemen, it is known that crops of henna are harvested soon after the beginning of the monsoon rains and they are the best times of the year. Since many long times, Henna has been used to dye the hair and decorate the body.

Henna is a bush plant with red roots, hard wood, containing color substances, stem with green profile branches turning in to brown when ripe. Henna is a good smell plant and the powder of its dried leaves is used in dyeing the hair and body decoration.

Henna and body decoration

The paste of henna is used to decorate hands, fingers, nails and the feet. In Yemen, grandmothers, mothers and young women decorate their body, especially in the countryside.

been used to dye their hair in with henna. It gives the hair a bright color and that refers to the original color of the hair and the time it lasts on the hair. In the Arab Islamic world, some even men even dye their head hair and beards with henna. In addition, henna represents an important substance in the combination of many hair dyes and shampoos.

Treatment with Henna

Besides using henna in body decoration and hair dyeing, it is known to be used to treat some hair and body diseases. Treatment of foot split and the different bacteria is done with henna. Treatments of hair scurf and in this case add to henna vinegar or lemon. Thickening and feeding the hair is another way of using henna. For treatment of headache put henna on the forehead.



Violence against women discussed again: It's in women's hands



BY YASSER AL-MAYYASI
YEMEN TIMES STAFF

The Women's National Committee (WNC) has intensified its efforts lately in focusing on the ongoing problem of violence against women in the Republic of Yemen. In a gathering that took place a few weeks ago in Sanaa, the WNC, Oxfam-Yemen, and Shaima Network discussed the results of a thorough and comprehensive study made by Dr. Adil al-Sharjabi, an instructor in the Social Science Department of Sanaa University, the unending negative phenomenon of violence against Yemeni women.

The study included a detailed survey on violence committed against Yemeni women and tried to provide the ultimate definition of violence against women in the eyes of Yemeni women themselves.

The study was hailed by Ms. Amatuleem Al-Susuwa, the Human Rights Minister, and the only current female Minister in Yemen. She said that even though Yemen has improved its

record in human rights, a lot is yet to be done for women's rights in the Yemeni society.

Ms. Rasheeda Al-Hamdani, the Chairman of WCN said that her organization has been continuously exerting efforts to limit violence against women through encouraging and carrying out surveys and studies. "The organization has always been attempting to broaden understanding of the issue of violence against women and its roots. Only by investigating and identifying its roots will we be able to wipe it out of our society," she said.

"We have committed ourselves to helping the government implement the Beijing conference's resolution on women's rights and have come to realize that raising public awareness is one of the major steps that should be undertaken."

Study results not a surprise

Just as expected, the study made by Dr. al-Sharjabi revealed that cases of violence against women are still on the rise due to the lack of proper education among Yemeni women and because of unwillingness of large masses of traditional societies to take this issue serious-

ly. The study attempted to get a clear and distinctive definition of violence against women according to how Yemeni females view it. The study also revealed various types of violence against women and attempted to find in which governorates and towns it exists the most, and how widely spread it is. The study also gave rough statistics about how violence against women is evident in the different classes of the society based on wages, type of life, and education.

The results revealed that women in rural areas are much more exposed to violence than those in urban regions. One exception was notices in Shabwah governorate as women in cities of that governorate are more exposed to such violence compared to women in villages.

Economy-wise, violence against women in poor families is much greater than that in rich or middle-class families. The same applies to minorities such those of African origin (Muwalladat), who may be exposed to harassment even in public areas. Fathers, brothers and husbands think that if their daughters, sisters or wives are not beaten up at home, they may attempt to escape their

grasp resulting in having them lose control. They believe this could possibly lead to having women become prostitutes or commit unethical acts.

However, the study also disclosed that the reasons behind violence against women in poor families are probably due to financial and social pressures on the men in those families.

The study revealed that women in minorities are the largest portion of Yemeni women subject to violence as they constitute around 18% of all surveyed women. However, females from poor families constitute a percentage approaching 70%. It is worth noting that only 8.9% of all women are from cities, while the vast majority -90%- live in rural areas. Hence the study believes that no matter how much effort is done for women in cities, the overall level of violence will not be decreased unless women in villages are protected.

The study classified violence against women in four main groups: family violence, economic violence, political violence, and violence in the form of harassment in public areas.

It seems that the most common category of violence against women was family violence, which is usually com-



Community

mitted against women in all sectors of the community by relatives including father, brothers, husband, or other relatives.

The second most popular violence is that committed because of economic reasons. More than 50% of women in Yemen never earned money, and this makes them seen in many cases as burdens on family budgets.

However, oddly enough, violence is also committed against women in working areas in the form of deductions from salaries, preventing raises, etc. However, harassment in work is in

decline because of the increase in the awareness of working women of the possibility to interact with their male counterpart at work, which they consider as normal nowadays.

Political violence against women on the other hand, seems to have been the spotlight of the recent parliamentary elections. It is worth noting that only one female won a seat in the parliament (out of 301 seats), and this shows the low level of female participation in Yemen as candidates. It was concluded in the discussion that politicians usually discriminate against females in political participation, which is due to social and political reasons.

A consensus: Women for women

A consensus was reached at the end of the discussion by the participants that if there is a way to strengthen political, social, and economic participation of women in public life in Yemen, then that could only happen if women themselves exert more effort and stand up for their rights. This can be achieved through a series of steps taken by the authorities, and local and international organizations to raise awareness among the community -especially in women- of women's rights and having females force their way towards more freedom and authority in today's Yemen.

In brief, it is all in women's hands to achieve their goal in preventing violence against them and participate in building the modern and prosperous Yemen. "If women want it, and work hard for it, they will get it," said one of the participants.

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الغلفة طلوية صبوة ١٧٠ جم

كيفية المشاركة في المسابقة

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وأحصل على كرت هدية فورية + قسيمة الاشتراك في السحب
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Local Press

Prepared by Mohammed Khidhr

Al-Wahdawi weekly,
organ of the Nasserite
Unionist organization 15
July 2003.

Main headlines

- Saudi Arabia expels Yemeni merchants from its territories after detaining those 18 days
- More than YR 150 million in corruption of electricity authority in Taiz
- Big people's support for MP Abu Isba'a
- YSP demands bringing all those involved in the murder of Omer to justice
- Demands for raising ministers' salaries confirm the GPC intentions of plundering public property

In an open letter addressed to the American ambassador to Yemen Edmund Hull in response to the latter's recent letter to the Yemeni people, columnist Mohammed al-Ahmedi asks about the benefit of Mr Hull's message and what it could offer to helpless peoples whose wrath reached the extent of congestion and then got silent with pain. He adds that the whole world, peoples and governments could not stop the war on Iraq or prevent it. How can then peoples of the Arab homeland or their governments expel the occupier or convince them to leave Iraq? The peoples in the Arab homeland and the Yemeni people in particular believe your presence in Iraq an illegitimate occupation and colonization though in a different attire. It is a result of an illegal war and an unjustifiable aggression. He who reads your letter while talking about the situation in Iraq would almost be certain that there is another Iraq probably we do not know, perhaps from another planet other than the earth. The Iraq we know its news is not hidden from us. We hear and see it via different media as we get acquainted with the killing and destruction, and storming citizens' houses after midnight, stealing properties and arrests and other kinds of crimes perpetrated by the Anglo-American soldiers, "bearers of the message of peace and democracy."

A principle imposed on people coercively and a logic taking from power and imposition of hegemony as behaviour and a choice would not establish a real civilization people are trustful of. Such behaviour would not establish a stable society prevailed with peace and security.

Al-Balagh weekly,
15 July 2003.

Main headlines:

- Under American conspiracies, Prince Abdulla the last king of

- Abdulaziz al-Saud sons
- President gives directives to establish Higher Council for psychiatry
- Security negotiations with Huttat extremists fail
- After occupation of Iraq, America seeks to establish military bases in Algeria and Africa
- Iraqi transitional council, the day of Baghdad fall, a national day

Editor in chief of the newspaper says in his editorial that in the press conference held by Ahmed Chalabi following the convening of the Rule Council in Iraq we saw him praising the American people and president George Bush for the "liberation" of Iraq. We also heard chanting slogans greeting America and Bush. From inside Baghdad agent chants are raised in praise of Bush, an example of ethical deterioration and apostate from all principles and values.

The situation has reached an extent that the Muslim prays "long live" for the occupier. This is the situation in the north of the Arabian Peninsula. As in its south, I mean Yemen; we are to be surprised with strange events having their perilous indications. In the city of Sa'ada national peaceful voices were raised calling in chants "death to America...death for Israel". The chants were sounded in Sana'a and the Grand Mosque in Sana'a. These chants were issued in a Muslim country, its people, its president and rulers are Muslims. It is really a strange contradiction. In the north of the Arabian Peninsula chants praising America and policemen detain people who voice chants against America in a country in the south of the peninsula. We do not support violence and we are not with gagging mouths. We are in support of peace and the right to choice and expression. Whatever there would be we confirm to George Bush that he should not hope one day to find chants saying "Long live Bush...long live America" in our Islamic Yemen.

RAY weekly, organ of the Sons of Yemen League party, 15 July 2003.

Main headlines:

- Parliament speaker calls on the Bundestag to intervene with the German government for the release of al-Mouyad.
- A'abid & Jaralla cases set for passing judgment
- Meetings for adjustment of Yemen's economic laws with those of the Gulf States

Columnist Faisal Sultan al-Soufi says in his article it is said repeatedly that the Yemeni non-governmental organizations have become too many till they amounted to about 3000 private societies and establishments,

Main headlines

- Yemen people celebrate the president's election silver jubilee
- Government pledges to send extremist elements to court
- Protests against privatization of oil installations
- Attas backs down from his return conditions
- Some of the wanted in Abyan surrender themselves
- YSP warns against effacing features of murdering Jaralla Omar
- Indicators on Yemeni-American disaccord on fighting terror
- European Union for political dialogue with Yemen
- Imminent offensive on extremists' hideouts in Abyan
- U.S. ambassador puts pressure on education ministry for changing school curricula
- Islamic Center for Strategic Studies: America uses its military forces to change opponent regime in the region
- Saudi Arabia withdraws nationality of four Yemenis
- IMF criticizes the government, price rise by 10%
- Draft law banning carrying weapons in the capital and cities

including charitable organizations, sport unions and professional federations. They include societies concerned with cultural and political affairs. It is also said they depend financially on foreign funding and that they work for the interest of the fi. Such accusations are sometimes issued by officials, some of them university teachers.

I think all the above mentioned is not scientific and does not serve the country's interest. The number of non-governmental organizations remains few even if it amounts to 6000, due to the volume of the population. There are some social fields such as education and health do not have non-governmental organizations taking care of their affairs and work alongside the government for development. Being dependent on external aid is basically for such organizations so that the country benefits from external grants and aid. The donor prefer the private sector in order to pass on part of their assistance to the peoples after it has found out that peoples do not benefit from the aid offered via governments due to corruption and centralization. If the government knows that those organizations are agent and keep silent towards them and stop at only mentioning that it means that they are their

accomplices. I think they are not serious about such accusations because they do not exist in essence. The only defect of these organizations is the corruption. They are more corrupt than the government and therefore the revenues they receive do not serve the society. The government has to apply the law on organizing of societies and organizations where there must be transparency and monitoring of how the revenues are expended, which are in fact public property he entire society must benefit from them.

Al-Sahwa weekly,
17 July 2003.

Main headlines:

- Oil institutes graduates, cooks and doormen for the foreigners
- Bin Sifah: We work for building 35 technical institutes
- Taiz local council interrogates general managers

Columnist Zaid al-Shami says complaints increase about the economic restraint, price rise and devaluation of the national currency. Those who are mostly suffering are of the limited income particularly civil servants and military men. All of them live a diffi-

cult life including the middle class that has gained a portion of education.

Regretfully he demand of raising salaries of government employees has become a matter for astonishment and amusement by those of favoured positions, considering it a kind of malice or exaggeration and some of them deem it as search for the impossible, questioning as from where the government could provide such raises.

Insisting on claiming hat the economical situation is improving day by day is a kind of paradox that nobody could any longer be deceived by. If what the opposition proposes for improving the employees' situation is wrong, we have the tight to ask where the right is. Is it right to continue in this deterioration and negligence of the employee condition and suffering?

Al-Tagamou weekly,
organ of the Yemeni Assemblage Unionist Party, 14 July 2003.

Main headlines:

- Huttat elements linked to Al-Harithi and Ahdal,
- Gathering information on Americans at Aden port
- Journalists & writers: We warn of a plan to assassinate us and confiscate our right to expression and life
- Electricity service duties more costing than building a new house
- Explosive charge defused in Aden "Intercontinental"

Columnist Sanad Abdulla Njad says in his article that there is no one political party on the Yemeni arena but has an office specialized in the masses affairs but almost all of them have changed into nominal bodies. The main concern of those bodies is to accommodate unemployment of some party leaders. The reality is simply that the future of any political party believing in the choice of democracy is conditioned to its relation with the masses and the electoral vote. It also depends on extent of the party's presence and ability to defend the actual issues of the masses. Naturally the slogan alone and electoral propaganda campaigns are not sufficient for gaining trust of the people and their votes.

Among the aspects of social life that are worthy of being given the attention of the opposition political parties and organizations, for instance, are:

- the trend for activating the existing unionist and professional establishments and federations towards serving the goals of their founding. And also the goal is to activate concern of these organizations about the public affairs, particularly towards the issues that touch directly the majority of the society.

-the establishment of new forms of

committee in defense of rights of certain groups such as the unemployed, especially university graduates. The other example is defending the rights of prisoners and detainees with regard to their humanitarian and legal rights and another for defending the rights of the families of martyrs and war disabled. There are also the issues related to poor families and the government assistance spent for them as well as those of special needs.

All of those are among the most dangerous seminars of corruption in addition to the political investment of this money through the way of expending it.

- the founding of cooperative unions and federations of rural and development aims in the rural areas and the poor residential quarters and their fixing them as alternative of the existing official forms.

-issuing newspapers and information publications concerned with social affairs.

Al-Thawri weekly, organ of the YSP, 17 July 2003.

Main headlines:

- President accuses leaders abroad with treason, calls for national alignment
- President torpedoes general amnesty decision
- GPC's attempts to win by force in constituency 80 by-elections
- YSP calls for alignment against violence culture

Columnist Abda Farie writes on corruption saying he writing on corruption has become very much and official statements on this problem has been doubled. All are wielding he weapon of fighting corruption; inside the authority and the opposition and popular circles.

The ordinary people are the only losers and victims since the imamate era. They were expecting hope from the September revolution in 1962 and October 14 1963 that have opened for them broad horizons for life. They rallied behind them and carried arms in defence of them. The corruption of Yemen is something different than any kind of corruption because it is deep-rooted and contemporary of many eras that governed Yemen since the Turkish occupation till the present time. At present it is different because it is more developed and coinciding with the age of technology and information. Fighting such a type of corruption does not come with information campaigns and threats. Those silently fight corruption have to continue their activity with steady and practical steps. In this way their work would succeed. Time factor is very important.

World Press

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

Egypt

Al Ahram
Palestinian Prime Minister Mahmoud Abbas will visit Egypt on Monday on his way to the United States, said Palestinian Minister of Information Nabil Amr.

Al Akhbar:
Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak on Friday sent a message to Sudanese President Omar El-Bashir, in which Mubarak reaffirmed Egypt's keenness on Sudan's territorial integrity.

Al Gomhuria
Egypt and Japan agreed to set up a pharmaceutical plant at a cost of 100 million US dollars in the 6th of October city, Egypt. The new plant will produce insulin and anti-tumors drugs.

Egyptian Mail
US special envoy for Sudan John Danforth on Friday welcomed Egypt's participation in efforts to establish peace in Sudan.

Britain

The Times
British Prime Minister Tony Blair promised on Friday to launch an independent inquiry into the apparent suicide of David Kelly, who Downing Street believe was the source for British Broadcast Corporation allegations against the government.

The Guardian
Tony Blair's government was Friday night shaken to its foundations by the apparent suicide of David Kelly, the backroom Whitehall scientist caught in the crossfire over weapons of mass destruction between Downing Street and the BBC.

Financial Times
A few hours into British Airways flight 9127C, an electrical storm rocked the Boeing 777 carrying Tony Blair towards Tokyo, knocking seasoned stewardesses off balance.

The Independent
Tony Blair came under pressure on

Germany

Die Welt
US President George W. Bush and British Prime Minister Tony Blair have demonstrated their unity amid growing suspicion of the justification about the Iraqi war.

Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung
The controversy among British over the Iraqi mass weapons of destruction takes an ominous turn.

Japan

Asahi, Mainichi, Yomiuri, Nihon Keizai:
Former Social Democratic Party (SDP) policy chief Kiyomi Tsujimoto is arrested on suspicion of defrauding salaries for her policy secretaries.

Mainichi, Yomiuri:
A train derailed in west Japan's Nagasaki City, injuring dozens.

This Day
Nigerian President Olusegun Obasanjo Friday morning held a high-level meeting with Chairman of the African Union Joachia Chisanno and President of Sao Tome and Principe Fradique de Menezes to review the situation in Sao Tome where a group of soldiers staged a coup to ouster President De Menezes on Wednesday.

France

Liberation
The body of David Kelly, arms expert at the center of a high-profile dispute over the validity of the British government weapons intelligence, was found on Friday near his home in Oxfordshire.

Le Monde
Reports about manipulation of intelligence on what concerned Iraq destabilized the American and British governments, which gained tepid international support for their military campaign to topple Saddam Hussein.

Le Parisien
The fire in France's Riveria, a biggest one since 1990, has devoured more than 11,000 hectares of Mediterranean trees and forced more than 9,000 people to evacuate.

Philippine

The Philippine Star
President Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo Friday turned down the resignation offered by embattled national police chief Hermogenes Ebdane and ordered him to personally lead a task force to hunt down Indonesian bomber Fathur Rohman al-Ghozi, who escaped with two suspected Abu Sayyaf members from their detention cell inside the police headquarters on Monday.

The Manila Times
Foreign Affairs Undersecretary Franklin Ebdalin said Friday that the Philippine government could have given in to the demand of the United States for the full implementation of the "open skies" agreement by October had Washington agreed to Manila's request for a "no visa requirement" for Filipinos traveling to America.

Improve Your English



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193

I. What to Say

Situations and Expressions (55):
Emotional Reactions (II)

Emotional reactions present an array of responses which reveal a person's moods, attitudes and mental make-up. They represent an outlet to one's pent up feelings. Here are a few more expressions which are vehicles for conveying the varied moods and tones of the speaker.

- The speaker was **put off** (discouraged) by audience's constant interruption.
- He showed great **disapprobation** (disapproval) at my suggestion.
- The teacher was **red in anger** at the student's impertinence.
- She **shook her head** in disapproval.
- What a **disappointing** news!
- The employees were **disgruntled** (annoyed and disappointed) when their demands were not met.
- The food at the hotel filled him with **disgust**.
- The girl **melted in shame** at such lavish praise for her beauty.
- Her words **affected** me.
- I felt **deeply hurt** at the abusive words used against my parentage and my upbringing.
- The manager was **furious** (very angry in an uncontrolled way) to notice the acts of gross negligence.
- I was **speechless with anger** (surprised and confused) for his audacity.
- We were **taken aback** by the exorbitant price he quoted for the ticket.
- Unless you do what he wants, he will be **upset**.
- We listened with **dismay** (strong feeling of fears and hopelessness) the news of the rail accident.
- I was **disconcerted** (felt a sense of doubt and anxiety) to hear that I would have to make a speech.
- Don't feel **disheartened** (discouraged, hopeless) when you're confronted with difficulties.
- I saw a film that was quite **moving** (having a strong effect on feelings, causing feelings of pity).
- The scene where the mother bids farewell to her only son to go to the battle field was very touching, indeed.
- You should not be **touchy** (sensitive, easily offended) over comments made in a lighter vein.

II. How to say it correctly

Correct errors, if any, in the following sentences

- The dog barked at the boy.
- I have done it yesterday.
- These all flowers are beautiful.
- These are the news.
- He came to home

Suggested answers to last week's questions

- He killed his enemy **with** a gun.
Note: "with" is used words performing the work as instruments.
- John **resembles** his father.
Note: The verb "resemble" cannot be used in its passive form.
- He is **telling** a lie.
- Don't make a noise.
- They had to **abandon** (or **relinquish**) their rights.

III. Increase your word power

A) How to express it in one word.

- A race in which there is no single winner.
- A letter that cannot be delivered or returned to the sender.
- A date or time before which something must be done.
- A disagreement that cannot be settled.
- A solemn slow march for a funeral.

Suggested answers to last week's questions

- A room for reading, writing, and amusement, used only during the day: **day room** (n)

- Taking place during several days coming one after another: **day-to-day** (adj)
- Make somebody stupid or unable to think clearly: **daze** (v.t)
- Make somebody unable to see clearly because of too much of light: **dazzle** (v.t)
- An end with no way out. **dead end** (n)

Suggested answers to last week's questions

- dramaturgy** (Gk. "dramatourgia"): The principles of dramatic composition and theatrical art.
- eclogue** (Gk. "selection"): A short poem-or part of a large one- in the form of a dialogue or soliloquy.
Ex: Virgil's **Pastorals**
- ellipsis** (Gk. 'leaving out'): Leaving out of a word or words from a sentences when the meaning can be understood without them.
- encomium** (Lat. from Gk. 'praise'): An expression of very high praise.
- epigram** (Gk. 'inscription'): A short, clever, amusing poem or saying.

C) Words commonly confused

Bring out the meaning differences in the following pairs of words

- agog, amuck; 2. affront, confront;
- infront of, opposite, 4. confirm, conform;
- pray, prey

Suggested answers to last week's questions

- ceremonial** (adj) (as used for ceremonies): The President took the salute at a ceremonial parade. **ceremonious** (adj) (marked by ceremony): The Director had to quit his job unceremoniously.
- certifiable** (adj) (that can be certified): He is a certifiable lunatic. **certificate** (n) (printed statement made by somebody in authority): The Dean awarded certificates of merit to the winners.
- chafe** (v.t) (rub the skin to get warmth): A stiff collar may chafe your neck. **chaff** (n) (outer covering of the grain): He is busy separating grain from chaff.
- chance or opportunity** (luckily possible): I had the chance to visit U.K **occasion** (n) (a moment when something happens): Her friends and relatives were present on the occasion of her wedding.
- bathos** (n) (a sudden change from very beautiful or noble ideas to very common or foolish ones): An unexpected bathos has spoiled the dramatic effect of the scene. **pathos** (n) (The quality in speech or writing that causes a feeling of pity): There is a touch of pathos in the ending of the story.

III. Idioms and phrases

Use the following phrases in sentences.

- ask for trouble; 2. ask after;
- look forward to; 4.set aside; 5. ashamed of

Suggested answers to last week's questions

- make an ass of one self** (to behave in a foolish manner): I fail to understand why he sometimes makes an ass of himself.
- aspire after** (be filled with high ambition): Doctor Faustus aspired after infinite knowledge.
- cast aspersion on** (say false or unkind things about): It's unfair to cast aspersion on someone's honor.
- as long as** (as long as): You are safe as long as you don't intrude upon other people's self-respect.

IV. Grammar and Composition

(A) Grammar

Finish each of the following sentences in such a way that it means exactly the same as the sentence written before it.

- Someone ought to cut the grass as it's getting very long.
The grass needs _____

- Your cakes are so good that I think you could sell them.
I think your cakes are good _____
- Jeddah is so far from Sana'a that you can't drive there in a day.
Jeddah is too _____
- When they got back, someone had broken into the house.
When they got back, the house _____
- The rise of kidnapping incidents has put off a lot of tourists this year.
This year a lot of tourists _____
- There can be no doubt, he was working very hard for the exam.
He must _____
- It's best to have your insurance documents with you, because there's always a chance you will have an accident.
It's best to have your insurance documents with you in _____
- It's really important that you aren't late.
You'd _____
- I didn't phone you because I didn't realize you were at home.
If _____

Suggested answers to the last week's questions

- The children shouldn't be left alone. They're too young to look after themselves.
- There aren't enough students for us to go on an excursion.
- Word processing is very simple; all you have to know is how to give some simple commands.
- I had to put off having the party because I was ill.
- She wanted to help her mother, so she laid the table.
- He went to college although he felt unwell.
- Sometimes I wish I had more money.
- The customs officers asked us where we had come from.

(B) Composition: Paragraph writing

Expand the idea contained in the saying

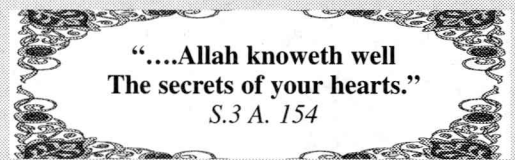
26. MONEY IS A GOOD SERVANT,
BUT A BAD MASTER.

Last week's topics:

25. DUTY PERFORMED IS A MORAL TONIC

Duty is what one is obliged to do because of one's job or because one thinks it right. In other words, it is carrying on promptly and faithfully the affairs before us. One should perform one's duty earnestly and wholeheartedly and leave the rest to the Almighty. As scriptures and lives of great men remind us the path of duty is the path of the glory and divinity. Work is worship. Worship is 'worthship'. We elevate and enhance our worth by discharging our duty diligently. It's well-said that duty is the greatest of ideas because it implies the idea of God, of the soul of liberty, of responsibility, of immortality. The scope of duty is wide ranging. Man has duty to himself, to his family, his neighborhood, his country, and, above all, to the Supreme Creator. Performance of duty takes us nearer to the Kingdom of God. The path of duty is the path of discipline, self-sacrifice, patience, perseverance and persistence. It's a golden rule that "Duty performed is a moral tonic! If neglected the tone and strength of both mind and heart are weakened and the spiritual health undermined."

V. Pearls from the Holy Quran



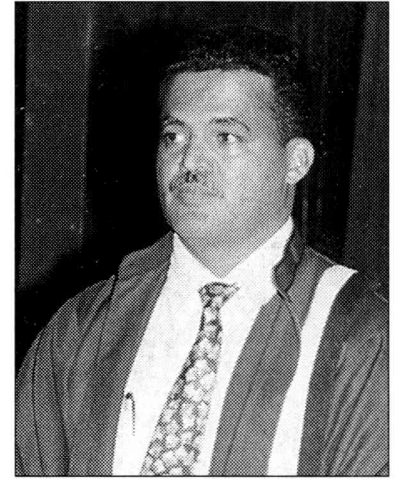
VI. Words of wisdom

"All experience is an arch to build upon."
—Henry Adams

College of Languages Awards its First Ph.D. Degree in English

ABSTRACT BY DR. MOHAMED O. NAIF

On Sunday July 6, 2003, the College of Languages, University of Sana'a awarded its first Ph.D. degree in English to **Mohamed Mohammed Othman Naif**, Lecturer of English Language, College of Languages. The examination committee consisted of:



Dr. Mohamed Othman Naif

- 1) Professor A. K. Sharma, Head of the English Department College of Languages, University of Sana'a (the research supervisor and head of the examination committee).
- 2) Professor D. K. M. Tiwari, Head of the English Department, College of Education, University of Taiz (external examiner)
- 3) Professor Abdul-Rahman Abdrabou, senior professor of English, College of Arts, University of Sana'a (internal examiner)

The following abstract summarizes the experimental study which was conducted for the above-mentioned Ph.D. thesis. It gives a brief account of the problem of the study, the hypotheses, the data gathering techniques, and the main findings and conclusions:

A Study of Yemeni EFL College Student Writers' Composition Strategies and Skills

Abstract

The problem of this quasi-experimental study is "Yemeni EFL college student writers lack composition strategies and skills and interest in writing". In order to investigate this problem, it was hypothesized that (1) Yemeni EFL college student writers transfer their lack of composition strategies and skills into their L2 context, (2) Yemeni EFL college student writers who are trained explicitly to utilize the *Process/Fluency* (P/F) approach would have higher scores than those who are trained to utilize the *Traditional Writing Instruction* (TWI), (3) Yemeni EFL college student writers who are trained explicitly to utilize the P/F approach would have positive attitudes toward writing, and (4) the P/F approach compensates for the Yemeni EFL college student writers' lack of previous systematic writing instruction on prewriting, drafting, and revising strategies in L1 and L2 at schools and universities. The study proposed the P/F approach to help Yemeni EFL college student writers develop composition strategies and skills such as prewriting, drafting, and revising, and writing fluency techniques such as daily journal writing and free-writing to change their negative attitudes toward writing. Four data gathering techniques were utilized to collect data for the study; namely, pretest and posttest, open-ended questionnaire, observations, and post-treatment interviews.

The study sample consisted of 60 students divided into two equal groups ("B" and "E"), studying at level one, semester two of the academic year (2000/2001), at the College of Languages, University of Sana'a. Group "B" represented the control group (G2) and group "E" represented the experimental group (G1) of the study.

Before beginning the treatment, the subjects of both groups were given a writing proficiency test as a pretest in which they had to write a letter and a paragraph. Once the pretest was finished, the two groups received 25 hours of classroom instruction for ten weeks. The P/F approach was utilized with the experimental group and the TWI was utilized with the control group. When the treatment was completed, the subjects of both groups sat for a writing proficiency test as the posttest at the same time and under the same conditions.

Shortly before administering the posttest, the subjects of the experimental group responded to an open-ended questionnaire designed to investigate: (1) the subjects' attitudes toward the usefulness and effectiveness of the P/F approach in teaching composition strategies and skills, and (2) to find out if the fluency techniques such as daily journal writing and free-writing improved the subjects' writing fluency and changed their previously held neg-

ative attitudes toward writing.

Ten observations of EFL writing classes were conducted to investigate what kind of writing approaches and classroom practices were commonly utilized in teaching EFL writing to English specialists at the College of Arts, the College of Education and the College of Languages at the University of Sana'a.

A year and a half after the completion of the experiment, post-treatment interviews were conducted randomly with two of the experimental group subjects. The interviews were aimed at investigating if the subjects were still using the composition strategies and skills that they had acquired during the experiment and if such strategies influenced their writing performance in Arabic.

The data collected through the pretest and the posttest, the open-ended questionnaire, the observations, and the post-treatment interviews supported the four hypotheses of the study. The pretest and the posttest scores of each group were compared for significance using a *t-test*. The results indicated no significant difference between the control group's pretest and posttest scores. However, a statistically significant difference was found between the pretest and the posttest of the experimental group at 0.05 level in favor of the posttest. The results of the posttest indicated that the experimental group acquired writing strategies such as prewriting, drafting, and revising and produced significantly better writing assignments than the control group. The experimental group made significant improvement in eight of the ten writing components utilized in evaluating the subjects' pretest and posttest, whereas the control group made no improvement in seven of the ten writing components. Furthermore, the data obtained from the analysis of the questionnaire supported the results of the pretest and posttest. All the subjects of the experimental group (100%) responded positively to the usefulness of the P/F approach in developing their writing abilities and changing their previously held negative attitudes toward writing.

The findings of the observations indicated that the most dominant approach for teaching writing is the TWI which mainly focuses on the finished product and surface/local aspects of composition. Finally, the findings of the post-treatment interviews indicated that the two subjects of the experimental group were still using the composition strategies and skills they learned during the experiment and that their training in English positively influenced their writing in Arabic.

Based on the analysis and discussion of the findings obtained through the four different data gathering techniques mentioned above, it is concluded that the P/F approach, consisting of process composition strategies (i.e. prewriting, drafting, and revising strategies) and writing fluency techniques (i.e. daily journal writing and free-writing), was successful in helping the Yemeni EFL college student writers become skilled writers through acquiring effective composition strategies and skills, and change their previously held negative attitudes toward writing. Thus, the proposed approach (i.e. the *Process/Fluency* approach) can be successfully implemented at the college level in Yemen to enable EFL college student writers to utilize successful composition strategies and skills and become interested in writing activities.

WONDERWORD

by DAVID OUELLET

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

CLUES

- | | | | | |
|-----------|-----------|------------|-----------|-----------|
| Adjust | Costs | Gritty | Pass | Stony |
| Adventure | Crawl | Guide | Piles | Stops |
| Animals | Crew | Halt | Point | Straight |
| Arcs | Crouch | Hand | Pounce | Strain |
| Base | Deep | Heel | Precipice | Supplies |
| Blades | Dressed | Hire | Pulling | Support |
| Bolder | Drier | Hole | Push | Survey |
| Breaking | Energy | Horizontal | Quit | Suspended |
| Cabins | Equipment | Insert | Raise | Tangled |
| Camera | Erosion | Lost | Rays | Tempo |
| Caribou | Eyes | Mountain | Rocks | Tighten |
| Caves | Face | Nails | Safety | Tilt |
| Center | Fasten | Nests | Scenic | Tool |
| Challenge | Feet | Onward | Secure | Tourism |
| Change | Footing | Pail | Shale | Tower |
| Climmate | Geography | Pain | Slanted | Valley |
| Coastline | Geology | Painting | Stake | Watch |
| Coat | Gradient | Pants | Station | Yards |

MOUNTAIN CLIMBING

Solution: 8 letters

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

ANSWER NEXT WEEK

Last Week's Answer: Peroxide

Waugh hits unbeaten century



Australia's Darren Lehmann hits the ball during the test match against Bangladesh in the Northern Territory capital city of Darwin on Saturday. Bangladesh were all out for 97 runs in their first innings. REUTERS/David Gray

By JULIAN LINDEN

DARWIN, Australia (Reuters) - Steve Waugh smashed an unbeaten century to equal two of cricket's greatest batting landmarks and help Australia push for a quick kill in the first test against Bangladesh.

Waugh's unbeaten 100 saw him join South African Gary Kirsten as the only player to score hundreds against all of their nine test-playing opponents.

He also joined India's Sachin Tendulkar in second place on the all-time list of century-makers with 31 test hundreds — with only Sunil

Gavaskar's 34 ahead of them.

As soon as Waugh completed his hundred, he immediately declared Australia's first innings closed at 407 for seven, 310 in front of Bangladesh who managed a paltry 97 in their first innings and face the prospect of an innings defeat inside three days.

Darren Lehmann also scored a century and opener Justin Langer made a patient 71 as Australia's batsmen piled on the runs.

Lehmann made 110 and Langer 71 after sharing a third wicket partnership of 141 runs that quickly put Australia in control of a match that has lived up

to its pre-game predictions of a one-sided contest.

Adam Gilchrist also belted a quick-fire 43 but Martin Love missed out when he was bowled for a duck by Mashrafe Mortaza, who was the most successful of the Bangladeshi bowlers with three wickets.

The home team began the day at 121-2 but lost one wicket before lunch when Langer, who had resumed on 40, misjudged an attempted pull off Alok Kapali and was trapped leg before wicket.

Lehmann, who had started the day on 51, reached his second test hundred

and his first on home soil just after lunch.

His century took 223 balls and 266 minutes but he was eventually dismissed with the total on 243 when Javed Omar held a difficult catch in the outfield.

Waugh brought up his 31st test century in typically daring circumstances in 177 minutes off 133 balls.

The Australian captain smashed 10 boundaries and a six during his innings but needed to scramble through for a quick two runs off Tapash Baisya to add another chapter to his astonishing career.

Tearful Kobe Bryant proclaims innocence in L.A.

By DAN WHITCOMB

LOS ANGELES (Reuters) - Basketball superstar Kobe Bryant, facing rape charges that could send him to prison for life, broke into tears and clutched his wife's hand on Friday as he repeatedly proclaimed his innocence while admitting to adultery with his 19-year-old accuser.

In a remarkably emotional press conference that was beamed live on television across the country, the 24-year-old Los Angeles Lakers guard said: "I'm innocent, you know. I didn't force her to do anything against her will. I'm innocent."

Bryant walked into the press conference at Staples Center in downtown Los Angeles, where he helped win three NBA championships for the Lakers, tightly gripping the left hand of his 21-year-old wife of two years, Vanessa.

"You know, I sit here in front of you guys (in the press), furious at myself, disgusted at myself for making the mistake of adultery. And I love my wife with all my heart," he said.

Bryant never released his wife's hand during his brief remarks, which were raw, halting and much of the time addressed to her directly.

"You're my backbone. You're a blessing. You're a piece of my heart," Bryant said as a tear rolled down his left cheek.

"You're the air I breathe. And you're the strongest person I know, and I'm so sorry for having to put you through this and having to put our family through this."

Bryant surprised many of the assembled reporters by turning up at the press conference, which began just four hours after an Eagle County prosecutor announced the charges.

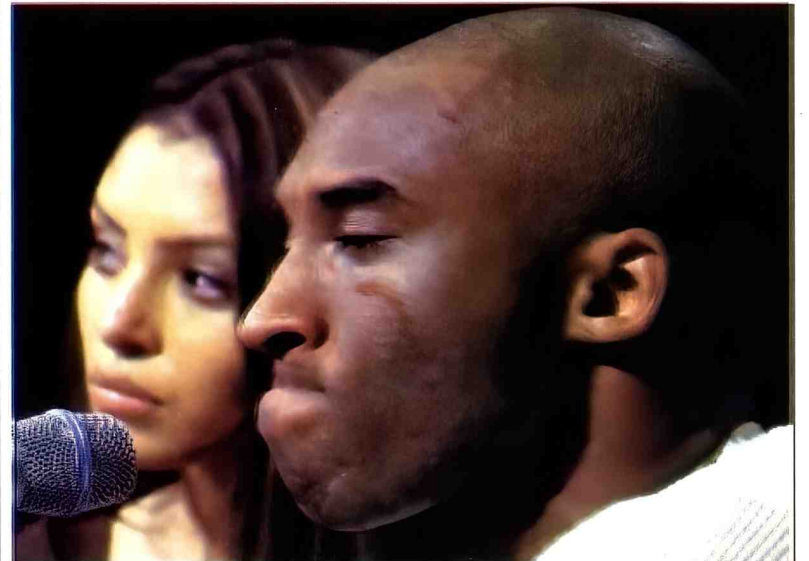
Attorneys for the five-time NBA all-star said he had made the decision to attend that afternoon.

"I'm a human being," he said. "I'm a man just like everybody else. I mourn. I cry. Just like everybody else. And I sit here before you guys embarrassed and ashamed for committing adultery. And you know if I could just turn back the hands of time... And I love my wife so much. She's so special to me."

As Vanessa Bryant locked her eyes on him, Bryant said: "But I'm innocent. And together my wife and I and our family, we're going to fight these false accusations..."

"I have a lot at stake and that has nothing to do with the game of basketball, has nothing to do with endorsements, nothing at all. This is about us. This is about our family. And I've been falsely accused of something, and I'm innocent."

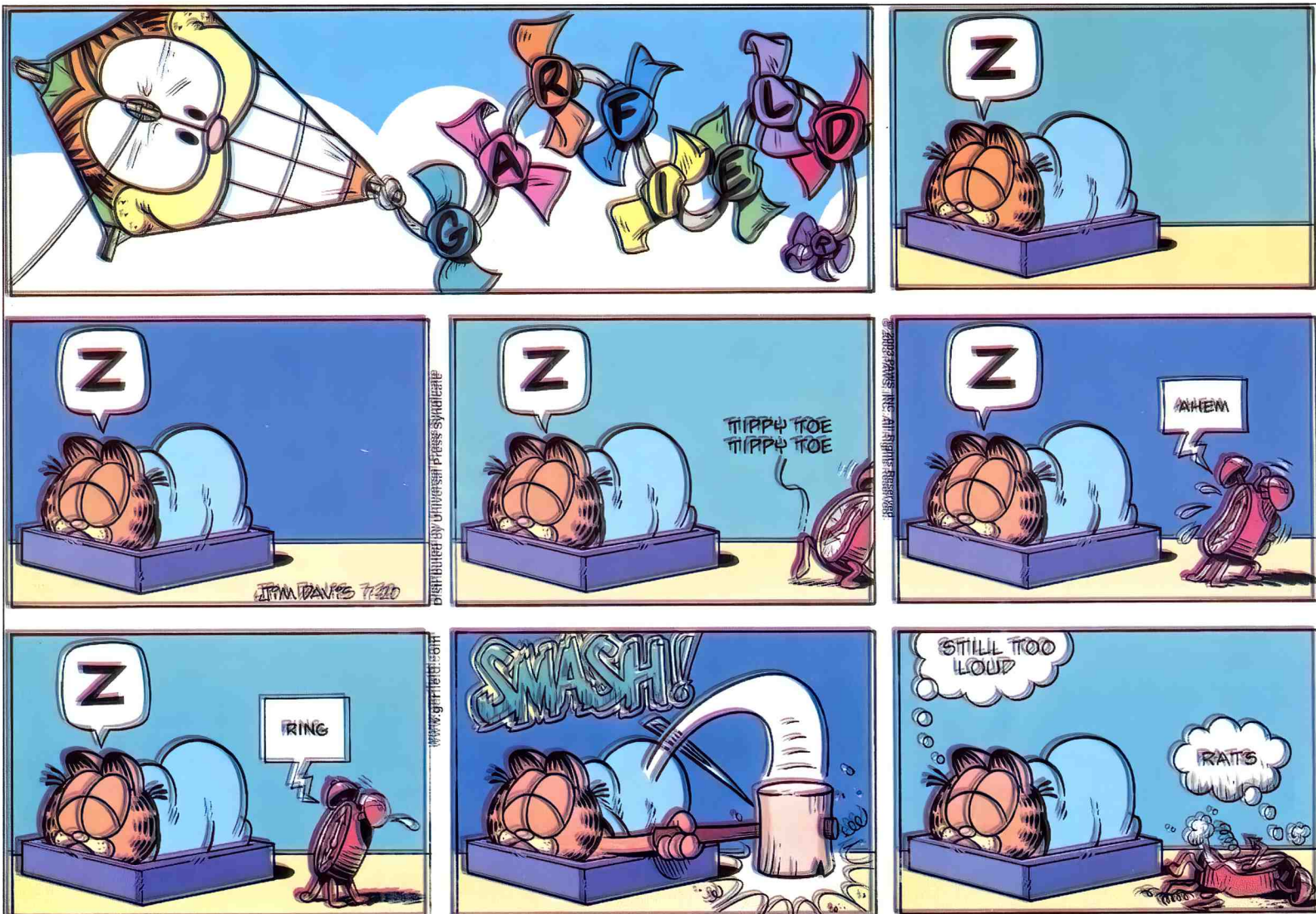
He concluded: "Shoulder to shoulder we're going to fight this all the way to the end."



Los Angeles Lakers star Kobe Bryant cries at a Los Angeles news conference as he admits to adultery in front of his wife Vanessa, following the charge of felony sexual assault filed against him in Eagle Colorado, July 18. Bryant said that the sex was consensual, although the complaint filed against him claimed that he used physical force or violence to coerce the victim during the June 30 incident. Photo by Lucy Nicholson/Reuters

7-Day Weather Forecast

	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun
Sana'a	Hi 30	29	29	28	28	28	28
	Lo 13	13	12	12	12	12	12
Aden	Hi 41	41	41	40	38	38	37
	Lo 27	28	28	27	26	26	26



THE LAST WORD IN ASTROLOGY

BY Eugenia

Aries (Mar 21 - Apr 19)
Watch what you spend today. Any form of gambling will not pay off. Greater knowledge and skills will result in a higher income.

Taurus (Apr 20 - May 20)
Personal issues may leave you feeling cold. Don't rush into any sort of partnership without giving yourself ample time. Your emotions will be scattered.

Gemini (May 21 - Jun 20)
Before you start to chatter away, remember that not everyone will treat what you say in the same manner. Someone is likely to twist your words. Don't be too quick to tell all.

Cancer (Jun 21 - Jul 22)
Concentrate on doing something important that will bring you satisfaction and a feeling of accomplishment. You can lend a helping hand to others, but don't donate money.

Leo (Jul 23 - Aug 22)
Play it safe. Live up to your promises and don't shirk your responsibilities. Try to keep things in perspective and don't cave in to someone's emotional blackmail.

Virgo (Aug 23 - Sep 22)
Lots of changes are coming your way and it's time to decide which direction to choose. You can expect to receive some information that will help you make up your mind.

Libra (Sept 23 - Oct 22)
You may be depended upon to take care of money matters for someone else. Be careful not to use your own money to cover another's mistake. Stick close to home — the more you do to raise your assets, the better.

Scorpio (Oct 23 - Nov 21)
Focus on a business or personal partnership today. Talk to people who have similar interests. Your ideas are excellent; put your plans into motion.

Sagittarius (Nov 22 - Dec 21)
You should be trying to get ahead where your work is concerned. Opportunities are present to expand your interests and to exploit your talents. Don't rule out any proposition.

Capricorn (Dec 22 - Jan 19)
You should do something that will inspire you today. Whether it is self-improvement or research regarding your future, take the initiative to make positive changes.

Aquarius (Jan 20 - Feb 18)
Don't be too quick to tell others your intentions. You may find that someone you thought you could trust will want to take your ideas to benefit himself.

Pisces (Feb 19 - Mar 20)
You will benefit the most if you interact with others. Don't hesitate to talk your ideas over with a good friend. This person may be eager to help you reach your goals.

Continued from Back page

Iraq's Gypsies suffer without Saddam's protection

"Deserters, thieves and drunks" "All the corrupted people used to come here — deserters, thieves and drunks," said Ali Haider, scavenging with friends who get about \$8 for every 50 blocks they gather. The areas surrounding the rubble are poor. Sewage flows out from the houses to a slimy green pool on wasteland. But residents say the place is much bet-

ter off without Gypsies they consider both a danger and an insult to Islamic morality. "We are the sons of tribes. We come from decent villages. If you were in my place, would you accept them?" Haider asked. The Gypsies have found a new home for now but it is a big comedown. They are squatting in an old Iraqi military



Iraqi gypsy children play near their former school and among rubble that was once their homes in the Baghdad suburb of Abu Ghraib July 12. The piles of dusty rubble, stretching across a couple of square kilometres on the western fringes of Baghdad, suggest the aftermath of a particularly devastating bombing raid in the Iraq war. But people from surrounding areas proudly declare they demolished this Gypsy neighbourhood with just sledgehammers, shovels and their bare hands after the war was over. REUTERS

compound bombed in the war, with a giant crater of mud in the grounds, several km (miles) from where they used to live.

They spend the hot days of the Iraqi summer in makeshift shacks under corrugated iron or in basic, bare-walled rooms. They get water from a mains pipe, their electricity supply is intermittent at best, as it is in much of Iraq these days.

"If you were in my place, if you had to leave the place where you'd grown up, you'd be sad," said Tahreer Kurdi, a 22-year-old musician.

Tension persists between Gypsies and other Iraqis, squatting in neighbouring parts of the compound. They accuse each other of gun attacks and attempted kidnappings.

"We don't have protection. Before, under Saddam's regime, no one could touch us," said Linda Kadhim, a student teacher.

Support from Saddam

Some people say Saddam built the Gypsies their own neighbourhoods and gave them citizenship in return for an

agreement to fight in the war against Iran in the 1980s. Others say he and his henchmen were more interested in having a ready source of people who could commit crimes that would be difficult to trace back to the government and provide singers, dancers and prostitutes for their amusement.

Locals who forced them out of the old neighbourhood tell stories of minibuses sent to pick up women for parties and men in cars with tinted windows visiting the area for nights of drinking, sex and shooting guns in the air.

With dark brown skin, large eyes and striking, clearly defined profiles, many of the Gypsies look different from other Iraqis. But they speak Arabic, consider themselves Iraqi and choose to live in one place rather than travel around. The main difference between them and other communities in Iraq these days seems to be in the way they live. It is not difficult to see how pious Iraqis are offended by the Gypsies. Prostitution is openly on offer at the



Iraqi gypsy children play in an abandoned military compound where they have been forced to make their home in the Baghdad suburb of Abu Ghraib July 12. The piles of dusty rubble, stretching across a couple of square kilometres on the western fringes of Baghdad, suggest the aftermath of a particularly devastating bombing raid in the Iraq war. But people from surrounding areas proudly declare they demolished this Gypsy neighbourhood with just sledgehammers, shovels and their bare hands after the war was over. REUTERS

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Iraq's Gypsies suffer without Saddam's protection

BY ANDREW GRAY

BAGHDAD, July 17 (Reuters) - The piles of dusty rubble, stretching across a couple of square kilometres on the western fringes of Baghdad, suggest the aftermath of a particularly devastating bombing raid in the Iraq war.

But people from surrounding areas proudly declare they demolished this Gypsy neighbourhood with just sledgehammers, shovels and their bare hands after the war was over.

The Gypsies enjoyed protection under Saddam Hussein, their singers and dancers much in demand at high officials' parties. But their neighbours regarded this purpose-built quarter as a centre of crime, prostitution and general immorality.

In the chaos after Saddam's downfall in April, as looting and mob justice took hold across Iraq, Sunni and Shi'ite Muslims saw a chance to expel some 2,000 people they despised.

"It was a camp of corruption," said Jasim Hassan, a middle-aged man in a white gown standing near the debris. "We shot at them all the time. Some of them fled and the rest left over time until we were able to remove them all."

Experts say Iraq's Gypsies, known in Arabic as Kawaliya, originated in India. The Gypsies themselves say their forefathers also came from Syria and Turkey. Their neighbours in the Abu Ghraib suburb just knew they didn't like them.

Once they had evicted the Gypsies, people dismantled their homes, carting away doors, window frames and bricks.

U.S. troops saw them but did not intervene, locals say. Teenagers now roam the rubble collecting concrete blocks to sell.

Continued on page 17



Iraqi Gypsies squat in an abandoned military compound where they have been forced to make their home in the Baghdad suburb of Abu Ghraib July 12. The piles of dusty rubble, stretching across a couple of square kilometres on the western fringes of Baghdad, suggest the aftermath of a particularly devastating bombing raid in the Iraq war. But people from surrounding areas proudly declare they demolished this Gypsy neighbourhood with just sledgehammers, shovels and their bare hands after the war was over. REUTERS

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Images of a sofa, a mattress, and a door.

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