

Al-Qaeda mediator detained

Sana'a, Sept. 30- Reliable sources told the Yemen Times that Yemeni security authorities detained last Thursday a person who was used as a mediator between the authorities and Mohammed Ali al-Ahdal, also named Abu Asem, the number one wanted Al-Qaeda suspect on Yemeni soil and the only mastermind of the organization remaining in Yemen.

The sources said that the mediator was detained when arrangements to meet the president were made.

As soon as he had reached Sana'a City, he was arrested.

The detainee has previously met the president and said that he conveyed an offer to Abu Asem to surrender himself to the authorities in return for a commitment by the Yemeni authorities not to hand him over to the USA.

The source said that Abu Asem is thought to be behind

the 2000 attack on the USS Cole in Aden, which resulted in the killing of 17 US marines, attacks against US interests in Yemen. However, he was able to disappear following this offer, which he totally rejected.

Abu Asem was a close companion of Qaed Salim Sunian (Abu Ali), who was killed by a remotely controlled US drone in the governorate of Mareb in September last year.

President Saleh had pledged to continue the chase of Abu Ali until he is arrested or killed.

On the other hand, a new al-Qaeda statement in Yemen has denied the rumors of an agreement reached between the government and the al-Qaeda elements in Yemen.

The new statement also accused two of its presumed members namely Abu Jandal and another person of being traitors and liars.



Yemeni man inspecting the remains of a vehicle after an attack by an unmanned U.S. aircraft in Yemen which killed al-Harethi and five alleged members of al Qaeda network, Nov. 3. U.S. officials acknowledge the CIA drone aircraft Predator carried out the attack. Al-Ahdal is still threatened to face a similar fate. (Middle East Broadcast Company image)

US Embassy warns of unspecified threat in Yemen: FBI in Yemen soon

Washington/Sana'a, Sept. 30 (Reuters) - The Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) will soon open an office in Yemen as part of the U.S. global "war on terror", the American ambassador said on Tuesday.

"Yes, the FBI is setting up office in Sana'a," U.S. ambassador to Yemen Edmund Hull told Reuters.

"We expect it to happen within the next two months," said Hull, a former head of the counter-terrorism office at the U.S. State Department.

He said the legal attaché who would lead the operations is expected to arrive in Yemen in this period but declined to give further details.

This comes a day after the U.S. Embassy in Yemen advised Americans in the country to take exceptional precautions because of an unspecified threat, according to a notice seen on the embassy Web site on Monday.

"The United States Embassy has received new information from the Yemeni government regarding a potential new threat to foreign-affiliated and Yemeni targets," said the message circulated to U.S. citizens on Sunday.

"United States citizens should review and update their security procedures and take exceptional precautions at this time," the message added.

The embassy advised Americans to take special care when they visit hotels, restaurants and other places frequented by foreigners, such as the Sana'a Trade Center, American-affiliated franchises, and restaurants and shops in the Haddah area of the capital Sana'a.

It called a meeting of "wardens" at the ambassador's residence in Sana'a on Tuesday to discuss security. The volunteer wardens are the first contact point in the chain for disseminating security information to Americans abroad.

Yemen is currently battling

Islamic militants, particularly the al Qaeda network, blamed for the 2000 bombings of the U.S.

warship Cole and a supertanker in Yemeni waters in 2002.

Yemen's government is treading a fine line between domestic anti-U.S. sentiment and its need for foreign aid and investment, much of which comes from the United States.

Security in Sana'a has been heightened after the U.S. embassy's warning as checkpoints have been set up around Sana'a and the military were looking for stolen and unregistered cars near the airport outside the city, a source close to the Defence Ministry said.

So far the FBI has operated by sending agents into Yemen temporarily and in limited numbers. The FBI plans to set up about 10 new overseas offices this year as part of a decade-long overseas expansion.

In the Arab world, it has missions in the Egyptian capital Cairo and the Saudi Arabian capital Riyadh.

Hull said bureau in the Yemeni capital Sana'a would focus on attacks on U.S. citizens, money laundering and extradition cases — all with the help of Yemen's judiciary.

Yemen, Saudi open border post

SANAA, Sept 29 (Reuters) - Yemen and Saudi Arabia opened a new crossing on Monday, the latest step by the two neighbors to end a border row and tighten security as they battle Islamic militants.

The potentially oil-rich region along the Empty Quarter desert had been long disputed until the two Arab states signed a border pact in 2000.

Economic and anti-terror collaboration in the wake of the September 11, 2001 attacks on the United States helped speed up the defining of the 1,800 kilometer (1,100 mile) long border.

The new border post was the latest sign of a thaw in historically cool ties between the two countries.

"This new demarcation between

Yemen and Saudi Arabia is remarkable for the countries' relations and it is of great importance for the security of Yemen and Saudi Arabia against any activity of terrorists," Yemeni Prime Minister Abdul-Qader Bagammal told Reuters.

"This will also improve the flexibility for the legal transfer of goods and people and also work against any smuggling of drugs and weapons," he added.

The new post is the first to be opened since the 2000 pact and the fourth on the porous border.

The May bombings which killed 35 people in the Saudi capital Riyadh fuelled cooperation and led to a swap of al Qaeda suspects under a security agreement signed in August.

The weapons used in the Riyadh attacks are suspected to have been smuggled from Yemen where there are up to 60 million illegal weapons. Many Yemenis carry arms despite government efforts to seize weapons.

Yemen, the ancestral home of al Qaeda leader Osama bin Laden and a hotbed for Islamic militants, is cooperating closely with the United States in its war against terrorism.

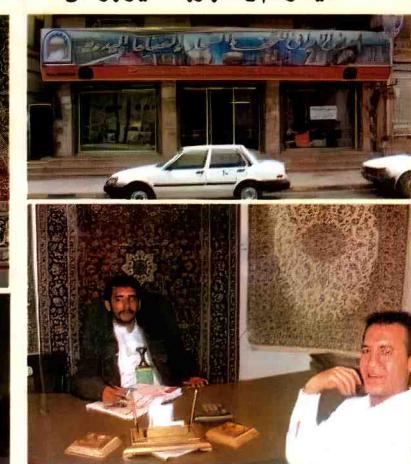
The U.S. embassy advised Americans in Yemen on Sunday to take exceptional precautions because of an unspecified threat.

Saudi Arabia came under intense U.S. pressure to crack down on militants after Washington said 15 of the 19 September 11 hijackers were Saudis.

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Uncertain future awaiting expelled high school girls

By Mohammed Bin Sallam
Yemen Times Staff

Sana'a, Sept. 30_ More than 700 high school female students from Jaweria Bint al-Hareth School gathered this week in front of the presidential palace because of their expulsion from their school.

This has taken place when the president's motorcade passed in front of the deported female students and despite of being reassured by officials at the palace for paying a visit to the school by the president.

A female teacher, refusing to identify herself said that the Secretary of the capital Ahmed al-Kuhlani has threatened to dismiss the school principal unless instructions to expel the 700 female students from the school were obeyed.

Samiha Lutf al-Zubairi, the School Principal said:

"It is unfair. Decisions regarding the

allocation of secondary schools and other basic ones, which have been approved by the Education Ministry and implemented by the secretary, have been done randomly and without a complete study. They have been implemented without an accurate and proper manner and without taking into consideration the surrounding factors."

"No alternative has been yet made and they don't even determine nearby schools for female students in order to continue their education," she confirmed.

She added that she was informed that the Ekhwan Thabet School would be somewhat the alternative school and that it has been allocated for study to high school female students.

"But more sorrow than in anger is that the aforementioned school has been still used for basic students. The school has been crammed with a lot of female students. It has more than 1934 female students and 22 classes. So, the

class capacity is about 85 female students," she said.

Mrs. Samiha explained that the classes of the upper floor of the Jaweria Bint al-Hareth School is empty and that it is possible for students, (700) to study in those classes.

She has bitterly complained about the deteriorating conditions of those expelled students. "Under the social and economic conditions and due to the high increase of transportation fares, most of those students have become a victim to illiteracy and will be listed as illiterate women spread among the Yemeni girls," she explained.

Another women found crying at the schoolyard because of the uncertain future of her daughter. "Who will do justice? Why doesn't the president respond to our complaints? Al-Kuhlani hates education of girls after the 9th grade. The education minister also has entered into endless clashes and dis-



putes since his appointment as a minister. He comes to us from another planet. He doesn't know our social context and conditions where we live. I plead to the president to dismiss the backward-minded people from their posts. They are the enemy of women and development and humanity," the women desperately said.

As for allocating secondary schools for female students and other for boy students for the basic education, the

secretary of the capital Mr. Ahmed al-Kuhlani insisted on allocating schools for those students for both levels.

He made clear that a committee had been set up to pursue the plan and a 15-day report is to be conducted. "So, this will pave the way for reconsidering those plans unless hindrances or difficulties blocked their way or that suitable solutions made," he explained.

He demanded for allocating such schools in the secretariat.

Readers' Voice

Yemen Times is reintroducing a popular feature "Readers' Voice" - formerly known as YT Opinion Poll. This is your opportunity to have a say on world and local affairs.

THIS EDITION'S QUESTION:

Do you believe that Iran will be sanctioned if it insists on its stance concerning its atomic reactors?

- Yes, and it may even be targeted.
- Yes, but it will never be targeted.
- No, it will not be sanctioned at all even as it insists on its stance.
- No, because it will give away its stance.

LAST EDITION'S

QUESTION:

Has Yemen become a safer place since the government started its war on terror?

- Yes definitely. 38%
- The conditions remain the same. 36%
- Things have gone worse. 26%

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Yemeni Encyclopedia Available in Book Fair, Markets

Afeef Cultural Foundation participates in the Book Fair held from 9 to 28 September with all its publications including 2nd edition of Yemeni Encyclopedia. In fact, the encyclopedia tackles various aspects of knowledge concerning Yemen's civilization, culture as well as people. However the advanced edition is in 4 volumes consisting of 3231 pages, 1300 topics and 300 illustrations. It's worth mentioning that those who wrote it are 179 researchers.

Marriage ceremonies turned to obsequies

Taiz, Sept. 27- Mr. Abdulwadood Abdulaziz al-Jaradi, the vice principal of the Omar Ibn al-Khattab School at al-Aqroodh district, south of Taiz, was killed with a stray bullet the moment he was going out of his house.

The bullet penetrated from the back of his head and remained at the top of the spinal column. But he died as soon as he had reached the hospital.

It has been made clear that the shot

was coming down from air where a marriage ceremony was held in an adjacent village.

Other three people were killed and four injured in the same way as a result of shooting fires in the air in al-Qarraisha, Hujaria during marriage ceremonies. People usually shoot fire with their guns as an expression of their joy on such occasions but such incidents turn such festivals into obsequies.

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Japan's ambassador attends delivery of medical equipment ceremony

Mr. Yuichi Ishii, Ambassador of Japan to Sana'a, on September 28 attended the delivery ceremony that took place at Abs Health Center in Hajjah Governorate on the occasion of delivering some medical equipment to the center under the Japanese scheme called "General Grant Aid for Grassroots Projects". The Grant amounting up to USD 68,536, which was agreed between the Embassy of Japan and the Center on February 9, 2003, was

used to procure some medical required by TB and Malaria Units in Abs Health Center such as X-ray machine, Ultra-sound machine, microscopes and other laboratory equipment to enable the center reduce morbidity and mortality rates of tuberculosis and malaria among the 200,000 inhabitants of Abs District. The above mentioned Japanese scheme aims at supporting small-scale community based projects in basic human needs

field, such as primary health care, basic education and public welfare in developing countries. In the last Japanese fiscal year (April, 2002-March, 2003), the Embassy of Japan extended grants under the scheme, which amount up to USD 468,398 to implement 8 small-scale projects in Sa'adah, Amran, Maharah, Sana'a, Hajjah, Dhamar and Hodaidah Governorates. The project at Abs Health Center is one of those eight projects.

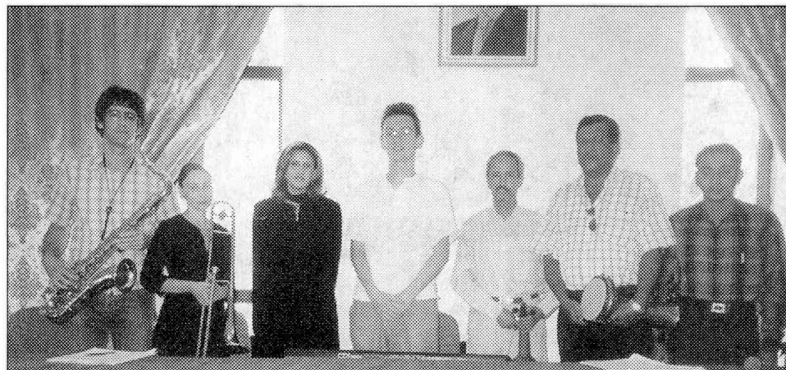
European artists value Yemen's art

BY YEMEN TIMES STAFF

Sana'a, Sept 30. As time is close to declare Sana'a as the Capital of Arab the Culture of 2004 and in a first step of its kind, the Culture Ministry along with German and French embassies has recently sponsored a unique cultural event in which a group of artists from the three countries worked together, produced art works and perform a wonderful music.

In this regard, French and Germans held a press conference on Sunday 28 September that took place at the Yemeni Cultural Center to shed a light on this event.

Dr. Tobias Tunkel, Second Secretary in German Embassy, said: "Participants have been selected by Yemeni committee. Organizing such event mainly aims at expanding and enhancing cultural cooperation between Yemen, France and Germany and gives the European



Group photo for artists and musicians representing German, France and Yemen

artists an opportunity to know more about the Yemeni culture. The artists also will share and benefit from each others' experience."

"The great importance of organizing these two workshops that last for three weeks has coincided with preparation for declaring Sana'a the capital of Arab

Culture. There will be a concert on October 8 and followed by exhibition on 11 of the same month at Culture House," he added.

"We hope that this experience will be successful and open wide-scope cultural talks between the countries," he concluded.

Violence against women still practiced

Sana'a, Sept 30. To spotlight more on different kinds of violence against women, Civic Democratic Initiatives Support Foundation (CDF) held on Monday 29 September a workshop entitled "The victims of violence and the society mistrust" that took place at Mercure Hotel, Sana'a.

The workshop focused on three main dimensions; woman absence, murdering of woman and the problems of getting married from foreigners.

Ms. Fatihia Abdualwasea and Ms

Khena Mekdad, lawyers, presented two working papers centering on all the kinds of violence against woman, discriminative laws especially the nationality law that has economically and socially affected woman and her children.

Ms. Bahria Shamsheer, chairperson of woman and child development at GTZ, displayed the painful effects of getting married to foreigners and obstacles the mother and her children have been facing as she has gone through this experience herself.

The participants called for enacting laws relevant to the situation and amending some the laws clearly expressing discrimination as well as building awareness among women and men alike about their rights granted by religion and the constitution. She also demanded issuing laws and drawing up programs and projects to limit violence against women.

A number of lawyers, representatives of civil society organizations and media attended the workshop and enriched it with their comments.

Seminar on renewable energy wraps up

BY FAROUK MOQBIL
YEMEN TIMES STAFF

Hodiedah, Sept. 30. More than 11 scientific studies and working papers were presented during the 2-day First Renewable Energy Seminar and Exhibition held in Hudeidah on September 30- October 1, 2003.

The was held under the auspices of Hudeidah Governor, Colonel, Mohammed Saleh Shamlan and attended by the Vice German Ambassador in Yemen.

During the inaugural ceremony, speeches were delivered focusing on the great significance of the renewable energy such as, solar energy, winds as a substitutes for the traditional energy sources such as fuel, which has greatly affected environment.

In his speech, the governor, Mr. Shamlan, said that the Hudeidah City is the forerunner in using the solar energy system for 20 years.

He emphasized that the city's preparedness to cover areas and districts with solar energy system networks in case of providing the essential support.

On her part, the German vice

Ambassador to Yemen said in her speech one of the biggest challenges in the world is represented by the climate change. She emphasized that the German government has committed itself to reduce dangers of the environmental changes.

In a statement to the Yemen Times, the Vice German Ambassador said a project related to the basic education has been underway in order to explain to children the great significance of preserving environment and how to deal daily with environmental demands.

The project has been applied in several governorates such as, Ibb; Abyan and in future the project will cover Hajjah and Marib.

Dr. Mohammed al-Ghashm the Vice-Director of the Tehama Development Authority focused in his speech on the environmental pollution



resulting from diesel and petrol -powered engines.

He called for applying the renewable energy systems and winds to generate energy instead.

Mr. Ahmed Mohammed Zabarah briefed the economic characteristics and the production cost of electricity for the solar cell. "I think that it is time for solar renewable energy to be replaced by the traditional method," Mr. Zabarah said.

Working papers and studies conducted in the field of renewable energy confirm that Yemen is featured by the solar energy resources and there are

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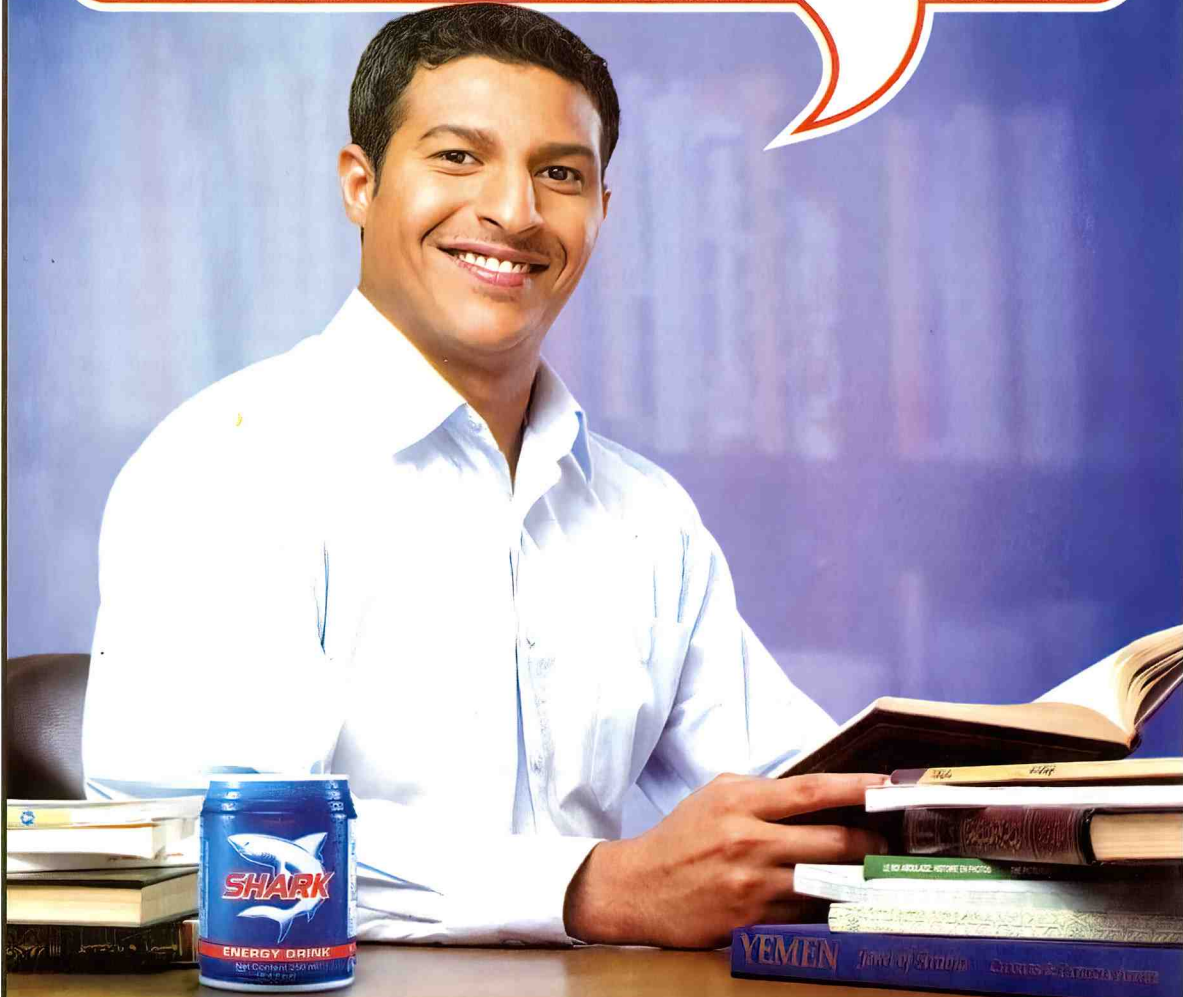
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September - October

Just spend a day in Hudeidah at night



Motorcycles' noises and dins have become normal in Hodeidah



Colonel Abdul'ateef al-Masri

By Farouk Moqbil
Yemen Times Staff
Hudeidah

It seems that no glimpse of hope or initiative has been taken to put an end to the awful noise caused by motorcycles in the city of Hudeidah. Most of the residents in buildings situated at Sana'a Street have left their houses to look for another quieter place where they could sleep peacefully even if 5 hours a day.

Nights in Hudeidah have been changed into a dreadful nightmare as a result of those motorcycles scattered in every corner of its streets.

The city visitors and new comers have been wondering, of not putting an end to such noise by the traffic policemen in the city.

Why aren't there any procedures taken against motorcyclists? Several questions are asked and in need of immediate solutions.

Yemen Times reporter has shed a

light on this noise problem in the city of Hudeidah and this has taken place in a time in which the city is titled the "Pride of the Red Sea".

Motorcycles in Hudeidah

The hot climate of Hudeidah has made motorcycles the only prevailing means of transportation because they are quicker and cheaper. While some motorcyclists totally depend on them for their own living and sustaining their families.

But as a result of being used by many people in the Hudeidah city, endless noises and dins have spoiled the city and annoyed its residents.

"We have been deprived from having even a twinkle of an eye. No sense of tranquility or calmness has been felt," Hisham Ahmed, a resident remarked.

Hisham uses this means of transportation to go to work or go shopping. But as a citizen, he placed an emphasis to have a right to calmness

for him as well as his family.

"In evenings noises become stronger when movements of other vehicles stop," he said.

Jameel on his part agrees to what Hisham said. But he is wondering why the motorcyclists don't sleep in the proper time. "There are of course children, patients and old people who are in need of calmness and tranquility," Jameel said.

Dins become normal

"We face this problem for a long time, but we get accustomed to it," Ata Musaed commented.

The noises and dins caused by motorcycles have become an essential trait of the city of Hudeidah and many of the poor families depend on their living on those motorcycles.

Motorcyclists defend

Mohammed, a motorcyclist, said: "What shall I do if I stop riding my motorcycle? Where shall I go? I have

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finished a diploma in computer and haven't find a job opportunity yet."

As a result of being unemployed, he has to buy a motorcycle for himself in order to sustain and provide the basic necessities for his seven-member family" he commented.

But, Ameen, another motorcyclist, sees that he could offer a noble service for people during the nighttime.

"New visitors from other governorates don't find a transportation means except this during the late night hours," Ameen said.

On the other hand, Mahyoob, another motorcyclist, refused what

Ameen said. "For me, I don't ride after 10:00 o'clock in the evening. I must take a rest and don't make noises," he noted.

The General Manager of Hudeidah Traffic Authority, Colonel, Abdullateef al-Masri said that there are about 30,000 motorcycles and the city of Hudeidah takes the lions share.

"We used to face difficulties to take control of those motorcyclists. As a result, we have conducted a plan to overcome problems caused by those motorcycles. The first phase is represented by the putting number plates and imposing customs duties," Mr.

Al-Masri said.

"But we couldn't prevent motorcyclists from riding at night collectively. As a result, a decision has been issued to prevent them from riding after 10:00 o'clock in the evening. Control and supervising campaigns have been followed," he commented further.

But there is a positive progress in this regard. What only has remained is some of the lawbreakers who love violating the traffic rules. "But, after putting number plates on their motorcycles, it is easy for the traffic policemen to hold them responsible," he concluded.

SABAFON – From Sadd'ah to Al – Mahara

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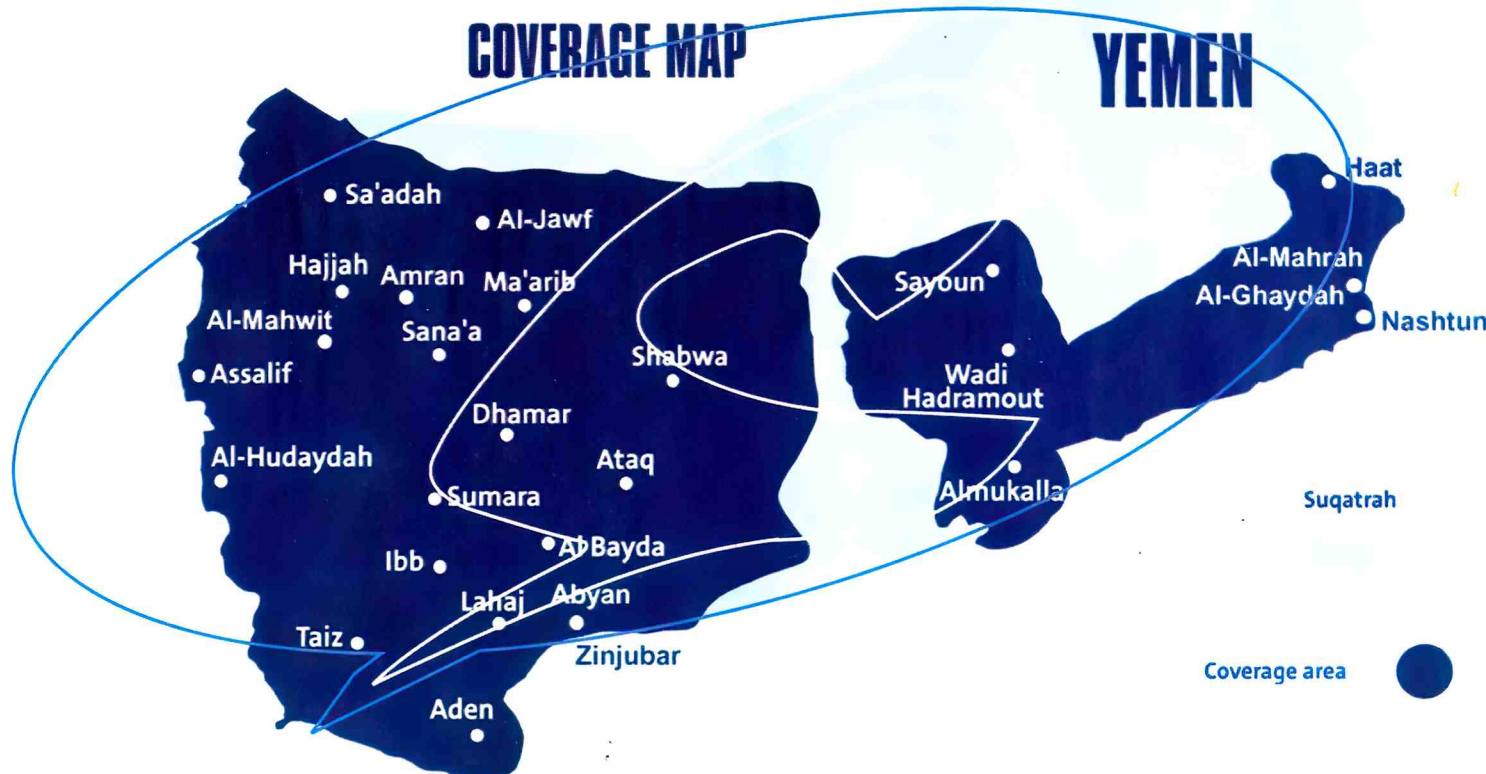
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ElBaradei requires no limit on Iran nuke inspections

VIENNA, Sept 30 (Reuters) - The U.N. nuclear watchdog chief said on Tuesday he will need full and unlimited cooperation from Iran to verify Tehran's insistence that it has no secret atomic weapons programme.

Iran said on Monday it would limit the International Atomic Energy Agency's (IAEA) access to declared nuclear sites when inspectors arrive this week ahead of an October 31 deadline for Iran to show it has no nuclear weapons programme.

However, to verify Iran's claims about its controversial uranium-enrichment programme and other aspects of Iran's atomic activities, the IAEA needs access to facilities that have not been officially declared as nuclear sites.

"If we cannot have full cooperation, full disclosure, unfortunately I'll have to say that I am not able to verify the Iranian statements (that their nuclear programme is purely peaceful)," IAEA chief Mohamed ElBaradei told reporters.

Iran has until the end of October to give the IAEA a full-disclosure of its nuclear programme so the agency can ensure it has not been diverting resources to covertly make an atomic bomb, as the United States has alleged.

"I expect ... to get the full story by the end of October," he said, adding that it might take a "much longer time" for the IAEA to verify Iran's declaration.

If ElBaradei tells the IAEA governing board at its November meeting that

he cannot verify the Iranian statements, the board would have to report Iran to the U.N. Security Council for possible economic and diplomatic sanctions.

ElBaradei said that IAEA inspectors were leaving on Wednesday for talks in Iran scheduled to begin on Thursday.

He said the "number one priority" was understanding the nature of Iran's uranium enrichment programme, which Washington says would be used to purify uranium for use in a nuclear explosive device — a charge Iran denies.

The IAEA has found weapons-grade uranium at two sites in Iran, diplomats told Reuters, which has raised suspicion that Iran has long been making enriched uranium — a key element in a nuclear weapon.

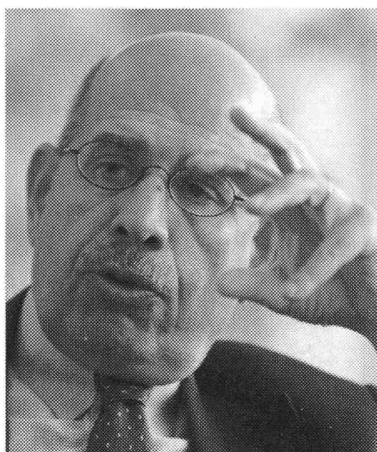
Iran says that this is due to contamination, but that explanation has met with scepticism inside and outside the IAEA.

No answer from Iran yet

ElBaradei said Iran had yet to answer any of the outstanding questions outlined in the September 12 IAEA board resolution, though he hoped all would be answered in the coming weeks.

He also said that Iran had yet to open talks on signing the Additional Protocol to the nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty (NPT) that would give the IAEA the right to conduct intrusive, snap inspections of any suspected site in the country.

"This (the protocol) is not my number one priority," he said. "My number



International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) Director General Mohammed ElBaradei talks to journalists in the Vienna headquarters September 30. ElBaradei said he will need full and unlimited cooperation from Iran to verify Tehran's insistence that it has no secret atomic weapons programme. REUTERS

one priority is to resolve past outstanding issues, primarily the enrichment programme."

Originally Iran had said that its enrichment programme began in 1997, but recently changed its story and told the agency that it began in 1985. This has made understanding the programme even more urgent than it was before, ElBaradei said.

However, ElBaradei said that it was essential for Iran to sign the protocol, which was created after the 1991 discovery of Iraq's secret atomic weapons programme.

Resentful Iraqis find U.S. optimism hard to share

BAGHDAD, Sept 30 (Reuters) - The Bush administration says Iraq is a better place to live than before the war. Try telling that to Baghdad citizens, whose frustrations are growing daily. Months after Saddam Hussein's fall, frequent power cuts and water shortages disrupt the city's rhythms, unemployment and crime loom large, and anger is rising against a U.S.-led occupation that shows few signs of ending soon.

Makeshift checkpoints are becoming permanent, webs of razor wire and concrete slabs divert traffic, frisking and demands for identity cards humiliate a nation renowned for its pride.

Iraqis feel their destiny has been taken out of their hands. The Governing Council was handpicked by Washington, the police force trained by foreigners. Iraqis are impatient to take back the reins.

"When they first came, people were more or less happy because they were fed up of dictators," Abdallah Suhail, an engineer now working as a security guard, said.

"Then we started to feel occupied. The word occupation is a strong word. And often their behaviour is aggressive and people are starting to hate them. We feel like hostages."

Iraq's U.S. administrator, Paul Bremer, acknowledged the shifting mood in a speech to the Senate last week.

"Most Iraqis welcomed us as liberators and we glowed with the pleasure of that welcome," he said. "Now the reality of foreign troops on the street is starting to chafe. Some Iraqis are beginning to regard us as occupiers and not as liberators."

erators."

While the north and south are relatively more stable, resistance to the occupation is strongest in the capital and so-called "Sunni Triangle" to the north and west. Daily explosions and fire-fights have twisted nerves in central Iraq.

Iraqis said the friendly waves and interaction that marked the first weeks after the fall of Baghdad had all but gone.

Rumsfeld sees progress

Nevertheless, U.S. Defense Secretary Donald Rumsfeld wrote in the Washington Post last week: "I believe the plan to win the peace in Iraq will succeed — just as the plan to win the war succeeded."

"We have made solid progress: Within two months, all major Iraqi cities and most towns had municipal councils — something that took eight months in postwar Germany," he went on, citing the formation of an Iraqi cabinet by the Governing Council and an independent central bank.

But the U.S. army's accidental killing of civilians and the deaths of Iraqis in anti-American guerrilla attacks have heightened hostility towards the occupiers.

U.S. soldiers said the loss of colleagues in a series of roadside bombs targeted at their convoys had in turn made them more nervous of local people.

"Sometimes it feels like getting stabbed in the back," Specialist Clark Aberle said, standing at a checkpoint on

a road once known for its riverside fish grills, now a strictly controlled thoroughfare protecting hotels used by Westerners.

"We understand why we are here, we are doing the right thing, trying to make a difference, and then you turn around and something like that (an attack) happens."

Iraqis complain that U.S. soldiers treat Baghdad as their own. A security guard at the zoo complained that when a group of soldiers wanted to come in after hours for a party, they just waved a piece of paper at him and went straight in.

"It was in English, I didn't understand it," he said. "What did you want me to do? Stop them? They are the occupiers."

The lawlessness in Baghdad presents Iraqis with a unanswerable conundrum. Many want the Americans to leave, but are scared too of the chaos that could ensue if they did.

But people are impatient to see change, to start the new lives they were promised when the United States invaded.

"Maybe we Iraqis did expect too much from the American invasion, we did hope there is going to be an easy way," Salam Pax, an Iraqi who became famous for his Baghdad Web diaries before and during the war, wrote last month.

"Get rid of Saddam and have the Americans help us rebuild. I don't think like that any more. I am starting to believe that the chaos we will go through the next five or 10 years is part of the price we will 'have' to pay to have our freedom."

The man, identified as Nabil Ben Jaballah, 39, survived the impact and the fire caused by a gas cylinder. He was detained on the spot, the official TAP news agency said. Damage to the embassy wall was minimal.

The agency said the man was desperate after failing to obtain a visa for the United States to join his American wife.

An embassy spokeswoman declined to comment on the incident which TAP said occurred shortly after midnight.

Egypt will not send troops to Iraq-official

ABU DHABI, Sept 30 (Reuters) - Egypt will not send troops to Iraq to help restore postwar security, Egyptian presidential adviser Osama el-Baz said on Tuesday.

The United States is seeking a U.N. resolution for countries to provide

troops and cash for Iraq. Egypt is a U.S. ally in the Middle East.

"Egypt will not send troops to Iraq and no one has asked it to," el-Baz told reporters in the United Arab Emirates' capital Abu Dhabi after talks between the UAE and Egyptian presidents.

"The subject of Iraq is being studied by Arab leaders," he added.

Egypt's President Hosni Mubarak is due to head to Saudi Arabia next after his talks with UAE President Sheikh Zayed bin Sultan al-Nahayan on Iraq and the Israeli-Palestinian conflict.

Saudi intellectuals petition leader for reform

RIYADH, Sept 30 (Reuters) - More than 300 Saudi intellectuals and professionals have urged de facto ruler Crown Prince Abdullah to move faster on political and social reform to curb the growing influence of radical Islamists.

A petition addressed to Crown Prince Abdullah last week, a copy of which Reuters obtained on Tuesday, was signed by more than 300 Saudis, including around 50 women.

"We ask the leadership to announce a long-awaited comprehensive national initiative to create the mechanism for constitutional, political, economic and social reforms within a declared timeframe," it said.

Demands for reform increased after suicide bombings in Riyadh in May and subsequent police raids on suspected al Qaeda militants in the Saudi kingdom, a U.S. ally and the world's largest oil exporter. The bombings

were blamed on al Qaeda.

Saudi liberals, encouraged by Crown Prince Abdullah's call in January for Arab reform, have previously submitted similar petitions calling for the fast-growing population to be given an outlet for political participation and opposition other than extremism and violence.

Saudi Arabia, birthplace of Osama bin Laden and 15 of the 19 September 11, 2001 suicide hijackers who attacked U.S. cities, is ruled by an absolute monarchy with key positions held by members of the House of Saud, the ruling family.

The petition reiterated calls for an elected parliament, independent judiciary and political rights. It also urged action on corruption, distribution of wealth, unemployment — estimated at 12 percent — and women's rights.

Saudi women are not allowed to drive or travel without a male accom-

panion. They can only work in an all-women environment.

"Our long delay in adopting essential reforms and the absence of public participation in decision-making are the main reasons that allowed matters in our country to reach such a dangerous juncture," said the petition, signed by both Sunni and Shi'ite Muslim Saudis.

"Denying society's political, ideological and cultural elements their right of expression has effectively given control to one side, which is incapable of dialogue with others and which does not express Islam's moderation and tolerance. This has helped give birth to terrorist ideology," it added.

Experimenting with tentative reform, the kingdom announced last month the formation of a dialogue centre to fight extremism and address political differences.

Sudan says US links peace deal to terror blacklist

CAIRO, Sept 30 (Reuters) - Washington has pledged to remove Sudan from a blacklist of states it says sponsor "terrorism" once Khartoum signs a peace deal to end its civil war, Sudan's foreign minister said in an interview published on Tuesday.

Sudan's government and southern rebels, which have been fighting for more autonomy since 1983, adjourned the latest round of peace talks in Kenya on Friday after clinching a key security deal that cleared a major obstacle to resolving the conflict in Africa's largest country.

Sudanese Foreign Minister Mustafa Osman Ismail told the pan-Arab daily al-Hayat in New York he had asked U.S. Secretary of State Colin Powell to remove Sudan from the U.S. list of "state sponsors of terrorism".

"He (Powell) pledged Sudan's name would be lifted from the list of states that sponsor terrorism and

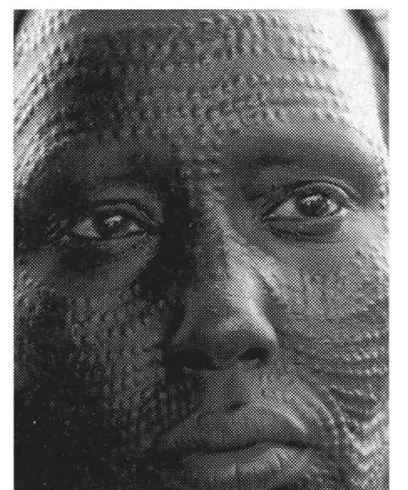
relations with Khartoum would be normalised after the signing of a peace agreement," Ismail said.

Sudan is one of seven states Washington considers state "sponsors of terrorism".

In 1998, the United States fired missiles at a factory in Sudan which it said was involved in making components for chemical weapons and partly financed by Osama bin Laden, the Saudi-born militant hosted by Sudan from 1991 to 1996.

But Washington says Sudan has made progress towards rejoining the international fold since then and has praised its cooperation since the September 11, 2001 attacks.

In broad terms, Sudan's civil war pits rebels from the mostly animist and Christian south against the Islamist government in the north. The conflict is complicated by issues including oil, race and ethnicity.



A Sudanese lady listens to speeches by John Garang, leader of Sudan Peoples Liberation Army (SPLA) speaking to a crowd in Rumbek Southern Sudan September 30. Thousands of South Sudanese turned out to give the main rebel leader a welcome after reaching a landmark transitional security deal with Khartoum government. REUTERS

Jordan to train some 30,000 Iraqi police, troops

AMMAN, Sept 30 (Reuters) - Jordan said on Tuesday it would train around 30,000 Iraqi police and soldiers as part of the country's efforts to support its Arab neighbour.

"The details are still being studied but we expect the programme to be applied as soon as possible,"

Information Minister Nabil al-Sharif told Reuters.

"This is to support the Iraqi people and to extend a helping hand to them during these hard circumstances," Sharif said. Jordanian Prime Minister Ali Abu al-Ragheb met Iraqi Interim Governing Council member Iyad

Allawi on Monday and told him Jordan was willing to deal with the council, The Jordan Times newspaper reported.

Jordan considers the U.S.-backed council "a first step towards the formation of an Iraqi government that represents all Iraqis," the paper quoted Ragheb as saying.

Moroccan rights group says terror trials flawed

RABAT, Sept 30 (Reuters) - Suicide bombings by radical Islamists in Morocco have led to the arrests of more than 900 people but the country's leading human rights group said on Tuesday trials held so far have been seriously flawed.

Lawyers also question the way the authorities have dealt with defendants. "The first indications we have are that the trials have not been equitable and fair," said Mohammed El Boukili of the Moroccan Human Rights Association.

Six sentences of death and more than 40 of life imprisonment have been handed down in relation to the May 16 attacks in Casablanca, in which 45 people, including 12 suicide bombers, died.

In addition, 10 members of an Islamist group charged with murders before the bombings have been given death sentences.

After two surviving would-be bombers revealed their radical Islamist sympathies, the loosely organised

Salafist Jihad movement was targeted by waves of arrests. The trials have reinforced the message that the movement is now outlawed.

As Morocco slowly emerges from decades of authoritarian rule under the late King Hassan, who died in 1999, many lawyers and human rights activists said it was crucial for defendants' rights to be respected if there is to be no return to past abuses.

Scrupulous respect for legality is also the only way to counter Islamist extremism, they said.

But Boukili said few witnesses have been called, with public prosecutors instead relying heavily on summaries of defendants' statements under interrogation. Judges faced with groups of up to 50 defendants have often given some 15-20 minutes to testimony from each. Acquittals have been rare.

Lawyers said detainees have been held in custody longer than legally allowed, and brought before the investigating magistrate blindfolded and with

no lawyer present. Defendants have reported torture and beatings during interrogations and threats of rape.

Mohammed Darif, an analyst specialising in Islamism, said the trials failed to convince the Moroccan public that the bombings have been satisfactorily investigated.

"Investigators lost the trail somewhere, and so decided on a broad sweep."

He said the main trial in Casablanca involving the two surviving would-be bombers "began and ended without the public being much the wiser" as to who was behind the bombings.

As authorities attempt to track down a hard core of activists prepared to use violence, the broadly targeted approach could create problems in the medium term.

"Years in prison mixing with like-minded people is a perfect setting for indoctrination," of young men who previously might not have been committed activists, said a European diplomat.

New premier marks historical moment in Mauritius

PORT LOUIS, Sept 30 (Reuters) - Paul Berenger will become the first non-Indian to head the Mauritius government when Sir Anerood Jugnauth hands over power on Tuesday after ruling as prime minister for much of the past 21.

Almost 70 percent of Mauritius' 1.2 million population are of Indian descent and consequently Indians have dominated the political scene since the tiny, prosperous Indian Ocean island gained independence from Britain in 1968.

Berenger, a white Mauritian of French origin, will become the first member of an ethnic minority to accede to the office of prime minister.

The transfer of power is in line with an agreement reached three years ago between two of the island's main political parties - the Mauritian Militant

Movement (MMM), led by Berenger, and Jugnauth's Militant Socialist Movement (MSM).

Berenger and Jugnauth formed a coalition and won a huge victory in elections in September 2000, gaining 57 of the 60 seats in parliament.

Under their coalition pact, the two parties agreed Jugnauth would serve as prime minister for three years and then hand over to Berenger, who would be prime minister for two years leading up to elections in 2005.

Jugnauth, 73, will stand down as prime minister on Tuesday, before taking over the largely ceremonial role as president on October 7.

Jugnauth is credited with the legacy of Mauritius' "economic miracle" of the 1980s - a set of liberal policies such as the creation of a duty-free trade zone and establishing Mauritius

as a leader in textiles production - which allowed the island to develop into the economic powerhouse in the region.

Berenger, a radical socialist turned free marketer who traces his family roots back to Marseilles in France, is currently the finance minister and deputy prime minister.

The Wales-educated former trade unionist, who was imprisoned for almost a year for instigating massive strikes in the island's port in the 1970s, has always rallied himself around minority groups such as African-Creoles, Muslims and Chinese.

Observers say Berenger's biggest challenge will be to appease the Indo-Mauritian population, who largely view Berenger's appointment as head of government as an erosion of their traditional dominance in government.

China to address rich-poor divide

BEIJING, Sept 30 (Reuters) - Shortly after taking over as China's Communist Party chief last year, Hu Jintao told party officials to practise plain living and work for the welfare of the greatest number of people.

In just under two weeks time, Hu — now also state president — will sit down with fellow party leaders to tackle a growing rich-poor divide, one of the key threats to social cohesion in the world's most populous country.

Premier Wen Jiabao addressed the issue in a general way but gave little hint of any new reforms in a banquet speech at Beijing's Great Hall of the People on Tuesday, on the eve of China's National Day holiday.

"Building a well-off society in an all-round way is an enormous undertaking that promises tangible benefits to more than one billion Chinese people," he declared.

The battle against the deadly viral disease SARS had taught China the importance of "overall planning", he said.

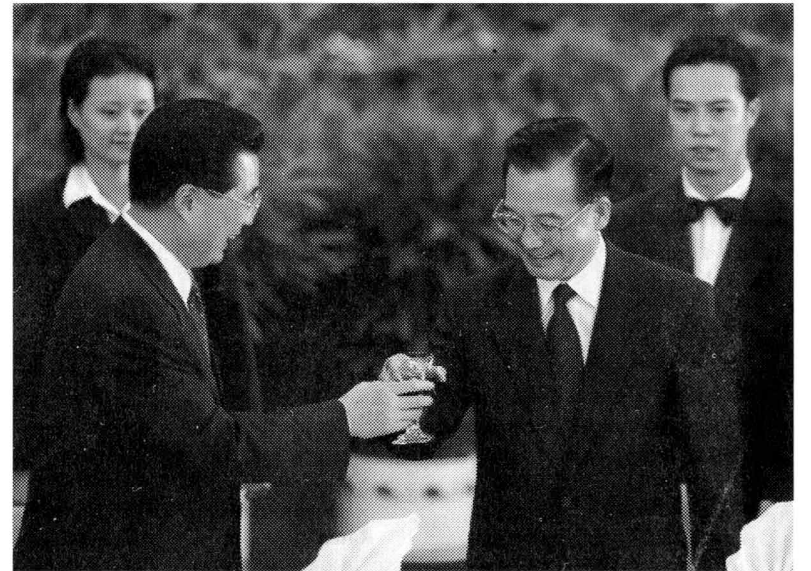
"That is, to maintain a coordinated development between the economy and society, between urban and rural areas and between different regions; to give top priority to the people, striving to improve their material and cultural life and their health standard," Wen said.

Analysts said Wen's stress on more balanced economic growth to ward off social unrest instead of breakneck expansion underscored policies promoted since the late 1990s.

The agenda shows the new leadership also wants to put the economy, now showing signs of overheating in some sectors, on a more sustainable footing.

Safeguarding free enterprise

At the same time, they are holding off on more contentious political reforms such as expanding local elec-



Chinese President Hu Jintao (L) toasts Premier Wen Jiabao during a banquet at the Great Hall of the People in Beijing September 30, 2003, to celebrate the 54th National Day. The People's Republic of China celebrates its National Day on October 1.

REUTER

tions and inner-party democracy in favour of widely anticipated legal safeguards on free enterprise, analysts said.

On Tuesday the party newspaper, the People's Daily, said Hu and other members of the 24-strong ruling politburo had met on Monday and decided to submit documents to the 198-member central committee at its crucial October 11-14 plenum on ways to revise the constitution and improve the economy.

China has witnessed two decades of spectacular economic growth but has tightened bank credit and taken other measures to ward off overheating amid fears of a possible hard landing. The constitution would be revised to shield private property rights and possibly write in the "Three Represents" political theory of former leader Jiang Zemin, who still wields influence, legal experts and political analysts said.

The Communists seized private property and executed landlords after

sweeping to power in 1949. But the party wrote the "Three Represents" into its charter at its congress last November, opening its doors to private entrepreneurs.

Since taking the reins of state in March, Hu and Wen led the successful battle over the SARS epidemic, ended a rule on the arbitrary detention of migrants and scrapped the party's annual summer gathering at the seaside resort of Beidaihe.

The new leaders' "Revitalise the Northeast" campaign, likely to imitate the "Develop the West" drive to help those destitute regions with preferential policies and tax incentives, would be high on their agenda, the People's Daily said.

Wen toured the region in August to kickstart a drive to create private sector jobs, replenish social security coffers and overhaul industry in the northeast, glorified in the days of Mao Zedong but now beset by frequent worker protests and derelict state enterprises.

U.S., allies offer few clues on N.Korea talks

TOKYO, Sept 30 (Reuters) - U.S., Japanese and South Korean diplomats "brainstormed" in Tokyo on Tuesday about North Korea's nuclear arms programme but offered few clues to the outlook for talks with Pyongyang as the communist state itself said it had "lost interest" in the process.

The United States, the two Koreas, China, Russia and Japan agreed at talks in August in Beijing to settle the issue peacefully but set no date for another round of discussions.

U.S. Assistant Secretary of State James Kelly met Mitoji Yabunaka, director general of the Japanese Foreign Ministry's Asian and Oceanian Affairs Bureau and South Korean Deputy Foreign Minister Lee Soo-hyuck in the first such session since August.

But Kelly was tightlipped about the prospects for another round of six-country talks.

"We don't know," was all he would tell reporters.

A Japanese official briefing reporters later was similarly unlightening. "It's not clear whether North Korea will agree to six-way talks. It's not clear when they may be

held," the Japanese official said.

Diplomatic sources said earlier that the three-way talks in Tokyo were unlikely to produce public pronouncements.

Among the issues high on the agenda, however, was the question of how to address North Korea's security concerns.

Washington wants North Korea to agree to a verifiable and irreversible end to its nuclear arms programmes.

Pyongyang, for its part, wants a firm assurance that the United States will not attack or invade.

Australian Defence Minister Robert Hill, in Tokyo for separate talks with Japanese officials, told a news conference that the process was never going to be easy.

"We believe that the dialogue will be long and difficult, and there will be frustrations and disappointments along the road. But despite those frustrations and disappointments, it's important to stick with the process," Hill said.

Losing interest or playing COY?

North Korea, which on Monday called on the United States to sign a non-aggression treaty, said one day

later it was not interested in more talks. "It was confirmed that the U.S. does not wish to co-exist with the DPRK (North Korea) in peace but tries to use the six-way talks as a leverage to completely disarm the latter. This compels the DPRK to discard any interests or expectation for the talks," a North Korean Foreign Ministry spokesman said in comments carried by the North's official KCNA news agency on Tuesday.

The spokesman said North Korea had never made any promises about another round of talks to follow up the August gathering.

Behind the scenes, however, it appeared that efforts to entice North Korea back to the negotiating table continued.

Japanese public broadcaster NHK said senior Japanese diplomat Akitaka Saiki had made "unofficial contact" with North Korean official Li Gun in New York on Monday.

Saiki told Li, who represented Pyongyang at talks held in Beijing in April with the United States and China, that if Pyongyang agreed to a second round of six-way talks, there might be room to address North Korea's security concerns, NHK said.

One killed, 30 hurt in grenade attacks in Kashmir

SRINAGAR, India, Sept 30 (Reuters) - Suspected Muslim militants hurled grenades at police patrols in two towns in Indian Kashmir on Tuesday, killing a policeman and injuring 30 people, officials said.

The attacks came a day after Indian troops foiled what they said was the biggest infiltration attempt by Muslim guerrillas from Pakistani territory in four months.

No militant group has claimed responsibility for the attacks in the Himalayan region that lies at the heart of decades of rivalry between nuclear-

armed India and Pakistan, who stood on the brink of a fourth war last year.

A police spokesman told Reuters suspected militants lobbed a grenade at a Central Reserve Police Force patrol near Shopian town, south of Srinagar, injuring 19 civilians and six paramilitary troops.

Srinagar is the summer capital of India's Jammu and Kashmir state.

Earlier on Tuesday, one policeman was killed and five wounded, some of them seriously, when militants attacked a police patrol with a grenade in Poonch district, also south of

Srinagar.

Ties between India and Pakistan have improved in recent months, but mainly Hindu India has linked fresh talks on improving relations to an end to attacks by Muslim separatists in Kashmir.

Militant violence has continued unabated across the strife-torn region taking the death toll to 340 this month.

Officials say more than 38,000 people have been killed since a rebellion broke out in the state at the end of 1989.

Soldier from U.S.-led force killed in Afghanistan

KABUL, Sept 30 (Reuters) - A soldier from the U.S.-led force in Afghanistan has died of wounds after fighting in the east of the country, the U.S. military said on Tuesday.

Another two coalition soldiers were wounded in the fighting on Monday near Shkin in Paktika province, close to the border with Pakistan.

Two enemy fighters were killed, U.S. military spokesman Colonel Rodney Davis told a news briefing at Bagram air base to the north of Kabul.

"One coalition member died of wounds received in combat, and two others were wounded as a result of fighting on Monday near Shkin," Davis said.

He declined to give the nationality of the soldiers.

The fatality was the fourth in just over a month from the 12,500-strong U.S.-led force hunting Taliban and al Qaeda militants in Afghanistan.

In late August, two U.S. soldiers were killed near the same base at

Shkin after coming under fire. Four attackers were killed in the ensuing gun battle.

Another U.S. soldier died in an accident in late August during combat operations against Taliban guerrillas in Zabul province.

The period since early August has been the bloodiest since U.S.-led forces toppled the Taliban in late 2001, with about 300 people killed, among them civilians, aid workers, police, militiamen and many guerrillas.

Kenyan judiciary riddled with corruption -judge

NAIROBI, Sept 30 (Reuters) - An investigation has found evidence of corruption or unethical behaviour by more than half of the judges in Kenya's highest court, according to a team helping the Nairobi government in its war on corruption.

There was evidence against five of the country's nine judges in the Court of Appeals — the highest court — and 18 judges out of the 36 in the High Court, according to the team's report, released on Tuesday.

"Corruption has resulted in a loss of public confidence in the judiciary as an institution," Justice Aaron Ringera, head of the three-judge probe team, told a news conference.

"There was credible and substantial evidence of corruption, unethical conduct and other forms of misbehaviour against 152 officers," he said.

Those 152 were among Kenya's 300 judges and magistrates.

President Mwai Kibaki vowed to rid the country of corruption when he took power after winning elections last December and he has made cleaning up the judiciary a key target in the drive.

Chief Justice Evans Gicheru appointed Ringera's team on March 19 to look into corruption in the judiciary.

The judges accused of corruption were not identified by name but some were accused of having taking bribes from litigants to rule in their favour.

Their names would be sent to the chief justice, who was appointed by Kibaki, for a decision on further action.

Ringera said some of the judges in question had delayed ruling on cases in return for bribes, had engaged in business outside the judiciary and were living beyond their known means.

Ringera said graft had hurt economic growth and government revenues and had increased crime.

Kenya's war on corruption is seen as key to unlocking new lending by donors and rebuilding a troubled economy once seen as East Africa's most promising.

Donors suspended lending to Kenya in late 2000 because of concerns about corruption under former President Daniel arap Moi.

As part of his anti-graft campaign, Kibaki submitted a sealed declaration of wealth, as part of an effort to ensure public officials' lifestyles are measured against their legal earnings.

Kenya's 70,000 civil servants, including judges and magistrates, have until Wednesday to hand in similar declarations or face possible one-year jail terms.

Ethiopia blames OLF rebels for train bomb blast

ADDIS ABABA, Sept 30 (Reuters) - Ethiopia has accused the rebel Oromo Liberation Front (OLF) for last week's bomb blast on a train which killed two passengers and injured nine others.

The train was on its way from the Red Sea state of Djibouti to Ethiopia. The bomb exploded on Friday at Adigula, 191 km from Djibouti, and the police said they had launched intensive investigations to find the culprits.

"The recent bomb blast that occurred on a passenger train heading

from Djibouti to Dire Dawa was planted by the so-called Oromo Liberation Front (OLF)," a statement from the Ministry of Information said, read over state television on Monday night.

"OLF is responsible for the heinous crime that caused the death of two innocent people and injury of nine others."

The OLF were not immediately available for comment.

The statement accused the OLF of launching terrorist activities in the capital Addis Ababa and the eastern

town of Dire Dawa by planting bombs at soft targets such as hotels killing innocent civilians.

In July, 31 people were injured, five seriously, when a grenade was lobbed into a hotel bar in the capital. The police arrested several OLF rebels who they said had confessed that they planned the attack.

OLF rebels have been fighting for the independence of the southern Oromo region from Addis Ababa government since 1993, alleging discrimination against the Oromo, Ethiopia's largest ethnic group.

German cardinal says pray for Pope's health-report

BERLIN, Sept 30 (Reuters) - Cardinal Joseph Ratzinger, the German head of the Vatican body which oversees doctrinal matters, was quoted on Tuesday as saying Pope John Paul was in poor health and the faithful should pray for him.

"He is in a bad way," Ratzinger told Germany's Bunte magazine in an interview conducted last Monday. "We should pray for the Pope." In an earlier summary of the interview, Bunte had quoted Ratzinger as saying the pope was in a "very bad way".

Ratzinger, who heads the Vatican's Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith, said the 83-year-old Pope probably took on too much, but it was not his job to stop him.

At the Vatican, the Pope received several Filipino bishops and some Polish pilgrims on Tuesday and preparations were going ahead for his weekly general audience on Wednesday.

The increasingly frail Pope was particularly weak earlier this month on a trip to Slovakia and needed help reading his sermons. Last week, he skipped his general audience because of what the Vatican said was an intestinal problem.

Ratzinger's private secretary, Georg Gaenswein, said it was amazing how the Pope, who has Parkinson's Disease, kept going.

"He can't walk and stand anymore but he is a hero for the faithful. The fact that he doesn't give up despite his illness makes him even more credible," Gaenswein told Bunte.

He said the Pope would not give up travelling. "When he is no longer allowed to travel, then dear God will come for him," Gaenswein said.

The leader of the world's one billion Roman Catholics, who marks his 25th anniversary next month, appointed 31 new cardinals on Sunday, possibly putting his last stamp on the group that will one day choose his successor.

Ratzinger rejected suggestions he might make a good pope. Asked whether he could imagine a black pope succeeding Pope John Paul, Ratzinger said:

"Yes, why not? But I don't think that will happen because of course the number of white cardinals is much bigger. But of course there are many excellent figures who are suited for this office among my black colleagues."



Croatian Roman Catholic Archbishop Josip Bozanic conducts mass at the Annunciation Church in Velika Gorica near Zagreb Sept. 28. Pope John Paul II proclaimed Bozanic Cardinal, the highest rank in Roman Catholic Church. REUTERS

French newsman in suspected Comoros plot expelled

PARIS, Sept 30 (Reuters) - A French journalist suspected of involvement in a coup plot has been expelled from the Indian Ocean island state of Comoros, but three others remain in detention, lawyers for one of the prisoners said on Tuesday.

Morad Ait-Habbouch, a journalist with French TV station Canal Plus, was arrested along with two other Frenchmen, Philippe Verdon and Pascal Lupart, and opposition leader Said Larifou on September 22 just before a planned demonstration against fuel price rises.

Ait-Habbouch had been banned from leaving the island pending an investigation by the public prosecutor into allegations he took part in the coup plot.

An inquiry found that he was aware of the coup plot but played only a minor role, a source close to the Comoran government said late on Monday. The source did not elaborate.

French law firm Varat & Carrere & Varaut, which represents Verdon, said in a statement on Tuesday it was worried about the fate of the others.

"Mr Ait-Habbouch has been released and expelled, although his

camera was confiscated, but the three others are still in detention in extremely precarious conditions, namely because of the brutality they have suffered," it said.

Up to 5,000 protesters took to the streets of the tropical archipelago last week chanting "Azaly out", referring to President Assoumani Azaly.

A Comoran government official said the men were being held on charges of threatening state security. It suspects the two Frenchmen of being mercenaries.

The lawyer for Larifou, of the RIDJA (Rally for a Development Initiative with an Enlightened Youth), said on Monday the authorities had no evidence against his client.

The French law firm, meanwhile, said Verdon was merely a political adviser to Larifou and was in no way affiliated to any mercenaries.

"In these circumstances, the detention appears devoid of any judicial grounds and aimed at ensuring police control of a tense political situation," it said.

It called on Azaly, who was out of the country during the alleged coup plot, to "personally put an end to this unfortunate situation".

Blair tells Iraq critics:

"I'd do it again"

BOURNEMOUTH, England, Sept 30 (Reuters) - British Prime Minister Tony Blair told his ruling Labour Party on Tuesday he would "take the same decision again" on Iraq despite widespread opposition to the war among rank and file party members.

Blair, whose trust ratings have plunged since the overthrow of former Iraqi leader Saddam Hussein, conceded his decision to join the U.S.-led invasion of Iraq had hurt, angered and disappointed many of his supporters.

"I know many people profoundly believe the action we took was wrong," he told delegates at the annual Labour Party conference. "I ask just one thing: attack my decision but at least understand why I took it and why I would take the same decision again".



Britain's Prime Minister Tony Blair (C), his deputy John Prescott (L) and Labour Party Chairman Ian McCartney listen to the opening address to the Labour Party conference in Bournemouth Sept. 28. REUTERS

Doubts over Blair's case for war have been fuelled by the failure to find any weapons of mass destruction in Iraq — his main justification for military action.

A judicial inquiry into the suicide of a weapons expert who questioned parts of Britain's dossier on Iraqi weapons has further undermined the prime minister. Intelligence chiefs have conceded that warnings about the threat of Iraqi weapons of mass destruction were misinterpreted in the dossier.

But Blair said the danger from weapons of mass destruction represented the "security threat of the twenty-first century".

"There was no easy choice. So whatever we each of us thought, let us agree on this. We who started the war must finish the peace".

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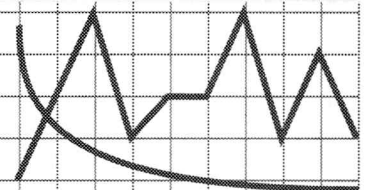


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Remittances and connection with money laundering



BY AHMED ISMAEL
AL-BAWAB
FOR THE YEMEN TIMES

It is unexpected or difficult to assume that the Yemeni government financial institutions do not deal with regional, Arab and international changes and events with all their aspects, whether at present or in future. By such a stand Yemen proceeds from its realization of the status it is occupying on the world map. It could be presumed that the most prominent and big role Yemen can play in this respect is fighting the operation of money laundering. For this reason the Yemeni government has issued a law of money laundering in 2003. The law contained 24 articles distributed over eight chapters. The first chapter gives definitions and designations, the second, crimes of money laundering, third, duties of financial institutions, fourth the committee on fighting money laundering, fifth international cooperation, exchange of information and handing over the Yemenis, sixth investigation and trial, seventh the punishments and the eighth general regulations.

The Central Bank of Yemen and the Institute for banking Studies have organized a workshop on fighting money laundering on the 6th of September 2003 attended by a host of officials and employees of financial and banking establishments and media men, in addition to others interested in this matter. The most prominent decisions the workshop participants have come out with are the founding of joint information network between the Central Bank

and other Yemeni banks for following up suspected amounts of money, locally and internationally. The workshop has also called for coordination between the administration of audition affiliate of banks and financial establishments and the unit for gathering information at the Central Bank, training employees at financial establishments and banks on fighting money laundering.

Here it is important to understand the relationship between the money remittance and money laundering. Remittance is a complementary system dating back deeply in the Middle East and the India and has been used for hundreds of years and still. It is used as a legitimate way for investing money in commerce and businesses. It is therefore logical for those carrying out illegal activities, such as traders in weapons and drugs and public property plunderers to use this system for remitting their money between countries because it is a system known and familiar. It does more over constitute part of the cultural, social and economic life of various expatriates. Originally the money remittance system is not illegitimate but it becomes so only when money is used for supporting terrorist cells and illegitimate activities or when this regime violates regulations of money and the system of money remittance through providing for such dealers a certain cover making them unidentified and consequently keeping them behind the scenes. Money remittance system is in essence based on not leaving any papers that can be used for detection and can be used by those entrusted with bringing evidence when it is necessary for following up the transfer movement of money or tracing it.

At any rate the remittance is originally an Indian term meaning trust



Money remittances carried out in a bank

and is categorized as a system built on strengthening relations between

parties of the sector of trade and business through the banks and

financial institutions and exchange bureaus as well as dealers who have

taken this operation as a profession for many generations.

Development & public services projects,

Yemen celebrates its national days at changeable time

BY YEMEN TIMES STAFF

Three successive national Days Yemen is celebrating nowadays. The first ousted the autocratic regime in the northern part of the homeland on 26 September 1962, the second was the first flame that led to the expulsion of the British colonialism from the southern part on 14 October 1963 and the third that realized the independence of the south from colonization on 30 November 1967.

In these festival and celebrations there have been many activities the more important of which are the ceremony of the graduation of new batches of the students of military and security academies. They are student graduations of the batch 38 of the war academy, the batch 20 of the air force and air defence academy, the batch 35 of the police academy, the third batch of the military music institute and the third batch of the police school students.

The celebrations that extend to

November 30 include the holding of speech, art, youth, sports, dancing evenings and folkloric heritage revival festivals blended with the revolutionary characteristic of the past period and determination of the Yemenis on their triumph over injustice, despotism and colonization.

What is more important in these festivities are the inauguration of new services and development projects and laying foundation stones for a group of other projects to be implemented in the coming period so that the meanings of the people's revolution against poverty, ignorance and disease would be felt especially that such sources of suffering among the Yemenis were present and prevalent in sixties of the last century.

Amidst the national festivities in celebration of these days, thirteen projects in the capital secretariat would be inaugurated at a cost of over YR4 billion, 15 projects in Aden costing YR 3 billion, 60 projects in Taiz at a cost of YR 2 billion, 29 projects in Lahj worth more than

YR2 billion, 30 projects in Ibb of over YR 2.5 billion, 47 projects in Abyan exceeding YR one billion, 35 projects in Baidha costing YR1.6 billion, 23 projects in Shabwa worth YR 1.5 billion, 10 in Muhra at a cost of YR629 million, 46 projects in Hadramout costing YR 2.5 billion, 16 projects in Hudeida costing YR1.5 billion, 44 projects in Dhamar costing YR 1.6 billion, 48 projects in Sana'a at a cost of YR 3 billion 10 projects in Mahweet YR 119 million worth, 23 projects in Hajja at a cost of YR 1.3 billion.

In addition to that many projects would be opened in other areas of the republic. In Sa'da 17 projects would be inaugurated at a cost of YR 284 million, 12 projects in Jawf at a cost of YR 714 million, 15 projects in Marib YR 756 million, 83 projects in Amran at YR1.4 billion, 24 projects in Dhalie at YR 853 million.

The total number of those development and services projects is 609 at a cost amounting to YR 32 billion, 338 million and 521 thousand.

The completed projects are mainly

in the agricultural, water and environment, education, communications, health and population, social affairs and labour, roads, electricity, investment, city improvement, defence and security.

In future attention is focused on laying foundation stones for the implementation of new projects related to improving the people economic and living conditions. The number of such projects would be 337 projects distributed among the capital and various governorates at a cost of YR 31 billion, 165 million and 833 thousand.

Celebrations of Yemen of the three national days is coinciding with the country's trend towards consolidating the local authority, providing the woman an opportunity for effective partnership in the economic and social development and in developing rural societies through providing health, education, water services and guaranteeing social care.

Yemen has achieved accomplishments in the field of infrastructure and reserves of the Central Bank

rose to more than \$4.8 billion. Yemen is currently producing around 465 barrels of crude oil per day and has a gas reserve exceeding 16.8 trillion

Thus a comparison between the present advanced situations in the country and what they were in 1962 reveals a great difference towards the best.

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Words of Wisdom



One of the major problems of underdeveloped societies is their inability to look ahead. Good planning is probably the most crucial factor in success - whether in business, in government, or even in life itself. We in Yemen suffer enormously because we are unable to look ahead. The ability to look ahead comes with training and education, it is not an inherent part of the individual. It is something people can acquire.

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

OUR
OPINION

Not Iran!

Two wars have taken place in the last two years, and we are now being faced with a disturbing concern faced by many in the region, and that is mounting pressure on Iran. The Islamic Republic of Iran is nowadays pressurized by the USA and other countries to give away its nuclear program as Iran's leaders emphasize that the program is only used for peaceful purposes. The country has continuously been the main target of US and Israeli accusations about issues ranging from human rights violations to plans to develop nuclear weapons, but one cannot but wonder if it could be a third target in the ongoing "preemptive wars" series.

Observers say that if the USA is interested in two issues, then indeed Iran could likely be a potential target. Those two issues are the control of oil resources around the oil-rich Caspian Sea and countries around it and the second is to secure Israel from any assumed threat from Iran's powerful military.

But yet again, all of those are mere assumptions and may not be built on solid evidence. Iran seems committed on the other hand to hold on tight to its rights in providing its people with energy from its nuclear facilities that have been standing there for so long.

Bringing the issue in such a particular time -after many years since the facilities have been started- has indeed raised more doubts about the reasons behind it.

The situation is somewhat critical, especially as the Iranian government had openly said it will not compromise on its right to nuclear technology or to conduct uranium enrichment despite mounting international pressure over its atomic program.

One cannot but wish that all of these steps do not have a hidden agenda. After all, I do not want to be dragged to the category of those believing in conspiracies made in the dark against certain nations. Nevertheless, I also do not want to feel too naive to understand what is going on.

I cannot predict what the US reaction to the Iranian insistence could be, but if it calls for sanctions against Iran for any reason, then I am afraid that history would be repeating itself and a new negative experience could be lived in the region. I just hope that such a measure will never be taken and things can be resolved through other means.

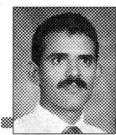
But if things develop to become another Iraq, then I don't think it could be another Iraq because this time the task would be harder as Iran cannot be underestimated.

I believe that if the worse scenario happens, then the double-standard strategy will eventually fail because people are now more aware about the situation. They know that a tiny country like Israel has so many nuclear weapons, while the rest are deprived of that for no legitimate reason.

Let us pray that things would not go that far, and we will still have our Islamic Republic of Iran safe, secure, and continue to bring pride to the Muslim world as a Muslim democracy with ambitions for more growth and prosperity.

The Editor

Yemen and the war on terror



By HASAN AL-ZAID

Following the September 11, 2001 attacks and after threats made by a group calling itself, the al-Qaeda sympathizers, showing their support for detainees and to use violence unless there is an immediate release of the detainees, the authority had intended to use several methods on its war against terror.

Among them were some procedures that have been taken:

- Total dependence on intelligence information, monitoring as well as inspecting the movements of al-Qaeda suspects.

- Counting mosques and other religious institutes where those suspects receive learning and religious teachings and taking control the mosques' platforms where they might be taken as places for instigation.

- Canceling religious institutes affiliated to the ministry of the education which, are believed to be places for terror resources.

But the authorities haven't found themselves safe from performing any new terror operations due to their inability to take a total control over terrorist elements scattered all over Yemen.

The geographical nature of the country has helped lots of terror elements to move freely and the only thing that has been adopted is to make dialogues with

those elements. As one of its means to fight terror, a dialogue committee composed of several eminent religious scholars was set up in order to convince youths to discard extremist ideas. The aim was to achieve what is necessary and for avoiding any confrontations or reactions that might erupt between the authorities and those elements as a result of continuation of those elements where they believe that the war against terror has been done just to meet to US demands.

Around 35 of those elements have been convinced to discard their extremist ideas in the mid of August. They committed themselves not to resort to violence or commit terrorist acts and as a result they were set free.

After the explosion of the USS Cole destroyer in October 2000 at Aden harbor, the Yemeni-US relations had somewhat become strained to track down the perpetrators.

Purging terror elements was the major focus between Yemen and the United States during the visit to America by President Ali Abdullah Saleh. The two sides had also discussed other aspects of relations such as, information, culture and education.

Cooperation in aftermath of Sept 11

Yemen has strongly denounced the September 11 attacks that took place in the US and also has declared its war on terrorism. Cooperation in tracking down those elements and detain them has continued. The cooperation manifests itself clearly through training and qualifying the Yemeni Special Forces, which have been later entrusted with tracking down

terror cells. They are also entrusted with monitoring the sea routes and sea inlets for fear that those elements that penetrate into the country from the Horn of Africa.

One of the results of that cooperation was killing al-Harethi one of the al-Qaeda leaders by the US. The Yemeni-US cooperation is not restricted to fighting terror; other cooperation fields also were included such as security, economy, education, and development.

The US Ambassador to Yemen, Mr. Edmund Hull put an emphasis during a symposium held at the Yemen Times premises, on that security and development are both integral parts. Other areas are in need for social development in order to prevent terrorists from seeking refuge at those areas or they would become a fertile safe haven for them.

In this regard, Yemen was granted \$one billion loans in December from the World Bank in order to support Yemen in its security matters and provide social development services on its war against terror.

Yemen also got a financial grant estimated at USD130 million to support Yemen's capabilities to overcome its security and development problems. In 2003, the US granted around USD7 million to support and furniture the President's Hospital in Marib, a health center, and erecting a hospital in Jehanah.

The latter is one of the most notorious places for selling arms in Yemen. Other development projects have been adopted by the US estimated at USD15 million according to the US Ambassador Edmund Hull's declaration.

Letters to the Editor

My traffic
accident in Samara

I am an expatriate from Pakistan working as Manager of M/S Yemen Commercial Bank, Taiz Branch. On Friday, 29th August 2003 I was traveling along with my family members from Sana'a to Taiz. It was 6.30 pm and drizzling while we were passing through the mountain of Samara. Around 50 yards before Al-Shami Petrol Station while turning on a downward curve I had to apply break in order to slow down the vehicle speed. The vehicle skidded and the break failed. Since there was no safety obstruction along side the road the vehicle not only went off the track but was also pulled by the gravity and fell about 20 meters down. Fortunately, the vehicle did not go further down, after turning upside down twice it got stuck up in between the bushes and the rocks. Alhamdulillah (Thank God)! Apart from minor injuries we were saved from any damage.

Through your prestigious and widely read newspaper I would like to express my sincere gratitude for all the unknown people who gathered there and offered their help for lifting ourselves. May Allah reward them for their services! But at the same time I would like to bring it to the notice of the concerned that necessary arrangement should be made to build/fix some safety obstruction on such dangerous turning points in order to avoid such mishaps in future.

Syed Shahid Hussain
hossain0@hotmail.com

A sad story
from the USA

I was formerly married to a Yemeni citizen that was here in the U.S. as a student. While married to him, I was very fortunate to have traveled to Yemen where his family treated me like royalty, although, I have to admit that when I went through customs it was a very trying time. My passport was taken away from me and I was not able to retrieve it for several weeks. I feared it would not be

returned to me. Fortunately, my Father-in-law, Mr. Abdulkarim Al-Faris, (now deceased, may he rest in peace) a government official, was able to help me. I have very warm, good memories of my time in Yemen. Sadly, my ex-husband, abandoned me and our two children when he brought me back to the U.S. There are thousands of abandoned children in the U.S. that were fathered either legitimately or illegitimately by Yemeni men. Shame on them for their actions. I found that while these so called "Muslims" are in their country, they abide by their customs, but while in the U.S., they consume drugs and alcohol. What hypocrites! My ex-husband is a very intelligent and successful businessman, he was even invited to the "White House" by former President Clinton and was recognized by President Ali Abdullah Saleh for his excellent contributions to computer science. His current web site elevates his success. Yet he never contributes to support his children here in the U.S. My children rely on me for there entire support.

My question to you is: Does this same problem exist in the Arab world? or in Yemen? Why did this Yemeni abandon his children without any consideration whatsoever to their welfare, yet he lives a very lavish, rich life as is evident in his website. Finally, on behalf of myself and my children that are half Yemeni, I apologize for the treatment the Yemeni delegation received while entering the United States on September 2, 2003. Please understand that we must be on guard at all times as I'm sure Yemen takes similar precautions.

Ms. Catherine Garcia
Catherine@Garcia.net

Will Taiz University have a
new beginning

The news of the appointment of new rector for Taiz University has been welcomed with great relief by those who care about the future of this important educational edifice. This letter aims at pointing out the causes

Letters to the Editor

of the lamentable conditions in this university. So far, the university has failed to achieve the objectives for which it was established and this can only be attributed to the corruption that has plagued its administration. Changing the rector will not be enough to bring about the desired change. The corrupted executives must be changed as well. The bickering among them has hampered the improvement of the university. Their conflicts are based on their own personal interests rather than those of the university. No doubt, there are good officials but they have been sidelined and their voices were never heard.

I believe the last visit by President Saleh was the reason for this change. He was displeased by the performance of the administration and people were hoping that this displeasure will be translated into action. The new rector faces big challenges but taking into account his long experience, we are full of hope that he will be able to make the university have a new beginning towards development. This of course can not be done without purging the university from corrupted officials who have accumulated considerable wealth causing suffering to the university staff, students and their fellow officials. There must be an end to the double standard policy which has been adopted so far.

Millions and millions of rials have been spent on the university's central library but the result was a library with empty shelves. The question to be asked is where has the money gone? I am sure that many officials know the answer. In order to build the future we must apply accountability law and without holding corrupted officials responsible for their wrong doings, nothing will change

Bassam M. Ali
bassam10@yahoo.com

A sad story from the USA

I was formerly married to a Yemeni citizen that was here in the U.S. as a student. While married to him, I was

very fortunate to have traveled to Yemen where his family treated me like royalty, although, I have to admit that when I went through customs it was a very trying time. My passport was taken away from me and I was not able to retrieve it for several weeks. I feared it would not be returned to me. Fortunately, my Father-in-law, Mr. Abdulkarim Al-Faris, (now deceased, may he rest in peace) a government official, was able to help me. I have very warm, good memories of my time in Yemen. Sadly, my ex-husband, abandoned me and our two children when he brought me back to the U.S. There are thousands of abandoned children in the U.S. that were fathered either legitimately or illegitimately by Yemeni men. Shame on them for their actions. I found that while these so called "Muslims" are in their country, they abide by their customs, but while in the U.S., they consume drugs and alcohol. What hypocrites! My ex-husband is a very intelligent and successful businessman, he was even invited to the "White House" by former President Clinton and was recognized by President Ali Abdullah Saleh for his excellent contributions to computer science. His current web site elevates his success. Yet he never contributes to support his children here in the U.S. My children rely on me for there entire support.

My question to you is: Does this same problem exist in the Arab world? or in Yemen? Why did this Yemeni abandon his children without any consideration whatsoever to their welfare, yet he lives a very lavish, rich life as is evident in his website.

Finally, on behalf of myself and my children that are half Yemeni, I apologize for the treatment the Yemeni delegation received while entering the United States on September 2, 2003. Please understand that we must be on guard at all times as I'm sure Yemen takes similar precautions.

Ms. Catherine Garcia
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COMMON
SENSE

By Hassan Al-Haifi

Fighting terrorism:

A different sort of political ball game

The standard rule for facing up to any problem is that various alternative solutions are considered and weighed carefully as to the respective inputs required, the outcomes expected, estimated costs, with a clear perception of the direct and indirect consequences of each solution on all concerned. Of course, this assessment would only be complete after a full and thorough understanding of the problem being confronted has been arrived at. This understanding would include, but not be limited to: the background of the problem (its roots and the stages of development; the prevalence of the problem (geographical or territorial expanse; the size of the population affected; the different parties/people affected; the long and short-term effects and the underlying causes and the principals concerned (whether as "vectors" or holders of jurisdictional responsibility for handling the problem).

For sure, terrorism is not a newly developed phenomenon in human behavior, which spontaneously came to surface on the tragic day of September 11, 2003. And for sure, terrorism is not a monopoly attributed to any particular ethnic constituency or religious affiliation. In fact terrorism is as old as time and takes on several manifestations and crosses all political and socio-economic inclinations. These would range from terrorist acts undertaken by individuals, who hold a grudge against the society, prompted by their inability to cope with socio-economic pressures, or who may be beset by mental or psychological "abnormalities" to the terrorist acts that are motivated by political or chauvinistic inclinations, not to mention the broad aspect of ethnic or racial terrorism. Moreover terrorism, in its institutional manifestations (included state promoted "legitimized" terrorism), would entail that a visible and covert infrastructure would have been developed with a well defined organizational framework, involving many people, many of whom would be not directly involved in the physical operation of the terrorist acts, but are of course necessary for the continuity of the intentional menace and the "sustainability of the cause".

In evaluating the performance of the Bush Administration's declared "War on Terrorism", one is bound to conclude that this war has been one of the poorest managed wars in the history of modern warfare. When assessed in terms of the general rule of confronting problems, we find that the Bush Administration simply took the problem as a mere tool of convenience to proceed onwards with a previously drawn agenda that falls prey to the long range aspirations of political demagogues of chauvinistic persuasions. Moreover, this war has been waged with an obvious desire to ensure political continuity through adhesion to the principle of "we guarantee your interests" if you continue to back us politically and financially. Thus, one can assume that the overall motivations for entering this "war on terror" goes far beyond merely overcoming an obviously serious but on the whole social problem, of international dimensions. Dealing with the problem of terrorism, in view of its current international dimensions, would necessitate that the whole world needs to be involved, under a strategy developed by consensus and consultation, without any weight to the narrow interests that might or might not benefit from the campaign in order to properly contain, if not eliminate such a long engrained phenomenon in human behavior. However the Bush Administration insisted all along that this war is "their baby" and anyone who does not go along with the way it should be dealt with, the Bush way, is simply "with the terrorists".

Power is great and wonderful, but a problem is surely eminent when power is afflicted with arrogance and self-aggrandizement, in which most of those in the neo-con establishment holding the helms in Washington have proven to display a great knack for over indulgence. The obvious end result is a distortion of realities, a deliberate misrepresentation of the facts, not only to the American constituencies they are accountable to, but to the international community, often through the use of unorthodox and murky techniques to convey the "facts", or through the creation of illogical scenarios that reflect a profound disdain for human intellect, not to mention the enormous play on emotions and sympathies.

In the end, history will judge the Bush Administration and the neo-con team as a leadership that is prone to cataclysmic, if not catastrophic adventures, often relying on intentionally evasive standards of the need for transparency, and self-assessment, rightfully expected of democratic leaderships. These are standard Third World traits, which are the essential foundations for all the social and economic maladies, which most Third World countries suffer from, and their effects on the majority of the population of this world are clearly visible on the faces of most of the people of third world countries and the development indicators in these countries. This gives rise to the perplexing question, has the American ruling establishment sought to have the American people become carriers of those same downtrodden faces? The War on Terror has unraveled a serious breakdown of ethical governance in the Executive Branch in the United States, with the back up system of checks and balances falling far behind in putting the essential elements of oversight and accountability into play to ensure proper oversight on the use of the elements of power in a well established democracy.

The United States... administration and people

BY ABDULLA SALLAM AL-HAKIMI
FOR YEMEN TIMES

In the wake of September 11, 2001 terrorist events, and under their atmosphere and profound political and psychological impact, it was apparent that the United States was perseveringly and speedily working for formulating and following a new foreign policy. It was a policy meant to be quite different from its previous policies. That new policy was putting into account the comprehension and understanding of new facts and unprecedented developments produced by September events. The American administration found it compelling to take them into account and deal with them as it should with regard to the post-cold war strongest state on earth. That new American policy in its major international features was based on declaration of an all out world war against terror, in the full sense of terrorism. Accompanying the rhythm and reverberation of war against terror were American administration demands and pressures on the ruling regimes in the Middle East region and the Arab countries in particular. The pressures focused on effecting changes and reforms pertaining to situations and structures of the regimes in a manner leading to tackling aspects of corruption and poverty, pushing for democracy or more forms of democracy, respect of public freedoms and individual rights. Such changes would also open the way for peoples participation in administering their affairs. Added to that a group of economic, educational, cultural changes and reforms in ruling institutions. Most important of that was

America's announcement about its determination to find decisive solutions for disputes and wars occurring between the countries of the region in peaceful ways. Such American policy was proceeding from presumption that the defeat of terror could not be achieved in the targeted manner without the implementation of changes and reforms in the region's countries. All forms of terror and extremism can only appear and thrive under corrupt and troubled situations.

Through and after the 11 September events a torrent of statements and stands were issued by senior American administration officials, creating confusion and bewilderment at circles of the world public opinion in general and the in the region in particular. This American policy was stemming from the concept that defeating terror could not be achieved in the targeted manner without implementation of those changes and developments and comprehensive deep reforms. The reforms have to include the structure of the ruling regimes in the region and also the different situations and aspects of its societies life.

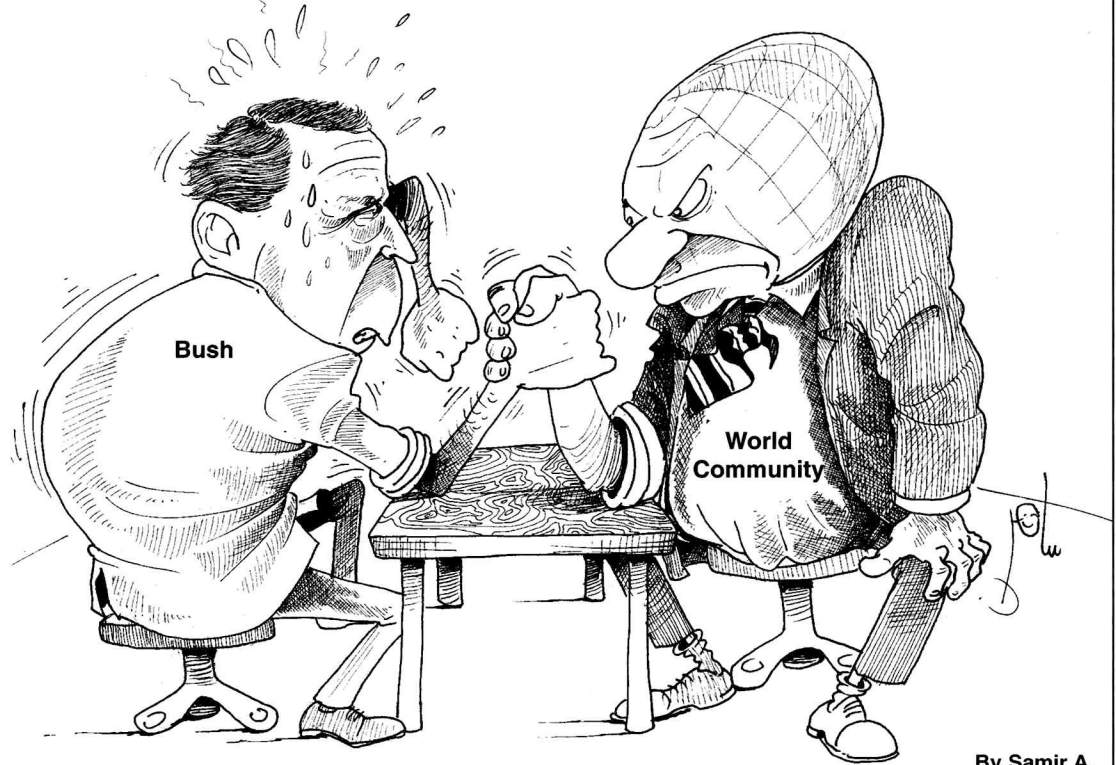
Officials in the American administration began since the first day of the events unleashing their accusations towards certain direction without any contemplation or insight. They have beaten strongly the drums of war and implemented the greatest mobilization operation and massing up striking military forces. They deployed those forces in various parts of the globe, placing all world states and peoples before only two options; both to accept and comply with all American demands immediately including open-

ing of their territories and space to the American forces or they would automatically be doomed on the list of the countries hostile to America.

Accordingly thousands of people have been exposed to a horrible series of pains and calamities and injustice, such as killing, beating and humiliation, arrests and despotic measures inside the American and all of the western societies, under the absence of the simplest guarantees of the law and basic human rights. These policies included even those citizens bearing the American nationality by naturalization. Their only guilt is that they have features denoting their Middle Eastern ethnical and religious origins.

America had launched the war on Afghanistan, a country most backward in the world and pounded it with the most lethal and destructive weapons under the justification of the war on terror. But the Afghan tyrannized people were alone who paid a heavy price for the war by their lives, blood and torture. Very unsightly crimes were committed during the war as thousands of Afghan prisoners were annihilated while in detention with their hands and feet chained and hundreds or may be thousands of them had been taken to the detention military camp in the American military base in Guantanamo. They have been deprived of the all legal and human rights inside iron cages that are not fit for even animals and moreover they have not right to get trials, military or civilian. There are no lawyers to defend them and are not even considered as war prisoners. As for the terrorists against whom the war was launched they undoubtedly came out with the least amount of loss-

SKETCHED OPINION



es.

On the other hand there is a large-scale pursuit of charitable societies, humanitarian organisations, scientific centres and financial and investment companies the properties and assets of which had been frozen in violation of law and justice. The sweeping majority of those are from Middle Eastern origin. Senior American administration military and civilian officials continued their torrential statements expressing contradictory slogans and intentions. They began unleashing slogans characterized by fanatic religious marks such as "the axis of evil", "rogue countries" and "absolute justice" and unleashed threats of the use of military force against many states merely for their differing with America and opposing its policy. Those officials declared openly that their country's task was not just fighting terror but also toppling regimes which they term as dictatorial and tyrant and to protect the life of man wherever he was in addition to dealing a blow to tendencies hostile to the American policy. Other goals had also been included such as America would not allow any state to threaten its security and stability by possession of weapons of mass destruction.

The United States had alone declared the war on Iraq, toppled its regime and occupied its land by force under pretext of its possession of weapons of mass destruction despite that the UN was still carrying out accurate and compre-

hensive inspection and search for those weapons for more than eleven years. Resounding political scandals blasted off in the United States and Britain after it had been proved that there was manipulation, falsification and exaggeration of the file of Iraq's weapons of mass destruction on a groundless basis. The American administration maintained its pressures on governments of the region for chasing and arresting and killing persons wanted on charges of terror. Those government did not restrict their responding efforts to those pressures and demands but they rather found that a good chance for liquidating their political opponents under pretext of responding to the American pressures. Thus those governments have become sharing the American administration in suppressing the peoples and forces of change and arousing terror and fear in their societies. All that was accompanied with the American administration threats of military strikes against countries, and political parties and organisations struggling for national liberation in the region included Syria, Iran, and Saudi Arabia, Egypt and the Lebanese resistance movement and the Palestinian resistance against the Israeli occupation forces.

It is regrettable that all the American reckless policies and measures in the middle east in general and the Arab region in particular have dissipated the hopes the peoples of the region have

attached to the American new policy as strong support for the change and reform and democracy as the confused stands of the American administration have become the prevalent characteristic. Its acts and practices are characterized by large-scale violations of human rights and human freedoms and sovereignty of the law and also its fearful tendency towards the full control and complete dependence on the logic of war and use of force.

Against all that the peoples of the region are increasing feeling hope and optimism with the people of the United States of America and their role and values an humane message. That feeling of the peoples of the region came from their tangible awareness of the activities and noble stands of the American people whom our peoples see while huge groups of the American people take to the streets in various American cities in demonstrations and gatherings refusing wars and calling for peace, security, stability and human cooperation, pressuring strongly for establishment of bases of peace and social justice among mankind.

Our peoples bear great feelings of respect, appreciation and admiration towards the American people, considering them as bearing a great human message for the good, happiness and peace of the humankind on earth. This qualifies the American people to lead in the world but not to control the world.

To Arabs and Muslims:

There is a new Superman & a Batman



By Bakr Hamud Aljunaid
Bakrjunaid_1@hotmail.com
For the Yemen Times

First of all I am so sorry for all who read my article which was published on Mon, 11 Aug. 2003 and I didn't respond to them especially the speaker of White House and Byron Allen from Houston, Texas. I read their Emails with interest for who agreed or disagreed with me but I want to say something to Mr. Byron Allen who criticized Arabs and Muslims including Yemen as he said that Yemen allowed the butchering of thousands of Arab brothers in Iraq and did nothing and my "Peace" means death to thousands. He also said that Saddam was a dangerous butcher and I did nothing to him. You told me also to look at the wealthy Saudi Nationals who live like kings and do nothing to help their Arab brother. I don't know really what mind do you have and how you are thinking and which media do you hear or watch and which school did you study? I will respond to all your points. First when you want to speak or write about Yemen or Saudi Arabia you must to know you are speaking about the mother of history and civilization not about the United States of America which was established 400 years ago. So you must be on guard before uttering a single word. We and the whole world know our President is the best one in his policy, administration and struggle

against terrorism. He is from Yemen, the wise and peace country. You also mentioned something laughable I quote:

"The US has invaded other countries before, but who runs those countries now? Where are the us troops in Panama, Haiti etc... Before you start blaming the US, you need to take a good look around the Middle East and clean your own house first."

Dear, it is not of your or your country's business to interfere in or poke your nose into other countries affairs. I don't know who appointed America as a policeman or a watchman or a new superman of the world. Do you think the United States a superpower, and its president a superman who is controlled by a Batman (Sharon)?

As far as I know Superman protects the world, he doesn't destroy it but Bush (Superman) and Sharon (Batman) destroyed it.

We know that you went out from the countries you invaded but by force what I mean you escaped from there as you will escape from Iraq because Iraq will not let you stay there.

Where are you from Israel government and its prime minister Ariel Sharon, a man with proven history of massacring civilians, and who even Israel held him responsible for the cold-blooded murder of 2000 people at the Sabra and Shatela refugee Camps in Lebanon? Don't you think that the attack on September 11 was certainly not about people hating your freedom or your country? It was purely in response to America's policy;

and it was primarily about your financial and military support for Israel. I don't know what does terrorism mean to you? I think you and your government must reconsider and re-examine your policy towards the Middle East.

I really laughed when you said that we have to clean our own house first before blaming the US, OK just get out and go out from all the Arab and Islamic lands and we will be very very very cleaned or we will be unclear.

Now I will move to send a letter to all Muslims to say that:-

World affairs are a dirty game, and the players are almost Satans who only think of at all costs. The Muslims must begin by realizing this.

The Muslims have found the West the biggest problem in their affairs ever since the West moved into the Muslims World over two hundred years ago. But the problem posed by the West has always been the fact that they are more powerful than the Muslims. Many Muslims imagine the West to be superior. But it would be hard to name anything in which they are superior, except for power. The life Westerners lead is dull and boring, and all complain of boredom and depression. But the power edge is real.

Now power is the key to world affairs. They will treat you decently as long as you are strong. The Satans will respect you only if you can punish them in this world, and that means power.

Moral appeal to the West is a complete waste of time. Suffering means nothing

to them, unless the suffering has power. And this brings me to the question of Israel.

Many Muslims make heart-rending appeals to the West because of the terrible treatment of the Palestinians. But these appeals get nowhere.

But the question of power in relation to Israel should be carefully analyzed.

Many Muslims and many governments of the Muslim countries try to argue that the Jews in Israel would be easily beaten, if only the West did not back them. We cannot beat Israel, they say, because to fight Israel is to fight America, Britain, France, Germany and all of Europe. These Muslims then produce stories that Jews run the West in some kind of sinister plot.

The truth is very different. The Jews in Europe and America are extremely unpopular. They have always been close to being persecuted, and have suffered terrible persecutions in this country. It was because of this unpopularity that they established Israel, so as to have somewhere to hide.

And Israel has survived, not because of Western help, but because the governments of the Muslim World are so useless, incompetent and cowardly.

The fact is that two or three million Jews have humiliated hundreds of millions of Muslims, because the leaders of the Muslims have been unable to fight, but also unwilling to fight. Israel in 1948 was opposed by Britain, and given no help by America, and supplied with a Nasser only challenged the West to get

aid for himself. In 1967 the Arabs never wanted to fight, and just got involved by mistake, and because the Israelis knew they could win in six days. Sadat fought in 1973 to be able to surrender in 1978. Ali Abdullah Saleh the only one who speaks freely without any fear and he does not care about any one when he wants to give his opinion. So we really are proud of him as president of Yemen. We do not have any brave and wise president but him.

My readers may point to the huge supplies of arms provided by the Americans to Israel. But these arms were supplied, not to fight the Arabs, but to fight the challenge of Russia. The Russians got the Arabs to do their dirty work for them, and so the Americans replied by arming Israel. And the Russian always stopped the Arab governments from going too far, and always withheld the weapons that could have beaten Israel, and, finally, in 1982, did nothing during the Israeli invasion of Lebanon.

And the Arab leaders always knew that they were never really going to challenge Israel. And they don't want to challenge Israel.

Saddam Hussein proves my point. He makes huge noises about fighting Israel. But then he actually threatens an Arab neighbor.

Israel, alone, can beat the Arabs, because the leaders don't want to fight.

And they don't want to fight because they are all pro-West. They want to build Western societies, in which Islam will just be a decoration, something pictur-

esque to show the Western tourists.

So the biggest problem is the ideological power of the West. Power is more than guns, and more than money. Power is ideas, and the leaders of the Muslim countries think that the West has all the best ideas.

They won't fight Israel because they want to build a society which would resemble Israel in every respect, because Israel is a little bit of Europe they admire so much and wish to imitate.

But there is one aspect of Israel they don't want to imitate. Israel is a state founded on religion. Religion is the key to Israel citizenship and Israeli life.

To really imitate Israel, the leaders of the Muslim countries would have to center their societies on religion, and that means Islam! But they will not do that. They imagine Islam is irrelevant to the question of power.

But Islam is the key to the power. Islam would give the societies of the Muslim World a real reason for pride and patriotism, a real reason to build. Islam would also destroy the ideological power of the West, so that leaders were not paralyzed when confronting the West. And Islam would give the Muslim people something to fight for so they would no longer be a sleeping giant, betrayed by useless pro-western leaderships.

The world is ruled by power. The Satans only understand power. The real key is the key to their power. In history Islam was always the key that unlocked Muslim strength. Islam is the only source of power for Muslims.

Teacher's redistribution- complete mess

BY ABDULWAHAB
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HODEIDAH

Teachers in Hodeidah became a commodity for educational centers. Every new school year, they redistribute teachers. Teachers are transferred from their schools as if they were pawns of a chess set. Teachers have become a main resource of their sustenance, especially in the latest changing of schools. Some schools were converted from preparatory to secondary and vice-versa.

Distribution is terrifying news for teachers, because they know well the severity of educational center's managers. They study the weak points of every teacher. Then, they start to play chess.

Teachers are really suffering. Those managers scatter teachers everywhere hoping that teachers come back to pay... Yet, teachers are struggling for sacrifice. Teachers who have taught for five years in a school next to their houses are somewhat stable. Suddenly, they find themselves out of the city. What do we think that teacher can give or teach with dispersed thoughts? Stability is very important for teachers. Our educational officials are really contradictory.

They emphasize teachers' stability and livelihood improvement, whereas their instructions dislocate their devoted teachers. They should look for imaginary teachers who are only in the registers. They have to put medicine on the wound not to bleed it! Instead of educational principals concentrate on teachers ignoring so many important educational matters they should render care to schools conditions and students' level. Since 1995 we have been hearing that girl schools must be feminized. That's



to say girl schools must have only female teachers, not mixed with male teachers.

At the beginning of every school year, that news spreads widely. Educational officials may want to threaten male teachers there, no more than anything else. Male teachers in girls' schools prefer to stop teaching than to leave those schools. Moreover, some headmistresses help those teachers to stay in girl's schools. What astonishes me that, two months later all this news vaporizes in the air and becomes in the limbo.

Male teachers even increase in the girls' schools. Girl schools get higher attention of educational office.

Officials are always visiting girl

schools. Male supervisors hardly visit boy schools whereas they visit girl schools weekly as if they were nominated only for girl schools. Educational office pays full attention to those schools, neglecting all boy schools.

I agree that there are some temptations in girl schools. There, smell of perfume is emanated everywhere in the school. Moreover, visitors will be always received with sweet smiles. These of course, attract visitors to come back repeatedly. Thus, schools for girls are amusing places for principals, supervisors and others... However, an official has to be honest and fair. They must pay attention and care to both girl and boy schools simultaneously.

We realize that giggling of girls and

female teachers catch the spiritual illness, but principals have to restrain their emotion and act according to their responsibility. Educational officials are clever in playing chess but they are really stupid in finding unoccupied and insubstantial teachers, so that they get their prize.

They reap after they have sowed teachers everywhere. Teachers are victims of principal's Qat sittings. They have to determine the case before they take random decisions on teachers' heads. They should declare their decisions mentally, not when they are drunk. It is extremely worrisome. Consequently, the educational process will never be improved but it will certainly be worsened excessively.

Odainah dome

BY M. N. AL-HAKEEMI
FOR THE YEMEN TIMES

Odainah dome located in the village of Odainah west of Taiz and belonging to Sheikh Wajeeh Al-Deen has no connection to the old name of Taiz "Odainah". It is very charming in the sense of architecture. From its architectural style, it seems to belong to era of Rasool's domination. It's simply a 7.5 x 8 meters dome of rocks, according to the national center of information. The ceiling covered with bricks,

is not decorated. Besides, the Mehrab (altar) is at the southern side as well as the Sheikh's grave, 50 cm above the ground, is on the right side of the entrance. It seems the Sheikh was a good religious man as he was loved, not only in his village, but also in neighboring areas. However, the grave of Faqeeh Saif M. Al-Humaidi, one of famous Shiekhs of Aden who had a good religious reputation, is close to Sheikh Wajeeh Al-Deen's. It's worth mentioning that many well-known religious men as well as merchants had learned at his hands. Finally, the dome turned to be extraordinary in

Vacancy

**Immediate opening for short term
consultant for Assessment of
Labor Saving Devices for Women
in Sa'ada Governorate**

International NGO seeks a female consultant to carry out a two week consultancy to identify possibilities for labor saving devices and technologies that will reduce the time rural women and girls in Sa'ada spend on agricultural and household tasks.

Consultancy requires intensive field work in Sa'ada. Candidates should have expertise and prior experience in field assessments of labor saving devices, particularly in Yemen.

Please send your CV within two weeks to the following address:

**PO Box 19404, Sana'a or fax 01-510010 Only
short listed candidates will be contacted**

Re-Announcement for the Second time

Invitation for the participation in the implementation of the Project of His Excellency the President of the Republic, for the Promotion of Computers.

The Ministry of Telecommunications & Information Technology represented by the Public Telecommunication Corporation, (P.T.C), invites Companies and individuals for the second time and interested in participating in the implementation of the project of His Excellency the President of the Republic, for the promotion of Computers, to establish a production and assemblage line for Computers at the Telecommunications & Information Technology City at the Ministry of Telecommunications & Information Technology.

Those interested in the project should submit their applications to the Procurement & Stores Head Office at the P.T.C, Al-Jiraff, Airport Road, to obtain the Pre-Qualification Documents priced at (10,000) ten thousand Yemen Rials (on a non-refundable basis).

Participants should take note of the following conditions:

1. To submit all Technical, Commercial and Administrative pre-qualification documents.
2. To submit a copy of the Agency Document from authorized agent in Yemen representing foreign company, authenticated and certified by the concerned authorities.
3. The offer must be in the Arabic, or the Arabic & English language, to be submitted in one original and three copies.
4. A copy of valid Tax Card with regard to local companies.
5. A copy of valid Insurance Card with regard to local companies.
6. Offers must be valid for a period of not less than (90) ninety days from the date of opening the enveloped offers.
7. All offers must be placed inside an envelope and sealed by red wax.

All offers must reach the Project Committee Secretariat at the Telecommunications & Information Technology City building not later than 12:30 p.m. on Tuesday the 28th of October 2003.

Envelopes will be opened in public at 01:00 p.m. of the same day in the Meeting Hall of the Telecommunications & Information Technology City in the presence of company officials or their representatives who may wish to attend.

P.T.C shall not accept any offer submitted after the above-mentioned deadline.

إعادة إعلان للمرة الثانية

دعوة للمشاركة في تنفيذ مشروع فخامة الأخ/ رئيس الجمهورية لتعميم الحاسوب

تدعو وزارة الاتصالات وتقنية المعلومات ممثلة بالمؤسسة العامة للاتصالات السلكية واللاسلكية للمرة الثانية للشركات والإخوة الراغبين للمشاركة في تنفيذ مشروع فخامة الأخ/ رئيس الجمهورية لتعميم الحاسوب بإنشاء خط إنتاج وتجميع الحاسوب بمدينة تكنولوجيا الاتصالات والمعلومات بوزارة الاتصالات وتقنية المعلومات.

فعلى الراغبين الدخول في المشروع تقديم طلباتهم للحصول على وثيقة التأهيل إلى الإدارة العامة للمشتريات والمخازن بالمؤسسة العامة للاتصالات السلكية واللاسلكية- الجراف- طريق المطار مقابل رسم وقدره (١٠,٠٠٠) عشرة الف ريال لاترد ويشترط الآتي:

١. تقديم وثائق التأهيل الفنية والمالية والإدارية كاملة.
٢. تقديم صورة التوكيل من الشركات الأجنبية للوكلاء المحليين معتمداً أو مصدقاً عليه من الجهة المختصة.
٣. أن يكون العرض المقدم من أصل وثلاث نسخ باللغة العربية أو باللغتين العربية والإنجليزية.
٤. صورة من البطاقة الضريبية سارية المفعول للشركات المحلية.
٥. صورة من البطاقة التأمينية سارية المفعول للشركات المحلية.
٦. يجب أن تكون العروض صالحة لمدة لاتقل عن (٩٠) يوم من تاريخ العطاء.
٧. تقديم العطاءات في ظروف مغلقة ومختومة بالشمع الأحمر تقدم إلى سكرتارية لجنة المشروع بمدينة تكنولوجيا الاتصالات والمعلومات بمبنى الإدارة العامة للمدينة في موعد أقصاه الساعة الثانية عشر والنصف ظهراً من يوم الثلاثاء الموافق ٢٨/١٠/٢٠٠٣م.

وسيتتم فتح المظاريف علناً بحضور أصحاب الشركات أو من ينوب عنهم في تمام الساعة الواحدة ظهراً من نفس اليوم بقاعة الاجتماعات بمدينة تكنولوجيا الاتصالات والمعلومات ولن تقبل أي عروض بعد ذلك الوقت والتاريخ.

"Health education- Apath to cosy atmosphere for a poor leprosy patient"

Dr.Abdul Rahim Al-Samie
Mr.Abdulla Saif

Hadhramout governorate has the biggest number of leprosy patients in the Republic of Yemen. We have spared no effort to discover new cases so as to lift up the heavy burden of social stigma from the shoulders of leprosy patients. We came across a very effective incidence during our field visit to one of Hadhramout districts. Its details are mentioned hereunder.

We took the opportunity of a wedding party to conduct health education. It came to our surprise that the bridegroom is a son of a leprosy patient. When we inquired about the father, we were informed that he had been isolated and shunned at the top of a mountain. We could not believe it.



Leprosy, ulcerated food



A patient of leprosy takes to begging as his means of living

We wonder how a father was deprived of seeing his son a bridegroom and of attending his wedding party just because he was a leprosy patient.

We set our heart on climbing that mountain and to convince that man, Utaif, to come down and to take part in his son's wedding party. When his eyes caught the sight of the strangers, he flew away shouting at the top of his voice "Keep away! I am a leprosy patient, I will infect you" But



Disfigurement of hands in leprosy

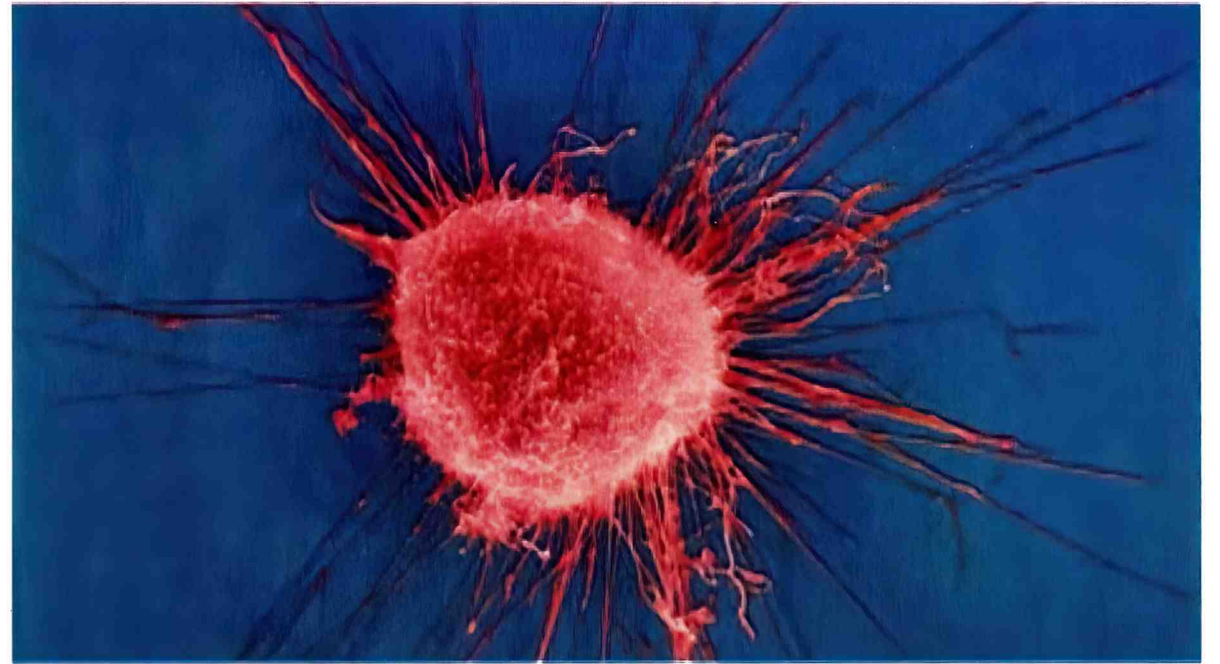
we kept on going forward. We calmed him down and we tried to set him free from the tie of inner fear feeling. Then, we asked him "why haven't you attended your son's wedding party?" "I have been isolated here for many years lest I should infect others." He replied.

We conducted the health education, which was very difficult, so as to convince him that he was no longer a leprosy patient and could mix with others. With

great efforts he agreed to come down the mountain and to leave the lonely life forever. Soon after he agreed to leave this place, we pulled down the tattered hut he used to live in. We ate with him in front of others and convinced the residents that there is no harm in getting mixed with him. At last, they got convinced.

Finally, we left the patient to enjoy peace of mind and live in the cozy atmosphere surrounded by his family.

Global breast cancer prevention trial launched



Breast Cancer

By Patricia Reaney

LONDON, Sept 30 (Reuters) - Scientists launched an international trial on Tuesday to determine if a drug used to treat breast cancer can prevent the disease in high-risk women.

Anastrozole, which is made by AstraZeneca PLC under the brand name Arimidex, has already been shown to be as good or better than the drug tamoxifen in a trial of older women with hormone-sensitive tumours.

Researchers will now test it against a placebo, or dummy pill, in 10,000 older women who have twice the normal risk of breast cancer to see if it can stop the disease from developing.

Professor Jack Cuzick, of the charity Cancer Research UK and the University of London, said the new trial could have a dramatic impact on the disease and could reduce the risk of hormone-sensitive breast tumours by

more than 50 percent.

"It is about 1-1/2 times as good as tamoxifen in terms of treatment," he told a news conference to launch the trial, which will be run from 40 centres worldwide.

In an earlier study tamoxifen, which is the standard hormone treatment for oestrogen-sensitive tumours, was shown to reduce the incidence of breast cancer by a third in women at a higher risk of the disease.

"It is an important strategy for controlling breast cancer," said Professor John Forbes of the University of Newcastle in Australia, who will work on the 10-year trial.

Anastrozole belongs to a class of drugs called aromatase inhibitors. They suppress the production of the female hormone oestrogen in post-menopausal women. Tamoxifen works by preventing the action of oestrogen on the cells of the breast.

Breast cancer is the most common cancer in women with more than one million cases diagnosed worldwide each year. A family history of the disease, early puberty, late menopause, delaying childbirth or not having children are risk factors.

Cuzick, who will lead the international research team, said anastrozole has fewer side effects than tamoxifen, which can increase the risk of endometrial cancer, blood clots and hot flushes, so more women are able to take the drug.

But there was a greater risk of bone fractures with anastrozole. Women in the trial will be closely monitored and those with low bone density will be given treatments to improve it.

"All drugs have side effects but anastrozole has fewer than tamoxifen and in particular it doesn't show the slightly increased risk of blood clots or womb cancer," he said.

برعاية معالي الأستاذ

خالد عبدالله الرويشان
وزير الثقافة والسياحة

تتشرف

اللجنة المنظمة لمهرجان الفيلم الأوروبي
بدعوتكم إلى
مهرجان الفيلم الأوروبي السابع
في المركز الثقافي اليمني
٥ أكتوبر - ١٣ أكتوبر

UNDER THE AUSPICES OF HIS EXCELLENCY
THE MINISTER OF CULTURE AND TOURISM

MR.KHALID ABDULLAH AL-ROWEISHAN

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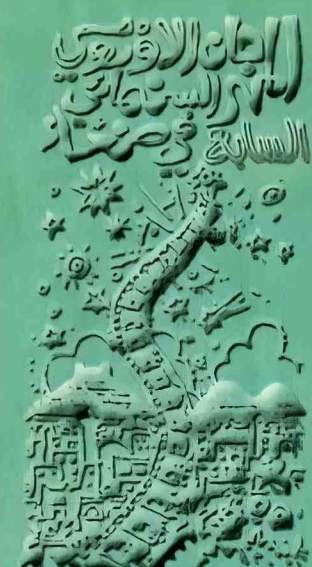
OCTOBER 7 - GERMANY

OCTOBER 9 - CZECHIA

OCTOBER 11 - GREAT BRITAIN

OCTOBER 12 - FRANCE

OCTOBER 13 - TURKEY



Local Press

Prepared by Mohammed Khidhr



Al-Tahawri weekly, organ of YSP, 25 Sept. 2003.

Main headlines:

- Prisoners receive revolution anniversary with hunger strike, others question if they were Yemenis
- Press conference of the national committee on Jarallah Omer assassination case
- Dr Yassin: Societies a form of framework of the civil society
- Taiz security attacks peddlers
- A new Yemeni center for human rights declared

In its editorial the newspaper says the relationship between the Yemeni national movement and the September revolution was not accidental but rather a relation of preparation and accumulation and then embrace and protection. It is a relationship that does not accept the geographic aspect only and isolated from history and the cultural and political heritage that formed one of the prominent providers of the national action and a point for grouping and ripening the moment of the revolution eruption. It is a relationship that does not accept questioning credibility of the correlation of the national movement factions and the Yemeni revolution. Pioneers of the national forces have responded to the call of the revolution and marched behind enthusiasm of their national conscience and political awareness. With their sacrifices and prediction of the horizons of the coming change on the map of Yemen, the national forces rise to the level of pioneering and partnership in the making of an event resembling a revolutionary quake whose reverberations continued for a long time troubling sleep of the region's rulers.



Al-Sahwa weekly, 25 Sept. 2003.

Main headlines:

- Called for consolidating the JMP, YSP Central Committee denounces nipping the pardon in the bud
- Nankli could be handed over to an international organisation

Columnist Zaid al-Shami says in his article the ministry of education has this year carried out a comprehensive movement of changes: transfer of teachers and students. Te outward character of the changes is the public inter-

est but behind the scenes agony for students and teachers as the whole operation was dominated by the narrow political and partisan character and that is why there happened many mistakes and confusions increased in addition to a large-scale of resentment towards these policies. Among the targets of the movement of changes is the female education. Many secondary schools were abolished and thousands of girl students got deprived of continuing their education, either for the remoteness of the new schools or due to improper circumstances or because of transferring male teachers to girl schools and female teachers to boys schools. For many years the ministry of education has been putting in mind many considerations for encouraging girl students. But now e are witnessing a setback in the education of girls due to these measures but the problems gets more complicated in the rural areas as a result of social and geographic circumstances.



Al-Wahda weekly, 24 Sept. 2003.

Main headlines:

- Parliament speaker: The revolution took us out of darkness to light
- Vice president: Our people's celebrations of the revolution festivities supported by political and economic accomplishments
- Cabinet gives directives on speeding up decision in prisoners cases
- Foreign undersecretary: Many successes in Yemen foreign policy
- Treatment of Yemeni communities in the West

Columnist Qadriya al-Jifri says in her article that in the 41 years of the revolution many things have changed to no return in the lives of the Yemenis and many are positive changes and on this occasion we have to remember with glory and respect those men who sacrificed their lives to create this event. The revolution was against the tyranny and despotism and ended the iniquitous rule of the imamate. Since the early days of its eruption the revolution faced the enmity from the countries that were supporting the rule of Al-Hameeduldin and that had exhausted much of the revolution's efforts for many years. That stage of the revolution age was ended and security and safety have now prevailed the life of the Yemenis, and development has spread everywhere, but not in the

Main headlines

- Riyadh hands over persons accused of terrorism to Sana'a
- Arab countries ignore Yemen's call for emergency summit
- PM Bajammal criticizes delay of Yemen's accession to the GCC
- Two people killed by a local council tax collector in Taiz
- In his political statement, the president: Greatness of the revolution lies in its unity
- Hadramout education director act coercively against his colleagues
- Occupation announces death of member of Iraqi Governing Council
- YSP hails revolution anniversary, calls for reviving its contents
- Ministers steered by undersecretaries
- YR 108 billion new approbations in the state budget
- Nankli case: Saudi behind Spanish pressures on Yemen
- U.S. embassy in Sana'a demands for arrests among citizens
- Al-Mouayad: I'll stand before any court in the world
- Yemen journalists condemn arrest of Alouni
- Interior ministry hands over al-Ghamedi
- Controversy over the press law
- Amendments on elections law
- Sana'a receives nine wanted persons
- Saudi Arabia holds Sana'a responsible for arms smuggling to its territories
- Amnesty International: Yemen abandoned law under pretext of fighting terror
- Bajammal: Yemen would not repeat demand for joining the GCC
- Canadian Nexen celebrates 10th anniversary of exporting first Yemeni oil shipment
- Expatriates ministry gets \$9million, part of Gulf war compensations
- More than YR63 billion worth projects inauguration
- Salafia sect seeks to control Khawlan mosques
- British "Sunday Mirror": Saddam negotiates secretly with American forces for surrender
- Al-Mouayad accuses German embassy of involvement in his arrest
- Bin Laden plans for fresh attack

aspired and wanted level. For this reason we want an evaluation and treatment of matters especially after the establishment of matters so that the Yemeni society would live satisfied in its achievement and serious in work and study. Request the decision -makers to pay attention to solving crises that are confronting the Yemeni citizen and facilitate his affairs and lessen the weight of the burden on his shoulder.



Al-Balagh weekly, 23 Sept. 2003.

Main headlines:

- Al-Balagh receives a message from al-Qaeda organisation
- Those involved in corruption issues transfer their assets and properties to their sons and families
- Qadhi Hamoud al-Hattar: Elements outside prisons put innegotiable conditions for dialogue
- Justice Minister: We seek development of judicial system and diagnose its reality in the governorates
- Social study: 75% of deviants in the society descend from poor and socially broken families

Columnist Ahmed Abdrabe says within the efforts for developing the mechanism of work in the state whether services or productive or even administrative is that related to the human element on whose shoulder everything lies. It is recommended that the cabinet should circulate directives calling on the state institutions to give priority and precedence to employing the elements that are technically qualified and graduates of centres and institutes of technical education and training of the education ministry. Such a measure is in harmony with implementation of institutions in the first place. It would also b a first step forward to activate effectiveness of professional and technical education and training. And in order to achieve this goal the concerned parties are requested to drawing up bases and conditions for the implementation of this aim and controlling the process of employment

in the manner providing opportunity for thousands of graduates from vocational and technical institutes and centres.



Al-Isbou weekly, 25 Sept. 2003.

Main headlines:

- Military forces besiege al-Harethi area in Shabwa
 - Adventure in the desert led Nexen to run half of Yemen's petroleum
- Columnist Hasan al-Udaini the 26 September revolution needed eight years before its enemies conceded the impossibility of defeating it with arms and took them fourteen years to be sure of their failure in containing it by temptation and for 38 years to become sure that they should be despaired of the possibility effecting an inroad by conspiracy. There was a broad front aimed at dealing a blow to the revolution in Yemen and that had aroused amazement as the circumstances of the revolution in Yemen did not offer reasons for the establishment of an international alliance against it. Nevertheless the declaration of a revolution in Yemen had roused a wave of challenge and moved against it a broad front, but in going deep thinking about it there are many facts revealing themselves.

Yemen is situated inside the Arab peninsula where there is the largest oil reserve in the world and that is a motive to sense the danger of the eruption of a revolution there. The revolution would naturally extend to Aden where there is the occupation army holding the third largest sea port in the world for around a century and quarter of a century and in case the revolution extended to Aden it is possible to go to the Gulf and around it. The revolution's goals are very much similar to those of the Egyptian revolution of July 23 and the alliance of the two revolutions would mean that Abdul Nasser would practice influence on the southern entrance of the Red Sea.

Thus the fighting erupted against the revolution with arms and conspiracies. But the people had resisted bravely and faced the challenges with arms and openness on the age and civilization. After five years the people achieved a victory forced the colonization to leave Aden. But the war against the revolution with conspiracies and as the revolution scored its victory with arms it has also defeated the conspiracies.

World Press

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

Egypt

Al Ahram

Egyptian Ministry of Interior will announced within the coming few days the executive measures on giving nationality to sons of Egyptian women who are married to foreigners.

The move comes upon President Hosni Mubarak's directives to the government to deal with all Egyptians on equal footing.

Al Akhbar

President Mubarak will arrive in Riyadh on Tuesday on a brief visit, during which he will have talks with king Fahd Ibn Abdul- Aziz and other senior Saudi officials.

Al Gomhuria

President Mubarak arrived in Abu Dhabi on Monday on a two-day visit to the United Arab Emirates (UAE).

During their talks, Mubarak and his UAE counterpart Sheikh Zayed Bin Sultan al-Nahayan discussed the situation on the Arab world and made an assessment of Arab relation.

The Egyptian Gazette

US Ambassador in Cairo David Welch on Monday said his country's administration supports and agrees with President Mubarak's opinion on relaunching negotiations between the Palestinians and Israel.

France

La Tribune

The merger of Air France and KLM would create the world's largest airline in terms of sales and the share-swap would mean the de facto privatization of the French carrier.

Les Echos

Air France will control 49 percent of the Royal Dutch Airlines KLM if the merger deal goes through and the French state's stake in Air France will drop from the current majority holding of 54 percent to 44 percent.

Le Figaro

Air France gets into the club of sky giants with its merger deal with KLM. The marriage will create world's largest airline in terms of sales and fourth largest in terms of passengers.

Le Monde

The partisans of European integration are thrown into disarray by the question of how to ratify the European Constitution. If any of the EU members votes "no", the draft would be definitely rejected.

Britain

The Independent

Three out of five people in Britain believe that Prime Minister Tony Blair lied over the threat posed by Iraqi weapons in the run-up to war, according to an NOP poll for The Independent.

The Daily Telegraph:

British Chancellor Gordon Brown set himself up as Labor's leader-in-waiting on Monday with an impassioned appeal to the party to rediscover its soul and traditional value at the party conference in Bournemouth.

The Times

A teenager who claims that she was gang-raped in an incident involving

eight Premiership footballers at one of London's leading hotels was interviewed by police on Monday.

The Guardian

The huge number of Jamaican women coming into Britain with their stomachs full of cocaine is pushing the already overcrowded female prison system to breaking point. More than 10 percent of the women currently in jail in Britain are Jamaican drug mules.

The Financial Times

The boards of Air France and KLM, two of the top four European flag carriers, were meeting on Monday to approve an alliance that would create the biggest force in the European airline industry.

Pakistan

Dawn

Pakistan on Monday rejected as baseless a recent public statement by Afghan President Hamid Karzai alleging that there hadbeen major incursions of anti-Karzai elements into Afghanistan from across Pakistan.

The News

Prime Minister Mir Zafarullah Khan Jamali will apprise the US leadership about democracy in Pakistan

and steps being taken to strengthen it.

The Nation

Kashmir is "an outstanding problem" and there is "no change" in Pakistan's stand on the issue. "Whatever India says and whatever anybody says, we remain committed to our stand on the Kashmir issue," Prime Minister Mir Zafarullah Khan Jamali said in an interview in New York.

Philippines

Philippine Daily Inquirer

Philippine Health Secretary Manuel Dayrit Monday expressed deep concern about the possibility of an AIDS epidemic in the country, citing reports of increasing sexually transmitted infections among Filipinos.

The Philippine Star

After what appeared to be a journey of enlightenment, Philippine President Gloria Macapagal Arroyo is expected to declare Tuesday her "strong resolve to serve the Filipino well" upon arrival from her five-day

trip to the United States, the Vatican and France. Presidential Spokesman Ignacio Bunye said Arroyo will likely make the statement in her reports on the results of the trip.

Manila Bulletin

President Gloria Macapagal Arroyo Monday reaffirmed in Paris her country's strong support for the priorities and programs of the United Nations Educational, Scientific, and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) aimed at eradicating poverty and establishing "knowledge societies irrespective of religious and racial affiliation."

مبروك المولود البكر

أجمل التهاني وأطيب التبريكات نهديا

للأستاذ/عبدالحكيم الفقيه

بمناسبة إرتقاؤه مولوده البكر والذي أسماه

يس

بسم أحمد السقا، أكرم عبدالرحمن السقا، عدنان عبدالله

السقا، باسم طه الأديمي وإثل الصبري وأحمد الفقيه

المهنتون

Advanced HTML (7)

Java Applets



ADNAN A. AL-HARAZI
ACADEMIC HEAD
NCC EDUCATION,
YEMEN CENTER

Java can be used to write entire applications just like a conventional programming language. All that is required to run them is a Java interpreter. Java is also very popular for writing applets (small applications). These are intended for use within a web browser and cannot be run as a stand-alone application. Typically applets extend the capabilities of the browser, or provide web site specific functionality.

Java applets are usually very small. This means that they can be downloaded from web sites very quickly. All up-to-date web browsers contain Java interpreters. This allows web sites to use applets in a very flexible fashion. Many web site designers will wish to extend the impact of their web sites by adding such applets.

Java applets are written by using Java language and the only difference between Java applets and applications is that applets don't need the *main()* method to run. Instead, applets need to use a separate HTML file which works as the spark to run the java applet code. This HTML file can also include the other tags needed for your web site. You will need to insert the "<APPLET>" tags in the place you need it to show up. In the "<APPLET>" tags, you will have to reference the applet code file which is type of class Java files. You have also to determine the **ALIGN**, **WIDTH**, and **HEIGHT** of the applet. For example if we need to insert an applet that has a file which must be written by java and saved as a class of java we add the "<APPLET>" tags as follows:

```
<APPLET
code="Myapplet.class"
WIDTH=200 HEIGHT=350
ALIGN="center">
</APPLET>
```

Notice: the applet file "Myapplet.class" must be saved in the same directory where the HTML file is saved. Many applets are available for free in the Internet. You just download the class file for the applet to the directory of your web site and then add the applet tags to the HTML code.

JavaScripts

JavaScript was developed by Netscape. It was originally known as LiveScript, which suggests its objec-

tives clearly.

Netscape suggest that JavaScript be used as a scripting language, but the structure and design of the language makes it quite suitable for largescale application development.

JavaScript has been standardised as ECMA-262 (ECMAScript), a European standard for scripting languages.

Despite the fact that Java and JavaScript sound similar, there is only partial relationship between the two languages. JavaScript is Netscape's crossplatform, object-based scripting language for client and server applications. JavaScript can be used to create Internet applications. These can be client side applications that run inside a browser, or server side applications hosted by the web server.

JavaScript can be used to create dynamic HTML pages that accept user input, and store data perhaps using a relational database.

JavaScript is embedded directly into HTML. This is different to Java where in client-side applications there is no need for compilation into byte-code, however, JavaScript is directly interpreted. Server-side applications can be compiled, which results in gaining some improvement in performance. An example of a JavaScript is shown in Fig 1.

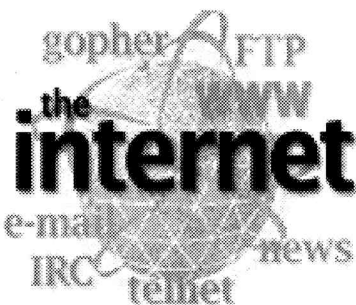
Notice in the code, we add a JavaScript by handy coding it in between the <SCRIPT> tags. There are thousands of JavaScript that you can code in your web site ranging from simple scripts as in our example to complex scripts that consist of hundreds of lines. The Internet is a major source of ready to use Java Scripts. You just have to know the way you copy the code into your HTML code. In our example, the script will just write one line that says "This is JavaScript". Another simple example of a JavaScript is shown below. This script will read the date from the system and print it out in the page.

```
<SCRIPT LANGUAGE
="JavaScript1.2">
document.write("The date of
today is :")
document.write(Date())
</SCRIPT>
```

The result of this script will look like fig 2.

JavaScripts Issues

- JavaScript is not totally portable between the various browsers.
- Microsoft sometimes refers to JavaScript as Jscript.
- Microsoft also has its own native scripting language called VBScript. This is quite different to JavaScript,



being based on VisualBasic.

• The compatibility problems are not quite as bad as they might appear, since plug-ins can be used to cover the differences. For example, a VBScript plugin interpreter is available for Netscape Navigator.

ActiveX

A wide variety of other tools and formats are used to create sophisticated web pages. It is not possible to provide a complete review of all of these in a lesson such as this. One of the most used tools is ActiveX.

This is currently a strategic line of development for Microsoft. There is no single product or technique which is 'ActiveX'. Originally Microsoft positioned ActiveX as an alternative to Java, and this still persists in some documentation. ActiveX is perhaps better seen as an alternative to plug-ins.

ActiveX was based originally on Object Linking and Embedding (OLE). This was a simple technology for enabling compound documents; where part of one document can be included or embedded in another. OLE became more complex and general, introducing a standard way for one piece of software to advertise and provide services for another. This required the introduction of the Component Object Model (COM).

ActiveX Issues

• ActiveX undoubtedly provides a rich environment for the web site developer, provided that the primary target platform is Microsoft Windows.

• Microsoft will continue to support and develop ActiveX; it is clearly part of their strategic direction. There is a limitation however, Microsoft Internet Explorer has always provided support for ActiveX, but this is to be expected, since ActiveX is effectively a Microsoft developed standard. The position with other browsers has been less clear and Netscape has not fully supported ActiveX in the same way as Internet Explorer.

If you have any questions about the lessons please send me an e-mail to ayatharazi@hotmail.com.

Next week: More in **Advanced HTML**

```
<HTML>
<HEAD>
<SCRIPT LANGUAGE ="JavaScript1.2">
document.write("This is JavaScript")
</SCRIPT>
</HEAD>
<BODY>
<P> This is the ordinary HTML <P>
</BODY>
</HTML>
```

Fig 1

Today's date is : Mon Sep 29 18:20:54 2003

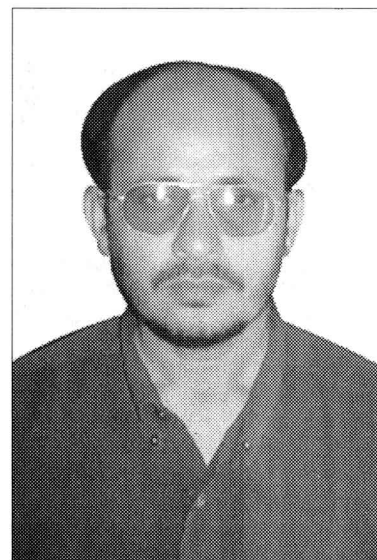
Fig 2

Contributions, including articles views and comments for publication in this page may please be addressed to:

Dr. Ramakanta Sahu
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Tel: (01) 465396 Mobile: 73889013 P. O. Box 14533, Sana'a

'Poems' by Parveen Shakir (translated from Urdu into English by Dr. Mahmudul Hasani)



Dr. Mahmudul Hasani,
Head, English Department,
University of Science and
Technology, Sana'a

[Translator's Introduction: Parveen Shakir (1952-1994) is a confessional poet par excellence. She lays bare her heart and makes a clean breast of all she has done and endured. Her poetry is highly subjective and an expression of her feelings, sentiments and moods. Her command of language enables her to bring forth perfect poetry out of personal trauma.

Khushbu (Fragrance), her first collection of poems, consists of both ghazals and nazms. These are the confessions of an adolescent girl nurturing fond hopes and romantic dreams, far too romantic in a world of grim realities, and they lay bare a psyche, which is both enigmatic and unpredictable. For instance,

A whole lifetime is required to know full well what beauty is,

For girls do not reveal themselves in momentary encounters.

And elsewhere:

Strange are the sorrows of girls; their joys far stranger
they laugh and giggle even as their eyes moisten.

"Fragrance" has long been a powerful symbol for the evanescent and elusive lover/beloved. But here, unlike elsewhere, flower symbolizes the one loves deeply and sincerely only to suffer from neglect and mortification, being left to dry and wither. The delicacy and subtlety of feeling and emotion, and the handling of words with a touch as smooth and delicate as silk make Parveen Shakir's poetry "a thing of beauty" which "is a joy forever".

Love – fancy, fantasy, ecstasy of union, pangs of parting indifference and fickleness from the beloved, and other nuances of fascination with the opposite sex – has been the predominant theme of poetry, particularly the ghazal. A ghazal is an expression of love, passion, heartache, the indifference of "la belle dame sans merci," of dejection and frustration, of longing and languor. We get all these things in Parveen Shakir's poetry. The only difference here is that she looks at things from her own, i.e., her female perspective – a perspective which has hitherto been lacking in Urdu poetry. Parveen Shakir is extremely deft at handling the delicate and brittle theme of love. She makes use of irony and sarcasm but her tone seldom sounds harsh or brusque. Look for instance at the following lines:

I am the bride whom on the first night
someone unveils and tells:
"All I have is yours alone
save only my heart".

Resting his head on my shoulder today
he wept for someone to his heart's content

Her subsequent collections – *Sadbag* (Hundred Leaves), *Khud Kalami* (Soliloquy), *Inkar* (Denial), and her posthumous collection *Kaf-e A'ina* – emerge from the debris of her shattered dreams. They are expres-

sions of devastation and disillusionment, of a heart crushed by betrayal and a mind too shocked to reconcile and come to terms with the world of difference between then and now. The insensitivity and fickleness of one's beloved is a recurrent theme. It emerges as the leitmotif in all her later poems. Although a fairly common subject, this universal, eternal heartache turns into fine, delicate poetry in her hands.

Parveen Shakir is not a confessional poet à la Sylvia Plath, whom she certainly may have read during her college years. Parveen Shakir's milieu is an altogether different one – comparatively more prohibitive, more oppressive, and more claustrophobic. Yet she is not as egocentric or suicidal as Plath. Though her personal tragedy is ubiquitous in her poems, she moves from personal to general and universal concerns and empathizes with the lesser mortals who do not share her privileges. This empathy and commiseration over the sufferings of others mitigates her own.

The beloved in Parveen Shakir's poetry has often been compared to fragrance and clouds, both evanescent and elusive. The following lines, the most popular in her *oeuvre*, powerfully capture this imagery:

He is the fragrance that will disperse in the wind.
Now the question is what will become of the flower.

And elsewhere:

Call him a cloud or a star or a breeze.

He seemed elusive in the substance of her being.

Her later poems portray moods of isolation, betrayal, and resignation. A few of them are striking expressions of maternal feelings and the experiences of motherhood. Poems about her only son, Murad convey with great sensitivity the mother-son relationship in which the son, again like the beloved, moves slowly but surely away from his doting mother who, as she grows older, wants the care and attention of her son. In one such poem she says:

I don't care a damn for the dark.
On each and every gloomy path
of all the forthcoming nights,
there shines a moon
—your cute, lovely face.

Though her work abounds in poetry about the female psyche and predicament, very few of her poems display the brash outspokenness of overtly feminist poems. The one that comes closest to what might be called feminist is "Bashir ki Gharwali" (Bashir's Wife). Here she fulfils the criterion of a "true wit" who, according to Alexander Pope, excels in the description of "what oft was thought but ne'er so well expressed".

Parveen Shakir passed her life in a brisk, nay breezy way, as if she were in a hurry to meet a literal deadline. She leaped into fame when just out of

her teens, became a college English teacher, passed her Civil Services examinations gloriously, got married, gave birth to her only child, a son, got separated, became a celebrity in her early twenties, rose to the rank of commissioner, wrote her own epitaph and an obituary of sorts, got her complete works published and that too coincidentally entitled "Mah-e-Tamam" (The Full Moon), as if she had some prescience of impending death, as if she somehow knew that the clock of life was ticking a bit too fast and would come full circle shortly. The demise of the 42-year-old poet in a car accident in the wee hours of a late December morning left the Urdu world shell-shocked. Reality came to her in blows and so did death.

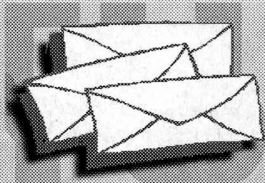
Parveen Shakir carved a niche for herself in Urdu poetry. The poems she has left behind are treasured assets of Urdu literature. In her death Urdu lost a poet of tremendous potential.

YOUR ATTITUDE

Your attitude toward me has been like a seasoned diplomat's toward a young journalist
—every statement heedful of its implications
and possible repercussions,
every word carefully weighed
(the issue lost in the quagmire of quotations).
Nothing that he says should turn out to be an arrow recoiling on himself
(which he may have to repent).

KANRAS

The eyes downcast,
the tone enervated,
sentences uttered in fragments,
lashes covered in dust
and sunburnt face.
Bowing his unkempt head has come a long lost friend.
The heart is tempted to take hold of his hand,
to rush immediately to kiss his brow,
and never allow him to go back alone.
But deep within me someone whispers:
all this is feigned, phantasm, facade.
Don't ever believe!
Don't ever believe!



YOUTH FORUM



You departed alone

You departed alone,
And left me broken,
All my past
remembrances,
With you and me
came on.
And canceled all
distances,
And achieved our advances,
To unite our two hearts.
Their pulses and other parts.

Yet you departed alone,
And left me forlorn
And a thin string of hope,
Sank below the horizon
Coming from the wombs of time.

You departed alone,
Ad left for me a lingering fragrance
And a love story not concluded
Fate condemned it to death
Therefore our story became
Just phantoms,
And traces left on sand.

Hajer Ismael Shebam
APTECH, Sana'a

To the Silent World!
My pen will tell you the story
Of hearts of hard stone
Of mercy whom they did bury
Of a wounded man found alone.

I try to relieve the pain
Of the wounded man
To make him regain

His strength as much as I can.

I depict by words
The awful things I hear
The deep and many wounds
That people silently bear.

Orphans, widows and widowers
Make the pain very deep
Besides silence or answers
That make hearts weep.

I shout ... I vainly cry
O people... show mercy
I finally hear a reply
"There're people but no mercy".

By Mohammed Al-Malahi
Sana'a

Man Utd profits kicked higher by sponsorship

By David Jones

LONDON (Reuters) - Manchester United have reported a 22 percent rise in annual profits, boosted by sponsorship deals and the hosting of the European Champions League final.

The club, currently third in the Premier League and subject of persistent takeover speculation, reported pre-tax profits for the year to July 31 of 39.3 million pounds compared to forecasts of around 43 million pounds.

Takeover rumours have intensified as high profile investors have increased their stakes in the club. Speculation has been rife that a billionaire like Chelsea's Roman Abramovich may be looking at the club which has been the leading

English club over the past decade.

The team, including stars such as Dutch striker Ruud van Nistelrooy, club captain Roy Keane and Ryan Giggs said it profits were underpinned by its success in winning eight English Premier League titles in 11 years and its sponsorship deals.

"We have continued to leverage our global brand through our partnerships with Nike, Vodafone and our platinum sponsors.... Looking ahead we will maintain our focus on achieving playing success while delivering continued strong performance from our commercial operation," said new Chief Executive David Gill on Tuesday.

Player trading profits were 12.9 million pounds due largely to the transfer of

England captain David Beckham to Real Madrid, but were down from last year's profit of 17.4 million pounds.

The group said annual wage costs rose 12 percent or 8.7 million pounds, to give a wages to turnover ratio of 46 percent, well within the club's target of 50 percent.

The group proposed a full-year dividend up 19 percent at 2.5 pence a year, and a special dividend of 1.5p after last year's 1.0 special payment.

The club's shares MNU.L have risen strongly from a low of 85 pence last November as key investors such as Irish racehorse magnates John Paul McManus and John Magnier have build up their stake. The shares closed on Monday at 200p.



Manchester United has reported a 22 percent rise in annual profits boosted by its many sponsorship deals and the hosting of the European Champions League final. Picture shows Manchester U striker Ruud van Nistelrooy celebrating scoring against Leicester City during their premier league match on Saturday. REUTERS/Darren Staples

Heidfeld to leave Sauber

BERLIN, Sept 29 (Reuters) - German Nick Heidfeld confirmed that the final Formula One race of the season in Suzuka, Japan, would be his last for the Sauber team.

"I'll try to do my very best in Suzuka in my last race for Sauber," Heidfeld, who finished fifth in Indianapolis, said on his website on Monday.

Team boss Peter Sauber confirmed after Sunday's U.S. Grand Prix that Heidfeld and compatriot Heinz-

Harald Frentzen would leave the Swiss-based outfit.

Italian Giancarlo Fisichella, who has agreed a two-year contract with Ferrari-powered Sauber, will join from Jordan to replace Frentzen.

Brazilian Felipe Massa, who raced for Sauber last year and has since become a test driver for Ferrari, is expected to take Heidfeld's place.

"We know that Massa will come and it's just a matter of time before we announce it," Sauber told

German sports news agency SID.

Frentzen, who collected his first podium finish since 2000 with third place on Sunday, is considering joining the German DTM sportscars series while Heidfeld is still looking for a drive in Formula One.

Sauber's strong show in Indianapolis enabled the team to leapfrog BAR and Jaguar into fifth place

in the overall constructors' standings.

"The fact that both drivers are leaving is difficult for me but it's better that way than after a bad result," Sauber said.

Sharapova makes sharp start at Japan Open

TOKYO, Sept 30 (Reuters) - Fast-rising Russian Maria Sharapova made an instant impact at the Japan Open with a clinical 6-2 6-0 win over South Korea Kim Jin-hee on Tuesday.

The 16-year-old fifth seed made light of the blustery conditions, blasting baseline winners to all parts of the court to close out her first-round match in just 47 minutes.

"I was surprised when I came out of the hotel and saw the wind blowing so hard," the Siberian-born Sharapova said.

"But I played a really solid game and concentrated on handling (the conditions). It was a really quick match."

Based in Florida, the photogenic 1.83-metre Sharapova has also attracted attention because of her Monica Seles-like grunting.

But Sharapova, who reached the quarter-finals in Shanghai last week, insisted that she had a strong enough game to outweigh any negative labels.

"I've got more experience as the year has gone on," she said.

"I'm learning from my mistakes and the more I play the more I'm improving."

Sharapova will meet Japan's Akiko Morigami in the second round.

Another of the so-called "Generation Next" of women's tennis, 18-year-old Ashley Harkleroad, crushed Japanese wild card Maika Ozaki 6-0 6-0.

Seeded sixth, Harkleroad plays Yan Zi of China in the next round.

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Fri			Fri		
	27	8		36	29
Sat			Sat		
	26	8		34	29
Sun			Sun		
	26	8		34	28
Mon			Mon		
	26	8		34	27
Tue			Tue		
	26	8		35	25
Wed			Wed		
	26	8		36	25

THE LAST WORD IN ASTROLOGY

BY Eugenia

<p>Aries (Mar 21 - Apr 19)</p> <p>You won't be treated fairly by others if you let them take control. Focus on what you can do to make your life easier and ensure future advancement.</p>	<p>Leo (Jul 23 - Aug 22)</p> <p>Mix business with pleasure. You will shine at social events and, if you promote your ideas, you will pick up the support you need. Persistence will pay off.</p>	<p>Sagittarius (Nov 22 - Dec 21)</p> <p>You may not be doing well emotionally today, but when it comes to work and making money, you should be able to push through some good deals. Don't let your personal life slow you down.</p>
<p>Taurus (Apr 20 - May 20)</p> <p>Revisit hobbies you've left unfinished. A greater involvement with experienced people will lead to interesting talks and possible partnerships. Self-improvement will pay off.</p>	<p>Virgo (Aug 23 - Sep 22)</p> <p>Be persuasive, aggressive and specific. A hobby you have been nurturing could turn into a lucrative activity. Get back to basics.</p>	<p>Capricorn (Dec 22 - Jan 19)</p> <p>Attend a conference or seminar to explore the possibilities available to you. Know your options and put your plans into play.</p>
<p>Gemini (May 21 - Jun 20)</p> <p>You may have to take care of some business today that isn't your responsibility. Don't complain — just do it. Be honest with yourself and with others.</p>	<p>Libra (Sep 23 - Oct 22)</p> <p>You may have a problem with relatives today. Expect delays. Stay out of the way and work quietly by yourself. This is no time to argue.</p>	<p>Aquarius (Jan 20 - Feb 18)</p> <p>Be aware that secret information may be withheld, so ask pertinent questions. If you don't have to rely on others, don't. You will accomplish the most if you go it alone.</p>
<p>Cancer (Jun 21 - Jul 22)</p> <p>You may be holding back just when you should be letting your thoughts and feelings be known. Clear your mind of worry and take advantage of opportunities to get ahead professionally or financially.</p>	<p>Scorpio (Oct 23 - Nov 21)</p> <p>Your determination and stamina will heighten your reputation and help you close deals. This is a perfect day to do a little hands-on work by visiting clients or having a one-on-one conversation with potential partners.</p>	<p>Pisces (Feb 19-Mar 20)</p> <p>Favors will be granted as long as you stay calm. Look into home improvement projects. Do things with youngsters. A responsibility you have may lead you into a moneymaking venture.</p>

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Space station no 'accident waiting to happen'-NASA

By Broward Liston

CAPE CANAVERAL, Fla. (Reuters) - NASA defended the International Space Station on Monday from a stinging rebuke by a safety expert who said the same inattention to safety that doomed the shuttle also lurked in the orbital platform.

"I do not consider the space station an accident waiting to happen," said Bill Gerstenmaier, the space station program's manager. But he acknowledged mistakes had been made on both the Russian and U.S. sides of the station.

Last week, a departing member of the NASA Safety Advisory Board, Arthur Zygielbaum, said the space station program had safety problems equal to that of the breakaway foam that doomed the space shuttle Columbia last February.

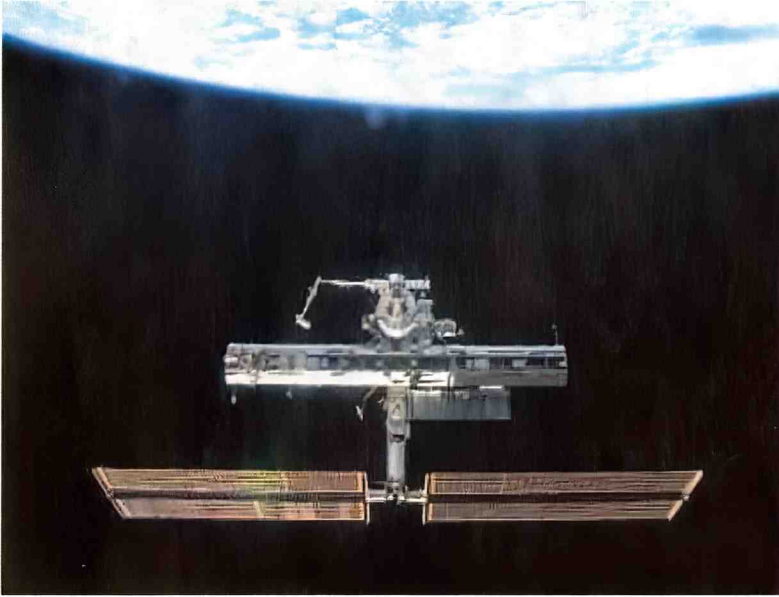
The entire safety board resigned last week after coming under harsh congressional criticism and being singled out for ineffectiveness by the Columbia Accident Investigation Board.

Shuttle Columbia broke apart over Texas, killing all seven astronauts on board. Independent investigators blamed wing damage caused by foam insulation that fell from an external tank on liftoff.

Gerstenmaier portrayed the mistakes made under the station program as a learning process more than a failure of process because the 200-ton orbiting station is unique and has had to integrate components from the U.S., Russian, European and Canadian space agencies.

"You know, every day we can send some command that has results not desirable for us," he said. "We make thousands of decision every day."

He specifically denied that the U.S. program was overly sensitive to offending the Russians, who he



NASA defended the International Space Station (ISS) on September 29 from a stinging rebuke by a safety expert who said the same inattention to safety that doomed the shuttle also lurked in the orbital platform. "I do not consider the space station an accident waiting to happen," said Bill Gerstenmaier, the space station program's manager. But he acknowledged mistakes had been made on both the Russian and U.S. sides of the station. Last week, a departing member of the NASA Safety Advisory Board, Arthur Zygielbaum, said the space station program had safety problems equal to that of the breakaway foam that doomed the space shuttle Columbia last February. The ISS is seen in orbit from the Space Shuttle Endeavour in this December 2 file photo. Photo by Reuters Last week, a departing member of the NASA Safety Advisory Board, Arthur Zygielbaum, said the space station program had safety problems equal to that of the breakaway foam that doomed the space shuttle Columbia last February. The ISS is seen in orbit

said brought tremendous engineering expertise and a long history of space-station operations to the table.

"The complexity of our spacecraft is such that we need to be aware that errors will occur and we need to make sure that we've taken advantage of the errors that we have and look at them for linkages to other errors," Gerstenmaier said.

Astronaut Jim Halsell, who is heading NASA's return-to-flight program for the shuttle program, told Reuters the space station program had initiated a self-review to find whether findings from the

Columbia accident report can be applied to the station.

"They want to go back through their decision and look at both those and the hardware itself to see what can be applied from the accident report," said Halsell.

That was endorsed by astronaut Ed Lu, who is currently living aboard the station.

"Of course, the culture at NASA is the same culture that is involved in space shuttle and space station, so probably some of the lessons learned there will apply to the station," Lu said in an Earth-to-orbit exchange with reporters.

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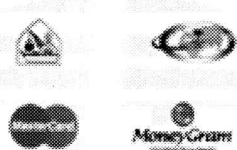
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المدير العام
زارة و زهرة ثلثي شمع

الين - صنعاء - شارع عز-جولة عز- أمام فندق روما - ت: ٣٧٦٦٦، الفرع شارع عز، بجانب المركز الرئيسي، أمام فندق روما - ت: ٣٧٦٤٢ - ٣٧٦٤٠ - ٥٨

For rent a two floors Villa with stone tiled courtyard, part of it is a garden, both the floors consist of 8 rooms one saloon, 2big halls, 4bathrooms, 2 kitchens, and 4 telephone lines. Located at Haddah St. near french embassy sana'a, please contact Mr. salem at tel: 01-240310/504811/12 sana'a

A building for rent, consists of 18 apartments, located at Haddah St. in front of Shamir Hotel, for more information please contact Tel: 71110023

Villa consist of two floors with stone tiles courtyard part of it garden, the two floor consist of eight rooms, one saloon, 2 big halls, two kitchen, four bathrooms, four telephone lines, located at haddah st. next to french embassy, Sana'a, please contact Mr. Salem on 504811/12

For rent: Spacious 3rd and 4th floor villa with open floor plan 3 bedrooms, 4 bathrooms, living room, dining room, kitchen and 3 sitting rooms, everything large, partially furnished, large 12 libna, backyard with two car entry/exit points please contact mobile: 73776101 for English and 73707731 for Arabic.

Supper Lux Two Story+full basement Villa, located at Haddah, near world bank, consist of large living room, family room, 4bedrooms, 6 bathrooms, and open dining room, contact Mr. Ahmed Muraisi on :7902784.

One story+ full basement, large living room, dining room, family room, 3bed rooms, 3 bathrooms, large guards room, and cars parking. Located at Haddah Monthly rent of \$1,000, please contact Mr. Ahmed Muraisi.

A foreigner wants to sell a car Mark II(Petrol) 1995 model, white colour with A/C. Engine, exterior and interior of the car in excellent condition, suitable for diplomat, Price: 1,3,50000 Y.R. please contact Mr. Sajid :73623205

For sale Vw-Polo classic car model 2001, please contact 71616171

For sale Corona Toyota car 1989, in a very good condition, please contact: 71102061

To buy: Corolla, in a very good condition and a good price please contact: 71104733

Diplomat selling Toyota Corolla 1987 Compact model car, sparingly used, Duty paid. Expected price US\$ 3000 (negotiable). Contact M. Vasudevan, Tel. 441251/252.

For sale: KIA car model 91, in a very good condition with a prize of 330,000 Y.R. please contact Mohamed on Mobile: 71921072.

To buy: Cressida car, Model

For sale a building consist of seven floors, each floor consist 2 large flats, "five big rooms" The first and second floor could be used as a bank or a trade center, or headquarters, the building is fully equipped with elevator and modern equipment, please contact: 73843172.

For sale or rent Two-story villa at al-Asbahi has got a planted courtyard, fountain and seesaw. For further information, you can contact Mrs. Um Akram on 73677128.

One story and basement, 3 bed rooms, 3 bathrooms, living room, dining room, study, kitchen with cupboards, garden, 3-4 car parking, and a large terrace, Haddah area, monthly rent \$ 1,000, please contact Ahmed Muraisi on 73802855

A two story villa in Al-Asbahi along its Yard, each story has 5 rooms and 2 bedrooms, for more information please contact Tel: 73677128

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Also an occasion to manifest Yemen-Germany relations

Germany celebrates Day of German Unity



The day when the wall collapsed will always be remembered.

Berlin Brandenburg Gate - Symbol of German Unity

Sanaa, Oct 1 - The German embassy in Sanaa is celebrating on the third of this month the 13th anniversary of the Day of German Unity. The embassy is scheduled to have a reception in Sanaa on this occasion next week to mark this important anniversary and to emphasize the commitment to further consolidate and strengthen relations with the Republic of Yemen, which also celebrated the 13th anniversary of its day of unity on May 22 of this year.

It is noteworthy that German-Yemen relations have enhanced tremendously since 1990. With an annual EUR 40 million annual allocation, Germany is among the most generously donating countries to the Republic of Yemen. German assistance extends from poverty reduction projects to de-mining assistance, which aims at helping Yemen accelerate its developmental process in all walks of life.

Furthermore, the German Cultural and Food Festival (30 Sep

- 2 Oct) is also being held at the Sheraton Hotel with the cooperation of Lufthansa and Lufthansa Cargo. The event signals the 5th Oktoberfest anniversary.

The Day of German Unity is a national holiday in Germany commemorating unification of East and West German after 40 years of separation (1949-1989).

A powerful symbol of the triumph of liberty of oppression is Berlin's Brandenburg Gate, blocked off by the wall for 28 years, site of euphoric celebrations as the wall fell in 1989, and now once again the focal point of a vibrant city center. The nearly 200-year-old monument is indeed the symbol of

Germany's unity and will remain so for generations to come.

Most Yemenis have a special feeling of gratefulness to Germans for their stance on regional and global issues. The position of Germany in not approving the war on Iraq was admired and appreciated by Yemenis and Arabs alike. Furthermore, German tourists have always been welcomed to Yemen and continue to receive the best of Yemen's genuine hospitality.

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