

U.S. not expected to object

Yemen to ratify International Court

BY YEMEN TIMES STAFF

Sources close to the government have revealed that Yemen is close to ratifying the International Criminal Court (ICC), and could be the third Arab country after Jordan and Djibouti to do so.

This comes in light of the massive campaign launched during the last two weeks starting from the day when the Inter-Governmental Regional Conference on Human Rights, Democracy and the ICC started on January 10.

Ever since then, Yemen has witnessed intensive campaigns calling for the ratification of the Rome Statute of ICC, which was enacted in July, 2002.

So far, 92 countries worldwide have ratified the statute.

Several workshops and gatherings were arranged in Sana'a during the last two weeks in an effort to encourage the Yemeni and other Arab governments to ratify the statute.

There are neither political nor constitutional reasons for Yemen not to ratify the statute, but the slow process is mainly due to tedious bureaucratic procedures and limited civil society involvement in promoting the ratification.

Despite the fact that the USA has not ratified the ICC, analysts believe that it has no intention to pressure Yemen not to go ahead and ratify it.

Yemen's Foreign Minister Dr Abu Bakr Al Qirbi confirmed this expectation, and said that the ratification of the statute is currently being discussed, and it does not seem to contradict the Yemeni constitution concerning national sovereignty.

"Yemen was supposed to have ratified the statute by the end of 2003," he said.

Meanwhile, Dr. Abdulkareem Al-Iryani, the political advisor of President Saleh and secretary general of the ruling party, supported the idea of joining the group of countries that have ratified the



status and added that efforts should be exerted to bring about an "effective role of the ICC and transfer what is going on in Palestine and Iraq to it."

Al-Iryani also called upon all political parties during the last conference in Sana'a to spread awareness among their members of the important role of the ICC in stopping violations of human rights and crimes against humanity everywhere in the world.

The Yemeni parliament is overwhelmingly in favor of the ICC, and its speaker Sheikh Abdullah bin Hussein Al-Ahmar, who attended the opening

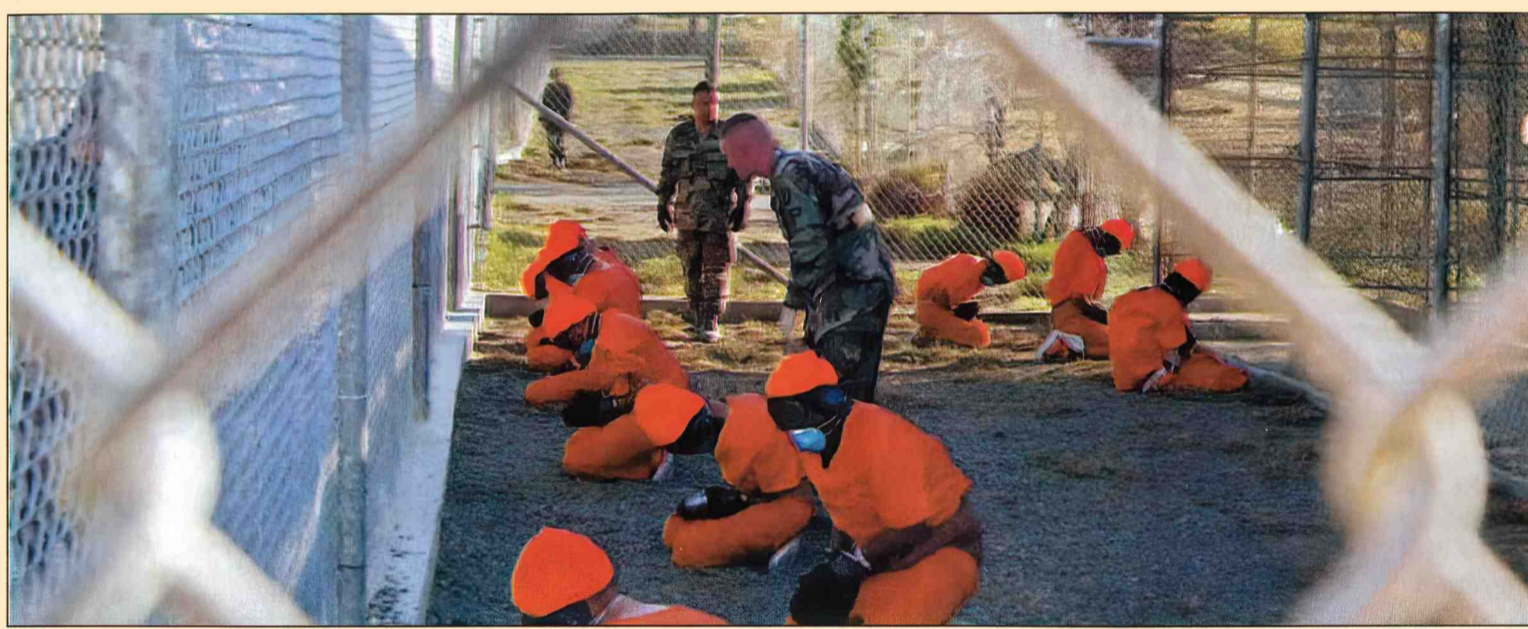
session of the parliament workshop on ICC, said that the parliament "will ratify the Rome Statute during the next few days."

Al-Ahmar expressed his hopes in that the more countries that ratify this statute, the higher the chances for bringing war criminals and others to justice.

Opposition parties welcomed the idea of ratifying the international tribunal and have expressed their hopes in that the government would boost its efforts to help bringing international justice to the oppressed and those living under occupation in the Arab world and elsewhere.

However, some opposition figures have expressed some concern over whether the ICC will be truly effective and independent.

Public opinion is also in favor of ratification of the ICC for its expected role in bringing justice to Palestinians and Iraqis currently living under foreign occupation.



Some of the more than 600 prisoners at Guantanamo Bay, Cuba. The U.S. Supreme Court, on Jan. 12, allowed the Bush administration to keep secret the names and other basic details about hundreds of foreigners detained after the September 11, 2001, attacks. Without comment, the top court refused to hear an appeal by civil liberties and other groups challenging the secret arrests and detentions for violating the Freedom of Information Act and constitutional free-speech rights under the First Amendment. REUTERS/U.S. Department of Defense

Part of the total of more than 600

Yemeni prisoners still in Guantanamo

BY YEMEN TIMES STAFF

More than 60 Yemenis remain among the more than 600 prisoners who are in limbo with no criminal charges at Guantanamo Bay.

The International Committee of the Red Cross announced a few days ago that the US foreign secretary agreed to speed up the process of reviewing the files of the prisoners in Guantanamo, and free those who are believed to be of no threat to US security, and not connected to any terror

network.

So far, the USA had only released 48 prisoners.

The prisoners come from more than 40 countries.

Secretary Powell has written the Pentagon late last year requesting the prompt processing of the prisoners because their detainment is interfering with international cooperation for the prevention of terrorism.

Preparations are now underway for the

trial and possible execution of a small number. A courtroom was built at Guantanamo for their trial by a special three judge military court.

The rules of evidence are also special to this court. For example, the fact that evidence cannot be authenticated or is hearsay is not grounds for barring it, and all communications between civilian lawyers and their clients may be monitored by intelligence agents.

Continued on page 3

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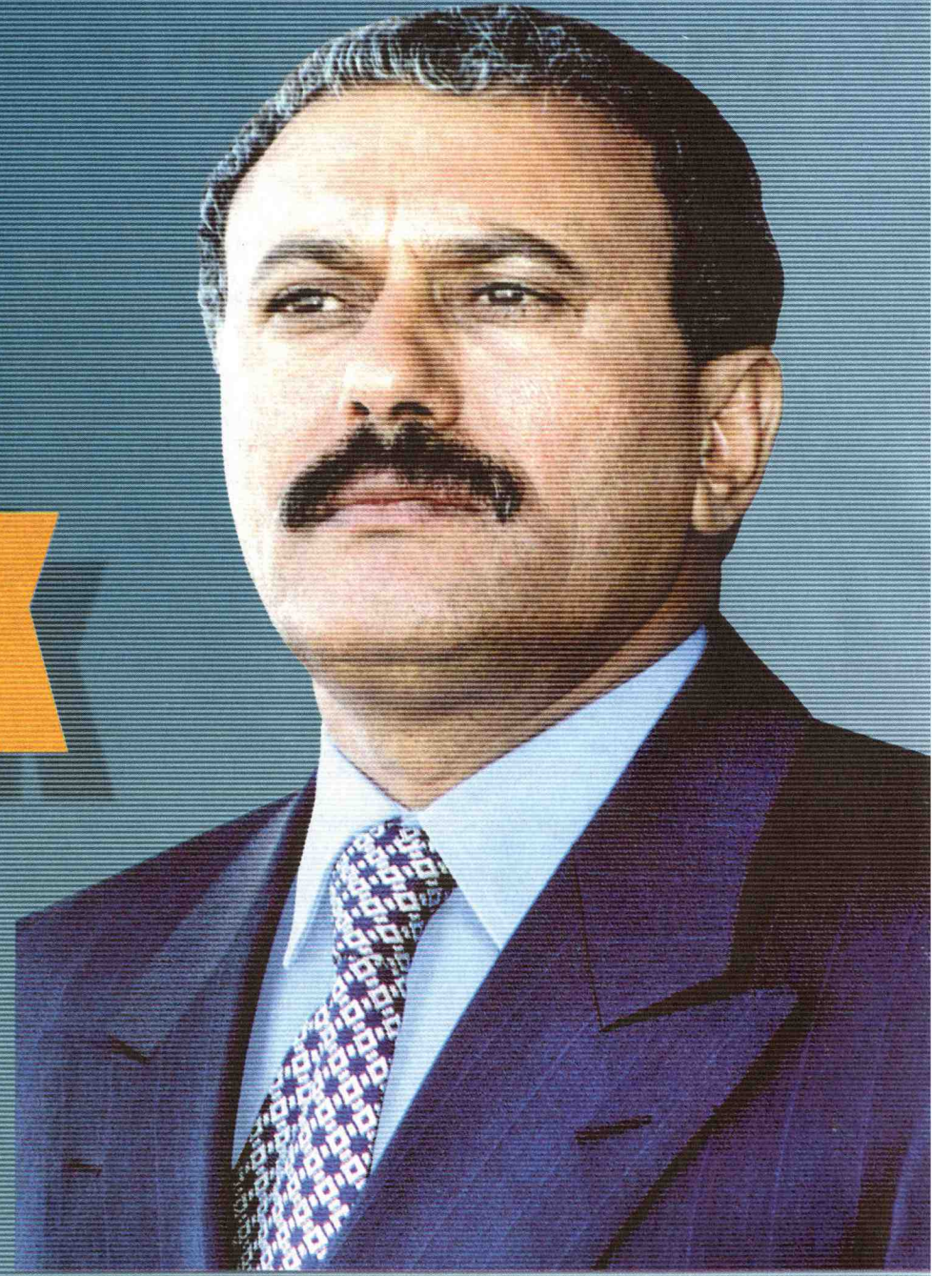
للمشاركة إقرأ التفاصيل:

على الراغبين في المشاركة في المسابقة تعبئة الكوبون المرفق وكتابة الإجابات الصحيحة للأسئلة المنشورة في كوبون الأسئلة للعدد الماضي ومن ثم قص الكوبون وإرفاقه مع كوبون الأسئلة وإرسالها إلى مقر الصحيفة في صنعاء (شارع حده - خلف السفارة الفلسطينية) أو إلى مكاتب الصحيفة في عدن أو تعز أو الحديدة. كما يمكن للمشاركين إرسالها إلى بريد الصحيفة في صنعاء على عنوان (ص.ب. ٢٥٧٩، صنعاء). لن يتم قبول المشاركات التي ينقصها أي من الكوبونين أو التي تحوي معلومات شخصية ناقصة أو إجابات خاطئة لأي من الأسئلة المنشورة.

تستمر المسابقة حتى مارس ٢٠٠٤ ويمكن للمشاركة أن يشارك لأكثر من مرة، وستعلن أسماء الفائزين في الصحيفة ريث سيحدد لاحقاً، كما سيتم توزيع الجوائز في خلال أيام من إعلان النتائج. للاستفسار يمكن للمشاركين إرسال الصحيفة على ٢٦٨٦٦١ (٠١) في أوقات الدوام. حظاً موفقاً للجميع....

المصدقية هي شعارنا، وثقتكم هي غايتنا، شاركوا وترقبوا أسماءكم من بين الفائزين.....

Eid Mubarak



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Present their congratulations sincere
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H.E. Mr. Ali Abdullah Saleh,
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*On the occasion of Eid Al-Adha Al-
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*Wishing the government and the
Yemeni People Happy Eid*

Many Happy Returns

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International mission may soon be in Baghdad

UN to decide on Iraq, three US soldiers missing

BAGHDAD, Jan 26 (Reuters) - U.N. Secretary-General Kofi Annan said he may decide as early as Monday on sending a mission to help a U.S. handover of power to Iraqis, while U.S. forces searched for three missing military personnel.

The U.S. military said a Kiowa helicopter crashed on Sunday during a search for a soldier who was on a patrol boat on the Tigris river. It was unclear if the helicopter came under fire.

In Tokyo, Japan ordered the dispatch of an army contingent that will help rebuild Iraq, hours after the Defence Ministry said a Jordanian driver was killed when his truck carrying a mobile home for Japanese troops was attacked west of Baghdad.

The attack took place on Sunday, and Tokyo officials said it did not appear to have been directed at Japan.

Washington said it saw a significant role for the United Nations in the handover of power to Iraqis in June and Annan said a decision on whether to send a team to assess the feasibility of elections was imminent.

In Rome on Monday, U.S. Vice President Dick Cheney defended the U.S.-led war last year that toppled Saddam Hussein, amid mounting criticism over failure to find unconventional weapons. "Today the former dictator (of Iraq) sits in captivity; he can no longer harbour and support terrorists, and his long efforts to acquire weapons of mass destruction are at an end," he told Italian political and business leaders.

In his speech in the Italian Senate, he

made no mention of earlier U.S. charges that Iraq possessed chemical and biological weapons — the heart of the U.S. case for the war on Iraq.

David Kay, who quit last week as chief U.S. arms hunter, has said he did not believe Saddam had stockpiles of biological and chemical weapons.

Ten months after the U.S.-led invasion to oust Saddam, insurgent violence has yet to abate. Weekend bomb attacks in Iraq killed six American soldiers and four Iraqis.

At least 513 American soldiers have died in Iraq since the start of the war, 355 in combat.

Gunmen attacked Iraqi police, often seen as U.S. collaborators, in Ramadi on Sunday, killing three officers. A fourth died of his wounds on Monday. A roadside bomb in Baghdad also killed one Iraqi and wounded two on Monday.

U.S. officials said a U.S. military base in the oil hub of Kirkuk was rocketed on Sunday, without providing details.

U.N. ROLE

Washington, which previously ruled out any major U.N. role, has said the United Nations could help supervise the handover and discuss demands by the majority Shi'ite Muslims and other Iraqis for early elections.

"We have asked the United Nations...for a second opinion on this issue of is it possible to get world standard elections within four, five or six months before June," said U.S. Assistant Secretary of State for Democracy Lorne Craner.

Top Shi'ite cleric Ayatollah Ali al-



Iraqis survey the damage to a minibus which was caught in the explosion of a roadside bomb, in the Baghdad suburb of Al-Doura Jan. 26. Iraqi police said that a man was stepping off the bus when the device exploded, killing two people and wounding one. REUTERS

Sistani wants a full-scale election, which would probably favour Shi'ites who make up an estimated 60 percent of the 25 million population.

The Shi'ites have been flexing their muscles after three decades of repression under Saddam, a Sunni Muslim.

A U.S. plan envisages regional caucus-

es selecting an assembly to choose a transitional government for sovereignty in June. Washington believes elections would be difficult to organise due to a lack of electoral registers and laws.

Diplomats at the United Nations said Annan may not give details on the timing of the U.N. mission to Baghdad or who

would lead it, but it was expected to go next month.

They said Annan would probably link the departure to a U.N. security assessment, required since a bomb attack on U.N. headquarters in Baghdad last August killed 22 people and prompted the world body to withdraw all international staff.

In Tokyo, Prime Minister Junichiro Koizumi told parliament an advance party of troops in the southern town of Samarra, where the contingent will be based, has been welcomed by residents.

The first main body of what will be a force of up to 600 ground troops could leave early next month.

Palestinians hail Hizbollah, await prisoners release

GAZA, Jan 26 (Reuters) - Families of Palestinians jailed by Israel awaited word on Monday on whether their loved ones would be among those included in a swap with Hizbollah and urged the Lebanese guerrilla group to keep on kidnapping Israeli soldiers. The relatives of three Israeli soldiers abducted by Hizbollah on the Lebanese border in 2000 and presumed dead by the army waited for their uncertainty to end on Thursday, when the first stage of a German-mediated exchange gets under way. Under rain in a "cemetery for enemy dead" in north Israel, soldiers exhumed bodies of Lebanese and Palestinian guerrillas to be returned as part of a deal three years in the making.

Under the agreement, Israel will release 400 Palestinian, 23 Lebanese and 12 Arab prisoners as well as a German citizen in return for an Israeli businessman, also abducted in 2000, and what it expects will be the bodies of the three soldiers.

Israel is to return 59 Arab guerrillas' remains on Friday. "I hope my son will be released on Thursday and that happiness will overcome long years of sorrow," said Ghalya Baroud, whose son is serving a 27-year sentence in an Israeli prison for what she called "resisting the occupation".

"We are confident in (Hizbollah leader) Sheikh Hassan Nasrallah that he will not leave them behind bars," said Baroud at a sit-in with fellow relatives of prisoners at the Gaza headquarters of the International Committee of the Red Cross. Palestinians say prisoner amnesties are key to a U.S.-led "road map" to ending their more than three-year-old conflict with Israel. The plan has been battered by renewed violence, prompting Washington to send envoys to meet with both sides. Diplomat John Wolf arrived in the region on Monday, the U.S. Embassy said. He



Israeli soldiers exhume the bodies of Lebanese and Palestinian guerrillas, from a "cemetery for enemy dead" in Amid Army Camp northern Israel Jan. 26, which are to be given back to Lebanon as parts of a prisoner swap deal between Israel and Hizbollah. Two of the most bitter enemies in the Middle East, Israel and Hizbollah, will carry out the first stage of a German-mediated prisoner swap.

was to be joined by David Satterfield, U.S. deputy assistant secretary for Near East affairs, on Tuesday.

"HEART OF STONE"

The father of one of the three captive Israeli soldiers accused Nasrallah of cruelty for declining at a news conference in Beirut on Sunday to say whether they were dead or alive.

"He's proven that he has a heart of stone," the father, Haim Avraham, told reporters. At the Gaza demonstration, Palestinian families, holding photos of prisoners, chanted: "Kidnap a soldier and free a hundred (Palestinians). Twist the arm of the Zionists."

Israeli critics of the exchange with Hizbollah said it would only encourage the group to try to abduct more Israelis as bargaining chips for

imprisoned Palestinians and other Arabs. Palestinians praised Nasrallah as a hero.

"Nasrallah has done what Arab leaders failed to do," said Hanouma Weshah, whose son was released from an Israeli prison in 1999 after spending 15 years behind bars. Israel's Prison Service said it would publish on its website as early as Monday night the names of the inmates it plans to free, giving any opponents of the release enough time under Israeli law to appeal to the courts to block the move.

Mohammed Abu Hammad, leader of Al Aqsa Martyrs Brigades in West Bank city of Jenin, expressed support for the prisoner swap but said he was disappointed that militants involved in planning or carrying out attacks on Israelis were not being released. "Any release of Palestinian prisoners

is a good thing, an achievement for the Palestinians, Hizbollah and the Arab world," he said, emerging from his hideout.

Nasrallah said on Sunday a second stage of negotiations would deal with the fate of Israeli airman Ron Arad, missing in Lebanon since 1986, and four Iranian diplomats kidnapped in Lebanon in 1982 during the Israeli invasion.

Israeli Army Radio quoted a senior government source saying Israel would consider releasing more Palestinian prisoners if Hizbollah delivered reliable information on Arad's fate.

Israel dismissed as ridiculous on Monday a proposal from the main Palestinian militant group, Hamas, to declare a 10-year truce if the Jewish state withdrew from territory occupied since 1967.

For Hajj pilgrimage Sudan peace talks to adjourn

NAIROBI, Jan 26 (Reuters) - Peace talks between the Sudanese government and southern rebels will adjourn later on Monday to allow Khartoum's top negotiator to make the Muslim haj pilgrimage, delegates said.

"The talks will be adjourned today," the Kenyan chief mediator Lazarus Sumbeiywo told Reuters by telephone from the venue of the talks in the Kenyan town of Naivasha.

A senior diplomat at Sudan's embassy in Kenya, Ahmed Dirdeiry, said the talks would be adjourned later in the morning to allow Sudan's First Vice President, Ali Osman Mohamed Taha, to go to Saudi Arabia to perform the pilgrimage.

There was no immediate comment from the rebels of the Sudan People's Liberation Army (SPLA) which has been in talks in Kenya with the Sudanese government for more than a

year to try to negotiate an end to Africa's longest-running civil war.

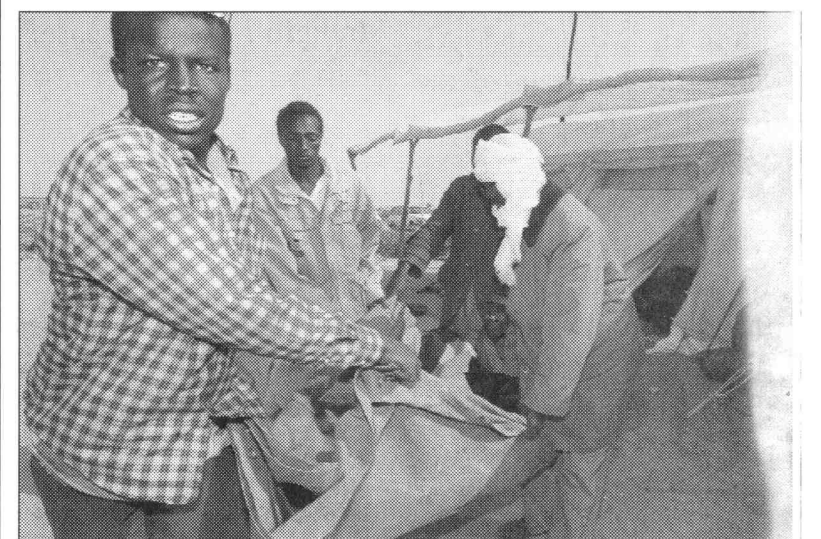
The SPLA has been fighting the Islamist government in the north for two decades for more autonomy for the largely Christian and animist south.

There was no immediate word on how long the adjournment would be.

All able-bodied Muslims are required to perform the haj, a pilgrimage to the Islamic holy cities of Mecca and Medina, at least once in their lifetime. It is due to begin in early February and lasts for up to two weeks.

The government and the rebels signed a deal earlier this month on which they will share wealth after the war ends, but they are yet to reach an agreement on power sharing and the contested areas.

Last week, John Danforth, U.S. President George W. Bush's special envoy to Sudan, said a final deal was in sight.



Sudanese men carry a wounded man to the Medecins Sans Frontieres hospital (MSF) in Tine, in eastern Chad, right on the border with Sudan, Jan. 26. Sudanese refugees fleeing into Chad say the government has stepped up its bombing campaign in the past two weeks, accusing government forces of targeting areas only inhabited by civilians. Fighting between Sudan's government forces and rebels has intensified in the west of the country in the past year, in contrast to progress towards ending a separate, 20-year civil war in the country's south. REUTERS

البنك الأهلي اليمني

National Bank Of Yemen



The National Bank of Yemen Approves Its Financial Statements for the year ending 31 December 2003

The Board of Directors of the National Bank of Yemen held its general annual meeting on 25 January 2004 to approve the financial statements of the Bank for the year ending 31 December 2003 and the report of the Bank's external auditors Dahman, RSM.



Mr. Abdul Rahman M. Al-Kohali

The meeting, which was held at the Bank's Head Office, in Aden, commenced with the speech of Mr. Abdul Rahman Mohamed Al-Kohali, Chairman of the Board and General Manager.

In his speech Mr. Al-Kohali announced that, in 2003, and despite the prevalent circumstance in the banking industry and the severe competition between banks, the National Bank of Yemen continued to

achieve considerable rates of growth in all its financial indicators.

Mr. Al-Kohali added, that due to the strength of the Bank's financial position and its relations with its Correspondent Banks and customers, Capital Intelligence have decided to upgrade the foreign currency ratings for National Bank of Yemen to (-B), long-term and to (B) short-term, the financial strength rating increased

to (-BB) and the ratings Outlook as "Stable".

The Auditor's report which was read by Mr. Dahman Awadh Dahman RSM, stated that the financial statements of the Bank, present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of the Bank as at 31 December 2003.

The Board of Directors of the National Bank of Yemen dedicated the

achievements of the Bank to the President of the Republic, Ali Abdullah Saleh. The Board also conveyed its appreciation to The Prime Minister, The Deputy Prime Minister The Minister of Finance and The Governor of the Central Bank of Yemen for their continues support for the National Bank of Yemen in particular and the Yemeni Banking Sector in general.



مجلس إدارة البنك الأهلي اليمني يقر البيانات المالية لسنة 2003

مجلس إدارة البنك الأهلي اليمني اجتماعه السنوي يوم الأحد الموافق 25 يناير 2003م، بحضور جميع أعضاء مجلس الإدارة، لإقرار بياناته المالية المنتهية في 31 ديسمبر 2003م وسماع تقرير مدقق حسابات البنك السادة/ دحمان وذلك بمقر الإدارة العامة بـعدن.

وقد بدأ الاجتماع بكلمة للأخ/ عبدالرحمن الكهالي رئيس مجلس الإدارة والمدير العام أشار فيها إلى أن البنك الأهلي اليمني استمر خلال عام 2003م بتحقيق معدلات نمو ملحوظة

في مؤشراتته المالية على الرغم من الظروف السائدة التي واجهت العمل المصرفي واحتدام المنافسة بين البنوك. وأضاف الأخ/ رئيس مجلس الإدارة - المدير العام، أنه ونتيجة لمتانة موجودات البنك وعلاقاته مع عملائه والمراسلين رفعت وكالة تصنيف البنوك - كابيتل انتلجينس - مستوى تصنيف تعاملات العملات الأجنبية طويلة الأجل للبنك الأهلي في بلادنا.



البنك الأهلي اليمني بنك الخبرة والثقة

Japanese not targetted per se

Driver for Japan killed in attack near Baghdad

TOKYO, Jan 26 (Reuters) - A Jordanian driver was killed when a truck carrying a mobile home for Japanese ground troops came under attack near Baghdad, but Tokyo's Defence Ministry said the assault did not appear to have targetted Japanese forces.

The truck carrying a mobile home procured by Japan's Defence Ministry was attacked in an area about 100 km (62.5 miles) northwest of Baghdad on Sunday while travelling from Jordan to the Iraqi capital, the Defence Ministry said in a statement.

The ministry said it had received the information from its officials stationed in Baghdad.

"We judged that it was not a terrorist attack targeting Japan," a ministry official said.

No other details were immediately available.



Members of the Japanese Air Self-Defence Force run towards their C-130 transport plane as they depart for Kuwait at Komaki air base, in central Japan, Jan. 26. About 50 troops aboard three C-130 aircrafts left Japan on Monday to help in the U.S.-led efforts to rebuild Iraq. REUTERS

Cambodia releases sketch of suspected unionist killer

PHNOM PENH, Jan 26 (Reuters) - Cambodian police released on Monday a sketch of the man they believe gunned down a top union leader last week in what the opposition say is another political assassination in the southeast Asian nation.

The killing of Chea Vichea, 36, the outspoken head of the Free Trade Union of the Workers of the Kingdom of Cambodia, provoked a huge outpouring of emotion and anger on Sunday with more than 10,000 people attending his funeral in the capital.

Motives for the killing remain unclear, although Chea Vichea, also a founding member of the opposition

Sam Rainsy Party, frequently found himself at odds with the powerful political and business interests that run the deeply impoverished country.

It was the latest in a string of assassinations or attempts on the lives of high-profile figures aligned against the ruling Cambodian People's Party (CPP) and its Prime Minister, Hun Sen.

Phnom Penh police chief Heng Peov told a news conference Hun Sen had ordered an investigation into the murder, conducted in broad daylight at a street-side news-stand on Thursday.

"We have made much progress in

our investigation and we know the killer's name, but do not want to identify him as that could jeopardise our investigation," Heng Peov said.

The killer, who shot Chea Vichea at point blank range and was spotted speeding off on a motorcycle by several eyewitnesses, was in his mid-20s, he added.

The United States, opposition parties and human rights groups have all condemned the murder, which had been preceded by death threats.

The government has vowed to catch his killers but a failure to secure convictions in nearly every other similar incident suggests this is unlikely.

In Jakarta

Trial starts over deadly Marriott Hotel bombing

JAKARTA, Jan 26 (Reuters) - A young Islamic militant went on trial in Indonesia on Monday over last year's bombing of a U.S.-run hotel that killed 12 people and injured 150 others.

Prosecutors charged Mohamad Rais, 28, with helping organise the deadly bombing of the J.W. Marriott hotel. He faces the death penalty if convicted.

All but one of those who died in the blast at the luxury hotel were Indonesians.

Rais is the second suspect to go on trial over the Jakarta explosion in which militants detonated a bomb-laden car in front of the hotel lobby on August 5, 2003.

The trial of the first defendant in the case began in November in Bengkulu on Sumatra island. He allegedly stored explosives that were used in the blast.

"The defendant, along with Azahari and Noordin M.Top, from September 2002 to January 2003, plotted and arranged for other people to carry out an act of terror," state prosecutor Andi Herman told the South Jakarta court.

Malaysian engineer Azahari is believed to be the master bombmaker for several attacks staged by the militant Jemaah Islamiah group, a Southeast Asian organisation with links to al-Qaeda.

Authorities say Top — also a Malaysian — is Azahari's sidekick. Both are among Southeast Asia's most wanted men.

The prosecution said Rais also arranged the transport of bombmaking chemicals in Sumatra, before others



Indonesian Islamic militant Mohamad Rais listens to prosecutors read charges during his trial Jakarta on Jan. 26. Prosecutors charged Rais with helping organise last year's J.W. Marriott Hotel blast that killed 12 people and injured 150 others. REUTERS

carried them to Jakarta where Azahari built the device in mid-2003.

Three Indonesians have been sent death row for involvement in acts of terror.

All were plotters and organisers of the nightclub bombings on the tour island of Bali that killed 202 people, mostly foreigners, in October 2002. Jemaah Islamiah was also blamed for the Bali blast.

Free Zone Public Authority
Aden Free Zone



Congratulates President

Ali Abdullah Saleh

and the Yemeni people

On the occasion of Eid Al-Adha Al-Mubarak.

الهيئة العامة للمناطق الحرة
المنطقة الحرة بعدن

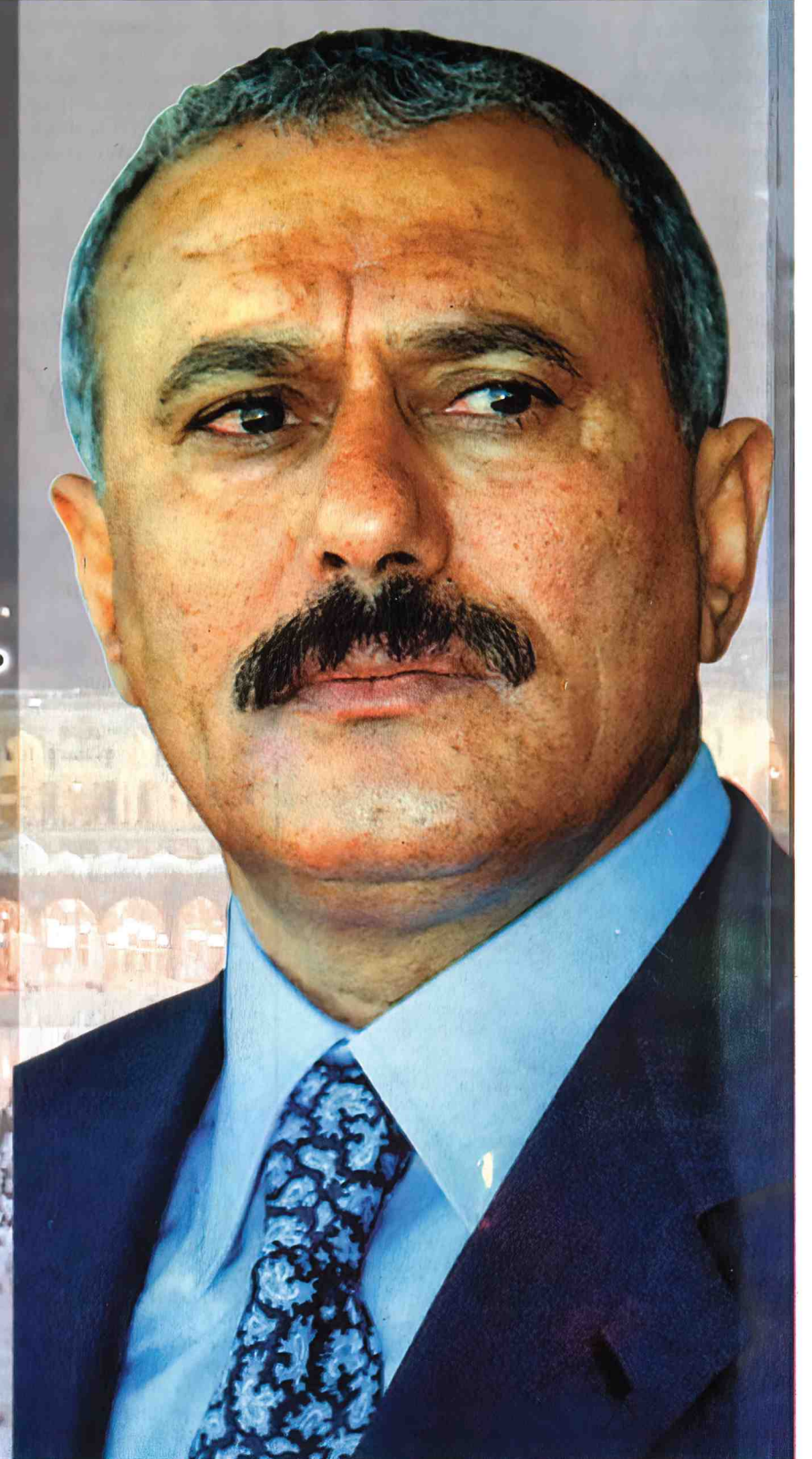
وكافة موظفيها ومنتسبيها يتقدمون بأحر التهاني والتبريكات إلى فخامة

الأخ/ علي عبدالله صالح

والي أبناء شعبنا العظيم

بمناسبة قدوم عيد الأضحى المبارك أعاده الله على الأمتين العربية والإسلامية

بالخير واليمن والبركات متمنين لحجاج بيت الله الحرام بحجاً مبروراً وسعيّاً مشكوراً وذنباً مغفوراً.



U.S calls off the hunt for weapons in Iraq:

Finally, it's clear: Bush lied

BY TED AL

Once again George Bush and his top officials are responsible for an outrageous scandal whose monumental scale and grotesquely terrifying implications for our democracy make Watergate look like a fraternity prank. Yet the miscreants are getting away scot-free.

The Bush Administration, reported The New York Times on January 8, "has quietly withdrawn from Iraq a 400-member military team whose job was to scour the country for military equipment. The step was described by some military officials as a sign that the administration might have lowered its sights and no longer expected to uncover the caches of chemical and biological weapons that the White House cited as a principal reason for going to war last March."

The Bushies have good reason to

think they won't find any weapons of mass destruction (WMD) in Iraq. They knew full well that the flimsy reports they used to sell their sleazy oil war were more than four years out of date—ancient history by intelligence standards. And, as The Washington Post reports, a newly discovered memo to Saddam Hussein indicates that Mr. Worse Than Hitler got rid of his WMDs in 1991. Unlike the United States, which unilaterally partitioned Iraq into no-fly zones and created a new Kurdish state, Saddam appears to have complied with the ceasefire agreement that ended the Gulf War.

1,400 members of the Iraq Survey Group have been searching for WMDs during the last seven months. They've spent hundreds of millions of dollars. They've been to every government installation in the country. They've come up empty-handed.

All we've gotten are numerous false alarms, each trumpeted as vindication

of the Bushies' claim that Saddam would have nuked or gassed or poisoned us if we hadn't taken him out first. On May 31, Bush said: "You remember when Colin Powell stood up in front of the world, and he said Iraq has got laboratories, mobile labs to build biological weapons...we've so far discovered two. And we'll find more weapons as time goes on. But for those who say we haven't found the banned manufacturing devices or banned weapons, they're wrong. We found them."

Actually, we didn't find anything. Both "mobile labs" turned out to be rusted trailers used for filling weather balloons. But Bush's lies got so much more media coverage than subsequent attempts to set the record straight that all but the most press-obsessed were misled. By June 18, 35 percent of Americans told a Harris poll that they believed that we had already found WMDs in Iraq. And 48 percent thought that Bush's fictional link between Iraq and Al Qaeda had been "proven."

Iraq's WMDs were probably

destroyed at least 13 years ago. Fortunately for Bush, they exist only in the one place he cares about: the deluded minds of a frighteningly ignorant American electorate.

Which is why our troops in Iraq are no longer bothering to go through the motions of searching for them. And why Bush yanked the Joint Captured Matériel Exploitation Group that was supposed to destroy WMDs if and when they had been discovered. "Its work was essentially done," a Defense

Department official told The Times, because it was tired of "waiting for something to dispose of."

Nearly 500 American servicemen have been killed in the war against Iraq. At least 2,400 more have been wounded. We've killed so many Iraqis—tens of thousands, certainly—that the Pentagon can't keep count. We've borrowed more than \$160 billion to pay for this extravaganza, with many more hundreds of billions to follow. And what was the point of this

waste of life and treasure? "To disarm Iraq," Bush told us.

But Iraq, as everyone from the CIA to Hans Blix to Saddam told us beforehand, didn't have any arms to dis.

Calling off the WMD hunt is Bush's tacit admission that he lied about the reasons for war. It's hard to think of anything worse that a president can do. It's even harder to imagine the American people, so cynically accepting of deception, holding him accountable.



Doing the new math

BY DAN CAROL FOR EUGENE WEEKLY

Politically, it's my least favorite time of year. I'm not talking about all the hype over who has won the Democratic primaries before a single vote has been cast—that game comes every four years and sorry, no predictions here. We'll find out soon enough with Iowa now over and the New Hampshire primary coming up. No, I'm talking about the annual Kabuki Theater around the State of the Union.

You know the visual. President Bush speaks to the Congress in full assembly, "Hail to the Chief" plays, Vice President Dick Cheney sits in a chair behind Bush (Dan Quayle, we miss ya buddy!) and all through the show Democrats squirm and worry if they are clapping too little—or too much.

Ugly stuff. But that's just the parts we see

Behind the scenes, we have a month of political jostling before and after the "SOTU" itself. The Democrats are working on their "pre-buttal" plan to try and anticipate and pre-spin what Bush says, both sides are lining up their ammunition for the budget fight that starts right after the speech, Bush is thinking about impressing us by going to Mars, and White House handlers are scouring the grassroots for the right citizen hero to sit next to Laura Bush.

Like I said, ugly stuff

Last year, the main issue was the war. As in, whether we should have one in Iraq.

This year, I think the battle is less obvious but arguably as important. It's about the future and what investments we need to make. And we'd better get the math right. Otherwise, a 30-year Republican strategy for destroying government's role in meaningful public investment (outside of space satellites and homeland security) will continue unabated.

We need to deal with the aftermath of the Bush budget binge. After squandering a trillion dollars on tax cuts, buying off seniors with a dubious drug benefit that doesn't kick in until 2006, and putting America in red ink as far as green eyeshades can see, Bush is now saying we need to trim our belt and cut domestic programs.

Trim our belt? After stuffing their

pockets with tax cuts, these shameless freaks now want our pants—and the shirts off our backs (or better yet, they want state government to deal with it all).

Can we call Bush a big spender without turning ourselves into budget hawks? That's a tight fit. Let's remember how much credit Clinton and the Democrats got for "being responsible" and balancing the budget mess left over by Reagan and his "I Love The 1980s" gang. The answer is zero. Nada. Zilch. So whether it's Howard Dean (he of 11 balanced budgets in Vermont) or someone else, the Democratic nominee needs to be careful before we raise our hands and do it all over again.

Well here's an idea. How about we don't play the Republicans' game until we stop stacking the deck against smart policy choices? It doesn't have to be that way—not if we demand a serious look at the costs and benefits of public investment and make the case for payback economics.

Here's an example. This week, The Apollo Alliance is releasing an outside economic study showing how major league investments in good green jobs and energy independence would, in fact, pay for themselves, create over three million new jobs and over a trillion dollars in new economic activity. What's not to like?

Can we out-trump the Republicans on economics and demand a "policy payback analysis" to all federal or state investments? How would Bush's buddies do if their corporate welfare programs had to be benchmarked against, say, proven pre-kindergarten education investments for kids? Jesse Jackson had it about right years ago in talking about the importance of investing in the front side of life. Before we spend \$30,000 a year on a jail cell. Let's get the substantive cost-benefit analysis done to make that case on everything we are in favor of achieving in the next 30 years.

Republicans will say each idea costs too much. But once we count the benefits, they won't have a lot less to say while we will have much more to offer.

Whether it's the interstate highway system, the electronics industry or the Internet, there are endless examples of how public investment has catalyzed economic success.

This is no-brainer stuff. Voters can get this. So let's do the math.

Iraq and the presidential campaign

AHMAD FARUQI FOR THE DAILY TIMES - PAKISTAN

For Bush to hold the lead till the votes are cast in November, he will need to give the American public confidence in the ongoing operations in Iraq and in his ability to continue reviving the US economy.

On November 2, American voters will either re-elect George W Bush to the presidency of the United States or replace him with the Democratic Party nominee. To maximise his re-election chances, President Bush will lay out his accomplishments in Tuesday's State of the Union speech. Unlike prior presidential campaigns, in which foreign policy issues are often relegated to a minor role, Iraq is likely to figure prominently in this year's campaigning.

In a speech at the National Press Club in Washington, House Minority Leader Nancy Pelosi of San Francisco said the US needed to draw more nations into the occupation and reconstruction of Iraq. Noting that Bush's unilateralism in foreign policy had undermined US relations with other countries, she said the president must explain how he planned to restore America's standing in the eyes of the world.

Polls show that about 55 per cent of Americans approve of the president's job performance. This figure is down by about 30 percentage points from the high point it had reached in the aftermath of the terrorist attacks on September 11, 2001. Bush currently leads Howard Dean, who may well emerge as the frontrunner for the Democratic Party's candidacy. But for Bush to hold the lead till the votes are cast in November, he will need to give the American public confidence in the ongoing operations in Iraq and in his ability to continue reviving the US economy.

Saddam Hussein's capture is the lone exception to a trend of bad headlines coming out of Iraq. The number of American soldiers who have died in the Iraq conflict hit 500 on Saturday. Most of the deaths—both combat and non-combat—have occurred since President Bush declared an end to major fighting on May 1. The loss of American life in Iraq has surpassed the death toll during the Gulf War of 1991, when about 315 Americans died.

Against this backdrop, former US

Treasury Secretary Paul O'Neill has dropped a bombshell by saying that the president, in cabinet meetings, was 'Like a blind man in a roomful of deaf people'. In addition, he said that from the moment he took office, Bush had decided to remove Saddam Hussein from power and wanted an excuse to start a war. His views have been published in a book entitled *The Price of Loyalty* by Pulitzer Prize winning author and journalist, Ron Suskind.

Paul O'Neill was a budget advisor in the Nixon and Ford administrations and a successful chief executive at Alcoa. He was on his way to retirement when his old friend Dick Cheney called on him to serve as the US Treasury Secretary. After he refused to fall in line with the right-wing policies of the administration, Dick Cheney fired him in December 2002.

O'Neill's charges against the president have stirred up a maelstrom of controversy. One of the leading lights of the Republican Party has said that not since the days of Julius Caesar had anyone betrayed his chief in such a treacherous fashion. Stephen Moore writing in *National Review Online* has called O'Neill 'one of the worst treasury secretaries in memory'.

On the other hand, leading Democratic Party hopefuls have seized upon the opportunity to confirm their views about the Iraq War. Howard Dean issued a statement in which he said, "I've always said the President had failed to make the case to go to war with Iraq. Most of my Democratic opponents reached a different conclusion, and in the process, they failed to ask the difficult questions. Now, after the fact, we are learning new information about the true circumstances of the Bush administration's push for war, this time, by one of his former cabinet secretaries."

Less than 24 hours after O'Neill criticised Bush on the CBS television programme, *Sixty Minutes*, the Treasury Department said it had asked its Inspector General to investigate how a document marked 'secret' was shown during the interview.

Another leading Democratic presidential candidate, former general, Wesley Clark, says that O'Neill is a man with "100 percent, rock-solid commonsense judgment. When he writes that the Bush administration is planning and exchanging documents on how to go to war with Iraq as soon as they took office, that just confirms my

worst suspicions about this administration."

In his own book, *Winning Modern War*, Clark says that the plotting of the war in Iraq took place back in 1996, when he says a group left over from the first Bush administration recommended that Israel focus on removing Saddam from power. "We went to a war in Iraq we didn't have to go to," Clark told a group of supporters. Clark said he was in the Pentagon immediately after the September 11 terror attacks, and heard officials joking that, "if Saddam didn't do it, he should have, because if he didn't, we're going to get him anyway."

Famed British spy novelist, John le Carre, was a vocal opponent of the war. Thus, it is not surprising to see him take Tony Blair to task for joining President Bush. Le Carre, who has just written a new novel, *Absolute Friends*, told *Entertainment Weekly* magazine, "I don't think there's anything worse that a leader can do than take us to war on the strength of lies."

But the war is now being questioned even by those in the bastion of the establishment. Jeffrey Record of the US Army War College's Strategic Studies Institute notes that the Bush administration's decision to portray the war against Al Qaeda with Saddam Hussein's Iraq 'as a single, undifferentiated terrorist threat was a strategic error of the first order because it ignored critical differences between the two in character, threat level, and susceptibility to US deterrence and military action'.

And even more surprisingly, Brookings researcher Kenneth Pollack, author of *The Threatening Storm: The Case for Invading Iraq*, says he never believed that it was necessary for the United States to go to war as early as 2003. I did not believe the threat was imminent. Pollack says that many of the troubles the US is experiencing in the Middle East are the result of the administration's absolute unwillingness to engage in the peace process between Israel and the Palestinians before going to war with Iraq. He says, "Their argument was always that the road to Jerusalem ran through Baghdad. My argument was the exact opposite—the road to Baghdad needed to run through Jerusalem."

It must be clear by now to all the presidential candidates who have hit the campaign trail in the US that the road to Washington runs through Baghdad.

The danger of haste

EDITORIAL JORDAN TIMES

Shiite Ayatollah Ali Sistani is posing the biggest challenge yet to the interim government and the coalition forces in Iraq by calling for early elections instead of the protracted process the Governing Council appears to be pushing for at the behest of the US. Iraqi Governing Council President Adnan Pachachi is seeking to delay the inevitable national polls until the ground rules for them are ironed out and agreed upon. The Shiites, who constitute about 60 per cent of the Iraqi population, insist on precipitous elections because that would be their surest way to capture power in Baghdad. They appear to reject a federal form of government because their numbers would guarantee them control of the entire country.

While it is hard to quarrel with anyone about the need to conduct free and fair elections in Iraq, it would seem that rushing into the process before the preparatory work is completed could cause untold problems. Above all, there is fear that Shiite control of Iraq could end in a bloodbath between them and their Sunni and Kurdish compatriots.

The peculiar ethnic and religious conditions in Iraq require painstaking preparations for national elections, to ensure that the Sunnis and Kurds are not underrepresented. Any national election in Iraq must be conducted in such a way as to guarantee all minorities their rights and promote pluralism. If the Shiites believe that they, and they alone, are the heirs to the central government, then the country could be drawn into violent domestic conflicts the likes of which the country has not seen for decades.

There is, of course, no fail-safe formula for governing Iraq once sovereignty is restored to the Iraqis and foreign occupation ends. The majority of the population has rights. The minorities also have rights, including political rights, owing to their size. Reconciling the rights of the two is the paramount issue that needs to be addressed before national elections are held.

Electoral systems around the world are constantly being questioned. The primary goal is to ensure the citizen's right to representation. The problem, however, is that electoral systems are not always proportional and the results often mean underrepresentation. So, the studying of any proposed election process for Iraq should be given time.

In any case, no fair and free elections can be held under the prevailing conditions. Unless and until occupation ends, the Iraqis may not be expected to conduct parliamentary elections on any acceptable basis.

YT Business



Craftsmen can bring in cash, especially in 2004

Yemen's culture has economic potential

By MAHYOUB AL-KAMALI
YEMEN TIMES STAFF

The economic dimension of Sana'a, which is named capital of the Arab culture in 2004, is not confined to what he old city treasures and the sight of fire melting iron and moulds silver or gold, or the hands forming maquettes and historical statues, but also in activating professional, artist and creative works of economic feasibility in all areas of Yemen.

The Yemeni plastic artist Shawqi Ali has succeeded in creating a new genre in painting his pictures on shark skin, and will exhibit some of his works in the general exhibition of art to be held in Sana'a in the context of its activities as capital of the Arab culture.

Samples of artist Shawqi works contain natural, heritage and historical landscapes and his paintings on sharks skins have received admiration of his colleagues in Aden and it is an idea of economic use. They can be sold for good sums of money. There would be also other paintings for other creative artists to be exhibited for marketing.

In old Sana'a there is the National Center for Art and a Center for Information and Bab al-Yemen Hall for Plastic Art. These centers are run by a number of Yemeni creative personalities who promote for the heritage and historical landmarks as they have great tourist and economic value.

The occasion of Sana'a, capital of

Arab culture, opens many opportunities for those working in handicrafts and textiles made of folklore cloth for increasing their production for marketing on old Sana'a markets that are specialized in promotion of these products that come from other governorates. Owner of a shop selling Yemeni agate Ali al-Ansi says we have been keen this year to bring more worked products of local agate fitted with natural floral stones to face the increasing demand for them by Arab and foreign tourists, and this would be profitable to tens of families specialized in producing agate from many Yemeni areas most reputable is the governorate of Dhamar.

The occasion also blends the originality in manufacturing the Jambias and the white dagger as many families are specialized in this industry. The work is distributed among the members of the individual family.

The hilt, the more important part of the Jambias, made by expert people and is made of the horn of rhinos that is imported from Africa ceros south, or the horn of cows or of karak wood. The price of a Jambias depends on the kind of the hilt. Another member of the family would be specialised in making the blade that is made of iron and then it is smoothed and burnished. The regions of Dhamar, Hadramout, is reputed of making it Baihan and Rada' are.

Women usually take part in making the belt of Jambias with embroidering it with colourful formations, using silk, leather and golden threads.

Mohammed Ali al-Matari, a spe-

cialised in making Jambias affirms that activities of Sana'a capital of Arab culture require from us to increase production of Jambias by 75% compared to last year as it is expected to have more demand for the Jambias as a folklore heritage. The demand would be met marketing great numbers of them from many areas to old Sana'a areas and this would be positively reflected on income of families working in this popular industry.

Other Yemeni areas would contribute to increasing production of earthenware, leather shoes and handmade folklore ornaments. The economic dimension of Sana'a capital of Arab culture can be felt in providing work opportunities for the unemployed who would work at tourist restaurants and hotels where visitors would live. The capital secretariat has on the other hand allowed the peddlers to sell handicrafts in old Sana'a and outside it.

The tourist agencies have prepared means of transport for local, Arab and foreign tourists and provided services compatible with the occasion in anticipation of making for the losses they have sustained during the past two years following the events of 11 September in the United States.

Sana'a on this occasion would provide thousands of work opportunities for handicraftsmen, artists and creative people to give prominence to the value of human heritage that old Sana'a is rich in. These activities would have economic return mitigating the bad living conditions and to include all regions of Yemen.

And just what is exempt?

To tax or not to tax: this is the question

By YEMEN TIMES STAFF

The draft law of the general tax on sales has aroused a large-scale controversy, this time among the population, the consumers and tradesmen regarding the commodities exempted from the tax, and whether the law is in the interest of the consumer or against him. The table No.1 has clarified the kind of local and foreign goods exempted from the sales tax that covered 27 commodities.

The commodities included in the exemption are: wheat, bread, liquid and dried dairies, vegetable and animal ghee, broiled eggs, meats, poultry, animal wealth products, dates, vegetables, fruits, coffee, honey, tea, biscuits, soap, all kinds of medicines and children health supplies.

The list also included ambulance cars and transportation from ports, books, notebooks, pens, ink and spare parts for tools and equipment.

The law has also exempted from the sales tax construction materials like bricks, blocks and tiles. It has also exempted ploughs, harvesters, seeds and fertilizers and inputs of fish products as nets and fishing boats, as well as fodders for poultry

and cattle and sheep.

Table No.2 annexed to the law included the commodities and services subject to the general tax on sales at 0% rate, which are exports and services of navigation and navy services related to those of civil aviation and services of ports and over-

ettes at a percentage of 6% of the selling price to the consumer and the locally-produced cigarettes bearing a foreign mark at a percentage of 65%, the imported cigarettes at 80%, the qat at 20%, cement at 5%, steel at 5%, wood at 5%, aluminum at 5%, cars spare parts at 5% of the selling price to the consumer.

The sales tax imposed 5% tax on metal sheets, ready-made clothes, cloth, shoes, gold and metals of their selling price to the consumer.

The table 4 annexed to the law included the local and imported services exempted from the general tax on sales. Most important of them are one-

star hotels services, maintenance services, legal and accountancy services and services of food offered by second-class restaurants.

This table has also included financial services exempted from tax in banking dealings, works in stock exchange markets, insurance services, and health, treatment and education services and also services of non-governmental organisations, waters, constructions, contracts and pilgrims.

The draft law of the general tax on sales has aroused a large-scale controversy . . . whether the law is in the interest of the consumer or not.

land transportation.

Table No. 3 included local and imported commodities included in the production an consumption tax such as benzene, solar, kerosene, oils and lubricants at a percentage of 2% of the selling price to the consumer, the liquefied gas at a percentage of 0.5% of the selling price to the consumer, the gas oil, and all oil products at a percentage of 1% of the selling price to the consumer in addition to locally-produced cig-

إنها الحقيقة..!

كريستال

يمنحك الملايين

الجوائز الكبرى في كل سحب

فقط

استبدل عبوة ٢٠٠٤ كريسٲال بحزمة كوبونات سحب

استبدل عبوتين ١٧٠٠ كريسٲال بكوپون سحب واحد

استبدل ثلاث عبوات ١٤٠٠ كريسٲال بكوپون سحب واحد

مليون ريال

نصف مليون ريال

مائتان الف ريال

وعشرات الجوائز النقدية الأخرى

في حالة عدم ظهور صاحب الرقم الفائز خلال خمسة أيام من تاريخ السحب تُلقى الجائزة.

كوبون السحب هو المستند الوحيد لإثبات حقلك في الجائزة فأحرص على عدم ضياعه.

سيتم السحب والتسليم كل اثنين حسب الجدول التالي:

السحب الأول ٢٠٠٤ / ٣ / ٨ م التسليم الأول ٢٠٠٤ / ٣ / ١٥ م

سيقامان في مدينة تعز

السحب الثاني ٢٠٠٤ / ٤ / ٥ م التسليم الثاني ٢٠٠٤ / ٤ / ١٢ م

سيقامان في مدينة صنعاء

لمزيد من الاستفسار الاتصال بخدمة العملاء، تلفون: ٢٦٦ ٣٥٠ / ٤

البركة

مياه صحية نقية

أنقى مياه صحية في اليمن

إنتاج الشركة التضامنية اليمنية للمشروبات الغازية (بيكو)

أول شركة يمنية تقوم بتعبئة المياه في قارورة صحية من مادة (بي.إي.تي)

Symposium on 'Theory of Translation for Pedagogic Purposes'

“Discover the harmony of creativity through translation”

BY DR. RAMAKANTA SAHU
ramakantasahu@yahoo.com

Under the patronage of Prof. (Dr.) Saleh Ali Bassurah, Rector, Sana'a University, a 2-day symposium on the theme "Theory of Translation for Pedagogic Purposes" was organized on 30 and 31 December, 2003 at the Department of English, Faculty of Languages. The saliency of the theme in the present context attracted large scale participation from across the Republic of Yemen. Prof. (Dr.) Saleh Ali Bassurah, Rector, Sana'a University and Prof. (Dr.) Mohammed Mutahar, Vice Minister, Higher Education graced the occasion as Inaugurator and Chief guest, respectively. Prof. (Dr.) Tariq Al-Jenabi presided over the inaugural ceremony.

The event started off with a recitation from the Holy Quran by Mr. Amer Al-Mikhlaifi. Welcoming the Hon'ble Vice Minister, the Rector and the delegates, Prof. Tariq Al-Jenabi, Dean, Faculty of Languages lauded the efforts of the English Department for organizing the symposium, thanks to the active help and generous support of Prof. Bassurah, Rector. Briefing on their future agenda of action he said that the Faculty mooted plans of bringing out an academic journal in foreseeable future, setting up a Centre for Translation Studies and opening up instructional facilities in Italian. He expressed the hope that the symposium would go a long way for the extension and augmentation of translation studies and research in the Republic.

In his inaugural address Dr. Bassurah underscored the need and importance of wider dissemination of ideas in diverse disciplines including science, technology and literature in the present age. He particularly stressed the significance of acquisition of languages of wider communication which could lend leverage to accelerate the wheel of progress, especially at a time when creating a language competent society is a top national priority. He congratulated the Faculty for pro-

directed, cost-effective translation pedagogy in the Republic of Yemen. The Inaugural session concluded with a vote of thanks by Dr. Jenabi.

The first business session was kick started by an illuminating and highly stimulating presentation by Prof. Abdel Rahman Abdrabou. Prof. D. Thakur, Sana'a University, chaired the session and Prof. Abdullah Fadel Farreh, Aden University, was the Chief Guest. Prof. Abdrabou described translation as a creative process. The act of translation doesn't merely involve text duplication. It's indeed a process of text transformation that subsumes text assimilation and discourse processing. He called for a more informed approach to hammer out a cost-effective course that sensitizes the learners in the knowledge and skills of translating the sense and the idiom of the text. It was high time we took concrete steps to reverse the process of institutional failure in this respect and devised ways and means of exploiting the rich resource of literature to enrich the linguistic competence of a vast majority of EFL learners, equipping them to use English as a research tool and a library language.

The second presentation of the session was by Prof. K.M. Tiwari of Taiz University. Building up a contrast between the popular and academic modes of translation Prof. Tiwari illustrated how all translations borrow meanings from other languages, and we, without any conscious awareness, yet driven by pragmatic communicative needs, incarnate them with new shades of meanings. All borrowings tend to undergo alternations, both in sense and form, at the incipient stage. All borrowing in translation is slow movement. Academicians interested more in theoretical principles and insights should take proper cognizance of translations made by popular mode which is, by all means, more successful and cost-effective than the academic mode.

The next speaker, Prof. Aziz Yousif Al Muttalibi of Aden University, presented his paper on "Literary Translation as a Semiotic Act." He elucidated the semiotic dimensions of a codic 'context' where communicative transactions, pragmatic actions and semiotic interactions operated



Dr. Mohammed Mutahar, Vice Minister, Higher Education

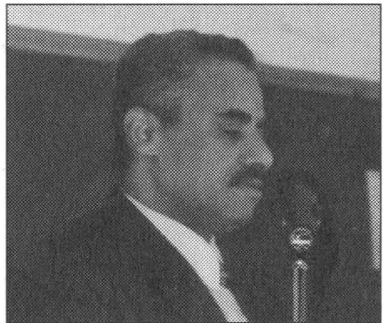
composite. Translation theory should cease being prescriptive with a top-down approach and embody, instead, a bottom-up approach. There is no perfect translation. With the help of the result of an analysis of 87 medicine wrappings and roadside hoardings involving Arabic and English, he called in question certain key concepts of prescriptive translation and advocated adoption of a descriptive approach.

This was followed by a paper "Towards a Discursive Socio-Semiotic Interpretation of Problems of Cultural Untranslatability" by Dr. Anil K. Prasad, Ibb University. Dr. Prasad dwelt upon the embedded semantic indeterminacy leading to problems of cultural untranslatability and how socio-semiotics can offer a solution to the problems and issues involved. He alerted the actual and potential translators against over-translation and called for a socio-semiotic approach to translation to reduce its baffling complexion. A translator needs to be equipped with a set of appropriate manipulation and interpretation strategies in his attempt to reconcile the irreconcilable within the constraints of accuracy and acceptability.

The third presentation of the session was by Prof. Nand Kishore Pandey, Taiz University. He demonstrated how translation is essentially an enigmatic process, especially if it comes to translation of a poem. His attempted translation of an English poem into the Arabic idiom proved beyond doubt that all translation is only an attempt at approximation to the

involving translation, he inferred that translation is an invulnerable instrument for promoting reading skills in EFL contexts such as in Yemen in so far as both translation and reading are communicative acts. He sounded a caution against stretching linguistic manipulation to its logical extreme to the extent of cultural misrepresentation.

The third speaker Dr. Abdul Majid Joodi, Faculty of Languages, in his paper "A Study of Problems of Learning and Translating Idioms" highlighted some of the crucial problems of appropriate contextual use of idioms, one of the slippery areas of English. He explained how the unit of meaning of idioms is more than the sum of the meaning of its parts and the difficulties involved in the translation of idioms. In so far as idioms are culture-specific, translation of idioms may be perceived as an act of betrayal.



Prof. Saleh Ali Bassurah, Rector, Sana'a University

In his paper titled "Science Through Translation" Dr. Rajiv Kumar Mallik, Faculty of Arts, Sana'a University, delved deep into the problems of translating registers. Citing examples of loan translation, he lucidly underscored the importance of looking at this type of translation from the point of view of cultural untranslatability. Dr. Abdulsalam Al-Gharyf, Faculty of Languages, Sana'a University, the next speaker, in his presentation "Untranslatability of Some Writing Conventions from English to Arabic" give an exposition of the translatability and untranslatability of writing conventions in different languages which are divergent genetically. The speaker advocated evolving a set of comprehensive strategies involving graphological and stylistic conventions across languages to obviate this problem.

The post-tea session began with the presentation captioned "The Translator as Sceptic" by Dr. Murari Prasad, Faculty of Education and Arts, Sada'a, in which he looked at the skeptical process and program as an enabling template for resolving some of the conundrums of translation which is primarily cultural mediation. He analyzed the problems and prospects of opening common ground between distinct cultures. Characterizing translation as an enterprise that involves bridging as well as re-constructing the subjectivities of the host culture to facilitate cross-cultural communication, he argued that a translator should aim at 'equipollent' rendition of the source text, not merely its equivalent conversion, or pale wooden paraphrase for that matter, through inter-systemic manipulation. Fittingly, he pointed out the subtle distinctions between 'auto-translation' (bilingual execution by the same author) and 'transcreation', between 'crib' and 'dynamic equivalence', and maintained that translation is a creative deviation whereby the translator taps the alternative potential of the text within an alien semiotic frame while conforming to semantic equivalence. Dr Prasad also outlined some of the recent advances in the discipline, such as *Skopos theory*, *Polysystems theory* and

grammatological theory of translation, to contend that contemporary translation studies and practice are getting increasingly influenced by **postcolonial cultural studies** and the disciplines proliferating around it. Notably in addition, he called for a reassessment of the protocols of translational practice which are more often than not over-determined by cultural politics on a grade of reception.

This was followed by the paper "Conceptual Translation of Invention Terms into English" by Dr. Talib Abdul Rahman, Professor of Arabic, Faculty of Education, Khawlaan. Briefly outlining the strategies of phonological adaptation, literal or conceptual translation at the disposal of Arabic in encountering English and French words denoting new inventions, Prof. Talib focused on the conceptual translation and explored the connection between the concept, or the new invention itself, on the one hand, and the term used to designate it, on the other.

The last paper in the pre-lunch session titled "Semiotics and the Translation of Terrorism" was by Dr. Khalid Al-Shehri, Sana'a University. He identified terms which are transparent and those which defy an easy translatability. The study advocated a thorough consideration of the qualities and values that would empower the translator to retain the target reader's cultural identity and ideology and defined the role of semiotics in relating the translator to curriculum designer, materials producers as well as the target readership.

The session concluded with a note of appreciation by the Chief Guest and the President for the illuminating presentations which together demonstrated the multiplicity and variety of perspectives from which translation can be studied. However, the practicalities of the enterprise should not be lost sight of in the orthodoxies of theory galore.

In the last business session, presided over by Prof. (Dr.) Ali Mansoor, Dr. U.K. Mishra in his paper "Second Language Learning and Translating: A Perspective" assessed the facilitative role of translating in foreign language acquisition. He discussed how the psycholinguistic process of translating can be fruitfully used as an active agent facilitating the learner navigate the learning route.

The next presentation titled "What Does a Trainee Translator Need" by Dr. Aid Sharyan, Faculty of Education, Sana'a University, was an attempt to pin down the pre-requisites of a translator in discharging, with passion and professionalism, the range of roles he is called upon to perform. Correspondingly, the trainer-mentor needs to sensitize himself with a plethora of practical techniques to explode the myth that translation is an act of betrayal and the translator is a betrayer who can never be faithful to the original. Dr. Ayid came out with a practical suggestion to set up a 'Translators' Guild' to streamline all translation activities in Yemen and evolve an integrative approach to the challenges confronting it. Dr. Sharyan's suggestion was hailed by the members of the audience.

The third speaker Dr. Ahmed Mohammed Al Quyadi, Faculty of Education, Sana'a University in his presentation "Translation Teaching at the Yemen Universities: Conditions and Prospects" analyzed the factors leading to learners' dislike of translation, one of which is a lack of linguistic competence on their part including the knowledge about cohesive devices in English which are the nuts and bolts of the language. The teacher of translation has a significant role in sensitizing the learner about the discourse types and in sharpening his skill in translation.

Dr. Saleh Ahmed Saif, Faculty of Language, the last speaker of the session is his paper "Contrastive Linguistics and the Teaching of Translation" identified the common ground

between the two enterprises and discussed how each can draw insight from and contribute towards the enrichment of the other.

Prof. Monsour, the Chair and Dr. A.K. Sinha, the Chief Guest, summed up the main threads of argument in the presentations.

The valedictory ceremony began with Dr. Tariq Al-Jenabi, Dean on the chair. Dr. D. Thakur graced the occasion as the Chief Guest. Dr. Jenabi, while expressing his deep sense of appreciation for the active participation of everyone which made the event a resounding success, hoped that deliberations would go a long way to put in a clearer perspective some of the hazy theoretical concepts and help



Prof. Tariq Al-Jenabi, Dean, Faculty of Education

formulate a feasible action plan for the future.

Prof. Thakur in his valedictory address upheld the universal value of harmony which lay at the heart of all texts, the task of the translator being to unravel that harmony. Translation, he said, is not only a skill but a great art that is embellished by intuitive introspection. A translator, like a poet, is a creator. He called upon the students to cultivate a sustained, continued assimilative exposure to texts. Prof. Thakur characterized translation as a great unifying force to bridge the artificial divide that is corroding the human psyche at present.

Dr. Shamsar, Vice Dean, Faculty of Languages, proposed a vote of thanks. On the suggestion of Prof. A.K. Sharma, a committee was formed under the chairmanship of Prof. Abdel Rahman A. Abdrabou. Other members who were nominated to the committee are the following:

1. Dr. Mahmood Ali Shamsar
2. Dr. Abdul Majeed Joodi
3. Dr. Ayed Sharyan
4. Prof. (Dr.) Abdullah Fadel Farreh (Consultant)

As the annual academic jamboree drew to a close, there was a sense of fulfillment, of accomplishment. Everyone had something to reflect on, something to look forward to. The message that trickled through the 2-day conglomeration was clear: Translation is an ongoing, creative process. It is never finished, although it is temporarily abandoned. As such, the 'exhaustive fallacy' of translation is a myth. In fact translation is an impeccable instrument of empowerment, an unailing means for a dynamic interaction between peoples, languages and cultures. It is a unique symbol of a progressive idealism whose lofty aim is to achieve a multilingual, multicultural confluence.

The deliberations of the symposium refreshed the minds of participants and opened vistas of understanding relating to the concept of translation. There seemed to be a tacit consensus and a firm commitment to explore new horizons of translation and redefine the frontiers of translation pedagogy.

The rapporteurs Dr. R. K. Sahu, Dr. U. K. Mishra, Dr. R. K. Mallik, Dr. Rajesh Kumar, Dr. Khalid Al-Asbahi, and Dr. Mohammed Othman Naif perseverantly compiled and consolidated a report on the proceedings of the symposium.



(L - R) Prof. Abdullah Fadel Farreh, Prof. Damodar Thakur, and Prof. Abdel Rahman Abdrabou.

neering a movement in the right direction.

Dr. Mutahar, Hon'ble Vice Minister while expressing his happiness to participate in the symposium characterized translation as an invaluable instrument to forge better understating among countries and cultures. It is an efficient vehicle to effect a transfer of a burgeoning body of knowledge. Translation faithfully and efficiently embodies the doctrine enshrined in the Holy Quran which exhorts people to learn from one another. Drawing upon a wealth of findings of international projects, he gave a passionate call to the academic community to make an all-out, concerted effort for the revitalization of language teaching programs.

Prof. A.K. Sharma, Head of English Department, in his address iterated their resolve to carry on the continual evaluation and need-based restructuring of the curriculum on translation. He then proceeded by way of a curtain-raiser to present an overview of the theoretical underpinnings of translation as an academic discipline and its pedagogic exploitability. He focused on the need to develop parameters for a comprehensive, progress-controlled, phased teaching framework, to build up a system of teaching-learning targets, and on that basis, to design teaching-learning materials for use in translation pedagogy. He ardently hoped that the deliberations of the symposium would serve to provide fresh theoretical perspectives, formulate practical guidelines, and provide a veritable roadmap for a well

and which interplay with and override the other dimensions. The texture of poetry is spoiled in translation which accounts for the untranslatability of poetry. He characterized the translator as a 'cruel man', a 'constructive demolisher.' Prof. Al Muttalibi made plea for a synthetic-analytical approach in translation.

The last speaker of the session Prof. A.K. Sinha, Taiz University, focused on the phenomenon of semantic shift in translation of lexical items. With the help of a number of neologisms and metaphorical use of several existing terms he highlighted the role and relevance of the Prototype theory for the purpose of finding equivalence in translation.

In his presidential remarks Prof. D. Thakur drew a clear line of demarcation between translation and translatology. He drew an analogy between a translator and an actor. The distance between the translator and the text is same as that between 'me' and 'not me.' A Translator's job is not merely a mechanical pulling of parts, but achieving a dynamic togetherness as well as identifying the 'etymon', the life spirit. A translator's genuine concern should be transcreation.

The second business session was presided over by Prof. Abdelrahman Abdrabou with Prof. K.M. Tiwari as the Chief Guest. The first speaker Prof. Panchanan Mohanty, Dhamar University in his presentation titled "What Can Translation Theory Learn from Medicine Wrappings and Street-side Hoardings" perceived translation out and out as a language activity which is not unitary, but

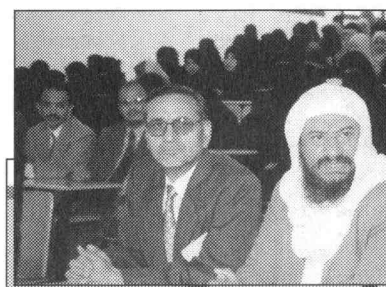
original.

The concluding presentation of the session by Ms. Wasom Fathi, Hodeidah University, on the topic "The Meaning or the Equivalent" was an attempt to grapple with the concept of equivalence as distinguished from 'meaning'. She identified some aspects of language, finding equivalence for which is fraught with problems of varying magnitude. This problem can potentially be addressed by developing itemized listing of lexical items with culturally appropriate equivalents.

In his concluding remarks, Prof. Abdrabou, Chairperson, expressed his considered view that no professional translator can boast of having translated all the subtle nuances of a text. More often than not, a translator is filled with a sense of incompetence rather than accomplishment in tackling the baffling enterprise.

The first session of the second and concluding day of the symposium was chaired by Prof. K.V. Tirumalesh, Faculty of Languages. Prof. Aziz Yousif Al Muttalibi was the Chief Guest. Prof. Abdullah, the first speaker of the morning in his presentation "Literary Translation as a Semiotic Act" traced the primary role assigned to translation in Aden, the focal point of learning during the period of British colonialism.

The next presentation was by Dr. M.N.K. Bose, Ibb University. In his paper "Translation for Empowering the Learners in English Classes: Teaching Reading through Translation," Dr. Bose critically evaluated the socio-cultural context in Yemen for teaching English. Based on the outcome of his action research



Some of the audience at the academic gathering.



Local Press

Prepared by Mohammed Khidhr



Al-Isbou weekly, 22 Jan 2004.

Main headlines

- Saudi Arabia considers Wadecia' a crossing not for pilgrims
- Muslims from New York prohibited from Haj across al-Wadecia'
- Countdown for journalists syndicate elections

Columnist Walid Jahzar says in an article that the minister of youth and sport Abdulrahman al-Akwa put a condition of accounting the soccer union to withdraw his resignation from his post. The committee for accounting the soccer union had last Tuesday discussed at the building of the ministry with the Olympic committee results of an interview it had conducted with leadership of the union just hours before holding the regular meeting of the council of ministers.

The decision of resignation was preceded with acute differences prevailed the relationship between the soccer union and the ministry leadership on he background of the weak performance of Yemen's football team in the first participation in the Gulf games for football. A source at the soccer federation justified the teams weak results by withholding the enough support for the preparation of the team which the ministry refuted by declaring that the federation had received three billion riyals as an annual income in support of its activity.

Annas weekly, 26 Jan 2004.

Main headlines

- Commenting on Yemen's joining of

the GCC, Dr al-Asbahi says Yemen accession to the GCC not subject to political temperament

- International conference for discussing conditions of detainees in Guantanamo and Yemen
- British embassy in Sana'a looks for a safety haven
- A tribal reconciliation between the ministry of youth and the soccer federation

Columnist Dr Hassan al-Jawshahe says in his article about the Israeli policy of demolishing houses of the Palestinians that the destruction of civilian houses is considered a war crime in the Geneva convention. The writer queries how many war crime the Zionists are committing every day without anybody utters one protest word? America, instead of deterring Israel for its criminal acts, it has learned from it and began applying the same policy in Iraq, demolishing civilian houses as it did in Afghanistan. And Europe that claims its being as an advocate of freedom and democracy takes the stance of spectator while seeing the demolition of the Palestinians houses without giving any statement condemning Israel for its crimes. We wish they would discard claiming their defense of these terms such as democracy and freedom that have become for the Muslims and Arabs as meaningless.

Al-Shoura weekly, organ of the Yemeni People's Forces Union, 25 Jan 2004.

Main headlines

- Al-Qaeda threatens of dealing destructive blow
- Mr Ruba'ie: The government deprives Yemen from representation at the International Criminal

The Main Headlines

- After al-Akwa' tendering of his resignation, the government faces dangerous political crisis
- Because of low efficiency level and rise of current spending, Foreign loans wasted
- Yemeni state establishment for industry and marketing of cement loses profits and suffers from deficit
- Arable lands seized in Wadi Hadramout
- In protest to Soccer union, demonstrations in Yemeni governorates Tuesday
- Vice president: after six months of chasing al-Harthy we sought help of the Americans in assassinating him
- FM al-Qirbi meets the Saudi ambassador to Yemen, expected meeting between Yemen and the GCC general secretariat
- Two American pilots killed in a helicopter crash in Iraq
- Politicians demand the government to turn away from the question of joining the GCC
- Instead of Saudi Arabia and the Gulf: Washington sends an envoy to discuss marketing Yemeni agricultural products to America
- Sheikhs agitated Amran fighting, Ali Muhsin led successful mediation
- Judiciary decides in favour of the deaf and dumb in Taiz
- Return three fishermen from al-Mahra were lost in the sea for four days
- Workshop on enhancement of women role in their local societies
- Lectures in Taiz on human rights

- **Court**
- International Establishment supervises directly its projects in Yemen
- JMP refuses the impoverishing policy
- Reports on a new tax on fishermen
- 155 challenges against membership of the journalists syndicate
- Influential persons rob historical sites in Ibb
- Saudi Embassy: Joint team to secure goods flow between Yemen and Saudi Arabia

Arab affairs editor of the newspaper says that press information confirmed that the American intelligence and the Israeli intelligence apparatus possess a full file on each Arab ruler, particularly about his illegal financial asset deposited in foreign banks. These files are as a pressure cards in both intelligence organisations with which both American and Israeli governments can use against the Arab governments to force them offer concessions and the Arab silence towards the many of events. If the world silence is justified through the American and Israeli pressure, why then is there the Arab silence towards what is happening in south Lebanon and what is going on of war crimes against the Palestinian people in the occupied territories at the hands of the Israeli forces?

As for the secret of the Arab people silence the apparatuses of the Arab regimes are the ones to be asked through the public practice of terror and oppression.

Al-Shumou weekly, 24 Jan 2004.

Main headlines

- Accounts of cleaning funds and

improving cities in the governorates disclose violations of law provisions

- In the state authority of agricultural development, manipulation of appropriations and squander of public property
- Violations and excesses in appropriations determined for the state establishment of electricity

The newspaper's political editor says in an article that it is difficult to keep education in our in such a random state and not founded on clear curricula bases compatible with future plans. It seems that education structure in our country is stationary and sterile and the concerned authorities do not give it the required attention. For this reason we find our students are not at the level they should be and many of them are semi-ignorant graduates incapable of innovation and giving.

If the educational parties do not comprehend the importance of developing this aspect according to scientific vision, horizons of future look dim and miserable. More unemployment would be the big problem in the near future. In our country we find tens of thousands of those holding secondary and university degrees have no chance of knowledge qualifying them to attain future looking for while in all world countries, including the developing countries there is planning of education curricula in harmony with the spirit of the age and its variables and with keenness on a better future. But in our country the education curricula is without pre-preparation.

Unless there would be a comprehensive study for qualifying he efficient teacher and changing the curricula to be compatible with requites of development ignorance would be the most apparent presence.

World Press

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

Egypt

Al Ahram

Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak received on Monday Malian President Amadou Toure who is on a three-day visit to Egypt. The two leaders are scheduled to hold talks on bilateral relations between Egypt and Mali as well as the latest developments in Africa and the Middle East region.

Al Akhbar

Iran's Guardian Council, a powerful government-appointed body dominated by conservatives, has approved 490 once-disqualified reformist candidates to run in parliamentary elections next month, press reports said.

Al Gomhuria

Egyptian Foreign Minister Ahmed

Maher and visiting Yevogny Primakov, Chairman of the Russian Chamber of Commerce and Industry and former Russian Prime Minister, examined on Sunday the formation of an Egyptian-Russian business council and the role it could play in activating and enhancing economic and trade ties between the two countries that were once flourishing.

The Egyptian Gazette

Visiting Microsoft Corporation Board Chairman Bill Gates on Sunday pledged during a meeting with Egyptian Prime Minister Hosni Mubarak his company's support to help in building an e-government in Egypt and training Egyptian cadres in this regard.

Britain

The Guardian

Downing Street on Sunday dismissed as premature reports that Tony Blair will be cleared by Lord Hutton inquiry verdict of misleading the public over the naming of defense scientist David Kelly and the manipulation of intelligence about weapons of mass destruction in Iraq.

The Times

The British minister of defense turned down the opportunity to offer life assurance to thousands of troops and reservists being sent to fight in Iraq a week before the war broke out last year, the Times has learnt.

Financial Times

Britain's fraud boom fueled by a

rise in VAT frauds accelerated in 2003 as the number of big cases almost doubled, according to a report published on Monday.

The Independent

British Chancellor of Exchequer Gordon Brown on Sunday revived speculation about Tony Blair's leadership when he failed to confirm that the prime minister would lead his party into the next election.

The Daily Telegraph

More than half of adults in Britain would be happy to see the sale and possession of cannabis decriminalized or even legalized as the government decided to downgrade the drug from a class B to a class C, a survey has revealed.

Pakistan

Dawn

Pakistan's Maritime Security Agency has detained 16 fishermen along with three boats for violating limits of Pakistani territorial waters.

The News

The recent peace initiatives between India and Pakistan are a beginning in the right direction, speakers said at a Pakistani national seminar on Pakistan-India relations.

France

Le Figaro

Chinese President Hu Jintao is to arrive in Paris Monday for a state visit. The newspaper said all French enterprises are interested, with some successful, in their exploration of the booming economy, which posted a growth of over 9 percent in 2003.

Liberation

The Paris-Beijing strategic partnership and big contracts are part of the program of the visit of Chinese President Hu Jintao in France.

L'Humanite

Champs Elysees hosted an unprecedented Chinese New Year parade on Saturday afternoon, two days before the arrival of Chinese President Hu Jintao for a state visit. "We are witnessing not only the Year of China in France, but also the century of China in the World," the newspaper said.

India

The Indian Express

President Abdul Kalam Sunday night asked political parties to make a commitment in their manifestoes to remove corruption.

The Hindustan Times

The Special Cell of the Delhi Police on Sunday claimed to have arrested three militants who were planning terrorist attacks in Delhi on the Republic Day that falls on Monday.

The Hindu

Cracks have appeared in the 14-month-old coalition government in Kashmir with Chief Minister Mufti Mohammad Sayeed holding out the threat of dissolving the Assembly and seeking a fresh mandate.

Germany

Die Welt

After Florian Gerster was fired as chairman of the Federal Agency for Labor, a search for his successor is under way.

Handelsblatt

The financial ministers of the euro-zone have discussed with President of

the European Central Bank Jean-Claude Trichet over a possible reduction of interest rates.

Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung

The German mediation has finally led to an agreement between Israel and Hezbollah over swap of detainees.

Japan

Asahi, Yomiuri

Police arrested a 40-year-old truck driver and his common-law wife Sunday in Kishiwada, Osaka Prefecture, on suspicion of attempted murder after the couple physically abused the man's 15-year-old son and

left him to starve for three months.

Mainichi

The latest poll showed supporters and opponents of the Self-Defense Forces dispatch to Iraq are equally divided at 47 percent.

Kenya

East African Standard

Nearly all convicts released last month in Kenya's Western province through presidential clemency are behind bars again for different offences, provincial prisons boss Richard Ombima has said.

Kenya Times

Four cabinet ministers on Monday led a section of Kenyan legislators from Nyanza and Eastern provinces in reassuring Kenyans that everything will be done to prevent the closure of the ongoing review talks for a new constitution that has been scheduled to be in place by June this year.

نظراً للإقبال الكبير على حل المسابقات فقد رأينا تمديد استقبال الإجابات إلى أسبوعين ليتخلل هذه الفترة نشاط آخر
أسئلة هامة للتأهل (علمي / أدبي) **Important Questions for 3rd secondary**
إعداد معهد الفاروق للغات والتكنولوجيا **Prepared by Al-Farouk Institute of Languages & Computer**

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Q(3) Complete the sentences using: ((However, although or whereas)).
حل مثل هذا السؤال في اختبار نهاية العام يجب أن تعرف بأن هذه الثلاث الكلمات المراد تعبئة الفراغات بما يأتي بمعنى لكن **but** وأن **whereas** تستخدم في بداية الجملة إذا وجد تناقض في الجملة كما في التمرين رقم (5) أما **Although** فتستخدم في بداية الجملة أو في نهايتها في حالة عدم وجود تناقض في الجملة. لكن **However** يمكن إستخدامها في منتصف الجملة أو في نهايتها . مزيداً من التطبيقات تجدونها في صفحة (5) كتاب التمارين .

1- **Football is a very popular game,..... not everybody enjoys it.**
2- **I like fishing, I don't catch a lot of fish.**
3- **The factory manager gets very angry sometimes. he is very good at his job.**
4- **The book wasn't very interesting. I read it from start to finish.**
5- **Ali is tall, his father is short.**

الإجابة كما ينبغي أن تكتب نهاية العام
1-however 2-Although 3-However 4-although 5-Whereas

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Those who wish to present gifts should contact the institute for more details

Fossil Millipede found to be oldest land creature

LONDON (Reuters) - Scientists revealed that a fossilized millipede found in Britain is the remains of the oldest creature to have lived on land — and named it after the bus driver who found it.

The tiny fossil was found on a harbor foreshore near Aberdeen, eastern Scotland, about three years ago and has since been studied by experts from the National Museums of Scotland and Yale University in the United States.

National Museums curator of invertebrate paleontology Lyall Anderson said it was not only the oldest fossilized millipede found anywhere — at about 420 million years old — but

when scientists saw it under the microscope they could see it had holes allowing it to breathe air, meaning it lived on land.

Aberdeen bus driver and fossil hunter Mike Newman, 36, told Reuters Monday he found the remains while he was out searching in the area and immediately thought: "Here we go."

"I knew this was quite well preserved, the legs were very clear, and although we had been able to infer before that they could have been able to breathe air, this was the first we were able to prove had," said Newman, who has a degree in geology.

"This was breathing air 420 million years ago."

He contacted National Museums of Scotland and an expert at Yale University, Heather Wilson, for them to study the fossil, which is about a centimeter (half inch) long and whose air holes cannot be seen with the naked eye.

The scientists, who reported their findings in the latest edition of the American Journal of Paleontology, have named the discovery after Newman — *Pneumodesmus newmani*.

"They have named it after me, which is particularly exciting. This is

one of the rarest creatures on earth. I was the first person to have seen it," he said.

Curator Anderson told Reuters: "When Mike told me about this, I was very excited because I believed it was the oldest example of this particular group, but when Heather Wilson got stuck in studying it, we realized just how important it would be."

He added: "If there was a millipede living on land at that time, then there must have been something for it to eat, there must have been plant life well developed at that time."

The piece has been donated to the National Museums of Scotland.

New Web worm

SAN FRANCISCO (Reuters) - Security experts have warned about a new virus outbreak that is spreading quickly across the Internet.

The new virus, dubbed MyDoom or Novarg, is a mass-mailing worm that arrives as an attachment with an .exe, .scr, .zip or .pif extension and can have a subject line of "test" or "status."

It mails itself out to addresses in the victim's computer and is clogging mail servers and degrading network performance at companies, experts said.

"Mailboxes at large corporations are infected and reporting multiple infections throughout their entire organizations," said David Perry, global education director at Trend Micro.

The worm was discovered on Monday afternoon and spread so quickly that Trend Micro, Network Associates, Symantec and other anti-virus companies were rating it a "high" outbreak.

Security experts said they were still analysing the virus to discover what it does to the victim computers.



Security experts have warned about a new virus outbreak that is spreading quickly across the Internet. The new virus, dubbed MyDoom or Novarg, is a mass-mailing worm that arrives as an attachment with an .exe, .scr, .zip or .pif extension and can have a subject line of "test" or "status." It was discovered on Monday. REUTERS/file photo

New wireless standard to carry cable TV signal

By YUKARI IWATANI KANE

TOKYO (Reuters) - A new wireless technology with enough bandwidth to carry cable television signals from a wall-mounted outlet to a TV anywhere in the home could be on the market as early as next year, an industry group said Tuesday.

The Multiband OFDM Alliance, led by Texas Instruments Inc, the world's top maker of microchips for cell phones, said it would publish standards for the technology in May. The group said it expected products with the technology, known as Ultra Wideband, to ship in 2005.

Ultra Wideband operates at a lower power than the wireless local area network standard known as WiFi, but is capable of handling much larger amounts of data, including streaming video.

Jeff Harris, director of business development for General Atomics, said a cable or satellite set-top box, equipped with the technology and connected to a cable outlet, would be able to transmit video to any nearby

television equipped to receive Ultra Wideband. General Atomics is a closely held technology company that is a member of the Multiband OFDM Alliance.

Harris said consumers might also be able to transfer images from a digital video camera to a personal computer with the wireless technology.

In corporate offices, Ultra Wideband technology could replace wires in data centers.

Existing wireless technologies such as WiFi and Bluetooth serve similar functions, but cannot handle large files like digital video, Harris said. The Multiband OFDM Alliance includes over 50 members worldwide, including Korea's Samsung Electronics Co. Ltd., Japan's Matsushita Electric Industrial Co. Ltd. and Finland's Nokia Oyj.

The group said it planned to ship sample silicon chips in the fourth quarter of 2004 and integrated modules in the first quarter of 2005. It expected products using Ultra Wideband technology to come on the market in the second quarter of 2005.

Philips creates foldable screens for e-newspapers

AMSTERDAM (Reuters) - Dutch firm Philips Electronics said on Monday it was preparing to mass-produce a slim, book-sized display panel onto which consumers could download newspapers and magazines — then roll up and put away.

The 5-inch display, which can show detailed images, can be rolled up into a pen-sized holder. If connected to a mobile phone, it can also be used to download web pages, a book or email.

Philips said it had created the displays using electronics circuits made of plastics, which power a monochrome display created with technology from E Ink, a privately-held U.S. company from Cambridge, Massachusetts.

"We can produce this in batches. It's no longer a research project. We're

going to build a pilot line that should be ready in 2005 to make one million displays a year," a spokesman at Philips Research said.

Europe's largest maker of consumer electronics and lighting has already shown prototypes of a glass-based E Ink display which will be in the shops later this year. That sort of screen, used in pocket computers, can cost tens of dollars apiece.

The price of the foldable display screens has not yet been set, but Philips said it would be in the range of current thin glass models. The new range will use much of the manufacturing technology already being used to make glass-based thin screens but is more adaptable to different surfaces, such as the dashboard of a car.



Dutch firm Philips Electronics said on January 26, 2004 it was preparing to mass-produce a slim, book-sized display panel onto which consumers could download newspapers and magazines — then roll up and put away. Photo by Philips/Reuters

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Saddam's face ceases to be legal tender in Iraq

Bank notes printed with the face of Saddam Hussein ceased to be legal tender in Iraq last week, wiping out another memory of the former dictator as thousands of tonnes of old money were sent to the central bank furnaces.

The introduction of new banknotes, which are less prone to counterfeiting, and general confidence in the Iraqi economy have pushed the dinar to new postwar highs against the dollar, forcing the Central Bank to intervene in the market.

People queued in the bank's main business hall, lifting plastic bags full of old dinars onto the counter and exchanging them for the sharp new notes printed with Iraqi monuments, landscapes and history.

In the main counting room, rows of women in bright headscarves and gray overalls processed piles of old money, counting, binding, piling and dipping the dog-eared notes in red ink to indicate they were ready to be burned.

Around a third of the old notes have been destroyed already, and the U.S. authorities in Iraq estimate it will take about two months to incinerate the remaining 6,000 tonnes.

After the close of business on



Iraq's new bank tender replaces the previous note, and Saddam's face.

Thursday, only Saddam-free notes will be legal tender in Iraq. Iraqis were given three months to exchange their old notes.

A sense that the currency is undervalued, its limited circulation compared with the open-ended printing of notes under Saddam, and hopes for a flood of new investment in Iraq's reconstruction have helped strengthen the Iraqi dinar.

Currency traders say that for the first time since the end of major combat last April more Iraqis are

holding on to the dinar as a savings vehicle after years of hoarding dollars.

Bank intervenes

The Central Bank of Iraq said it had intervened to counter the dinar's swift rise, buying dollars at 1,350 dinars each after the currency hit 1,100 on Wednesday — from 1,500 last week and a low of 2,200 last year.

Iraqi Central Bank Governor Sinan Shibibi told reporters the strength was "not justified."

Money changer Abbas Feilih sat between the puddles and exhaust fumes of Baghdad's Firdous Square, a calculator and a pile of bright new notes sitting on his wooden table.

"I don't really understand why it's changing so much," he said. "Yesterday 1,100, today 1,300...It's not clear why, maybe there are people outside our borders playing around. But people seem to think the economy will get better, that's a good thing."

Reuters



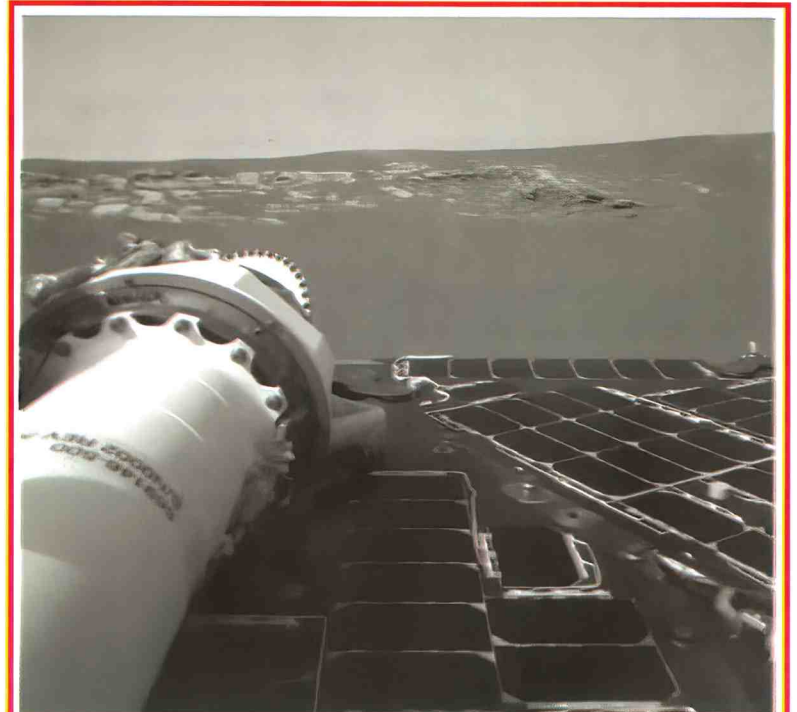
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This image, released by NASA on Jan. 25, shows one of the Mars Exploration Rover Opportunity's first breathtaking views of the martian landscape after its successful landing at Meridiani Planum on Mars. On the left, the rover's mast can be seen in a stowed position. Opportunity landed Saturday night at approximately 9:05 PST. The image was taken by the rover's navigation camera. Medium resolution image provided by source. NASA/JPL



After many years, the face of Saddam Hussein will no longer be seen on Iraq's money.

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"There's probably some kind of speculation, people have bright prospects for the Iraqi economy...It is now a trustworthy currency, but it's not justified because it's a big jump, you really want something smooth," he said.

The British Treasury's Jacob Nell, a policy advisor in Iraq, said the central bank thought the dinar's recent appreciation was unwarranted by any political or economic developments.

"Today (the bank) bought dollars in the auction at 1,350 and it stands ready to intervene further in order to ensure it meets its primary objective of exchange rate stability," Nell said.

Bank officials say the new notes are symbolically important, but also stress they are harder to forge.

Nell said fewer than 1.5 percent of old notes were counterfeit, but the belief more notes were fake was damaging.

In the streetside money markets, currency vendors were at a loss to explain the dinar's volatility. There are rumors of interference from outside, of Kuwaitis or Jordanians trying to play the markets and line their pockets.

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