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أصدقاء المغرب

FRIENDS of MOROCCO

A Newsletter

Vol. 2, No. 1: December 1989

Ijtimaa '89: *Mzyan bzaf*

Ijtimaa '89 happened on Saturday, 11 November 1989, in Chicago's Public Library Cultural Center, where nearly 40 MRPCVs, Moroccan nationals, and other "Maghrebophiles" joined together for FOM's second annual meeting.

After breakfasting on coffee, fresh mint tea, and *haloowa*, and mixing and mingling with old friends (and seeing some new faces), the meeting got underway (in the traditional North African way of being slightly later than the printed time).

The morning started with a new videotape, *Moroccans in the U.S.A.*, created by Bill Lawrence (TEFL 85-88). The tape lasts about 30 minutes and involves comments about and impressions of life in the US as perceived by Moroccan students in Bos-

ton. The tape is in English, Arabic, and French (though not subtitled). A discussion with a panel of Moroccans living in the US followed the viewing.

The afternoon's highlight was keynote speaker Dr. Ghulam Haider Aasi, Chair, Islamics and History of Religions, American Islamic College, and Co-chair of the Conference for Improved Muslim-Christian Relations. Dr. Aasi's remarks created lively and interesting discussion after his presentation.

The afternoon session included an update of FOM's activities, goals, and fiscal status. The report was given by FOM president Peter Laugharn and FOM treasurer Tim Resch.

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FOM Gets Slide Library Grant

Do you have four or five really great slides of Morocco? Pictures of a village souk, a family breaking fast during Ramadan, or dawn on the Sahara? Friends of Morocco would like to make copies of MRPCV slides for the new FOM slide library.

To get the project going, FOM has been awarded a \$5,000.00 grant by the National Council of Returned Peace Corps Volunteers.

Friends of Morocco hopes to collect at least three hundred slides that convey our collective ex-

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IJTIMAA '89.....

As the day wound down, a video by Valerie Staats entitled *Made in the Maghreb* was viewed. It was a collage of clips from feature "Hollywood" films produced in Morocco in the last several decades.

Plans are already in the works for Ijtimaa '90 for next November. We'll be announcing details later in the year so you all can mark your calendars early.



Special thanks to Valerie Staats (Casablanca 83-85) for nearly single-handedly putting together Ijtimaa '89. Her many hours of hard work paid off with an exciting and stimulating conference---and her ability to get people onto the right train, into the right restaurant, etc....was most appreciated.



AMERICAN ISLAMIC COLLEGE
الكلية الأمريكية الإسلامية

For information on the offerings of the American Islamic College, write to 640 West Irving Park Road, Chicago IL 60613, or call 312/281-4700.



NCRPCV FACES CHALLENGE.....

The following is excerpted from an article written by David Rogers and was originally printed in the November 1989 issue of the Chicago Area Returned Peace Corps Volunteers Newsletter.

The National Council of RPCVs appears to be facing a major challenge to redefine its organization and direction. Based upon a review of financial statements, staff responses to questions posed by the *CARPCV Newsletter*, and an extensive telephone interview with Roger Landrum, a picture emerges of an organization with declining membership and decreasing outside funding.

Paid membership, which at one time reached 7,200, has fallen to 5,000, according to MCRPCV staff. Some estimates place the present paid-up membership as low as 2,800. Timothy Carroll, executive director and major obtainer of grants for NCRPCV, reports that policy changes within several major grantor organizations, coupled with the inability of NCRPCV to demonstrate a self-financing future, present a bleak outlook for substantial grant support.

Membership dues for 1989, which were projected to cover less than 25 percent of the annual budget,

have fallen 33 percent below expectations. This, together with a shortfall in projected grant and donation income, has resulted in a current fiscal situation that has necessitated deferring payments of salary, rent and other expenses.

Landrum is optimistic that anticipated grants, donations, and dues income over the rest of 1989 will meet the present financial crisis. In the long run, however, he is less optimistic. The present direction of NCRPCV appears not to be attracting funding agencies or potential members. Landrum cites large local RPCV groups where only 15 percent of the members also belong to NCRPCV. A major membership drive in July using a data base of 39,000 RPCVs was unsuccessful.

The Twenty-Fifth Anniversary celebration, *WorldView* magazine, *Journals of Peace*, the development education program and annual conferences, along with the impetus provided and assistance given in forming local groups, were referred to by Landrum as major achievements of the National Council. He sets forth a vision of a national organization of 30,000 members having a major impact in forming

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perience of Morocco-- portraits, landscapes, scenes from daily life, celebrations, work and development, and so on. FOM sees the library as a sort of "quilt project" depicting our shared experiences. The slides in the library will be made available to MRPCVs and others who want to give public presentations on Morocco.

Becky Mangus, director of FOM's slide library project, has long experience in this field. As a volunteer in Rabat (77-79), she produced audio-visual materials for the Moroccan Ministry of Agriculture, and she worked with Peace Corps A-V services for a number of years after returning to the States.

Here's how the FOM slide library will work: For each slide you want to contribute, fill out a copy of the *Slide Cataloging Form* inserted in this issue of the newsletter. Describe the significance of the slide to you, and what you feel its significance would be to a general American audience. Your description of the slide will be printed in a catalog of the slides that will be distributed to all interested MRPCVs and others... Send the form and the slides to Becky Mangus at 2432 Madison Avenue, Baltimore MD 21217. Becky will make multiple copies of your slide, and return the

original to you. Or, if you prefer not to send your slides through the mail, you can make the copy yourself and send it on to Becky.

Since we all know that public speaking is much easier with visual aids, we will distribute full sets of the slide library to FOM development education coordinators around the country. These coordinators will help MRPCVs and others in their areas with setting up speaking engagements.

So *yallah*, pull out those slides of your neighbors at the repaired village well, of your students cramming for the *Bac*, of snow on the mosque, of the modern confronting the traditional, and help us create a vivid and instructive mosaic, through our shared images of Morocco.

NCRPCV.....

the nation's priorities.

Landrum agrees, however, that there is little hope for his vision becoming reality through the present direction and operation of NCRPCV. A board meeting is scheduled in January, where all agree a thorough reassessment of the role, organization, and program of the National Council must be made.

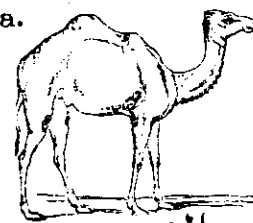
Ed. Note: Please consider the gravity of the NCRPCV problem and note the opportunity to add your name to their roster when you renew your FOM dues with the form inserted in this newsletter.



Picture Perfect

If you are fresh out of slides for the new FOM slide library, perhaps the article written by Paul Slaughter in *Petersen's Photographic Magazine* (February 1989), about the wealth of photographic opportunities in Morocco will be of some interest. Mr. Slaughter attributes the potential for camera art to the rich cultural heritage and intriguing landscapes found in the Maghreb.

He highlights, with word and photos, a picture-taking visit to Morocco. Included with the article are hints for photographers in Morocco and an address for information about photographic tours of Morocco and North Africa.



أصدقاء المغرب
Friends of Morocco

"Host Country National"

Helping With Cross-cultural Experiences

The following was excerpted from a report that was submitted to the FOM Newsletter from Beth Burns (TEFL/Midelt, 86-88).

American Field Services (AFS) is an international exchange program allowing students from the US experience life and study in other countries while affording a similar opportunity for students from Africa, Europe, and South America in the US.

Beth got involved with AFS because she was asked by FOM president Peter Laugharn if she would like to greet some Moroccan students coming to New York. Beth says, "I was happy to oblige and am still very glad that I did."

The students' flight had been delayed and, because the AFS staff wanted to get things arranged and settled as soon as possible, things were quite hectic at the airport. Some of the Moroccans were overwhelmed---says Beth, "I think it was for these students that I provided the most important service of helping them to understand what the whirlwind going about them was all about."



All ten of them were from Casablanca and they were very happy to meet someone who had been in Morocco and spoke Arabic (though they generally spoke French among themselves).

The students come to the US for a ten-month educational and cultural experience---a very expensive activity that is paid by the students according to the average income of their home country. The difference between that average and the real costs is made up by AFS.

AFS is not as well known in Morocco as in many other places. More than 100 students come each year from Europe and South America. Only the ten are here from Morocco.

Beth stays active with AFS in part because of a Moroccan student living in Brooklyn, not far from her home. Beth, Nawal, and others often spend an evening or afternoon together (Nawal has a daily yearning for afternoon tea---though she is getting used to the Brooklyn way of life).

Beth said that "Peter originally introduced the idea of getting together with the Moroccan students as a small way to pay back the hospitality I

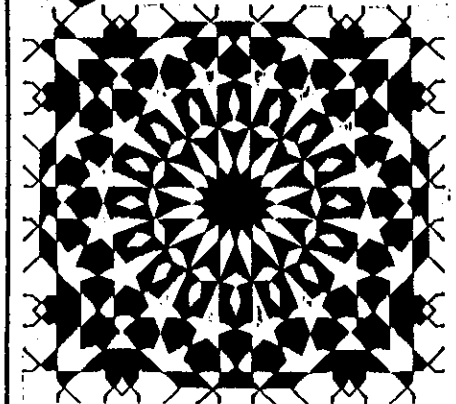
received while in Morocco. Goodness knows I've got an enormous debt to repay and I've really enjoyed being able to share some hospitality with Nawal now that I am the *host country national*."

Nawal, as well as other Moroccan AFS students, is eager to meet and get to know Americans. If you are in Brooklyn (or any other location with Moroccan students) look them up and offer some American hospitality.

TANGIERS

Tangier remained for hundreds of years the only port of Morocco known to Europe. It is through Tangier that the traveler begins to form an idea of the country.

أصدقاء المغرب



FRIENDS of MOROCCO

Morocco Tour Filled With Memories & Activity

The September 1989 return to Morocco was a great success. Eleven MRPCVs (essentially from the 62-63 period) made the journey.

The group was met by PC/Rabat (the bus ride from the Casa airport to the drop-off on Av Mohammed V in Rabat was *a la carte*) on the arrival day and escorted to the Hotel Chellah.

The itinerary included a Wednesday visit to the Institut National de Statistique et d'Economie Appliquée, followed by an evening reception at Dave Fredrick's house. Thursday was spent at the University of Mohammed V in Kenitra with the Dean of the University. The afternoon allowed for a visit at the Ministère de l'Agriculture Service des Eaux et Forêts (discussing wet lands) and, later, an evening of jazz.

There was a PC/Morocco briefing in Rabat the next morning---capsulizing the current PC programs and activities in Morocco. The afternoon was spent at the National Zoo at Temara, site of a PC program, and at the School for the Blind, also at Temara.

Impressions: Past and Present

A few of the participants wrote to the *FOM Newsletter* with their impressions of Morocco---after a somewhat lengthy absence for some.



Jaques, aka John, van der Water (Art Ed/Rabat & Fez, 64-66), tour leader and editor of Harka-Home, wrote:

"I went back to Morocco and was thrown into the worst case of culture shock I've ever felt! How could things have changed SO MUCH in *only* 25 years...Then, after about three weeks of trying to sort it all out, it suddenly HIT ME! It wasn't so much that Morocco has changed (though it has greatly), but that *I've* changed! Gone is that happy-go-lucky, optimistic youth of 22, ready to accept anyone in any situation on its own terms, eager to please, and ready to show the world how great it was to be (a pre-Vietnam, pre-Hippy Revolution) American. More than half my life has gone by since then. I've matured, and so has Morocco. If I was barely out of my teens back then, Morocco, as an independent nation, was still in its early childhood. We were both just beginning to throw off the ties that

bound us, mine with family and schooling, Morocco's with French and Spanish colonialism. We both have been through 25 difficult years of finding out who we really are. The changes in both of us are many and far-reaching, and have been accelerated by our intervening separation. If each of us has undergone 25 years worth of changes, then the cumulative differences seem to be more like 50 years worth.

"It was and has always been wonderful for me to be together again with some of the people I knew in those long-ago days. When a group of us got together at Richard Netherlin's house in the Tanger medina for several days, time seemed to melt away as we did the same wonderful things we always did---ate, played games, ate, went on jolly excursions, ate, laughed ate, etc... Our friendships seem to deepen with time. In the end, I guess, the people are more important to me than the place, although the place is still weirdly exotic and alluringly beautiful in an earthy way.

"I'm glad I went back. I had a few "garden gates" to close... The entire experience has, however, left

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Impressions.....

a somewhat bittersweet aftertaste, a taste of lost youth, mine and Morocco's."



Judy Irigoien (64-66) resides in the Fontainebleau area of Paris, where she is the mother of two teenagers and the director of her own English Language School. She flew to Rabat to join the other return trip participants.

"Twenty-five years doesn't seem like such a long time from our point of view, but we were fossils to the young Moroccan *journalistes* who were trying to get us to say how *le Maroc* had changed since we left so long ago. The interview (took place)...and all I had had time to notice changewise was my own lack of Arabic skills. But we soon made up for lost time as...(several of us) took time just driving around Morocco looking for changes. We did find a few...and we wanted to share them with you.

"When I arrived in Morocco in 1964, I was very surprised by the contrasts: old/modern, donkeys/cars, rich/poor, etc... Now having lived just a bit longer, those contrasts don't seem so shocking any more.



"Some things are the same. The hospitality and generosity of the people and the make-up of society in general. It's still a man's world in Morocco, though there are fewer veils and women's djellabas are now made up of multicolored polyester prints. The trendy young females still wear sharp stiletto high heels! The noises and the smells...of the medina are still there. The street sounds are the same: children laughing, chanting from the Koranic schools, cries of *balek* and *attenzioun* to get you out of the donkey's way, those many Arabic sounds coming at you from all directions. There are still those same proud and handsome Berber faces and those mustachioed street-cruisers...

"We went with Anne McLaughlin to visit some Moroccan friends, and were surprised to see the same austerity in people's needs. Sparsely furnished rooms, few cooking utensils... Life can still be limited to the basics: shelter, food, and mint tea--but what joy can be found in that life. Had I forgotten how spontaneous, how completely generous they could be with themselves, their time, and their limited supplies! People still have lots of time in Morocco. I had forgotten what it was like to have so little to do. They are still interested in others, in Americans they may never

see again, or tourists they see on the street or in a cafe. They still love people, being together, humanity in general, I guess. The city streets in the evening are so crowded. Everyone is outside--'cruising'.

"I found something else the same...that feeling of closeness with my fellow Americans abroad...

So what really has changed? *Petits taxis* no longer had a *prix fixe*. It can cost anywhere from five to ten dirhams to go to the same place from the same place. *Grands taxis* are now all Mercedes (but still filled with eight to ten people. There seems to be less French spoken. The Peace Corps is out of the English teaching business (it is being taught by Moroccan teachers). Some artisanal products have been miniaturized and "cutened" to better fit into a suitcase. There is a new urbanism (some towns are no longer recognizable). There's a real effort to make everything (buildings) beautiful and unique (though the whitewash still occasionally runs down over the tiles). There are many new, fancy, luxury hotels (self-contained resorts) catering to air conditioned busloads of well-healed tourists from America, England, France, Germany, Spain, etc... (Of course, some of these hotels already existed, but WE certainly didn't know about

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them.) The biggest change we noticed: PLASTIC SHOPPING BAGS have hit Morocco with an unstoppable vengeance!...if you don't go back soon, the entire countryside may soon be one vast grey, black, blue, pink, and white sea of those thin plastic bags!

So...make those reservations today--don't put it off any longer! Go back and remember--you'll have a ball! We did!

Ed. Note:

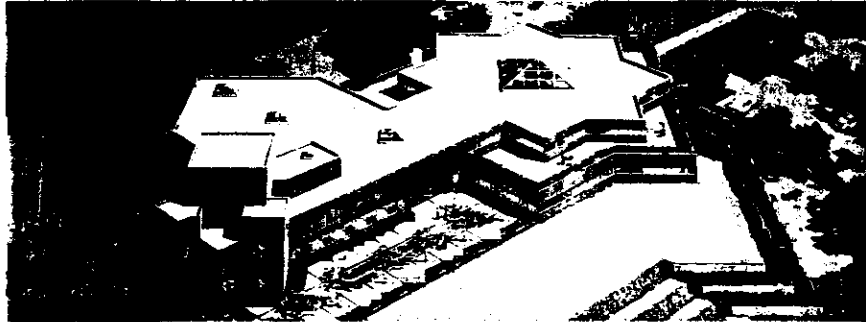
Another "homecoming" trip to Morocco for 1990 is being investigated. Look for more details in the next newsletter.

MEKNES

...the handwork of the great Sultan Moulay-Ismaïl...first of all she astonishes us by her size. Splendidly situated, Meknes is built on a ridge looking out over a wide plain, open on one side and bound in, on the other, by a spur of the Middle Atlas. The ramparts of the city are 25 miles in circumference. Whether the traveler arrives by road or by train, he cannot fail to be impressed by the sight of these enormous walls which seem to dominate the country for miles around.

From: Morocco, ca. 1920

Islamic Center



Islamic Center of North America

The Islamic Center of North America was established in 1976, in Plainfield, Indiana, under the leadership of the Muslim Students' Association (MSA), having been previously located in the Chicago Area.

The purpose of the center is to house the MSA and its sister organizations in one single location, and thus to facilitate cooperation, coordination, and efficiency among them. The center provides a nucleus for the development of a moderated size Muslim Community which can assist and strengthen the center in its Daw'ah activities. The center allows for lodging, boarding, and meeting facilities for conferences, camp, and workshops; with a continuously developing Islamic learning and training center.

The first buildings on the site were the mosque and library. The mosque prayer room has a current capacity for 500 people, with a planned expansion to include 1500 worshippers. The research library has a capacity for

80,000 volumes as well as microfilm and audio-visual materials.

The Administration Building will soon house the Secretariat of the Islamic Society of North America (ISNA), Muslim Students' Association (MSA), Muslim Community Association (MCA), Islamic Medical Association (IMA), Association of Muslim Social Scientists (AMSS), Muslim Arab Youth Association (MAYA), Foundation for International Development (FID), Foundation for Islamic Education (FIE), Islamic Teaching Center (ITC), North American Islamic Trust (NAIT), and Malaysian Islamic Studies Group (MISG).

The Islamic Center of North America is open to the public and can be contacted at:

Islamic Center of North
America
P.O. Box 38
Plainfield IN 46168
317/839-8157

MARRAKECH

Indeed, the forces of nature seem to have conspired together to increase the charm and magic of Marrakech. The city suddenly emerges before the very eyes of the traveler, coming from the north on the road to Casablanca, at the end of the bleak chain of the Djebilet mounts, encompassed by thousands of palm-trees, framed in a background of eternal snows. No contrast is more marked, even in this country of perpetual contrasts. To reach Marrakech, the traveler has first to cross the Chaouia, where monotonous plains of wheat stretch away to infinity, then the slaty, barren territory of Rehamna, followed by the steep passes of Djebilet with their dry, treeless slopes which have seemed to beckon to him for so long across the plain. Finally, after having crossed yet another stony deserted stretch of country, Marrakech appears suddenly, surrounded by running water and palms in her stern background of mountains, like a welcome oasis.

From an album entitled Morocco, printed ca. 1920, by the Protectorate of the French Republic at Morocco.



Musical Maroc

Though often difficult to find, recorded music and videos of Morocco and other North African countries are out there.

Some recent releases on compact disc include:

Maroc: Moyen-Atlas/Musique sacree et profane, Ocora/Radio France. Recorded in Morocco in 1981, it includes four pieces (50 minutes) of the Ait Said ou Ali tribe of the Middle Atlas. The language of the Ait Said ou Ali is itself a kind of music, "...with the lightness of air, the persuasiveness of water, the weight of the earth, and the determination of lighting..." The language is *Tamaziert*. The instruments used in the recording are: the *Qasba* (a flute), the *Ghembri* (a small lute), and the *Bendir* (a drum).

Available in CD (\$19.98) and cassette.

Morocco: Arabic Traditional Music, Music and Musicians of the World/UNESCO. Also including four pieces (approx. 54 minutes), it is a vocal recording by Abdeslam Cherkaoui, accompanied by a 'ud. The songs are fun and very rhythmic. A brief, but very good, explanation of Moroccan musical technique and nuances is included.

Available on CD (\$19.98).

Two other releases (only on CD) are *Ustad Massano Tazi: Andalus* and *Orchestra de Fez*. Both are on the Ocora/Radio France label. Much of the music of the Maghreb is based on forms brought by refugees from the great music school of Cordoba at the collapse of Muslim Spain. As these two recordings attest, it has remained a living form ever since.

Tazi plays an older style based on local instruments and smaller ensembles.

The Orchestra de Fez recording presents a more contemporary interpretation.

Both CDs available at \$19.98.

CDs, cassettes, LPs, and videos of Moroccan music--as well as other North African music--is available in some music stores in larger cities and university towns. A very good source by mail, however, is: Original Music, RD1, Box 190, Lasher Road, Tivoli NY 12583, 914/756-2767. Original Music will also do a search for a recording that you may have heard of but cannot find.



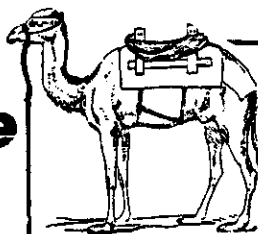
Harka-Home Reunion

The first annual west coast FOM/Harka-Home picnic was held on 2 September 1989, in Discovery Park, Sacramento CA. It was organized by Sacramento resident John "Jaques" van der Water (64-66).

Among the twenty-three attendees were Wayne Waller (64-66), wife Mary, and two sons; Joyce Jordan DeDeo (64-66) and husband Jim DeDeo (66-68); Jacqueline McCandless (64-66) and husband Ross Hawkins; Brenda Paccioretti Starr (66-68) and husband Jack; Jane Pearl (66-68); Bob and Mabel Reed (67-69); Bob Just (74-76), wife, and baby; Jan and Ray Ott (81-83) and their two children; and two non-RPCV friends, Dan Polastre and Sue Metzler.

The repast included barbequed leg of lamb (Mechoui perhaps?), pepper and tomato salad, Khobs (bread), and mint tea---as well as a large assortment of chips, dips, and other *readjustment food*. Several RPCVs took memorabilia and souvenirs of their experiences, including photographs, recipe books, pottery, and clothing.

The second west coast FOM/Harka-Home picnic will be sometime in early summer, 1990.



MOROCCO UPDATE

From *Jeune Afrique*, 30 August 1989:

Famed Moroccan runner Said Aouita (after whom the high-speed Casa-Rabat train is nicknamed) set a new world record in the 3,000 meters 20 August 1989 by crossing the finish line in 7'29"45, pulverizing the record of 7'31"1, held by Kenyan Henry Rono since 1978. Aouita has already gained world titles in the 1,500 and 5,000 meters. Two other rising Moroccan athletes are Brahim Boutayeb, a medalist in the 10,000 meters at the Seoul Olympics, and Fatima Aouam, Africa's champion in women's 1,500 meters.

From *Jeune Afrique*, 7 June 1989:

Morocco and Spain are studying the possibility of building a bridge or a tunnel across the Straits of Gibraltar. The cost of this project, proposed by Hassan II and Juan Carlos ten years ago, was initially estimated at \$3 billion (DH 25.1 billion). But as technical studies have advanced, the probable price tag has risen to \$8 billion (DH 66.9 billion).

From *Science News*, 4 March 1989:

Most diamonds are carried up from the earth's mantle in columns of hot, fast-moving lava called kimberlite, but Peter H. Nixon of the University of Leeds, England, and colleagues hypothesize that many diamonds may be rising by a slower process. The researchers studied a 50-kilometer-long slab of earth called Beni Bousera that was once in the earth's mantle and that surfaced in Morocco about 15 million years ago. In a letter published in the 2 March 1989 issue of *Nature*, they suggest that before the deposit surfaced it contained about 10,000 times the diamond richness of the best kimberlite. Because the Beni Bousera diamonds came up slowly, however, they apparently retained their shape but reverted to graphite.

From *The New York Times Magazine*, 18 June 1989:

The Casablanca-based Omnium Nord-Africain (ONA), a company established in 1986 by King Hassan II to provide capital and expertise to a vast array of businesses, launched the Arab world's first privately owned television channel, 2M. The project is a joint venture with Canadian and French firms.

Morocco File.....

Ed. Note: Copies of the following articles can be obtained by sending a self-addressed stamped (with an affixed 25 cent stamp for each 4 pages or portion thereof) envelope to: Friends of Morocco, Attn: Morocco File, P. O. Box 21773, Washington DC 20009.

Bessels, Sophie, "Nord-Sud: la francophonie a l'epreuve," *Jeune Afrique*, 11 January 1989, p57. Three North Africans' views on the future of the French language in the Maghreb.

Derrick, Johnathan, "The Cure Can Be as Bad as the Illness," *Middle East*, July 1989, pp29-31. Discusses effects of debt crises in Morocco, Egypt, and Sudan.

Girard, Patrick, "Les croquettes Tanezrouft de Theodore Monod," *Jeune Afrique*, 22 March 1989, pp60-61. Description of Sahara expert who has explored the desert since 1922.

Girard, Patrick, "La persee des romanciers maghrebiens et arabes en France," *Jeune Afrique*, 16-23 August 1989, pp20-23. Discusses the growing success, in France, of Arab Francophone novelists.

"Les guides clandestins a Fes," *Lamalif*, December 1987, pp34-35. A Moroccan view, mostly critical, of *nos anciens amis, les guides*.

Hanley, Mary Lynn, "Seeking a cure for the dreaded bayoud," *UNDP World Development*, May 1989, pp20-23. Researchers in Algeria and Morocco striving to protect the Maghreb's date palms.

Irving, Ellen C., "Locust Plague Ends, Task Force Disbands," *USAID Frontlines*, July 1989, p4.

Other articles will be listed on a regular basis in this column in the future. If you have or know of any periodical articles about Morocco, please send a copy or source information to FOM so that we can add it to our Morocco File.

أصدقاء المغرب
Friends of Morocco

Come With Me..

A New Cook Book

You'll notice the differences from traditional cookbooks immediately. *Come With Me to the Kasbah: A Cook's Tour of Morocco* is filled with a variety of authentic Moroccan recipes collected and adapted for American cooks, novice to expert, by Casablanca-born author and professional caterer Kitty Morse. Recipes use ingredients stocked by American supermarkets. No special equipment is needed. Yet, these adaptations never sacrifice their original flavors. Full-color illustrations and pen-and-ink drawings by distinguished Moroccan and American artists add an extra cultural dimen-



sion. The informative text of personal anecdotes describes a way of life unfamiliar to most Americans.

Released in August 1989, the book has a clothbound hard cover, and measures 8 1/2" x 11 1/4". The dust jacket design features an original painting by Moroccan artist Abder-

rahman Rahoule. A particularly unique chapter offers Moroccan-Jewish cuisine. Cooks and scholars will discover throughout the book, and translated for the first time, traditional Arabic *love notes* related to food. The original *love notes* have been calligraphied by hand into the text.

Love note

بَلِّغْتِ لِيَا السَّلَامَ بِالْبَرَاءِ
لَوْ كَانَتْ لِي الْخُصْرُ بَعِينِي
لَا كَانَتْ لِي خُصْرِي بِالْبَرَاءِ

*I salute you in a teapot
If I couldn't see you anymore
I would leave the country*

Come With Me to the Kasbah: A Cook's Tour of Morocco by Kitty Morse is available from La Caravane, P.O. Box 433, Vista CA 92083, 619/758-8631. The cost is \$24.95 plus \$3.00 for shipping and handling. California residents add \$1.75 sales tax.

From: *Come With Me to the Kasbah: A Cook's Tour of Morocco*

The tea ceremony takes on a whole new significance when you consider its cultural implications. A glass of mint tea is offered as a sign of welcome. Merchants will frequently offer a customer a glass of mint tea to ease delicate negotiations. Even the poorest Moroccan feels honor-bound to offer a glass of the steaming brew to anyone visiting his home. *Menta veridis* is the type of mint used to make Moroccan mint tea.

2 tblsp Chinese green tea
5 cups of boiling water

1 large bunch of fresh mint
1 cup granulated sugar (to taste)

Place the green tea in a teapot. Fill with boiling water. Let the tea steep for a couple of minutes. Wash the mint under running water and add it to the pot. Let it steep for a few minutes longer. Add the sugar. Remember, in Morocco, the tea is supposed to be very sweet. Serve in mint tea glasses or small cups.

Touristes au Maroc

The following article appeared in *Le Matin* on 27 September 1989.

Un groupe d'anciens volontaires du Corps de la Paix ayant servi au Maroc, entamera une visite au Royaume à compter d'aujourd'hui. Le groupe, dont certains membres ont servi dans diverses régions du Maroc dès la création du Corps de la Paix, il y a déjà 27 ans, sera notamment reçu au siège du Corps de la Paix à Rabat, à l'Institut national des statistiques et de l'économie appliquée (I.N.S.E.A.) et dans d'autres départements avec lesquels ils ont collaboré.

Les anciens du Corps de la Paix ayant exercé au Royaume ont gardé des souvenirs indélébiles de leur séjour dans les cités et même les bourgades les plus reculées du Royaume. Ils ont formé à Washington une Association des Amis du Maroc qui organise des conférences sur le pays et dont les membres de retrouvent de temps à autre pour se rapeler les bons souvenirs qui les unissent.



Ash Khabarna?

أش اخبارنا ؟

Marian Cast Ruge (Foyers Feminins/Ain el Aouda, 65-67) is organizing a 25th year reunion for Morocco V volunteers, 5-8 July 1990, at the YMCA Center in Estes Park, Colorado. MRPCVs from other groups are welcome to attend. Contact Marian at 1734 34th Avenue, Greeley CO 80631; her home phone is 303/353-5661.

One-Time Morocco PCVs-for-life **Alison Geist** and **Gary Gregg** (83-84) are readjusting with a vengeance on this side of the Atlantic. Their son **Charlie** was born on 18 June 1989 (4.2 kilos, 'tbarek Allah!'), and Gary has taken a teaching position in New York. They can be reached through the Psychology Department, Sarah Lawrence College, Bronxville NY 10708.

Fadela Senhaji-Nuttall, who trained Morocco PCVs in Arabic and French for more than ten years in the 70s and early 80s, sends her greetings from Mansehra, Pakistan, where she and her husband **Jim Nuttall** (Voc Ed/Chaouen, 80-82) manage a program for Afghan refugees. Fadela and Jim can be contacted at Save the Children, Middle East Region, 54 Wilton Road, Westport CT 06880.

Jack (TEFL/68-72) and **Carol** (TEFL/73-75) **McCreary** have just returned from Baghdad,

where Jack was the Public Affairs Officer of the US Embassy and Carol worked for the UN. Jack is now North Africa Desk Officer at the US Information Agency (which houses the Fulbright and International Visitors Programs, so he'll be hearing a lot from FOM!), and Carol is getting her masters in international development from American University.

Speaking of Fulbrights, MRPCV **Diane Eagle** (TEFL/Ouezzane, 83-85) is off on one to teach English at Cukurova University in Adana, Turkey, and extends a standing invitation to all MRPCVs to visit her. Her address is C. U. Egitim Fakultesi, Yabancı Diller Egitimi Bolumu, Adana, Turkey.

Bill Griffin (TEFL/Marrakech, 85-87), is also plying the grammar trade, and welcomes any MRPCV happening through Indonesia to visit him at English Education Center, Jalan Let. Jend. S. Parman 66, Slipi, Jakarta 11410, Indonesia.

US Embassy/Singapore Economic Officer **John Davison** (TEFL/Berkane, 83-85) also invites Moroccans and RPCVs to drop in on him.

MRPCV **Stephanie Laughlin** (Range Management/Midelt, 84-86) has just left for Rwanda to become Assis-

tant Country Rep for Catholic Relief Services; she can be reached through CRS, 209 W. Fayette Street, Baltimore MD 21201.

new T-shirt



New FOM T-shirt Design.

New FOM T-Shirts are available for \$9.50 plus \$2.50 for shipping and handling. It is a green design (by Bill Gaisser/Marrakech 69-73) on a red shirt (size large only). Send check or money order made out to Friends of Morocco T-shirt, c/o Valerie Staats, 2161 Giddings Street, Chicago IL 60625.



أصدقاء المغرب
Friends of Morocco

Maghreb Morsels

The Arabic name for Morocco is *al-Maghrib*, which means "where the sun sets." Morocco is the westernmost Arab country.

Mount Toubkal is the highest point in Morocco at over 13,500 feet. That compares with the 14,000 feet high Mt. Ranier in Washington state.

Hospitality

Hospitality is an important function of FOM. If you are interested in hosting a Moroccan student or visitor (for dinner, overnight, or just for tea!), please contact Peter Laugharn at 203/454-1067. Remember all the afternoons of tea and the gracious hospitality that Moroccans offered us?

أصدقاء المغرب

Friends of Morocco Newsletter



Friends of Morocco Newsletter is published quarterly by the Friends of Morocco and circulated to their members and other interested parties. The organization was formed in 1988 to reunite PCVs who have served in Morocco, to inform members about current events and conditions in Morocco, to promote a better understanding of Morocco and Moroccans on the part of Americans, and to fund or otherwise support development activities in Morocco. Membership dues are \$15 annually. FOM is governed by a nine-member national board. Mailing address: Friends of Morocco, PO Box 21773, Washington DC 20009. For further information, contact 1990 president Peter Laugharn at 203/454-1067.

Newsletter Staff & Office

Editor:
Bill Gaisser

Contributors:
Peter Laugharn
Tim Resch
Noreen Polk
Valerie Staats

Editorial Office:
FOM Newsletter
c/o Bill Gaisser
219 Oak Street
Evansville, Indiana 47713
812/423-3777 or 423/7625

NATIONAL COUNCIL OF RETURNED PEACE CORPS VOLUNTEERS

1319 F Street, NW #900
Washington, DC 20004

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