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أصدقاء المغرب

FRIENDS of MOROCCO

A Newsletter

Vol. 4, No. 2, September 1992



The *FOM Newsletter* won an award at the 31st Annual National Council of Returned Peace Corps Volunteers Conference in Fayetteville, Arkansas, this July.

The second-place award was for *Layout and Design--Country Groups*.

.....but we sometimes make a mistake.....

The incorrect telephone number to the Moroccan Embassy in Washington was listed in the Yellow Pages Story (p.9) of the May 1992, FOM Newsletter. The correct number is: 202/462-7979. The number printed in May is the embassy FAX number.

PC Director Chao Resigns

New Director to be Former Volunteer?

Peace Corps Director Elaine Chao has resigned her position to become president of the United Way of America.

Elaine has been an effective director and has become a good friend of the RPCV community since her appointment in December of 1991.

She was a director who felt that she should see for herself and hear for herself what kind of support was needed by volunteers in the field. She had visited a large number of Peace Corps countries, traveling to work sites to talk with volunteers.

She has also indicated that the next director must be a former volunteer. She is strongly recommending a very short list of RPCVs for Presidential appointment to the position, encouraging the NCRPCV to do the same.

The National Council is developing a list of Democratic and Republican RPCVs who are qualified by their professional experience and who are appointable because of their support of the winning Presidential candidate. If you know of anyone in either party who is qualified for the position and who is interested in serving, contact the National Council of Returned Peace Corps Volunteers, 2119 S Street, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20008-4011, Tel: 202/462-5938.

The primary qualifications for the position are: 1. Peace Corps Volunteer experience, 2. Major agency or corporation management experience, 3. Professional international development experience, 4. Commitment to the Peace Corps and the position, and 5. Appointability.

Constitutional Referendum

Local & National Elections and New Parliamentary Reforms

The following was excerpted from various news wire service reports and publications.

A news services report noted that King Hassan II named a caretaker government headed by former prime minister Mohamed Karim Lamrani, freeing cabinet members to campaign for the upcoming parliamentary elections. Lamrani, a businessman who served as prime minister during the early 1970s and mid-1980s, replaces Adeddine Laraki who had been prime minister for seven years.

A wire report from Rabat quoted the Moroccan government as saying that voters overwhelmingly approved constitutional reforms sought by King Hassan II, but an opposition leader suggested that the results were not accurate. An Interior Ministry report said that 97 percent of the 11 million eligible voters cast ballots on 4 September 1992, with 99 percent being in favor of the referendum. The reforms will retain the monarchy while strengthening some of Parliament's powers. Several opposition parties and labor federations urged their followers to boycott the referendum, arguing that the reforms were inadequate.

The Washington Post reported



on 4 September 1992, that King Hassan II is seeking change in the government, and country, by means of a referendum for constitutional changes. The report says that the King is "bidding to defuse volatile social tensions and preserve his kingdom's reputation as an oasis of relative stability in North Africa." The new constitution is supposed to give more authority to parliament, which is to be elected later this year. Those for the changes say that the parliament will become one of the Arab world's boldest democratic experiments, hoping to rejuvenate politics in a country where two-thirds of the population is under twenty-five years old. Opponents have called for a boycott of the referendum, saying that the proposed changes do not offer enough real democracy. Opponents want to create a monarchy similar to that in Great Britain or in Spain.

The Washington Post reported on 5 September 1992, that the voters gave overwhelming approval to the changes in the constitution during the referendum. King Hassan II says that approval will grant more authority to a new parliament and bring a younger generation to high political office. The referendum is the first of a series of votes to be cast by the Moroccans. In October, municipal elections will be held, and in December, the new parliament will be elected. The new parliament will then approve a new budget before 1 January 1993. While the King

will retain his dominant political role, he says he wants to encourage younger, brighter people to enter politics so the country and this dynasty can achieve a smooth transition into the next century. The vote is also significant in that it is the third time that residents of Western Sahara have been included in Moroccan elections.

●●●●●●●● Moroccan Gold

Kahlid Skah, won the gold medal for the 10,000 meter race in the 1992 summer Olympic games.

Skah was one of several Moroccans competing in the games this year, though he was the only entrant surrounded by controversy, having been disqualified just after winning the race, when he was stripped of his medal.

His disqualification was due to a teammate being accused of interfering with a runner from Kenya, Richard Chelimo.

Morocco protested the disqualification.

After a jury of International Amateur Athletic Federation referees met the next day, the jury decided that there was no interference. The medal was returned to Skah.

Ash Khabarna?

أش اخبارنا ؟

The following information was submitted by our readers to help us keep track. If you have news about you, your friends, other Peace Corps volunteers, former Peace Corps related persons, or any other Moroccanophile, send it in for the Ash Khabarna column.

Phillip deMaynadier, reports his current address at 81B Main Street, Orono, Maine 04473.

Melissa Wyers, (MRPCV, 1989-91, has moved from Atlanta. She can now be contacted at 1853 Lamont St., N.W., Washington, DC 20010.

William Russell Pickering, writes that he has relocated from his Cathedral Avenue address in Washington. Russell's new address is 2820 Arizona Avenue, N.W., Washington, DC 20016-3413. Though he didn't mention it, we assume that his telephone number remains the same.

Lisa (Dalferro) Abuhamed, (Sidi Yahya/Rabat 1982/85, TEFL/PCVL), gave birth to a girl, Grace Marie, on 29 March 1992, in New York City. The report comes via Tom Hogan (Berkane/Azrou 1984/86, TEFL), who now resides at 116 Seaman Avenue #3A, New York, NY 10034-2875.

Jerry Kurlandski (Sidi Bennour 1984/86, TEFL), has responded to the FOM Newsletter plea for

news of former volunteers. After teaching English in Portugal, Jerry returned to the U. S. to get a Master's in EFL at Southern Illinois University-Carbondale. After celebrating his 30th birthday and becoming divorced, he returned to Fez to teach at the University Sidi Mohamed Ben Abdellah. He was assigned an undergraduate thesis student from Sefrou who was taught by Peter Laugharn (1982/84) in her 5th year, taught by Susan Traverso (1983/85) in her 6th year, and taught by Lisa Lasky (1984/86) in her 7th year. After seven and one-half years of planning, Jerry finally got to Zagora during the 1991 Christmas holiday. He noted that Matt Clayton (Zagora 1983/85, TEFL) was no longer there (FOM thinks he's in New York City). He did meet one of Lori Kurtz's (1984/86) former students, who was working at the Hotel des Amis. He has been waiting to extend his contract in Fez, and as of March 1992, had received only a hint from just one MRPCV that s/he might visit. Jerry can be reached at Department of English, Faculte des Lettres, B.P. 50, Fez, Morocco, tel: (5)6413-91 and FAX: 011-212-56-40844.

Sally Yates (MRPCV 1978/80), reports that she is no longer living in Glen Mills, Pennsylvania. Sally is now at 7520 Willow Creek Road, Trumansburg, New York 14886.

Richard Thompson (Marrakech 1969/71, Architecture), is living

at 2376 Bryant, San Francisco, California 94110. He reports that his daughter Lisa has entered the Peace Corps as a pre/post-natal care volunteer in Niger.

Mark B. Apel (Ouarzazate/Ouirgane 1982/86, Fisheries and Wildlife), after marrying Donna Royal in 1990, has moved to southeastern Arizona, where he is a conservation planner managing a 50,000 acre nature preserve for The Nature Conservancy. He says it's a little bit like Peace Corps...living at the end of a dirt road, thirty miles from the nearest town. The climate and topography are "incredibly similar to areas...in the High Atlas around Marrakech." The Apels have guest quarters and extend a welcome to any FOM members. Mark and Donna can be contacted at The Nature Conservancy, Muleshoe Ranch, RR 1, Box 1542, Willcox, Arizona 85643, tel: 602/586-7072. Mark also noted that Dan Weber (Beni-Mellal 1980/82, Fisheries) and John Benton (Ouarzazate 1980/82, Fisheries) were at the Muleshoe Ranch in April 1992, for a Fisheries Reunion. He says "the tagine was hot and the beers were cold!"

Janet Maresca-Jerhada (Safi 1983/84) and her husband, Abdeljalil, have settled in Central Islip, New York, with Thami, Sarah, and Jalal. Abdeljalil spent five weeks in Morocco

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More Ash Khabarna?.....

after three years in the U.S. In addition to working full-time and coordinating foreign student visits to Long Island, *Janet* is expecting #4 in January 1993. The *Jerhadas* welcome any calls or visits from MRPCVs. Contact *Janet* at 23 Hoffman Lane, Central Islip, New York 11722, tel: 516/234-0902.

Peter Laugharn (*Sefrou 1982/84, TEFL*), will take up residence at 70 Canner Street, New Haven, Connecticut 06511, after a stint in Chad for Save the Children. (*Peter* was founding president of Friends of Morocco.) His new job will make him responsible for Save the Children's West African activities. *Peter* can be reached by phone at 203/772-0097.

Steven Ehrlich (*Marrakech 1969/71, Architecture*), who is currently practicing architecture in Venice, California, has been awarded the commission to design the Orange Coast College Art Center in Costa Mesa, California. In conjunction with his selection, the Orange Coast College Foundation has published a catalog of his work. *Steve* can be reached at 1600 Main Street, Venice, California 90291, tel: 310/399-7711.

Baudouin F. de Marcken, was sworn in as USAID representative to Latvia, in July 1992. *Baudouin* can be contacted through the US Agency for International Development, 320 21st

Street, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20523.

Virginia Williams (*Meknes 1989/91, ESP*) is currently finishing up a proposal and budget for a film documentary entitled *Two Steps Ahead*, on the lives of contemporary Arab women. The film will span Morocco, Algeria, Egypt, Syria, and Jordan, including the participation of a number of Arab writers on women's issues. Farida Benlyazid, the noted Moroccan filmmaker, will be associate producer of the Morocco/Algeria segment. Any information on associations or corporations interested in underwriting the project will be greatly appreciated. Contact *Virginia* at c/o Wilson, 513 Nelson Drive, Vienna, Virginia 22180.

In the May FOM Newsletter, we noted that *Jackie Johnson* (*RPCV, Lesotho*) was looking for *Trudy* (*Perry*) *Anderson* (*MRPCV*). Well, *Trudy* has been found by FOM and, we hope, by *Jackie*. *Trudy* married William "Andy" J. Anderson and served with Habitat for Humanity in Zaire in 1988. She can now be found at 4310 Murnane Street, Eugene, Oregon 97402-1342, tel: 503/689-4074.

Some new and renewed members of FOM are: *Mary Lawrence Hicks* (*Boujad/Martil 1982-84, TEFL/Rehab*), 525 4th Street, Apt. M, Brooklyn, New York 11215; *Ronald J. Boddie* (*ErRachidia 1986-88, TEFL*), 552 19th Avenue, Seattle, Washington 98122; and *Frank*

Sharp (*ErRachidia 1988/90, TEFL/ESP*), Shamrock Lane, Millville, New Jersey 08332.

Where is *Mark Bonham* (*Marrakech 1969/70*)? His whereabouts have been requested by many MRPCVs of that era. His last known U.S. address was in Lake Oswego, Oregon. His last known foreign address was in Japan. If anyone knows about *Mark*, let us know at the *FOM Newsletter*.

Helen Keller Award

The Helen Keller International Foundation has presented its Moroccan delegate, Fatima Zohra Akalay, an award for her contribution to the struggle against blindness throughout Morocco.

An ophthalmologist, Akalay was chosen because of her actions to help prevent blindness and to promote the treatment of eye diseases.

She was instrumental in establishing a nation-wide investigation of blindness that will begin in May of 1993, with the findings to be published by the World Health Organization. She has also announced that an anti-cataract campaign will be staged throughout Morocco, similar to a recent Agadir campaign that proved very successful in combating cataract afflictions.



The FOM SOUK

Friends of Morocco is trying to compile a source list for things Moroccan that can, we hope, lead to the creation of a source book for our members. We ask that readers send us the names (and addresses) of restaurants, retailers of Moroccan goods, sources of Moroccan musical recordings, speakers from or about Morocco, exhibits of Moroccan art and artifacts, sources for cooking spices, books, tours, etc.

The following is a sampling of the most recent arrivals:

Berber -- The Hersberger Collection. W. Russell Pickering announces that the Near Eastern Art Research Center, Inc., is publishing a new book about Moroccan rugs and textiles. *Berber -- The Hersberger Collection*, contains 180 color plates of tribal weavings that have never before been published. The main text, by Wilfried Stanzer, contains detailed sections, with maps, on the history, geographical location, and weaving techniques of the 22 major weaving confederations and sub-tribes. It also deals with the history of the country, social structure and customs, and weaving techniques and design symbols. Richard Hersberger has collected Moroccan carpets since the early 1960s, and has drawn together one of the most outstanding and broad-based collections of Moroccan weavings in the world. Wilfried Stanzer has traveled extensively in Morocco, and is the author of several

books on Islamic carpets. The book can be obtained at the Near Eastern Art Research Center, 2820 Arizona Avenue, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20016-3415 (Tel: 202/363-1138). The cost is \$65.00 plus shipping.

Blue Parrot. A T-shirt or sweat-shirt sporting the "The Blue Parrot Cafe, Casablanca" can be purchased from The Perfect Shirt Company, 1007 Johnnie Dodds Boulevard, Mt. Pleasant, South Carolina 29464-6127. The cafe is described as having "the same dirty ceiling fans stirring around stale air; same guy pounding the yellowed keys; same mixture of hot-shots, born losers, jilted lovers, and gaping fools."

The Marrakech Cafe. Located at 121 W. Main Street, Madison Wisconsin 53703, The Marrakech Cafe is the "home of authentic Moroccan cuisine." Open seven days a week, the restaurant serves both lunch and dinner. For more information, call 608/255-1345.

marabout/morocco. Nic Johnson, a British psychologist and lover of Morocco, runs marabout/morocco from his home in Brookline, Massachusetts, selling high quality handicrafts. Included in his wares are pottery, leather, baskets, painted wood, jewelry, rugs, and traditional Berber textiles. marabout/morocco has a major show and sale each June. marabout/morocco is going to introduce a "party box" service in 1993, through which a FOM member can receive goods on

consignment; hold a "Morocco Party," make a commission on the goods sold, and return the remainder. For more information, contact Nic Johnson at 162 Walnut Street, Brookline, Massachusetts 02146, Tel: 617/232-7151.

Returned Peace Corps Volunteer T-shirts and Sweat Shirts. The Boston area RPCVs are selling RPCV T-shirts and sweat shirts. The shirts are not dated, not country or interest group defined, and come in all sizes--including children's sizes. And what's more, if you order from the form in this newsletter, FOM will receive \$1.00 for each shirt ordered. (If you order ten or more FOM gets \$2.00 per shirt.)

Rhassoul Mud. The Body Shop, Inc., among other natural non-animal-tested personal fragrances and bath products, is offering soap and shampoo made from rhassoul mud. The mud, from the Atlas Mountains, has traditionally been used to cleanse and ex-foliate the skin. For a full catalog, contact the Body Shop at 45 Horsehill Road, Hanover Technical Centre, Cedar Knolls, New Jersey 07927-2003. (The Body Shop also has retail stores in some U. S. cities.)

We still have a long way to go to publish a directory, so whenever you run across something, send your bit of information to Bill Gaisser, FOM Newsletter Editor, 219 Oak Street, Evansville, Indiana 47713-1254.

Morocco in the Press

The Hospitality Design magazine (September 1992) printed an article about the *Casablanca Resort* that will open in Anguilla in November 1992. Located on three miles of beach, Casablanca Resorts Development have chosen architecture and interior designs that "are influenced by the exotic Moorish style of North Africa, but imbued with a distinctly Caribbean accent." The guestrooms and public spaces are decorated with handpainted Moroccan tiles and "artifacts and crafts from North African villages." Built around four courtyards, the gardens have been planted with palm trees and flowering plants, also from North Africa.

Associated Press reported on 18 May 1992 that the Population Crisis Committee had released its five-year analysis of human suffering in the world. Based on such diverse categories as life expectancy, daily calorie supply, secondary school enrollment, inflation, number of telephones, and civil rights—ten in all—the study included 83 countries, representing 73 percent of the world's population. On a point scale of 1 to 100 (100 being the most extreme case of human suffering), Morocco rated a 59, tying with Egypt. The United States rated 5, Libya rated 51, and Tunisia rated 53. Denmark rated 1 and Mozambique rated 93.

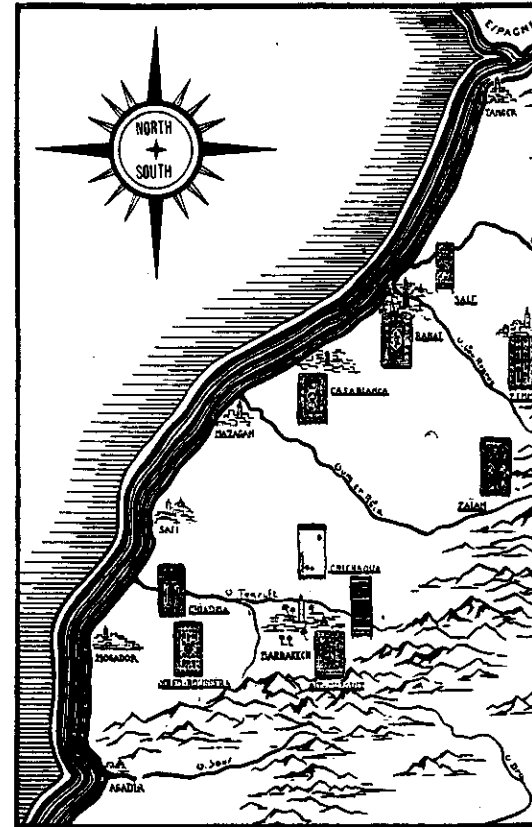
The *Washington Post* reported on 5 September 1992, that King Hassan II issued the strongest public warning by an Arab leader about the hazards of Western policy toward Iraq, saying the U.S.-orchestrated ban on Iraqi flights over the south of the country could lead to its dismemberment. While deploring President Saddam Hussein's continuing refusal to abide by all U.N. resolutions, His Majesty said that Western military pressure against Iraq is counterproductive and "risks turning this exclusion zone into an explosion zone that will be harmful to the interest of the West and the Arab world."

A wire report on 2 July 1992, noted that a property tax refund check issued to King Hassan II over a year ago, from Peapack-Gladstone, New Jersey, had not been cashed because it had been lost. The refund followed a three-year assessment appeal for a 322 acre farm and 47-room house in the New Jersey borough. When the problem was discovered, a new \$105,000.00 check was issued by the borough clerk.

The 18 June 1992, *U.S.A. Today* devoted three pages of an *Our World* special supplement to Morocco. An various articles on tourism, business, culture, foreign relations, and agriculture included many color photographs. Though many of the articles were written in a *chamber of commerce style*, they were informative and entertaining.

Middle East Policy (spring 1992 issue) contains a rather lengthy article titled *The U.N. Settlement Plan for the Western Sahara: Problems and Prospects*. It is written by Dr. John Darnia, Associate Director of the Middle East Studies Center and Professor of Political Science and International Studies at Portland State University, and author of *Conflict in Northwest Africa: The Western Sahara Dispute*. The article is revised, expanded, and updated from a statement prepared for testimony before the African Subcommittee of the House Foreign Affairs Committee at a hearing held on 26 February 1992.

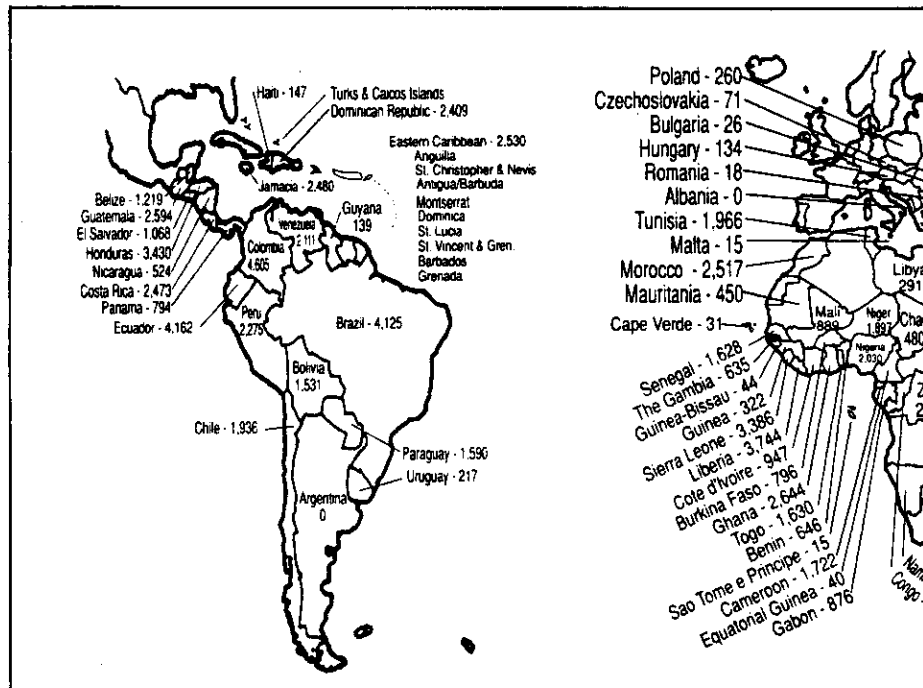
CA VA, vol. 24, no. 5, features Morocco in its geography section. A youth magazine published by Scholastic Inc., it is used in Canadian schools. Included is information about history, geography, language, and culture of the country. It also features puzzles, games, and recipes from or about Morocco.



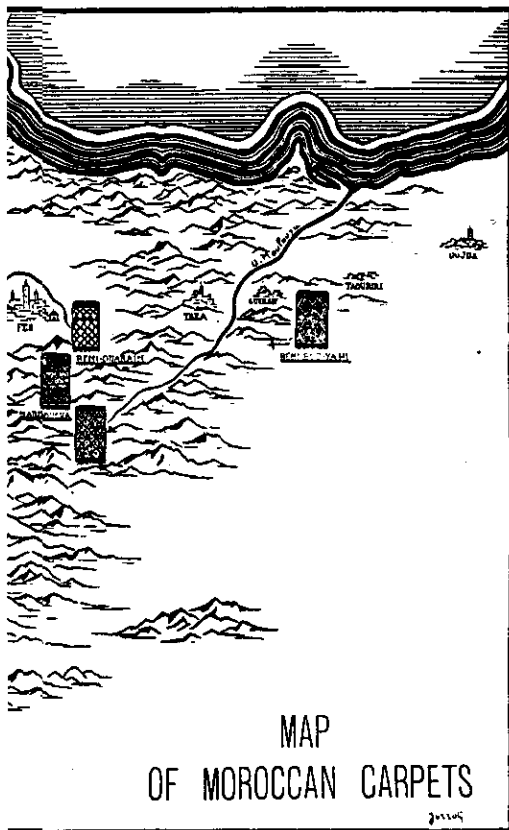
Carpet Map from Morocco: a Country

What We Did.....

Just a few of the jobs in Morocco (since 1962) have been: TEFL, lab tech., foyers feminins, surveying, literacy, fisheries & wildlife, architecture, forestry, water conservation, grape inspecting, range mgmt., rehab., agriculture, teaching math, irrigation, cinematography, vocational ed, community development, kindergarten, medical technology, social work, anthropology, graphic design, research, and teaching the blind.



Around the Maghreb



This article is a compilation of various news reports about the Maghreb and the Arab world that point out what is happening on the periphery of Morocco.

The Associated Press reported on 17 August 1992, that the Algerian government has suspended three newspapers and invoked harsh new press laws. The five-man High State Committee confirmed the suspensions, for an unspecified period, of the French-language dailies *Le Matin* and *Le Nation* and the Arabic *El Djezair El Youm*. While the French-language newspapers are independent, the *El Djezair El Youm* is close to the banned Islamic Salvation Front. New government powers, since the 9 February 1992, state of emergency, allows authorities to suspend for up to six months, any enterprise "endangering the public order, security, and normal functioning of state institutions."

Middle East Policy includes two articles in the Spring 1992 issue that concern the Algerian situation. *Revivalist Islam and Democracy: Thinking About the Algerian Quandary*, by Michael Collins Dunn, and *Algeria in Turmoil: Islam, Democracy and the State*, by John P. Entelis and Lisa J. Arone, analyze the situation in Algeria. Among other issues, the articles look at the threats to democracy that may be imposed due to Islamic fundamentalist and anti-fundamentalist factions.

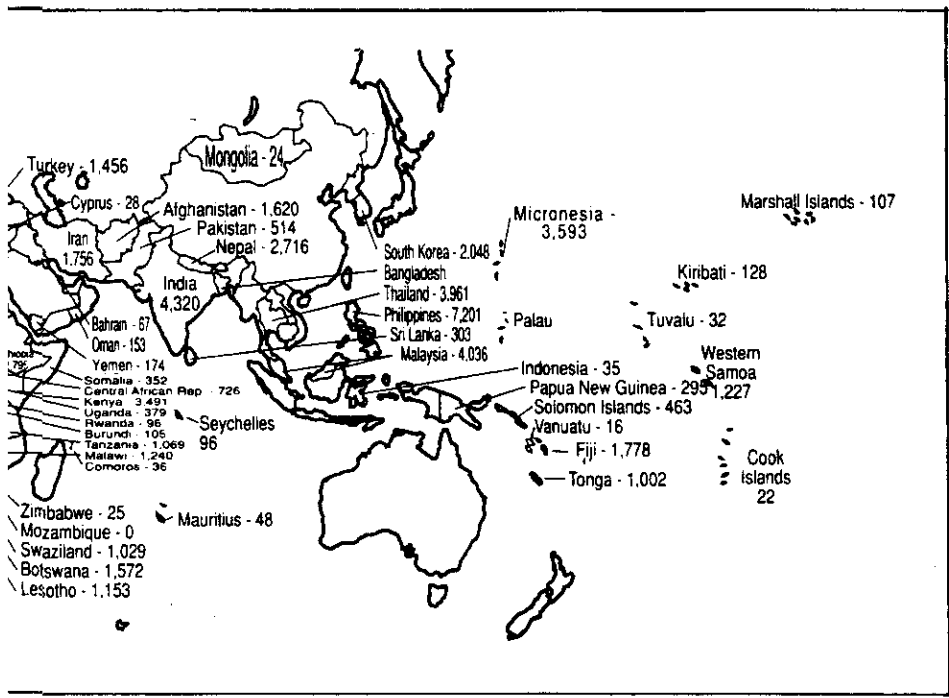
September 2 wire reports from Libya quote Moammar Gadhafi as saying that his country is facing economic problems and for the first time publicly admitted the state could not afford to pay its employees. Stating that having no money "is nothing to be ashamed of," Gadhafi blames the problem on inadequate oil revenues.

The *Union Internationale des Architectes* reported on an international seminar on architecture and tourism in Tunisia in May, celebrating the 18th anniversary of the Tunisian Order of Architects. The architects called for "the promotion and revitalization of relations between tourism, heritage, and environment;" it stated that the architects should be "aware that the past can not be rebuilt, and should be committed to building a future in harmony with the present and future, indivisible in their continuity, as history has proven;" and that "not being directors, but rather actors, architects are committed to working toward the research of other alternatives of planning and occupation of sites, taking the best advantage of specific factors and allowing the renovation of heritage and historic monuments."

Wire reports of 25 July 1992, dateline Tokyo, noted that a major Japanese tire maker is recalling automobile tires with a tread pattern that resembles *Allah* in Arabic after receiving protests from various Islamic sectors. The Yokohama Rubber Company has stopped producing the tires and is recalling all such tires in Islamic countries, replacing them with new ones free of charge. The company apologized for its lack of knowledge of Islam. The tire treads were designed by computer to maximize driving safety.

The Associated Press reported on 1 July 1992, that United Press International announced the transfer of ownership of the 85-year-old news service to Saudi-owned Middle East Broadcasting Centre in London. In the prior several months, UPI was the subject of a world-wide bidding war for the bankrupt corporation.

Islam.



Where We Were....

Together, Returned Peace Corps Volunteers comprise the largest single group of Americans ever sent abroad in the name of Peace. The National Council of Returned Peace Corps Volunteers represents those 125,000 former volunteers. The map, provided by the NCRPCV, shows the Peace Corps countries of service, denoting the numbers of volunteers who served. Morocco has one of the largest numbers of volunteers to have served in the Peace Corps.

أصدقاء المغرب
Friends of Morocco

Exhibits, Books,.....

What follows is a schedule of exhibits, new books, and other notes that concern the arts in or about Morocco. If you know of an upcoming event, exhibit, new books, recordings, etc...please send the information in to the FOM Newsletter to share with other Moroccophiles.

An exhibition titled *The Eye and Djinn: Traditional Arts of Morocco* will travel across the U.S. from 1994 to 1996. The curator, Dr. J. F. Jerab, is looking for antique textiles, jewelry, pottery, ceramics, and woodwork for the catalog. If you have (or know of) anything that might be of museum quality, contact Dr. J. F. Jerab, 1001 E. Alameda, Santa Fe, New Mexico 87501, Tel: 505/989-8765.

Al-Andalus: Islamic Arts of Spain. As the Maghreb and the Iberian Peninsula were closely associated from the 8th through 15th Centuries, and were ruled together as one kingdom by the Almoravid and later Almohad dynasties from the late 11th to early 13th Century, the art produced in Spain at that time necessarily reflects the taste of these rulers and patrons. The patrons came from Morocco. The exhibition opened at the Metropolitan Museum of Art in New York City in June of this year.

Middle East Policy Council will hold a teacher workshop in Louisville, Kentucky, on 14 November 1992. The workshop will instruct teachers on information, resources, and techniques that will enable them to more effectively teach about the Arab world. Other workshops are planned at Sacramento, California; Dickinson, North Dakota; Carbondale, Illinois; Youngstown, Ohio; Memphis, Tennessee; Charlotte, North Carolina; Portland, Oregon; and Hickory, North Carolina. For more information, contact the Middle East Policy Council, 1730 M Street, N.W., Suite 512, Washington, D.C. 20036-4506, Tel: 202/298-8767.

Morocco, Algeria & Tunisia--a travel survival kit, a new guide from Lonely Planet Publications, Hawthorn, Victoria, Australia, was released this summer. As usual, Lonely Planet has created an easy to follow, informative, and entertaining volume. It includes 89 very good maps, photographs and drawings, some language and culture notes, where to eat and sleep, and touring information (including trekking in the mountains and desert). One shortfall for Americans, the guide was written for a primarily European audience, so getting there information is not valid for a North American departure. The book costs \$16.95.

Hideous Kinky, a novel by Esther Freud, is a story about two little English girls, driven through Europe in the mid-1960s in a dilapidated van to settle, finally, in North Africa. Their mother is searching for freedom, excitement, and love. Their mother's boyfriend's wife refuses to speak...*hideous and kinky* being the only words anyone remembers her saying. The two words become the children's favorite chant and a kind of charm when things get too strange or puzzling. In Marrakech, Mum immerses herself in the rites of Sufism and contemplates wearing a veil, and the children begin to rebel. Bea, the elder, insists on attending the local school with appropriate satchel and uniform, while her sister, the five-year-old narrator of the book, dreams longingly of mashed potatoes and her mother's marriage to Bilal, a religious entertainer who can perform backflips from a standing position. Seen through her eyes, the events take on new and often alarming dimensions, which are apparent to the reader but not the narrator, making the book as suspenseful as it is endearing. The author was born in London in 1963, where she lived sporadically before returning at the age of sixteen to train as an actress. She has worked in television and theater as both actress and writer. *Hideous Kinky*, published by Harcourt Brace Jovanovich, Publishers, is available in hardback for \$18.95.

Contemplative Gardens, by Julie Moir Messervy, a landscape designer, with photographs by *National Geographic* photographer Sam Abell, explores how people of many times, nations, and cultures have created gardens that reflect the deep human need for places of physical and spiritual refreshment. Of the seven nations, one is Morocco. The Morocco section concentrates on gardens in and around Marrakech --- large and small, private and public, lush with plantings and spartan. A beautiful book. It is available from Howell Press, Inc., Charlottesville, Virginia. The hardback over-sized book costs \$65.00.



From Our Past

Sonja Owen (TEFL 1977/79) teaches her class
at Lycee Mohammed V in Marrakech.
(Nov. 1978)



A Note To Our Readers

Someone out there sent, anonymously, a note and a newspaper clipping to the *FOM Newsletter* asking that it be printed.

The mystery person was concerned that a newsletter article reviewed a tour of West Africa (including Morocco) that "should not be condoned by FOM." We at the newsletter print data on products, tours, restaurants, and other Morocco related *stuff*, that have been submitted by our readers. We cannot vouch for service and quality, or give endorsement to non-FOM activities...it is there for information only...to let you know it's out there...so that you can do more research to see if the product or tour is right for you.

As for the newspaper article that we were asked to reprint, we can't...at least that article. To reprint an article from another publication, we must first know the date of the article; second, know the name and address of the publication; and third, have permission of the publisher to reprint the article. Unfortunately, we have none of those in this case.

We are interested in what our readers have to say, but we do have to follow certain rules of publication.

If you would like to submit a letter or an original article relating to Morocco, FOM, or Peace Corps, we will be happy to print it. Just send it to Bill Gaiser, Editor, *FOM Newsletter*, 219 Oak Street, Evansville, Indiana 47713-1254, Tel: 812/423-3777 (day) or 812/423-7625 (evening).



A Call for Books

Michael Toler, Peace Corps Volunteer in Beni Mellal and Tangier, is looking for books in English.

He is currently involved in two projects. First, he is trying to enhance the collection of the library at Beni Mellal, the newest faculty in Morocco, where he is a TEFLer. Second, he is developing a resource center at the American Legation Museum in Tangiers. The purpose of the resource center is to make the Museum a more active and accessible place to the community at large.

Michael is looking for books, audio and video (PAL/SECAM) cassettes, visual aids, and periodicals...all in English.

The subject matter can include

classic and contemporary literature, linguistics, dictionaries, history, philosophy, Morocco, Western civilization, Islamic civilization and culture, art, literature in translation, music, African literature and culture, and both high and pop culture from different world societies.

Textbooks are needed for science, business, sociology, non-fiction topics, and environmental issues.

The materials can be at any level of language ability.

Send materials to Michael at the American Legation Museum, 8 zankat America, Tangiers, Morocco. Or, if you prefer, contact the Peace Corps in Washington for help in transporting the materials.



Habitat to Build Moroccan Program

Habitat for Humanity builds housing for the needy in the United States (9,000 units built) and in twenty other countries (3,000 units built).

A committee of Moroccans and Americans is preparing to begin a Habitat for Humanity program in Morocco. Impoverished rural communities will be identified for beginning the housing program. The committee is now establishing family selection criteria for the recipients of the housing.

To help finance the program,

used eyeglasses and sun glasses are sold in other countries at nominal cost, with proceeds going toward building more houses. Every 800 pairs of glasses provides funds for the construction of one house in developing countries.

If you want to help, send your used glasses to Dave Fredrick, 9610 Tinsmith Lane, Burke, Virginia 22015, or drop them off in the box in room 3318 NS at the State Department. You can telephone Dave at home (703/866-7075) or at the office (202/647-9631).

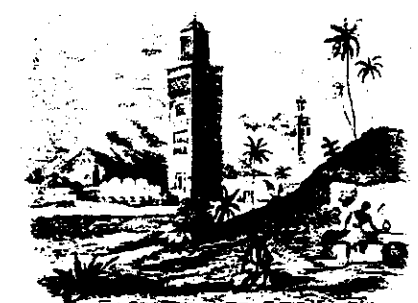
On Khatibi

Abdelkebir Khatibi, the Moroccan writer and essayist, was guest of several American Universities in April and May of this year.

He was the speaker of a series of conferences that were based on and around his work. Though entertaining, admiration for Khatibi is not confined to his works, but also for the man...a man who believes in the right to delve deeply into the thoughts, differences, and beliefs of the country through its arts.

Born in El Jadida, Khatibi was feted by his home town in 1990, during his homecoming.

Scented Mystery



La ville de « Maroc » (Marrakech).

It has been reported that somewhere in Morocco, there is a mosque with a perfumed minaret. Built in 1195, the mortar used to build the mosque contained 960 sacks of musk. The fragrance is supposed to be evident to this day.

If you know the name and location of this mosque, send the answers, along with your name and address, to the FOM Newsletter.

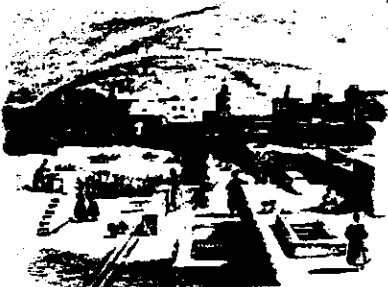


Tetouan: A New Century

The following story was excerpted from a report in the USAID Front Lines, May 1992.

Tetouan, a city of 300,000 in the north of Morocco, is "pushing toward the 21st century with help of USAID."

In January 1992, USAID Assistant Administrator for the Near East Reginald Brown, and USAID/Morocco Mission Director Dennis Chandler, handed out keys and deeds to homes at the Dersa-Samsa Housing Project, financed through USAID loan guarantees.



Grande place de Tetouan.

The new homes will allow the city of Tetouan to tear down older, decayed areas to make way for new roads and sewer systems.

USAID and the city of Raleigh, North Carolina, will help Tetouan build its first wastewater treatment plant. USAID will help pay for Raleigh technical assistance. Raleigh is noted for having one of the most advanced wastewater plants in the United States.



A Return to Agadir

Impressions of an Evacuated Volunteer

This article is written by Elizabeth (Libby) Ahlgren Gartner, an evacuated MPCV. Libby is also publishing a newsletter for volunteers evacuated from Morocco during the Gulf War. She can be reached at 815 Phelps, Rockford, Illinois 61108, Tel: 815/399-6813.

Suddenly...I was home.

After a year of planning and dreaming of the Peace Corps, two and one-half months of difficult *Stage*, and four and one-half months of a job I really liked and felt I was doing well...and performing a real service, events beyond my control intervened. Overnight it was over and I was back in the U.S.A..

I mourned, as we all did, the lack of closure. We had no time -- twenty-four hours -- to wind up our jobs (I came home with a stack of papers to correct) or say good-bye to our national counter-parts and our Moroccan friends. We felt disrupted and up-rooted. I had gotten rid of forty years of accumulated things, including my home, when I left. Indeed, I was now one of the country's homeless, having only my summer Moroccan clothes to wear. Although the physical things were easily rectified, the unrest in my soul (fading some) didn't go away. I had to go back to tie up the loose ends.

So this May with my brand new husband, I returned to Morocco. We walked in on what would have been my COS conference where my fellow PCVs, who had returned last June, were meeting. What a surprise for all. Everyone was yelling and jumping around joyously, kissing and hugging. How good it was to see them all again. I realize that they were still my friends and always would be. To be able to take part in some of their meetings helped me with my unsettled attitude. It also saved me running all around Morocco trying to visit them all.

The most emotional part of the trip was returning to Agadir, my PC site. I was especially concerned about my students, whom I left without explanation. I found that they did indeed remember me and what I had been trying to teach, and wanted to know when I would be returning to the university. My particular worry was two women I was advising on their monograph. We had a very tearful reunion and they gave me a copy of their monograph, which the head of the department helped them finish. In it they thanked me for my help. I had not heard from them so was afraid they were permanently angry with me. This was not the case. I was not able to see as many of my students as I hoped to, as the university was not in session. But, since my return, I have already received a letter from one of them that I did see.

When I returned to my old neighborhood, I felt as if I had never left. The shop owners and *mul-hunit* remembered me and greeted me warmly (three kisses in Agadir). All seemed the same except they had finished the new Grande Mosque which was only half done when I left. The head of the English Department had us to tea and caught me up on the faculty news. He reassured me that while it was difficult to cope until they got another teacher, they understood and harbored no animosity, having been very pleased with my teaching. The moment I pulled into Agadir, I felt as if I were home and that I had never left.

Enough of the personal, I think FOM really wants to know how I found Morocco and what the attitude was toward the Peace Corps after our abrupt departure. When I got off the ferry at Tangiers, it all seemed the same: the people, the medina, the streets. In traveling around the country, I found people very friendly, though my Arabic seemed to have flown out of my brain. Even people who didn't really know of the Peace Corps's work showed interest and friendship when they learned we were American.

Darcy Neill, Morocco Country Director, reported that the relations with the government are very positive and, while we are not up to our full pre-evacuation strength, she feels that the numbers will increase as more volunteers are trained. There is no hesitation by the government in having Peace Corps there. Some of the universities are concerned after being left in January with classes not covered, but most, including my Ibn Zohr, want volunteers again.

The volunteers I talked to, in almost every case, said the people at their *dewars* and sites were delighted to see them again, though they still question why we left. They said over and over to the volunteers that they were not in any danger, that they loved them and would have taken care of them. However, most understood when told that when the government tells you to do something, you have to do it. They live in that kind of world, too.

Certainly Morocco looks and feels the same, smells the same, sounds the same. How I missed the call to prayer when I returned to the U.S.A.. The people seemed no different. If anything, there were fewer soldiers in evidence, and perhaps fewer tourists in Agadir.

After two weeks, we left again, but I had far different feelings. I felt as though I could finally close the door. Not on Morocco, I can never do that, but on that phase of my life. I shall always love it and we will be returning periodically for visits.

Morocco is well and Morocco's close relationship with the Peace Corps will continue.





From Fayetteville in '92 To Berkeley in '93

The 31st National Council of Returned Peace Corps Volunteers had another successful national conference, this year in July at Fayetteville, Arkansas.

Generally centered around the University of Arkansas Continuing Education Center, conference business centered on Peace Corps as a national resource.

The conference activities included many workshops on Peace Corps and development topics; awards and recognition programs; networking and job-hunting; reunions and catching up; socializing; and a talk by then director of Peace Corps, Elaine Chao.

The 1993, 32nd Anniversary Conference will be at the University of California, Berkeley, and in the San Francisco area. The conference dates will be 1-5 July 1993. For more information contact George Ramstad, 1026 Elsinore Avenue, Oakland, California 94602, Tel: 510/934-3592.



Morocco File Postponed

The Morocco-File service has been suspended and letters explaining refund choices have been sent out to subscribers. If you have not received your letter, please contact Noreen Polk at 703/524-6628.

We need a Morocco-File Coordinator to collect articles concerning Morocco from various sources and to distribute them to Morocco-File members. If you are interested, please contact Noreen.

Keep The Good Feeling!

The Boston Area Returned Peace Corps Volunteers are selling "Bringing the World Back Home" T-shirts and sweat shirts as a Third Goal Projects fund raiser

ALL 1961-91 PEACE CORPS
HOST COUNTRIES ARE LISTED ON
THE BACK OF THE SHIRTS

Send This Form And Your Check Payable To:
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Sm _____ Md _____ L _____ XL _____
ADULT T-SHIRT QUANTITY

2-4 _____ 6-8 _____ 10-12 _____ 14-16 _____
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Friends of Morocco

The pre-shrunk 100% cotton T-shirts and the 50% cotton sweat shirts are blue. The world, the dove, and the words are white.

T-SHIRT QUANTITY _____ x \$10.00 = _____
SWEAT SHIRT QUANTITY _____ x \$15.00 = _____
SUBTOTAL _____
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أصدقاء المغرب
Friends of Morocco

Master Staffers

The newsletter, and all the previous newsletters, are brought to you by our editor, Bill Gaisser, and several brave and dedicated newsletter staffers in Washington, D.C.

We'd like to take this opportunity to thank Phyllis Fernandez, Joyce Bouvier, Ellen Peterson, Barry O'Connor, Sean Kilby, and Mike Hickey for their recent dedication to collating and addressing 1,500 newsletters each quarter. You've done a great job!

*Shokran Bizef,
Noreen & Tim*

New Type

This issue of the *FOM Newsletter* sports a new typeface. It is the first of several graphic changes to be implemented in future issues. Hopefully the changes will make for an easier-to-read newsletter. Let us know what you think.

أصدقاء المغرب



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 2579, Washington DC 20013-2579. For further information, contact president Tim Resch at 703/660-9292.

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