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Regional Seminar on Machine Tools
in Developing Countries of Europe,
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Slati Pjassazi (Golden Sands) near
Varna, Bulgaria, 18 to 27 October 1971

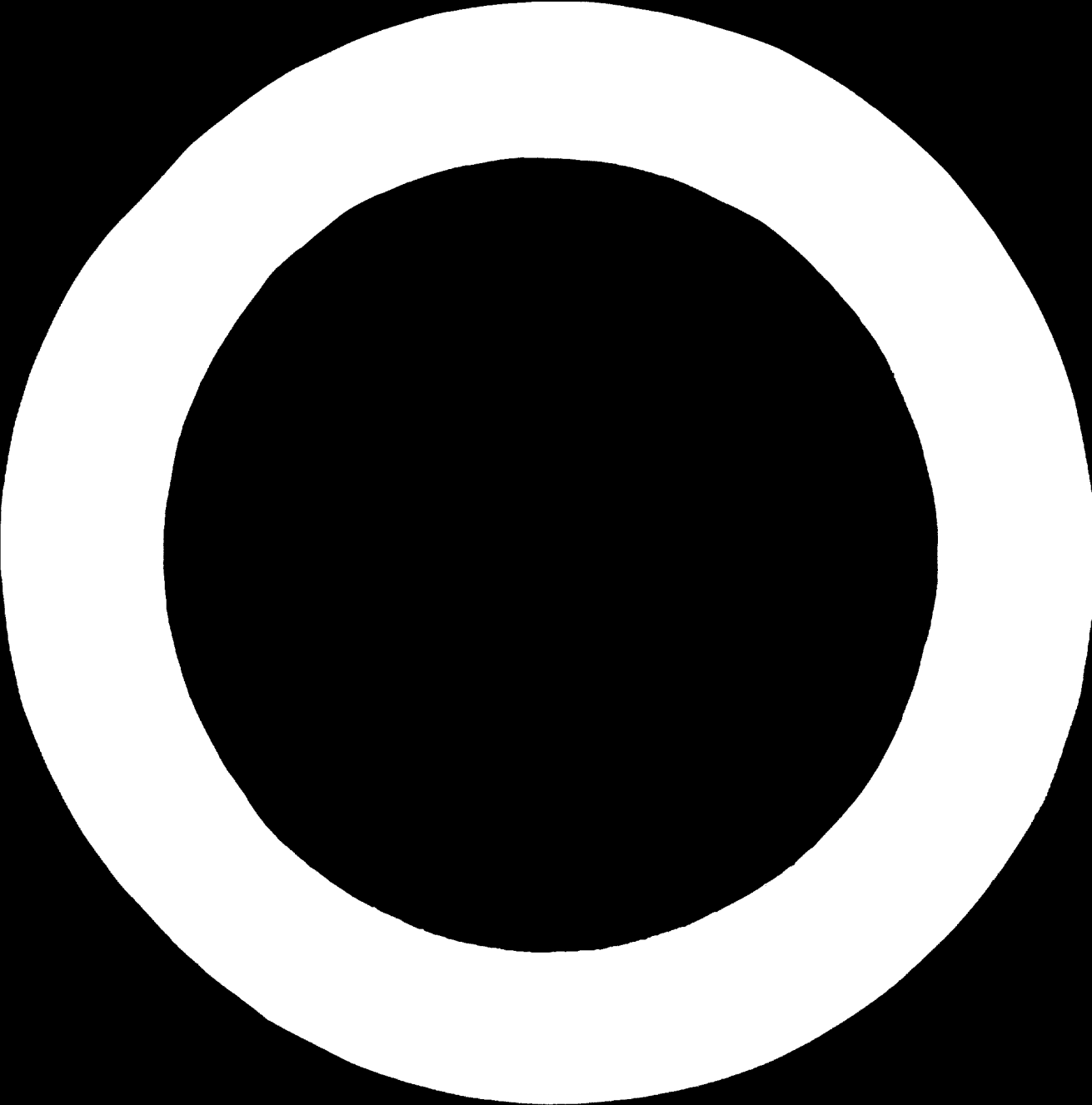
GENERAL REPORT ON MACHINE TOOLS
IN
YEMEN ARAB REPUBLIC ^{1/}

by

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Due to lack of studies on the availability of machine tools in Yemen Arab Republic this report merely presents a general idea of machinery used in the main industries and mechanical workshops that exists in the country.

A. The major industries utilizing machinery are:

1. Textile factory under operation built by the People's Republic of China. The factory is located in Sanaa.

2. Biscuit and Sweets factory, located in Taiz - privately owned.

3. Cement and Tobacco factories still under construction near Hodeidah.

4. Aluminium factory in Taiz - privately owned.

5. Refreshment factories:

(a) Pepsi Cola in Hodeidah

(b) Canada Dry in -"-

(c) Stim in -"-

Besides the above, there are various small scale factories for oil extraction and flour mills.

B. Various mechanical workshops have been established during the building of the net work of roads connecting the major cities - viz: Hodeidah, Sanaa and Taiz. These workshops contain practically all the necessary machinery for road construction, repair of vehicles and welding machines.

- C. Beside the above mentioned machineries, there are around 200 garages for repairs of motor cars and trucks, various agricultural machine tools owned by organizations like FAO in running their projects and about 250 carpentry workshops equipped with modern carpentry machine tools.
- D. Due to lack of qualified personnel to carry out studies in various fields, it is very difficult to estimate the demand, production, import and export of the machine tools in Y.A.R. The government also lacks any specific policy related to machine tools. For the estimated import see the attached table.
- E. Technical assistance has mainly been in the road projects mentioned above. At the present technical assistance has been started by FAO in the field of agriculture, assistance in building the Sanaa International Airport by West German is underway and technical school which is being started by the People's Republic of China.

The National Currency Board has started statistical studies on the imports of all machineries and tools. The following table shows the figures obtained from the quarterly publication of the National Currency Board. The number of each kind of machinery is given for the year 1970/71. These figures are fairly reliable except that they don't represent import for only one year. The total value for the import of these machineries is 11576480 Yemeni Riyals. Since the demands for these tools increase every year with the development of the country, we cannot estimate the figures for the year prior to 1970/71 on this available figures.

Rebirth of Yemen to face the technological advancement of the 20th Century took place in real sense in 1962. It is since then that import of machines highly increased and peoples developed interest in small scale workshops and other mechanical works. Many of the people using the available machines in the country to the present time are self-trained. Consequently due to lack of qualified personnel and technical advice, the life span of many of these machines in the country is very short.

Until the present, there are no industries making mechanical tools which could be exported. Yemen is an importing country and it would take a fairly long period before it could be self dependant for the production of even the smallest mechanical tool. The reason behind this fact is that Yemen lacks many factors:

- 1) The capital to be invested to start such industries.
- 2) Yemen cannot supply enough qualified and trained engineers.

Again here, the country is still dependant on foreign aid.

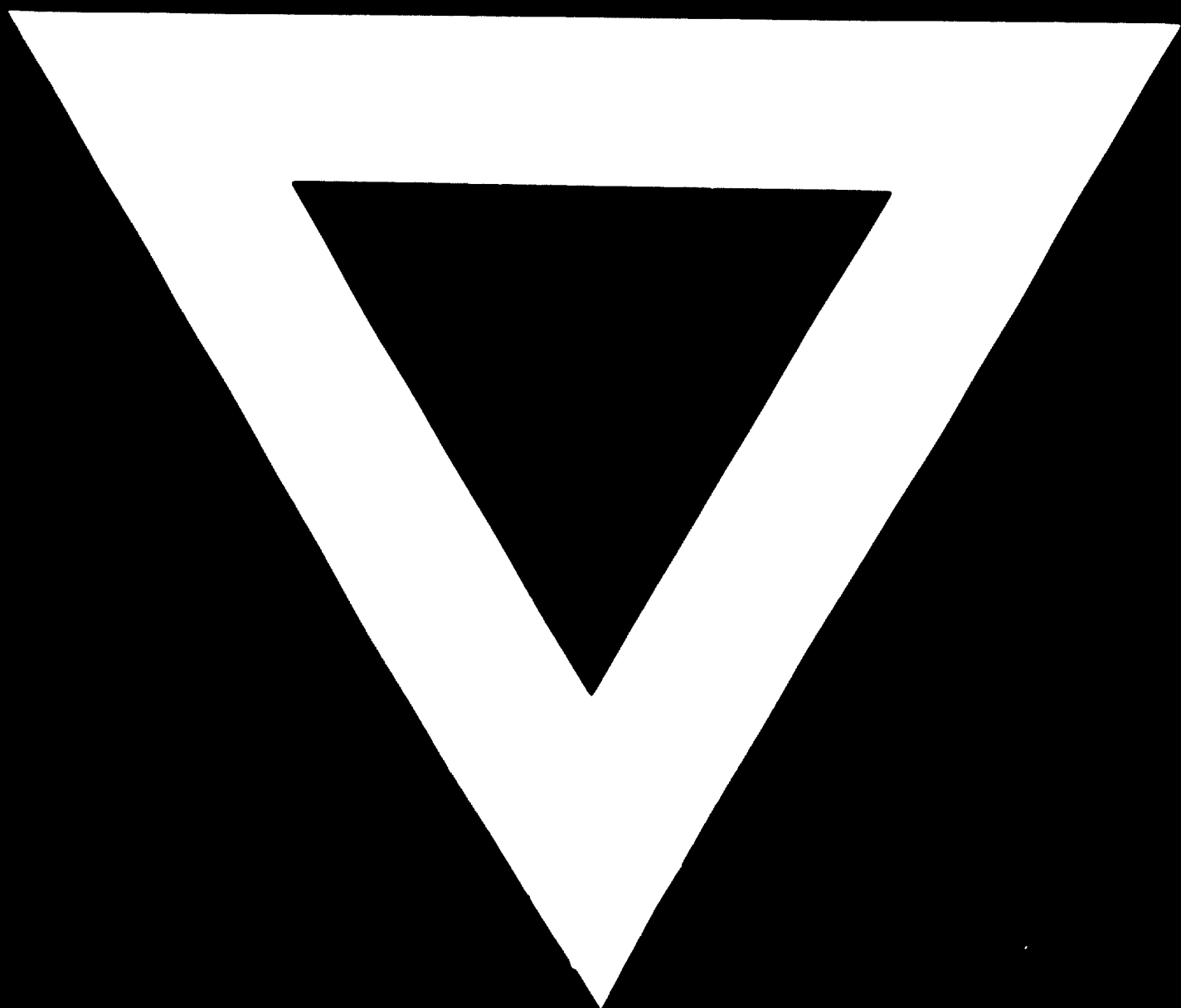
- 3) Yemen is still a purely agricultural country. Since the agriculture in the country is of traditional type with low production that does not meet the national consumption level, it would be unwise to shift to industries of major machineries before the development of agricultural sectors because it is advisable to shift capital from agriculture to industry and not vice versa.

Import of machinery and tools during the year 1970/71

ITEM	QUANTITY
Textile Machinery	774
Sewing Machines	2,774
Paper Bags Making Machines	6
Grinding Machines	1,820
Heating Machines	715
Water Pumps	8,067
Electricity Generators	2,626
Radio Transmitting Equipment	649
Wireless Set	19
Refrigerators	389
Washing Machines	19
Measuring Equipment Electrical & Meters	1,169
Electrical Equipment	337,936
Motor Vehicles	143
Trucks	149
Tractors with Spare Parts	1,787
Printing Machines	27
Calculating Machines	11
Motor Cycles	2,383
Major Drilling Machines	4
Electric Spare Parts	2,062
Raw Iron & Steel	1,138,556 tons
Other Electrical Equipment	2,051,382
Oven & Heaters	15,915
Spare Parts Miscellaneous	1,416,859

Total Value = 11, 576, 830.





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