

YEMEN



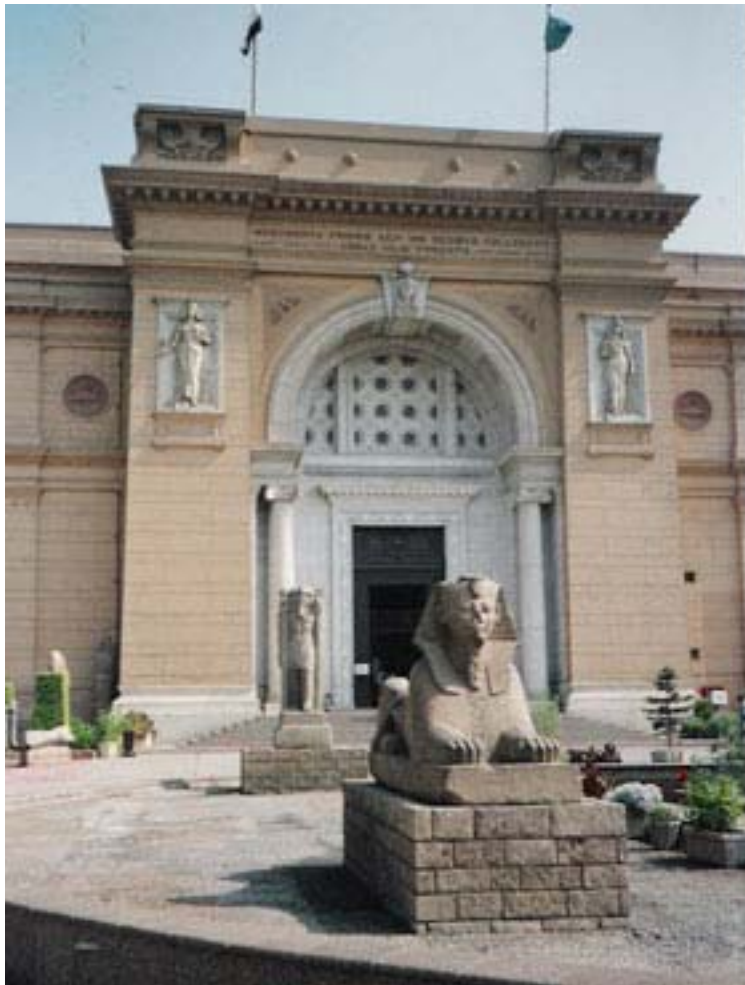
The Nile River at Cairo



Tourist boats in Cairo



Statue of Osiris In front of the Egyptian National Museum



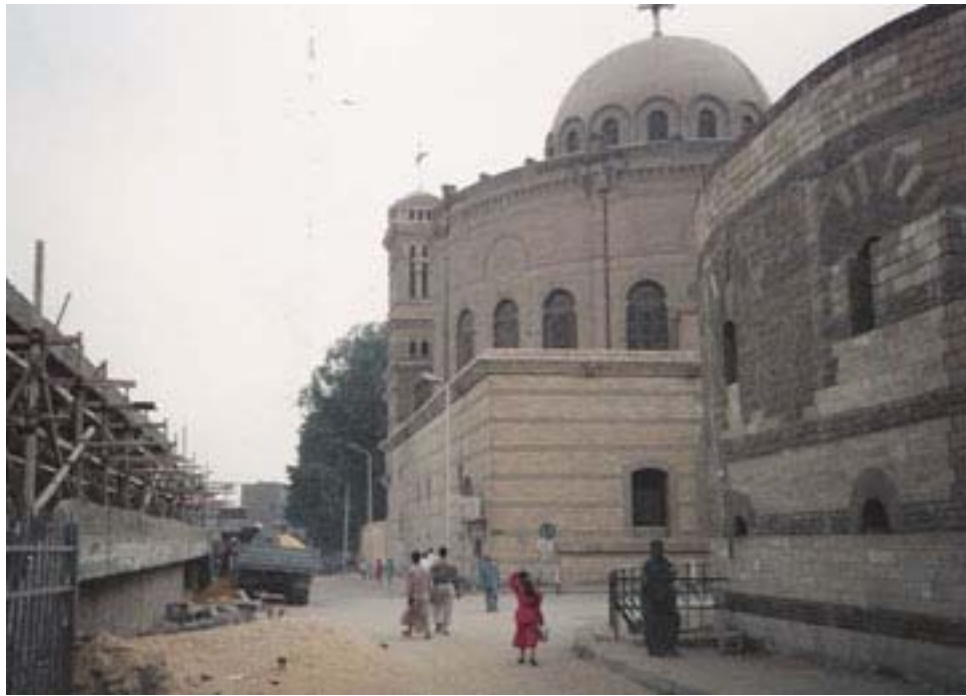
Sphinx at museum entrance. No replicas here!



Major mosque with twin *muezzin* towers



Minor mosque



Major Coptic church and metro station a-building



Across the Yemeni desert at 80 mph
from Ma'arib toward the Atak District



Hunt Oil rig



Smoke break monitor



Smoke break



Bullshit session beside the track at 125 degrees



Don't feed the bears!



Base camp behind defensive revetment



Base camp. Note "Technical" in rear with Russian-made machine gun
The great-great grandfather of the guy in the shorts killed Sheriff Pat Garrett in New Mexico



Chauffeur with *jambiya*



The corner gas station



Putting up tents in the labor camp



Taking a "shower" in labor camp



Scavenger camels cleaning up around the laborer's kitchen trailer



Evening meal in Fly camp
Men (L to R) are from Scotland, Canada, Malta and Pakistan



Fly camp bedroom



Tribal night *askari* (guard)



Some of the guys from the labor camp



Typical Base Camp scene



Crew's militia *askari*

They shot three of my men before I got the testosterone problem solved



"Technical" and gunner with anti-aircraft gun the *askari* used on bandits and their Toyotas



"Near Miss" accident - mark from sniper round on my company Toyota truck. I made the mistake of throwing a rock at some boy thieves at a fly camp then driving by their village the following day



Heli Union Lama in front of the enormous escarpment we were exploring



Typical geology of the area



One of only three roads that provide access to the world on top of the escarpment
The home village of Usama bin Laden is not far from here



Mixing cement in the time-honored Third World way



My main man Sh'kib and an Eritrean who walked fifty miles across the desert in 125 degree-plus heat to find a job



Local tribesmen stop by to observe us building helicopter landing pads in quarter sections then filling the + in the middle with cement. Very efficient method I invented
We used water from the tank on the right and sand from a nearby *wadi*



Me with two wild *bedoo* tribesmen and one tribal-affiliated helper



My crew and a finished helicopter pad



At the lost city of Shabwa the summer home of the Queen of Sheba



The partially-excavated city of Shabwa
Local tribesmen say that the French began excavation with toothbrushes
and the Russians finished the work with bulldozers



The Palace of the Caliph, Shabwa



Site of a pre-Biblical salt mine
See my poem *Inshallah* in the Poetry file



View from the top of the *jebel* to the end of a seismic road that is one vertical kilometer mile below. We strung cable from there to the top of the scarp by helicopter



Me in my element, waiting to receive the end of 5000' of cable from the helicopter



One of the towns in Wadi Ghardan



A sheikh's palace in Wadi Ghardan



A typical mountain town with defensive gun tower



A lovely antique defensive door in mountain village



A local sheikh taking young camels to market in Atak
He had fourteen children by four wives and I tagged him with the nickname *bindook kwayis*



An emblem of Yemen — austere, defensive, virtually timeless
From this blasted landscape I next worked in Tanzania Africa, a very different world, indeed





