UNITED KINGDOM OF

USEFUL INFORMATION

LIBYA

TOURISM TRIPOLI

FEBRUARY 1963

MINISTRY of NATIONAL ECONOMY

Tourist Department — TRIPOLI

No. 1



MINISTRY OF NATIONAL ECONOMY TOURIST DEPARTMENT

SHIARA ADRIAN PELT, TRIPOLI, LIBYA.

Tele. No: 42438

Office Hours: Daily 8.30 - 14.30 (except Fridays)

Fridays 9.00 - 12.00

National Holidays CLOSED

For Tourist Queries Visit the Tourist Bureau

Dear Reader,

This pamphlet is designed as an easy reference guide for the many thousands of tourists who visit Tripolitania each year. We have found that in a last developing country such as ours, it is necessary to revise tourist information more frequently than once a year. In future therefore, we shall issue « Useful Information » every two months, and tourists may be assured that the information listed is the latest available to us.

We are justly proud of the beauty of our country, and we know that once you visit us, however fleetingly, you will be charmed into returning again and again.

Let me tell you about our climate. Winter is mild, with an average temperature of 10°C · 50°F. Spring is perhaps the most delightful season; the desert «blooms» and the countryside is carpeted with countless wild flowers. In summer, the miles of sandy beaches, the clear blue water and gentle surf of the Mediterranean turn the coastline into a bathers' paradise. Autumn with its balmy breezes, heralds the date harvest and the grape harvest.

Few countries can boast of architectural splendours the equal of Leptis Magna and Sabratha, whilst in the town of Tripoli there are many examples of Roman, Byzantine and Turkish architecture.

Careful town planning has provided Tripoli with modern amenities but has preserved the grace and charm of this ancient city.

We are able to offer the tourist comfortable accommodation ranging from Luxury Class Hotels to pension. There are restaurants, cases and bars to suit all tastes and pockets, while our night clubs provide both Oriental and Western entertainment.

We hope that you will be able to visit our country in the near future and that the information on the following pages will assist in planning your stay. You will always be welcome at our offices on the Sharia Adrian Pelt, where the staff of the Tourist Bureau will provide any additional information you may require.

In our next issue we will give details of the International Fair which will be held in Tripoli from 28th February to the 28th March.

Yours sincerely,

DIRECTOR OF TOURISM



TRIPOLI:-View over the old city

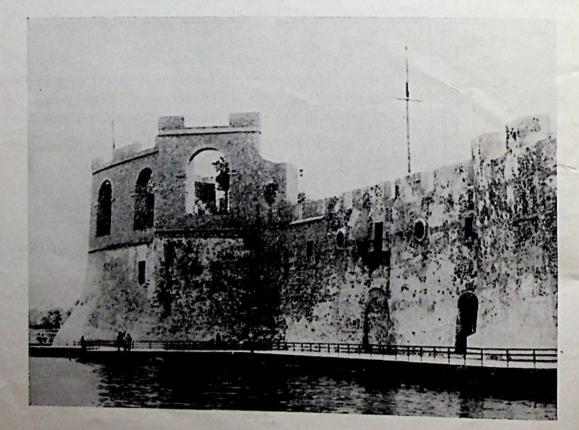
The City of Tripoli

Every issue of this 'Useful Information' pamphlet will carry articles on places of interest in Tripolitania, Cyrenaica and the Fezzan. This the first article deals exclusively with Tripoli.

Tripoli is the capital of the Province of Tripolitania, and shares with Benghazi the honour of being the

Capital of the United Kingdom of Libya. It is a city of contrasts where fine modern buildings stand side by side with ancient towers and minarets; where the camel shares the road with the modern automobile.

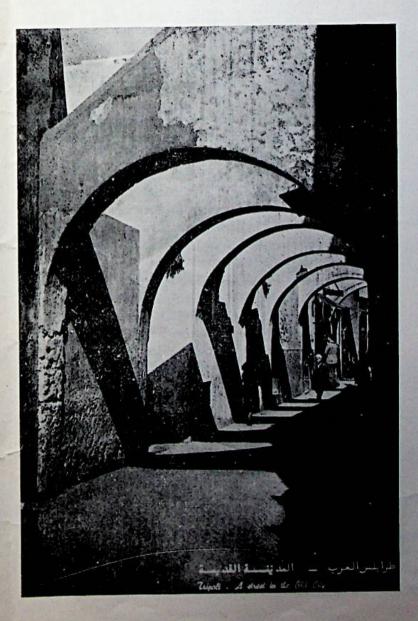
Tourists should certainly earmark more than one day of their stay to the exploration of the town; the



TRIPOLI:The Castle from the sea

museum alone can fully occupy a morning. The museum is contained in The Castle, which is the largest and certainly one of the most important buildings in Tripoli. It is built over the foundations of a Roman Castrum, was rebuilt by The Knights of Malta in the 16th Century, and was occupied by the Caramanli princes in the 18th and 19th centuries. The Department of Antiquities has carefully excavated and preserved the ancient parts of the building and today its courtyards with sparkling fountains and beautiful gardens are a delight to the eye.

The Museum has recently been reorganised, and provides a picture of Tripolitania and its characteristics. The Archaeological section contains a fine selection of sculpture and mosaics which have been collected from all over the province. There is a Prehistoric Section which traces life in this sector of North Africa from the 'Palaeolithic Age'; the Natural History Section gives detailed information about the flora and fauna of the country, whilst the Ethnographical Museum introduces the tourist to the traditions, family usages, customs and ceremonics of the Arab world.



Adjacent to the Castle is the Suk el Mushir. The word « Suk » means market and the Suk el Mushir is typical of a North African market. It is here in the busy narrow streets and alleys that you will see the craftsmen at work. Young apprentices tap away with hammers, hand engraving elaborate patterns on brass and copper trays. Gold and Silversmiths display finely wrought necklaces, earrings belts and charms. Weavers are busy at their looms, weaving the intricate patterns of the local blankets. The Suk el Mushir is in fact a series of markets each one of which is devoted to a particular craft or trade.

Within the Suk is the Caramanli Mosque, one of the two mosques which may be visited by the tourist. (A pass is necessary to gain admittance, and may be obtained from The Tourist Bureau). The mosque is Moorish in style and dates back to 1736. It is particularly noted for its splendid coloured tiles and baroque decoration.

The other mosque was built in the late 19th century by Jusef Gurgi and is named after him. The minaret of the mosque, the only one with two balconies, is the highest in Tripoli.

A short distance away, to the right towards the sea, is the Archway of Marcus Aurelius. The archway is constructed of marble and was built in A.D. 163. It is one of the best preserved Roman monuments in North Africa.

Sightseeing is always thirsty and tiring, and the tourist might do well to relax midway through the morning at one of the many cases on the Sciara Istiklal.

Tripoli, in common with most Mediteranean Cities, enjoys an afternoon siesta from 2 p.m. to 4 p.m. The tourist may consider that an afternoon siesta is a waste of precious noneasy hours, in which case one of the private clubs, who open their doors to tourists, will accommodate them for swimming, or sunbathing on pleasant beaches.

For those of you who like a stroll to develop an appetite before dinner, the palm shaded avenues and gardens of the Sharia Adrian Pelt are ideal.

Whether you dine at your hotel or at one of the restaurants in the town, don't forget to order a local wine with your meal. Libyan wines are very inexpensive, and are becoming firm favourites throughout the world.

After dinner you may consider a visit to an airconditioned cinema, to a night club or perhaps a 'flutter' at the Casino. Of one thing you may be certain, whatever your taste, Tripoli will cater for you.

Compiled under the guidance of the TRIPOLITANIA TOURIST BUREAU

TRIPOLI:A street in the Old City.



The SEVERUS Family originally came from LEPTIS MAGNA. Mazy of the family held important positions not only at Leptis, but also in Rome, in the Magistrate's office, in public administration offices and

(51-96 a.d.) a certain Septimius Severus who went to Rome as a young man became well known for his rhetorical gifts.

Another of the family was twice elected Consul at

in the military field. It is known that under Domizianus

Another of the family was twice elected Consul at the time that the great Septimius was still in Leptis before leaving to study in Rome.

The man who made his birthplace, Leptis, renowed throughout the entire Roman world was SEPTIMIUS SEVERUS, whose parents were P. Septimius Geta and Fulvia Pia. He was born on the 11th of April in the year 146 a.d. and left his own country while still a young man to study Law in Rome.

Before he was eighteen years old he made his first speech in public and when Marcus Aurelius was Emperor he was appointed to the position of lawyer for the Fiscal Administration. At the age of 26 he was appointed the Questor of the Senate and finally became a Military Tribune.

SEPTIMIUS SEVERUS OF LEPTIS

A few years later we see him as the Commander of the Fourth Legion at Marseille and later he returned to Africa in the position of Legate to the Proconsul, who was an uncle of his, Caius Septimius Severus.

Upon the death of the Emperor Commodus in 193 a.d. Septimius was in command of the Illiric Legions in Pannonia and he had himself nominated as Emperor by his own troops; this was not agreeable to the Roman Senate who set up two other Emperors against him: Claudius Albinus (in Gaul) and Prescennius Nigrus (in the East).

With a certain diplomacy Septimius made an agreement with the first named and then arranged the death of the other, somewhere near Ino.

It was then that the Senate denounced him as an enemy of the state, but Septimius, who was now the only claimant to the position of Emperor, as Claudius Albinus had died suddenly, marched on Rome and by superior forces made the city acknowledge him as the only and rightful Emperor.

His temperament was cruel to the point of violence and he was implacable in the crushing of the rebellions that sprang up, from time to time, in the vast Empire. He persecuted equally Christians and Jews both at that time considered to be enemies of Rome.

At length he was able to restore order throughout the entire Empire and imposed strict discipline on the Legions. He avenged the death of his friend Claudius who had been strangled in his bath by an athlete named Narcissus.

One of his first orders was to dissolve the Practorian Guard, that had been the Emperor's guard, and he substituted his own loyal soldiers from the Illiric Legions. He was an excellent administrator of the state's public wealth right up to the time of his death.

After his victory in the East against the Parthi (197-22 a.d.) he refused to hold the Triumphal Celebrations that were accorded to all the victorious Emperors, in order that the state could economise. It was with this victory of his that the Empire's frontiers were made safe for many years to come.

He instituted many reforms in matters of state including reducing the value of the currency. Above all, he arranged for the reconstruction and the beautifying of his native city, LEPTIS MAGNA, in Tripolitania. He interested his men also in fortifying Hadrian's Wall at Britain's frontier.

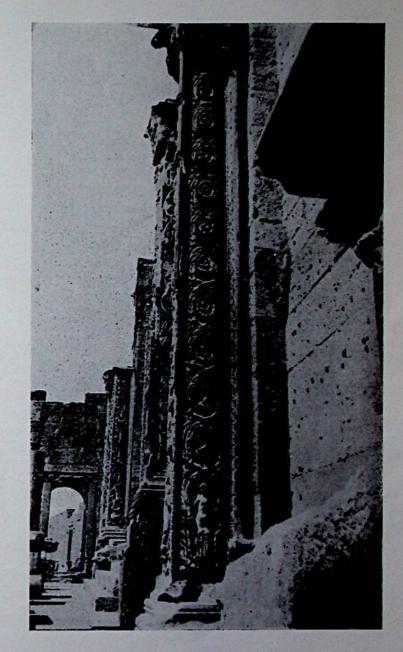
It was in the year 208 that he departed with his sors Caracalla and Geta who had been raised to the rank of Emperors, to the shores of Britain to stamp out a revolt. At that time he was an old man and he remained at Eboracum (now called York) while his son Caracalla was successful in defeating the Britains. It appears that Septimius was poisoned by the wicked son Caracalla who was tired of being just one of three who enjoyed the honour of being Emperor. It is true that when the father died, he accused his brother of treason and had him executed.

The nickname of « Cara«alla » was given to him because he used to clothe himself with a « Caracalla », the kind of clothing that was worn in Gaul at the time. His real name was BASSIANUS AURELIUS ANTO-NINO.

Caracalla was a crucl and murderous Emperor but all his violence and misdeeds could not dim the light of the glory that was his father's His father is remembered in history as an illustrious and brilliant citizen of Leptis and Libya. It may be noted that while he spoke Latin fluently and correctly he often used his native tongue, the Neo-Punic language that was then current along all the Tripolitania coastal belt.

From the recent excavations at LEPTIS, we can glean the knowledge, that Septimius gave his native city the advantage of being, for over two centuries, the ideal city in which to pass winter holidays.

The Senator's families, the families of the Consuls and indeed many of the young men and women of the Roman Empire came from all parts to spend quiet and restful winter holidays at the city of LEPTIS MAGNA.





TRIPOLI - CASTLE'S MUSEUM

from Septimius Severus Arch of Leptis Magna.



GHADAMES

" Ocarl of the Desert"

GHADAMES, 683 kms. south west of Tripoli is easily reached by air and offers the Tourist comfortable accommodation in the depths of the Sahara. The town has a very special extraordinary appearance altogether irregular in design, it is traversed by small covered streets which even run, like corridors, through the houses themselves. Nearly all the houses have roof terraces, which communicate with each other and which are the women's domain.

The famed and once feared Touareg Tribesmen inhabit this area. They are skilled trackers, and they are able to travel for vast distances across the barren wastes of the Sahara in regions where roads or even paths are unknown.

Mounted on the very fast dromedaries, known as « mehari », and capable of speeds up to 50 kmh., they are one of the most colourful sites in Libya.





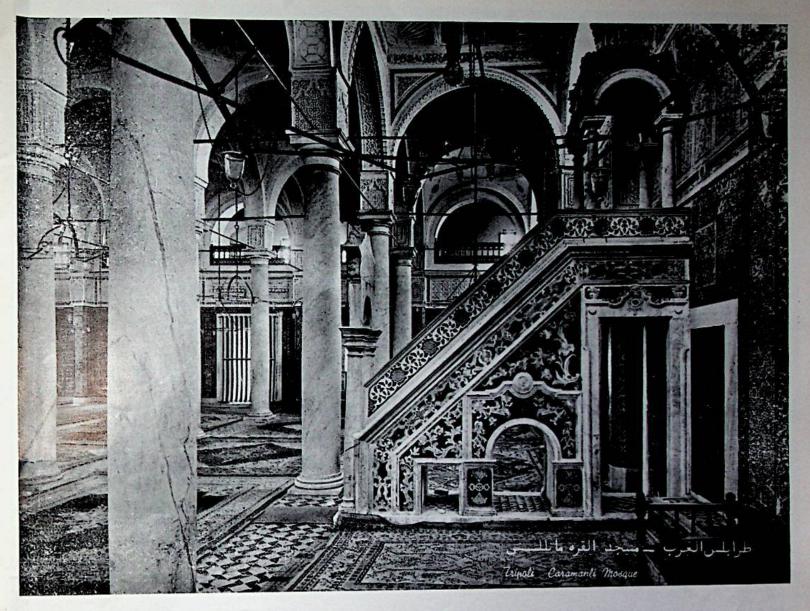
Ghadames has much to offer the Tourist who is interested in archaeology.

The Mosque with its Byzantine capitals on twisted columns; the Plain of the Idols, a Roman cemetery whose ruins have assumed the form of mysterious figures; the castle on the heights at the entrance to the oasis; the vast Moslem cemetery with its thousands of tombs, all facing towards Mecca.

A visit to Ghadames will give the Tourist a unique experience of life in the Sahara and of the kindly and friendly people of Libya.

GHADAMES - Ain el Frass Hotel





TRIPOLI - Internal view of the CARAMANLI Mosque, better known as «Jama Ahmed Pacha».

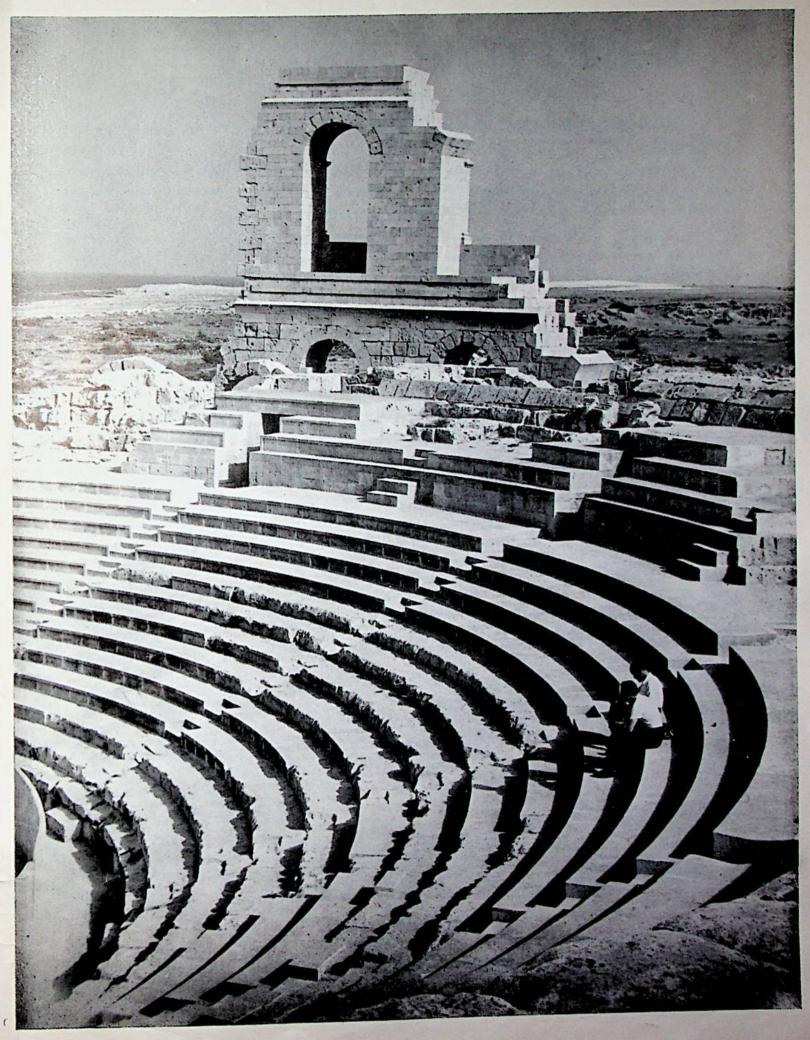
It is situated at the entrance to the Old City and was built in the year 1736.

The Mosques can be visited with a permission with can be given by

TOURIST DEPT. of TRIPOLITANIA

Time of visit is from 9.00 to 12.00 and from 14,30 to 15,30





SABRATHA

The Theatre at Sabratha was built about 1800 A.D. and was the largest in North Africa, holding about 5.000 people.

The monumental task of excavation and reconstruction was begun in 1927 and since than many thousands of fragments have been pieced together, until today the stage is complete. Some stage machinery can still be seen, and on either side of the stage are the actors' dressing rooms.

In recent years the stage floor has been timbered and the Theatre is used today by Drama groups. In May of his year, the Wheelus High School Drama Society produced very successfully, William Shakespeare's « A Midsummer Night's Dream » before an appreciative audience of all nationalities.



SABRATA THEATRE - A Midsummer's Night Dream

INFORMATION FOR THE TOURIST

LIBYA - TOURISM in TRIPOLI

PASSPORT & VISAS

All Tourists to Libya require an entry visa. A visa valid for a period of 30 days may be obtained from Libyan Consular Offices. (See page 19) Tourists travelling from countries which have no Consular Office, may be issued with visas on arrival at road frontiers, ports or airports.

ALL TOURISTS TO LIBYA ARE REQUIRED TO REGISTER WITH THE DEPARTMENT OF IMMIGRATION WITHIN THREE DAYS OF THEIR ARRIVAL. THIS REGISTRATION WILL NORMALLY BE CARRIED OUT BY THE TOURIST'S HOTEL OR PENSION.

HEALTH REGULATIONS

Health certificates are not required except from countries suffering from epidemics of «Internationally Notified Diseases» against which quarantine measures have been made and officially notified.

CURRENCY REGULATIONS

ALLOWANCES.

- (a) Libyan Bank Notes not exceeding Ll. 20.
- (b) Bank Notes not exceeding L. 10 Sterling.
- (c) Other Bank Notes, Travellers Cheques, Letters of Credit, Shares etc; no limitation.

Note: Gold, jewellery, shares, foreign currencies and all other effects may be re-exported only if previously declared on entry.

CUSTOMS FORMALITIES & ALLOWANCES

All visitors to Libya will be required to produce their luggage for customs examination.

ENTRY.

Practically all articles imported into Libya are liable to Customs Duties and chargeable under the Customs Tariff. For the Tourist, formalities are reduced to a minimum, and personal effects, if used and obviously for the Tourist's private and regular use, are exempt from duty. In addition, and as a concession, the following may be imported duty free by each person;

Tobacco	(includin	g cigars,	, c	igarettes cordials	&	snuff)			grams Litre
Wine .		ciuding	Liquois		COI CIAIS				10	Litre
Perfume	9		THE REAL PROPERTY.						1/4	Litre

EXIT.

Tobacco (including cigars, cigarettes & snuff) . . . 400 grams Spirits, wine & perfume As for entry Normally no objection is made to the export by Tourists of locally manufactured goods up to Ll. 150 in value.

VEHICLES

AUTOMOBILES, BUSES, MOTORCYCLES & BOATS.

Carnet, Triptyque etc; or deposit of Duty, refundable on export

Tourists' vehicles may not be sold during their stay unless Customs Duty has been paid.

CIRCULATION PERMITS

International Circulation Permits are valid.

DRIVING LICENCES

International Driving Licences are valid. Foreign licences may also be validated by the Road Transport Controller, situated at the Sharia Ben Gashir, for a period of three months.

TRAFFIC REGULATIONS PRESCRIBED THAT VEHICLES WILL BE DRIVEN ON THE RIGHT OF THE ROAD.

FIREARMS

Firearms may be imported and re-exported, and cleared through the customs only upon the production of a permit from the police.



PUBLIC TRANSPORT

The Tourist in Libya who does not wish to travel by car may depend on the modern public transport that serves the main towns and villages. From Tripoli, fast comfortable buses are available to transport them not only to local places of interest, but as far afield as Benghazi, Ghadames, Sebha and Tunis.

BUS TIMETABLE

Leptis Magna

Depart Tripoli 7.30, 9.30, 11.30, 13.30, 15.30, 17.00 ret. 8.30, 10.30, 12.30, 14.30, 16.30, 18.00

Sabratha (route 2)

Depart Tripoli 8.00, 11.00, 13.00 ret. 8.30, 11.30, 13.30

Zuara (route 2)

Depart Tripoli 8.00, 11.00, 13.00 ret. 13.30, 15.00, 16.30

Garian (route 4)

Depart Tripoli 8.00, 10.00, 13.00 ret. 13.00, 15.00, 17.30

Jefren via Garian (route 13) Depart Tripoli 8.00 ret. 15.00

Tagiura (route 7)

Depart Tripoli 6.00, 7.30, 10.00 ret. 10.45, 14.00

Ben Ulid (route 10)

Depart Tripoli 7.30, 14.30, ret. 7.30, 14.30,

Benghazi (route 24)

Dep. Tripoli every Saturday and Thursday at 15.00 Dep. Benghazi every Thursday and Tuesday at 15.00

Ghadames (route 21)

Dep. Tripoli every Sunday at 7.30

Stay overnight at Nalut (passengers expense). Dep. from Nalut at 7.30

Dep. Ghadames every Wednesday at 7.30

Stay overnight at Nalut (passengers expense). Dep. from Nalut at 7.30

All the above buses leave Tripoli from Shiara Errascid.

Tunis

A new Fiat bus service departs from Tripoli every Sunday and Thursday at 8.00. Overnight stop at Ghabes (passengers expense) and the buses arrive in Tunis at 16.00 on Mondays and Fridays. The buses return from Tunis on Wednesdays and Mondays, leaving at 8.00.

Single fare 1st class Ll. 4.590, 2nd class Ll. 3.960 or Tunisian equivalent.

Bookings may be made at the Company's office at Sh. Della Maiella No. 8 - Telephone 42450,

AIR SERVICE: TRIPOLI - BENGHAZI - TRIPOLI

TRIPOLI TO BENGHAZI 20.25 Alitalia Carav 19.30 20.55 KLM Electra Libiavia DC 6B 21.30 Tue. 20.20 22.05 UAR 19.15 20.25 Alitalia Carav Wed. Thurs. 13.00 14.35 BEA Visc 14.30 16.15 BEA Visc 16.50 BOAC Comet Fri. UAR 17.20 19.05 Vise 20.25 KLM 19.00 Electra 20.25 Alitalia 19.15 Carav 14.35 BEA 19.40 21.30 Libiavia DC 6B 20.20 22.05 UAR Visc Alitalia 19.15 20.25 Carav

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January February 1963

LIBYAN HOTEL CHARGES

XIV Edition

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For full and ½ pension and for children, under seven years of age, special prices are obtainable on request from the Management.

) Including Breakfast.

(x) All rooms have large bed.

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ARAB BANK Ltd. . . . Tripoli, Maidan Asciuhada
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BANCO DI SICILIA Tripoli, 27, Sc. Sidi Hammuda
BANCO DI NAPOLI Tripoli, 75, Sciara Istiklal
BANK MISR Tripoli, 107, Sciara 24 Dicembre
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AGENCES

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Correspondants dans le Monde entier

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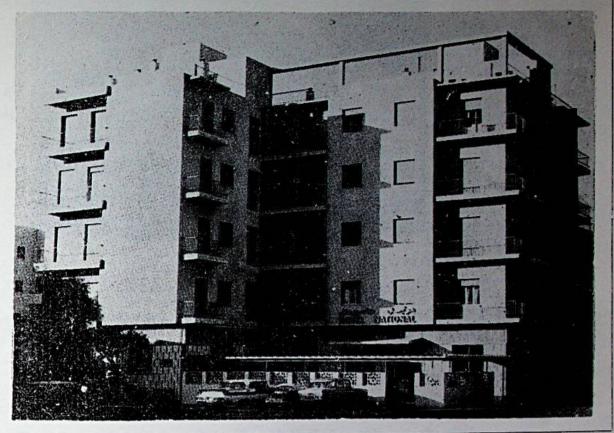
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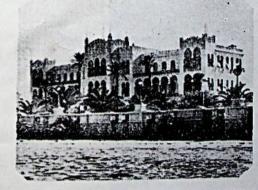
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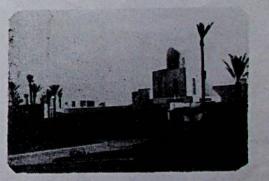
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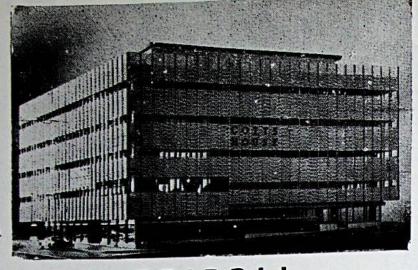
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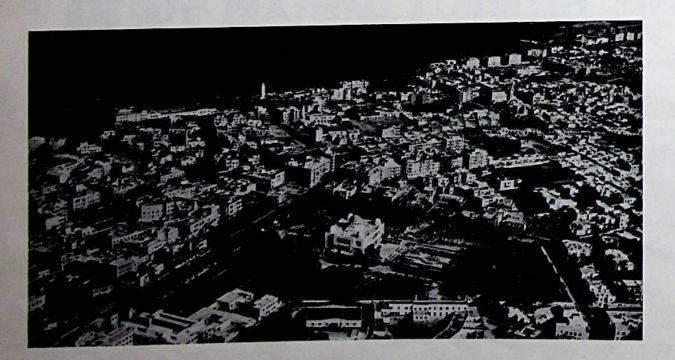
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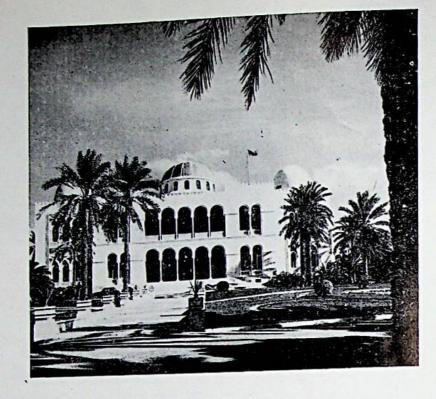
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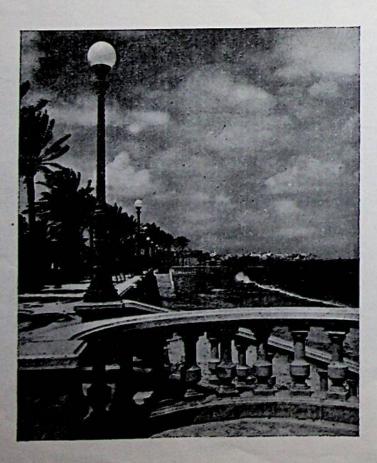
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804.650

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CONVERSION TABLES

001					
	DISTANCE	E 2 3			
Km.	Miles or Km.	Miles			
1.609	1	0.621			
3.218	2	1.242			
4.827	3	1.864			
8.046	5	3,107			
9.655	6	3.728			
11.265	7	4.350			
12.874	8	4.971			
14.483	9	5.592			
	10	6.214			
16.083	20	12.428			
32.186	50	31.070			
80.465	100	62.136			
60.930	200	124.272			
21.860	300	186.408			
82 700	300				

310.680

	WEIGHT	
Kgs.	Lbs. or Kgs.	Lbs.
0.453	1	2,205
0.907	2	4,409
1.360	3	6.614
1.814	4	8.818
2.268	5	11.023
2.721	6	13.228
3.175	7	15.432
3.628	8	17.637
4.082	9	19.481
4.535	10	22.046

500

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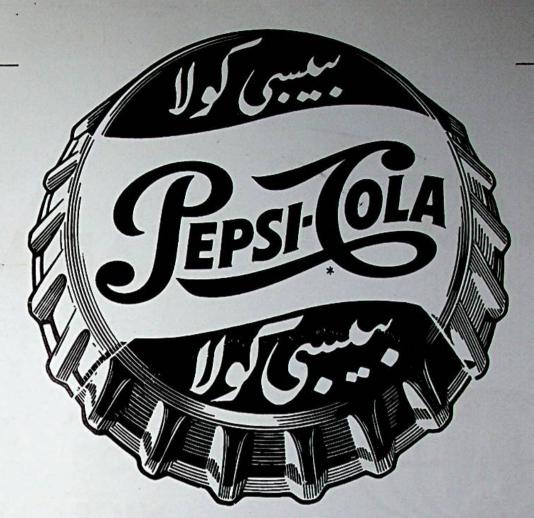
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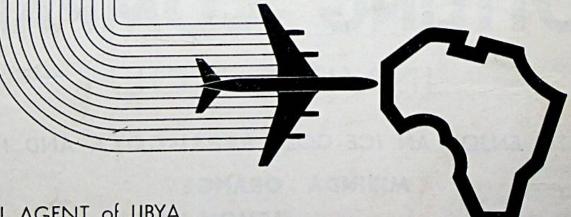
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