

# Somalia helps 1,370 Ethiopians

BAIDOA, Somalia (AP) - Authorities in northeastern Somalia on Sunday repatriated more than 1,000 Ethiopians that smugglers were preparing to take across the Gulf of Aden to the promise of jobs and a better life in the Middle East.

The 1,370 migrants were sent home in the first wave of a government crackdown on smuggling illegal immigrants through Somalia's autonomous region of Puntland, said the region's interior minister, Mohamed Abdi Habsade. A Sept. 25 government order banned human smuggling.

The immigrants were taken to villages on the Ethiopian side of the border with Somalia, a resident, Sahal Abdi, told The Associated Press by telephone.

Northeastern Somalia has become a major hub for smugglers taking illegal immigrants to Yemen, the U.N. refugee agency said Friday. Most of the immigrants are from Somalia, Ethiopia and Sudan, trying to escape drought, insecurity and economic hardship in their countries.

Yemen is very hospitable to refugees, being one of the few countries in the region that has signed an international refugee convention, the agency said. Yemen hosts more than 88,000 registered refugees, of whom 84,000 are Somalis.

In September, the U.N. refugee agency found that as many as 85 percent of the refugees arriving in Yemen expected to go on to richer Gulf states.

Puntland's Deputy Police Chief Col. Abdiaziz Sa'id Ga'amey said police over the past 24 hours had rounded up another 236 Ethiopian immigrants and sent 72 Somalis back to their homes in other parts of the country after they were caught trying to board boats to Yemen.

Ga'amey, who heads a special unit investigating illegal immigration, said authorities are going after traffickers and the owners of the boats used to ferry the migrants across the Gulf.

Smuggling of illegal immigrants usually begins in September when the sailing season starts in the Gulf of Aden and ends in March, the U.N. refugee agency said.

At least 54 people have died trying to get across to Yemen from Somalia and another 60 have gone missing since September. Over the same period, more than 3,500 people were smuggled across the Gulf of Aden in several dozen boats, the agency said.

In recent days, the smuggling fee has gone up to \$70 from \$50, the agency said.

# Wasted aid hurts Africa

NAIROBI, Kenya (AP) - Millions of Africans face food shortages that could lead to starvation because much of the \$5.6 billion in aid spent each year to help them is wasted, a humanitarian aid organization said last Tuesday.

International aid arrives too late, is targeted at the wrong things and is usually only a short-term measure that doesn't tackle the root cause of hunger, CARE International UK said in a new report.

"It is a disgrace that money is still given too late and for such short periods, then spent on the wrong things to truly fight emergencies," said Geoffrey Dennis, the organization's chief executive.

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*"There is no excuse, when by spending money more intelligently, we can bring an end to all but the most unpredictable food crises."*

— Geoffrey Dennis

telligently, we can bring an end to all but the most unpredictable food crises."

As a result, crises are growing in frequency, the charity said in its report, "Living on the Edge of Emergency — An Agenda for Change."

Emergency aid to help Africa has increased from \$936 million in 1997 to \$5.6 billion last year.

But unless foreign donors change the way aid is spent, Africa will face mounting hunger and starvation, deepening poverty and conflict on a continent already reeling from wars, the report said.

In the last year alone, 35 million people in southern and western Africa and the Horn of Africa region faced starvation — equivalent to more than half the population of Britain.

CARE said that aid should be more regular and predictable, targeted at recovery and prevention programs such as seed distribution and improved veterinary services, and should provide training.

The organization also said that often the causes of mass starvation are not because of food shortages — but instead due to HIV/AIDS, climate

change and lack of cash to buy food readily available in markets, CARE says.

For example, AIDS is expected to kill one in five of southern Africa's farm hands by 2020, further depleting food production.

Ethiopia has suffered food crises almost every year since 1986 yet the United States' spending on long-term development to withstand shortages is less than 1 percent of its emergency aid, which for the U.S. can top \$500 million a year, the report said.

In a 2005 hunger emergency in the West African nation of Niger, \$1 a day spent early would have prevented malnutrition among children, the report said.

Late aid meant it cost \$80 to save a malnourished child's life, it said.

## Your Horoscope Says... Oct. 12-Oct. 18

### ARIES

Eternal optimist, eternity is now. Get in touch with your hopefulness and be a beacon to others. Try not to be taken in by promises made by others or promises you've made to yourself. Concerning your own affairs, avoid contemplating lofty subjects and seeking long ranged solutions.

Soul Affirmation: Time is the greatest peacemaker of them all.

Lucky Numbers: 14, 28, 39

### TAURUS

Some say optimism is fantasy. Suppose the good thing you're optimistic about never comes. This week you'll know that the joy of anticipating it is joy enough. Just the certainty of coming goodness is present goodness. The joy of tomorrow is available this week.

Soul Affirmation: This week is the week the Lord has made. I rejoice in it.

Lucky Numbers: 22, 36, 38

### GEMINI

You might be looking into the buying or selling of a piece of property, and this week seems to be a favorable week for this type of negotiation. Be careful with the intricacies of the matter. Pay attention to details or it could cost you a great deal later.

Soul Affirmation: I care deeply about the feelings of others.

Lucky Numbers: 11, 21, 35

### CANCER

What a blessed week this will be. Spend it meditating on all that God has given you. This week think hard about some form of worship. Curtis Mayfield wrote a song called "Who Do You Love?" Someone should write one called "How Do You Love?" For your love lesson, the second song would be the one you should sing.

Soul Affirmation: New intuitions

create new plans and a new cast of characters.

Lucky Numbers: 7, 16, 25

### LEO

Your self-discipline helps you to do more this week. People will be watching as you zip around with style and grace! Broaden your cultural horizons by trying new foods and meeting new people. You'll be pleasantly surprised!

Soul Affirmation: I am patient with all that comes my way this week.

Lucky Numbers: 3, 4, 14

### VIRGO

The urge to chase off on a tangent may be strong this week. Take a few minutes to study the big picture and make sure any whims serve the bigger purpose. It's a good week to do what needs to be done.

Soul Affirmation: Luck is my best friend this week.

Lucky Numbers: 5, 10, 15

### LIBRA

You'll be full of good ideas this week, so make sure you write down the ones you don't have time to put into action. You'll want to share your thoughts on a grand scale, and your mind will seem truly universal to you. Try to be patient with those who are staggered by your brilliance.

Soul Affirmation: Light from my soul shines in many directions.

Lucky Numbers: 2, 3, 9

### SCORPIO

This week let your gentle spirit shine through. Your rough-and-tumble side is not appropriate for the relationships that you'll encounter. Someone will need your understanding and sympathy. Give it with sensitivity.

Soul Affirmation: My life itself is my greatest creation.

Lucky Numbers: 30, 37, 44

### SAGITTARIUS

You're faced with a formidable task, but when you defeat it, you'll take big

steps toward a goal. Weigh in and give it your best. Your energy is high. The task looks larger before you start. Compromise with a partner. The immediate future promises love.

Soul Affirmation: I enjoy the spirits of people whose spirits are akin to mine this week.

Lucky Numbers: 33, 34, 52

### CAPRICORN

Yield to the harmony that lies below the surface of any seeming disagreement. Serenity is more important than your sense of righteousness. Questioning the motives of others will make your mind too suspicious to benefit from the unclear way in which love will present itself this week.

Soul Affirmation: Freedom of mind is the greatest gift for me this week.

Lucky Numbers: 12, 53, 54

### AQUARIUS

Always remember that loved ones make the world a wonderful habitat. Otherwise, it is an empty place and no amount of material gain can give it the excitement you want and deserve.

Soul Affirmation: I let my luck work for me.

Lucky Numbers: 16, 23, 46

### PISCES

Do not travel in the company of those who work against you. Move towards people with words of encouragement and an extended hand. Release the grudge that you have for someone who betrayed you. You will find liberation and lightheartedness in forgiving. Follow your heart when it comes to a love interest.

Soul Affirmation: Intelligent information does not have to come from intelligent sources.

Lucky Numbers: 4, 29, 41



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