

Dear Readers,

We are now well into the new century and world problems do not seem to have decreased since last year. We are facing new problems as world economy seems to be stagnating, at least for a while.

There is a risk of war against Iraq; we have got the Indian/Pakistan problem although the situation does not seem to be so tense right now. There are the usual problems in the Middle East between Israel and Palestine, problems which I believe will never be solved.

Zimbabwe is also an important issue, and whether one is pro or con Mugabe, one does not understand that the international society allows what is happening to the inhabitants and the white farmers in this beautiful country. I have been there. Magnificent nature and wildlife, but the rest

In Johannesburg in September no firm decisions were really made to ensure efforts to save our planet from pollution, poverty, lack of drinking water etc.

In my opinion it is quite evident that in this world many have too much, but that many, many more have too little or nothing at all.

Otherwise, it is still a fantastic world we are living in and we must all enjoy it while we can.

I hope that in the years to come things will change and people will learn to live together in harmony. That might take some time, but we should all work in that direction.

Our Envelope



This year the envelope is quite different. It shows a small field with Danish summer flowers in the south-western part of Denmark, photographed by me in spring this year.

Aren't these flowers beautiful? A very typical field in the countryside filled with Danish summer flowers.

Our 2002 Christmas Card

The Christmas card shows 2 male African buffaloes guarding their herd. You will see that they are closely following the photographer (me !)

The buffalo belongs to the group of the Big Five: the Lion, the Elephant, the Rhino, the Leopard plus the Buffalo.

Buffaloes can be quite aggressive, and when they start moving you have better get out of their way immediately as nothing can stop them. They are fast and heavy - very impressive animals.

Once Tove and I saw a herd of several thousand buffaloes swimming across a river in Botswana, a sight we shall never forget.

The Buffalo has also been chosen as the motive for our 2002 neck-tie.



The Front Page



The picture, which I took last winter, shows our birdcages placed in a tree just outside our kitchen window.

THE STAFF

Many things happened during the past year. First of all I have retired as Managing Director, and this job is now being well taken care of by **Morten**, who works very closely with **Klaus**, our Export Director.

I intended to reduce my working hours as from 1 May 03, but things don't seem to be working that way as we get even more busy, so my full time assistance is still needed. However, I shall try to have some more vacations and start later in the morning. My position is now Executive Chairman, meaning that I am still working but not getting too much involved in the day-to-day business.

Henrik Lavesen has been employed as our Finance Manager. Fortunately he is also very busy as he is responsible for our computer systems as well. In addition Henrik has got the responsibility for getting our company certified according to DS/EN ISO 9001:2000.



Henrik

From 1 October 02 we have employed a new lady in the shipping department, **Mette Nørgaard Sørensen**, who will be handling all the insulating board business (Calcium Silicate and Vermiculite).

Susanne Simonsen, ex Skamol employee, where she worked for more than 20 years, started in our shipping department in May. Susanne knows all the ins and outs of the business and is a very good addendum to our shipping department. Susanne is handling all the Burton deliveries.



Mette

Our shipping department now consists of 5 ladies. All of them are working part-time as they all have small children, and that works excellently, but believe me, they are busy, every day, fortunately.

Considering all the containers and lorries travelling around with our products all over the world every day it is very essential that everything is handled with utmost care making sure that any client, anywhere in the world gets his products exactly on time, and therefore we are now, more than ever, able to handle all logistics in a perfect way.

Also the "shipping-ladies" know our many clients very well as they are in constant contact with the clients in the smelters.



Susanne

As you know we employed **Dr. Neal Wai-Poi** last year. As from 1 October 02 his wife **Waihan Tang** will be working half-time assisting Neal in his work as his secretary as he also seems to get more and more busy. Neal and Waihan will probably be staying in Hong Kong for several years to come. They have just got a larger apartment to make more space for an office for Neal and Waihan. Also a very good addition to our staff.

Marianne Mondrup Pedersen - Morten's secretary, who has been on maternity leave for the past year, will join us again from 1 January 03.



Waihan

Marianne's replacement this year, **Heidi Seniger**, is therefore leaving us again at the end of 31 December 02.

My wife **Tove** has reduced her working hours as she wants to enjoy her grandchildren, her golf and her new house more than she did before, but she has also been heavily involved in our business since we started 1 December 84, so she deserves to have a more relaxed life now. Tove has been an invaluable asset for our company during these 18 years since the company was established.

So all in all we are now operating our company with 15 persons.

Some years ago I said that we would max. be 7 persons in the company. Now we are 15 !

THE FAMILY (AND OUR DOGS)

Everything is going well in our small family. Cooperating on a day-to-day basis together in the company is a great pleasure, although you should know that we do not always agree on everything, but we always end up finding amicable solutions to possible disagreements.

Sara has grown and is now tall and slender. Last year I mentioned her strong wish to get a horse. This year, for her 12 years' birthday Tove and I gave her a horse, a beautiful animal "Cheval", which Susanne, Sara's mother, and Sara selected.

As you will see from the photo Sara loves her horse and she spends practically all her time with Cheval when she is not in school or doing her studies. She has got horses on her brain, and slowly the rest of the family gets very interested in horses, too. Klaus, for example, loves Cheval and vice versa.

Frederik and **Nikolaj** are still doing well, and it is a pleasure to spend time with these two boys

In Morten's family, **Laura** and **Olivia** are also growing, and these 2 girls are magnificent personalities, now 4 and 6 years old. Laura loves her pre-school class and Olivia her kindergarten. Olivia normally talks a blue streak, funny, funny.



Klaus' black Labrador is a wonderful dog, and so is Morten's long-haired dachshund Monik. Unfortunately, my own dog, Silla, got diabetes - exactly like our last Labrador. She got blind, and on the 10 October we had to put her down. That was a very sad day for Tove and me. She was a very good, loyal and always happy friend. I miss her enormously, but that's life, unfortunately. However, I am in contact with a kennels here in Jutland, so I expect to get a new female Labrador in January. I can't wait - I love dogs.

CALSITHERM

During this year we made a firm agreement with CALSITHERM SILIKATBAUSTOFFE GMBH of Germany, and we are now exclusively selling their Calcium Silicate boards to the aluminium industry except for Germany. For some years we cooperated with Cape Calsil of England, but for many reasons that was not a happy marriage. Remember, we are never better than the performance of our suppliers.

CALSITHERM produces the **insulite** boards according to the original **insulite** recipe, and their quality is among the two best in the world. Furthermore, we know the CALSITHERM staff as our former friends from our supplier in Lunenburg some years ago; before this Lunenburg company was acquired by Cape, most of the staff was employed by CALSITHERM.

We are very satisfied with this “new supplier”. Many clients have visited the plant this year, and everyone is very impressed.

Of course, the Simonsen company guarantees that any board supplied out of the CALSITHERM plant is exactly in accordance with our data sheets. It should be noted as well that CALSITHERM is certified according to ISO 9001. Their quality is excellent, but it is also important that the employees know our standard for quality and service, and as CALSITHERM moreover has a high capacity we have been able to help many smelters with prompt deliveries when needed due to unexpected failure of pots.

An absolutely first-class supplier.

Fortunately, for the above reasons, we have been able to secure large orders for considerable quantities of Calcium Silicate boards during the past 6 months to various smelters in and outside Europe.

THERMAX

THERMAX GmbH of Austria and their sales organisation, TECHNO-PHYSIK ENG. GmbH situated in Essen, Germany, are also very valuable suppliers to us of **vermilite 2000** insulating Vermiculite boards. An excellent partnership which ensures the clients that they always get top-class products at competitive prices.

We keep their plant busy as well, and their service and quality are still extremely good.

MOSCONI

Our Italian friends have just completed the building of a second furnace so that today their old tunnel kilns with their limited capacity are no longer in operation.

It is obvious that the quality of the MOSCONI bricks has never been better.

Also MOSCONI's machining equipment has been improved, and now MOSCONI also machines even very large slabs to exact dimensions.

Fortunately we have lately been successful in securing very large and interesting orders for MOSCONI, and like it is the case with deliveries from our other suppliers of refractories we never get any complaints regarding quality, and MOSCONI's packing and service are also well known and well reputed.

ATA



ATA is supplying more and **octopus** more vacuum lifters via us to our clients. This lifter seems to be a very valuable and affordable tool for installing large blocks in the pots being it large sized **alubar** blocks or **sicatec 75** silicon carbide blocks.

BURTON

BURTON has now been our supplier for some 8 - 10 years. BURTON is an outstanding company. The cooperation between us is a special one. Heinz-Werner Kleffmann, who is our daily contact person within the BURTON company, is not only a pleasant person, whom I personally like very much, but HE makes sure that all orders are handled smoothly and delivered in time. He is one of the reasons for us being prompt on deliveries and being able to give the clients a good service.

BURTON's two qualities, **alubar 1100** and **alubar 2000**, are today well-known and well accepted barrier bricks for usage in pots in smelters all over the world.

Lately we have developed and improved the **alubar 1600 S** quality, which is a more cryolite resistant barrier brick especially for usage in the top layer of the barrier bricks, right below the cathode blocks.

At each audit made by our larger clients we (BURTON) always get top-rating. A production of refractory bricks simply cannot be better. German quality when it is best - so if you want a refractory-barrier-Porsche-brick/block you MUST buy THE **alubar** qualities without paying Porsche-prices !

LIRR

LIRR, our Chinese supplier of **sicatec 75** Silicon Carbide blocks, is a story of their own. During 2002 our sales have rapidly increased and large long-term contracts have been secured. The demand has been constantly rising for this outstanding product, and therefore earlier this year it was decided to double the production by building a new plant next to the "old" plant that was inaugurated in September 2000.

At the start the new plant will have a capacity of around 3,500 metric tons, meaning that today LIRR can produce about 7,500 to 8,000 tons.

The capacity of the new plants can be increased further so that with a relatively small investment and within a time frame of some 1 to 2 months the total capacity can be increased to reach some 11,000 tonnes annually. In this way we can guarantee that we shall always keep you supplied in time.

Photos of the erection of the plant have been sent by e-mail to many clients worldwide.

The Danish Ambassador was invited to participate in the inauguration of this fine, new plant on 18 October 2002, and we shall later send you a further description of this very festive event. Neal, Waihan, Morten, Marianna, Klaus, Hanne and I all participated. It was good fun. I was asked to make a speech, which of course I did with the greatest pleasure.

Also some of our clients participated. We sent invitations to many clients, and some few accepted to participate, and I believe they all had a good time in Luoyang.

PRODUCT DEVELOPMENT



New shape **sicatec 75**

The weakest part of a refractory lining is the joints. Therefore we have now developed a new special design, which is "step-shaped".

I must emphasize that irrespective of the shape of the block ALL properties are exactly the same as for our **sicatec 75** block. It is the same quality but with a shape that will probably be interesting for many smelters to use. Some smelters have already ordered the **sicatec 75 SD** for trial pots.

PRODUCT PRESENTATIONS

After Neal got employed we have had **video films** made showing the production of our various products. CALITHERM has just completed their video on the **insulite 1900** boards. Another video is soon going to be made by our vermiculite board producers.

So up till now we have films showing the LIRR, BURTON, MOSCONI, CALSITHERM and ATA productions/products. These videos are an important part of the presentations given especially by Neal.

During 2002 we have given **presentations** to the following smelters and companies:

ALBA, Bahrain
DUBAL, U.A.E.
EGYPTALUM, Egypt
ALOUETTE, Canada
INALUM, Indonesia
TOMAGO, Australia
TRIMET (Alu-Essen), Germany
CORUS, Germany

ALDEL, Holland
ISAL, Iceland
NADVOITSKY ALUMINIUM, Karelia, Russia
VAMI, St. Petersburg, Russia
ALCOA, Mt. Holly SC, USA
CENTURY ALUMINIUM, Kentucky, USA
LAURALCO, Quebec, Canada
ALCAN, Jonquiere, Canada

These presentations have become a very important part of our marketing philosophy, and they give the clients a good impression of our suppliers' productions, which some may never have a possibility to see.

You know, in marketing we have to be different and better than the others, and so far we seem to have been quite successful.



Jørgen and Neal during a presentation at ETYPTALUM in Nag Hammady in April 02..



Neal giving his presentation in the VAMI Institute in St. Petersburg in May 02.

HOMEPAGE

We have decided to revise and update our homepage, which includes a new front page with animation and more thorough information about the company and our products.

Our data sheets on the Internet will now be updated as soon as changes take place, and also the animation will be changed. We shall show photos from our suppliers' production and the application of our products in the pots.

THE US DOLLAR

All our **sicatec 75** blocks from LIRR are sold in US Dollars, as the Renminbi – the Chinese currency - is pegged to the US Dollar. Therefore, during the past many months we have been even more competitive than before as the US Dollar has dropped by some 15%, and that's a lot.

We therefore recommend you to make longer-term contracts for our Silicon Carbide blocks from China and then hitch forward meaning that you can be sure to get our blocks delivered at the prices valid today even 2 - 3 years ahead.

Today the Euro and the US Dollar have practically the same value.

What if the US Dollar drops further ? Well, that is a very good question which no one can answer, but our philosophy is that if you can make a good deal today, don't gamble with the future, because you know what you have got and you might get sleepless nights if you start speculating in an attempt maybe to make it better. I think we have heard about so many people and companies losing huge amounts of money because of gambling with currencies, shares etc. It is a very dangerous game.

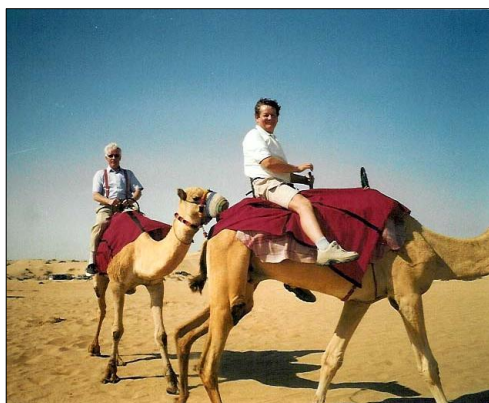
CONFERENCES

As usual we participate in various conferences worldwide. In February Neal, Morten, Klaus and I participated in the TMS conference in Seattle, a good opportunity for meeting clients, producers and colleagues. Generally it is very enjoyable.

During this conference we had several meetings where we signed large contracts with some of the major aluminium groups in the world.

We now look forward to the next TMS event in San Diego early March 2003, where the four of us will again be present.

In November last year I participated in the Arabal Conference in Dubai. These Arabal Conferences are always more intimate, probably because there are not so many participants, and probably also because we do so much business with our Arabian friends in the Middle East. The Arabian hospitality is also a fairy-tale of its own. Unbelievable, and then these Arabian nights with the moon shining, the stars and the pitch dark skies and very pleasant temperatures, beautiful.



During this conference there is also time for other activities, and one of them is camel riding. In the desert I met a good friend from SLOVALCO, Slovakia, Mr. Ján Varsa. We both went on a short trip on a camel. Quite interesting.

Morten and Klaus also went to Essen in September. It slowly seems to become THE place to go in Europe to see nearly “everyone” from the aluminium industry. Maybe this Essen Exhibition will partly take over from the TMS in the US. Who knows?

RATINGS

Every year our company is being rated in accordance with the smelters’ own rating systems based upon supplier evaluations according to the ISO standard.

It was a great pleasure when early this year SLOVALCO rated our company as an “A” supplier, which means “excellent supplier”.

This is of course not the only smelter where we got a top rating, and it is nice to get these ratings, which definitely encourage our entire staff to keep performing well.

DUBAL

This year we secured a large contract for insulating material and refractories to be used for lining of a large part of the new pots for the DUBAL Kestrel project.

TALUM

Ahead of schedule this smelter has completed the installation of their 80 new AP 18 pots. Simonsen provided all the insulation and refractories for these pots.

VISIT TO SOUTHERN ARGENTINA

This year Morten went to see ALUAR in Puerto Madryn, where he met some of our long-time friends from the smelter and from the head office in Buenos Aires. The below photo shows Ernesto Vilaboa, Morten and Diana Rodriguez.



NADVOITSKY ALUMINIUM SMELTER

Neal and I had a fantastic experience in May. We went from Copenhagen to St. Petersburg in Russia. At the airport we were picked up by a car from the Nadvoitsky Smelter in Karelia. From St. Petersburg you take the main road to Murmansk. Half way between Murmansk and St. Petersburg, i.e. after 700 kilometres you turn to the right, drive some 35 kilometres into the woods in eastern direction, and then suddenly you arrive at Nadvoitsy, a small city with some 10,000 inhabitants generally all making a living from the aluminium smelter.

The main office is very impressive, and when you come inside you are met with a warmth and cordiality that is very normal in Russia. All the office equipment is up to the highest standards when it comes to computers, and the offices are very nice.

In front of the head office 4 flags were waving, namely the Karelian, The Russian, the works flag and the Danish flag. It is very touching when you are very far away from home you feel that someone makes the effort to give you such a welcome. Very much appreciated.



Obviously this smelter has the longest potlife of any smelter in Russia, and this Nadvoitsky smelter of course uses refractory materials supplied by us.

Neal gave a presentation in the auditorium, which was also quite modern with everything available in modern audio and video equipment.

We liked the trip very much and appreciate the new friendships established in this pretty remote area of Europe.

VAMI, ST. PETERSBURG

We have also started a close cooperation with VAMI in St. Petersburg not only concerning Russian projects for new smelters, but definitely also for new smelters to be built outside Russia based upon the VAMI technology.

Last year I established a lot of contacts and friendships in the VAMI group during the conference in connection with VAMI's 70 years' birthday. Therefore, it was wonderful to meet these gentlemen again and of course also to go back to St. Petersburg. It is a very nice international city, the Venice of Russia, with a lot of fantastic buildings being renovated these years.

At VAMI Neal also gave a presentation of our various products, and the interest for this presentation was very big.

Don't miss an opportunity to go to Russia. It is a fantastic country.

VISIT TO INALUM IN SUMATRA

This summer Neal and I also visited the INALUM smelter in Asahan, Sumatra, Indonesia. We had a wonderful evening with our many friends there and also a fantastic evening where the Indonesian employees of the smelter were singing and dancing. A very unique experience.



We stayed overnight in the INALUM village where the employees are living. A fantastic tropical area with green lawns, palm trees, swimming pool halls for doing any kind of sport and guestrooms in separate houses. There is also a golf course, where the employees are playing golf. They pay a green fee, which is quite nominal as they pay only approximately US\$ 2 for a full round.

The next day we had technical meetings, and Neal discussed thoroughly with the people working in the pot room, who were just about to install their first side and end wall lining with **sicatec 75** silicon carbide blocks. Our blocks had arrived in the smelter in time, were well packed, and the dimensions were of course as ordered, so placing the **sicatec** blocks in the pots created no problems.



MEETING A LONG-TIME FRIEND

During the TMS conference in Seattle our family as usual spent some time with our Japanese friend, **Kouichirou Mashio**. We went to a bar, had a dinner and a most enjoyable evening together.

RETIRED

One of my special friends from ALCAN ALESA in Zurich, **Peter Sommer**, retired during 2002. I shall be missing him and his friendship. Whether we talked business or just chatted along it was always a pleasure to spend time with him. He is still one of the personalities of the aluminium industry when it comes to Anode Bake Furnaces. Peter has been replaced by **Peter Sulzberger**, also a long-time friend, whose father I did business with many years ago when he was still in purchasing in the Bell Bay Smelter on Tasmania

INAUGURATION GIFT

Can you imagine that one of my Danish friends living in China, Carsten Warburg, has found a map of Denmark with place names in Chinese in a shop in Beijing ?



The island of Mors.



Anyway, we blew up this map and gave it as a present to LIRR for the inauguration of their new plant, and our Chinese friends seemed to like the map.

INAUGURATION OF "LIRR II"

I am preparing a special publication telling about the inauguration of "LIRR II", the latest silicon carbide block plant expansion.

To stimulate your appetite for reading this publication we present a few photos from the inauguration in October.

Morten and Klaus seem very happy after having cut the red ribbon. If they are happy because of a job well done or because they are surrounded by Chinese beauties I just don't know.

What do you think?



The LIRR workers lined up for the inauguration.

Isms

Feudalism

You have 2 cows; the squire claims some of your milk.

Pure socialism

You have 2 cows, the government takes them, places them in a barn together with everyone else's cows. You must now watch all the cows. The government gives you a glass of milk.

Bureaucratic socialism

You have 2 cows. The government takes them and lets 2 former chicken farmers watch them, while you have to watch the chickens, which the government took away from the chicken farmers. The government gives you all the milk and all the eggs that the bureaucracy feels you need.

Cuban socialism

You have 2 cows. The government takes them both, employs you to watch them and sells the milk.

Stasi socialism

You have 2 cows. The government takes both of them and makes another farmer watch them. The government employs you to watch the farmer and see if he takes good care of the cows.

National socialism / Nazism

You have 2 cows. The government takes the milk, slaughters the cows, gives the meat to the army and blames the Jews.

Danish socialism

You have 2 cows. The government takes one of them and gives it to your neighbour because it is a family with young children.

Perestroika

You have 2 cows. It is the intention that you shall watch them, but the mafia takes all the milk. You steal as much milk as possible from the mafia and sell it on the "free" market.

Cambodian communism

You have 2 cows. The government takes them both and shoots you.

Fascism

You have 2 cows. The government takes them both and enrolls you in the army.

Representative democracy

You have 2 cows. Your neighbour elects some people who are to decide who should have the milk.

Bureaucracy

You have 2 cows. The government slaughters one, confiscates the other, milks it and pours out the milk.

EU bureaucracy

You have 2 cows. The European Commission has made some regulations informing you how to feed the cows and when to milk them. Germany pays you for not milking the cows. The veterinary department takes both cows, shoots one, milks the other one and pours the milk into the gutter. Finally the Council of Ministers asks you to fill in 10 forms to explain why you have lost a cow.

Anarchism

You have 2 cows. You either sell the milk at a fair price or your neighbour tries to steal your cows and kills you.

Surrealism

You have 2 giraffes. The government forces you to take accordion lessons.

Schizophrenism

You think you have got 2 cows. The government takes fifteen of them and places you in a straitjacket.

Totalitarianism

You have 2 cows. The government takes both of them, denies that they ever existed and forces you to join the army. Milk is prohibited.

Manchester's new stadium

Manchesters new stadium has a roof being 18,000 square metres made exclusively from Kalzip aluminium. The stadium has been built as principal venue for July's Commonwealth Games but also for housing the Manchester City Football Club. That is by the way the club where the Danish goalkeeper Peter Schmeichel is playing these days.

The Beer Can

Can you imagine that only mid September 2002 the aluminium can was allowed and introduced into the Danish market? Not that the Danes don't know the aluminium cans. They transport several thousands of cans across the border from Germany every day, mainly filled with Danish beer. We have got stronger taxation rules on alcohol in Denmark than the Germans have.

The beer can made from aluminium was introduced 70 years ago. Since then the weight has been reduced to only 13 grammes without the can losing its stability.

The cans as we know them today are based upon an American invention by American Can, first tested by the small brewery Krueger in New Jersey.

The can became an instant success, and on 24 January 1935 the first canned beer (in steel cans) was brought onto the market by the mentioned Krueger Brewery in New Jersey. At that time a can weighed 50 grammes ! The breakthrough for the canned beer came during the second world war when millions of cans were transported across the Atlantic Ocean to the American troops in Europe. When the soldiers returned they continued drinking beer from the can and they still do.

The weight reduction is of course due to the use of aluminium for the cans instead of steel.

In fact it was the aluminium that revolutionised the development of the cans for beer. In fact it was a small Hawaiian brewery, Primo, that was the first brewery to market beer in aluminium cans.

It is fantastic to imagine that the aluminium ingots are rolled into sheets of approx. 0.2 mm thickness with a length of approx. 90 kilometres. These sheets are cut into circular disks with a diameter of 14 centimetres, the disks are pressed to cans, which are then filled with beer (or other drinks) before the lid is placed and the can is closed.

For some reason, most women tap the lid of the can before opening it. Asked why, they would say that they do it in order to remove the excess pressure in the can and thus preventing the beer from making too much foam when opened !

Size matters

Measurements can be deceptive, especially when they run big. Are these statements true or false?

1. Australia is bigger than Brazil.
2. The deepest ocean is deeper than the highest mountain is high.
3. The surface of the Pacific Ocean is greater than that of the Atlantic and Indian put together.
4. The world's highest waterfall, Angel Falls in Venezuela, is higher than the Caspian Sea is deep.
5. Africa is closer to South America than to Australia.

See the correct answers at the bottom of this page.

Entertainment

During the Australasian conference Professor Zhao Junguo and Professor Ruanbo from LIRR, Neal, Klaus and Morten sang a Chinese song for the participants during one of the dinners.

The song goes like this:

And here is a photo of the singers:

Hong-heer-gu

Ren men shuo ni jiu yao li kai cun zhuang
Wo men jiang huai nian ni de wei xiao
Ni de yan jing bi tai yang geng ming liang
Zhao yao zai wo men xin-- shang

Zo guo lai zuo zai wo de sheng pang
Bu yao li ber de zhe yang chong mang
Xiang yi xiang ni zo hou wo de tong ku
Xiang yi xiang re ai ni de gu—niang
Xiang yi xiang re ai ni de gu-- niang



Answers to the Size Matters above:

- 1) **False.** Brazil is 8.5m km², while Australia is 7.7 m.
- 2) **True.** Challenger Deep is 10,920 meters, while Everest is 8,848.
- 3) **True.** The Pacific covers 166m km², and the other two combined are barely 160m.
- 4) **False.** The Caspian wins by 1,025 meters to 979.
- 5) **True.** Australia is more than twice as far away.

The Simonsen Sisters



Marianna, Helle, Hanne, Susanne and Mette

DANZAS, the international shipping company, transports many containers for us every year. Therefore the entire shipping department was invited for a dinner to see DANZAS' new office facilities in Aarhus. In the invitation DANZAS asked our shipping ladies to rehearse a song to be recorded on CD.

The ladies were equipped with "**Simonsen Sisters**" T-shirts.

I don't really know if I look forward to hearing the CD, but it is at least going to be interesting!

Hong Kong

Neal has got a new apartment in Hong Kong as he needs space for a separate office, and as Waihan is now working as his secretary she also needs an office. They have got a wonderful apartment on 24th floor in a very nice building in the outskirts of Hong Kong.

Tove and I visited them in November, and the view from their apartment / office is fantastic.

Neal took a photo one evening from the apartment, and you will agree that it is a beautiful sight also at night.



A few Jokes and Grooks

A US single-seater plane crashed in Russia. The severely injured American pilot was warded in a hospital in Moscow. The Russian surgeon said, "Your right leg is bad, it has to be amputated."

The pilot replied, "OK, but please send it to my home town in California."

The surgeon agreed, but two days later the same thing happened when the left leg was amputated; and again when the right arm was cut off. Every time the pilot made the same request to send the limb to his home town in California.

Finally, a week later the surgeon once again came with the bad news and said, "Your left arm is also badly affected. It needs to be cut off too, but please don't make the same request again."

"Why not?" asked the pilot.

"Because," replied the surgeon, "the Russians think you're trying to escape."

A taxpayer sent a short note to the tax department, saying that 12 years ago he had cheated on his income tax and he had not been able to sleep since then. He enclosed \$ 100.- and added: "If I'm still unable to sleep, I will send the balance."

Small Things and Great

*He that lets
the small things bind him
leaves the great
undone behind him.*

Piet Hein

A Word of Encouragement

*Stomach-ache can be a curse;
Heart-ache may be even worse;
So thank Heaven on your knees
If you've got but one of these.*

Piet Hein

A group of Australian tourists was being guided through an ancient palace in India. The guide explained, "This place is 500 years old. Not a stone in it has been touched, nothing altered, nothing changed or replaced in all those years." "Well," said one woman dryly, "They must have the same landlord as I have."

A Red Indian came to a bank in USA and asked for \$1000 loan for three months. "We need security. How many horses, Chief?"

"Me got 100 horses."

"That's OK. Here's the money."

A month later, the Chief struck lucky in a lottery.

The bank manager wired a message:

"Congratulations, better deposit money in our bank for safekeeping."

The Chief wired back: "How many horses you got?"

What People May Think

*Some people cower
And wince and shrink,
Owing to fear of
What people may think.
There is one answer
To worries like these:
People may think
What the devil they please*

Piet Hein

WHO WAS WHO ?



Do you remember the photo last year with a very nice-looking gentleman sitting next to an orang-utan in the Singapore Zoo ?

We got several suggestions for a text to this photo, and honestly, many of the answer cannot be printed in this sober magazine, but anyway, guys, you did your (naughty) best.

The prizes were 3 Mont Blanc ballpoint pens, and the winners are:

Daniel Leberger: *“Jørgen, you can’t fool us, we recognized your glasses”*

Odd Einar Bøe: *“It must be Jørgen to the right. He usually wears a grey suit.”*

George C. Holywell: Text? See above !

The ballpoints will be mailed to the skilled winners.

You should know that one of my friends from ISOLITE in Singapore took the 2001 Dynasty Update along to the Singapore Zoo, where he showed it to one of the zoo-keepers. This zoo-keeper informed my friend that one of the gentlemen on the photo was called Ah Meng. My friend also suggests that we donate some underwear to Ah Meng considering her exposed top half.

Thanks for your participation.



Finally, I wish each and every one of you and your families first of all a happy Christmas, but mainly and more important a very happy New Year, which I think we all need.

Sincerely yours,


Jørgen Simonsen