Document 1

1-PLURAL IN FORM BUT SINGULAR IN MEANING

Some subjects plural in form but singular in meaning take a singular verb:

Economics is a subject few directors understand well enough to make their companies profitable in times of recession.

Hives is a good way to prove your frustration over the assignment in Saudi Arabia.

The *news* from his office *is* always depressing.

Research and development is his area of responsibility.

Some subjects plural in form but singular in meaning take a plural verb:

The *premises have been* thoroughly *inspected*.

My thanks go to each of you who make me look literate.

His savings were depleted years ago

2- EXPRESSIONS OF TIME, MONEY, AND QUANTITIES

when thought of as a single unit, expressions of time, money, and quantity take a singular verb.

Ten dollars is actually quite inexpensive for the kind of coffee I ordered.

Two hours is enough time to draft a resignation letter and clear out your desk.

Four acres in the country has become his idea of retirement.

Source: Dianna Bouher. Good Grief Good, good Grammar- the Business Person's guide to Grammar and Usage.P89. United States of America. 1998.