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S-5781

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3 January 1974

Soviet General Purpose Naval Force Deployment Levels
In the Mediterranean Sea and Indian Ocean, 1968-1973*

I. High, Average and Low Deployment Levels of Soviet
Naval Forces

A. Mediterranean Sea

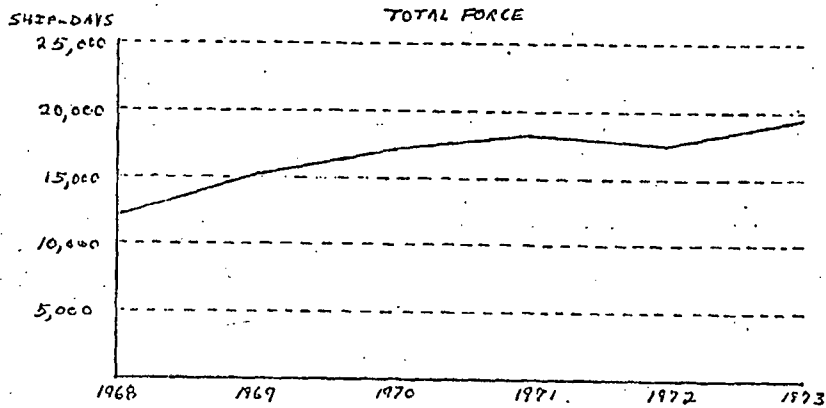
The dramatic buildup of the Soviet Mediterranean Squadron which began in 1964, and was stimulated in great part by the Arab-Israeli war of 1967, continued through 1971 when the size of the squadron stabilized at an average level of about 50 units. This force has fluctuated in size due to normal rotating or the deployment of additional ships during a crisis. During the Yom Kippur War in the final quarter of 1973, the Soviet naval force there temporarily increased to an all time high of 94 general purpose units. Following the war, the Soviet deployment level in the Mediterranean has gradually returned to about the same level as that of two years ago.

The following graphs illustrate the development of the Soviet Mediterranean Squadron since 1968. This development is first expressed in the conventional ship-days format. Then it is portrayed in terms of high, average, and low deployment levels: High--the largest number of surface combatants, submarines, and support ships present at any one time during the year;

* General purpose force deployments do not include ballistic missile submarine, oceanographic, and space support operations.

Average--the average number of surface combatants, submarines and support ships present during the year, rather than the average of the high and low figures; and Low--the smallest number of surface combatants, submarines, and support ships present at any one time during the year.

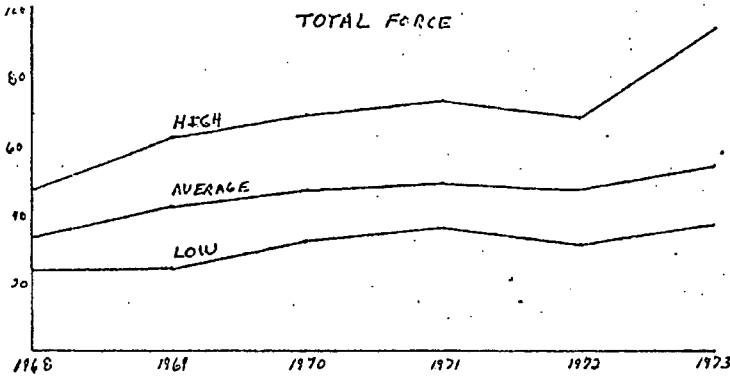
Soviet General Purpose Naval Force Deployment Levels In The Mediterranean Sea, 1968-1973



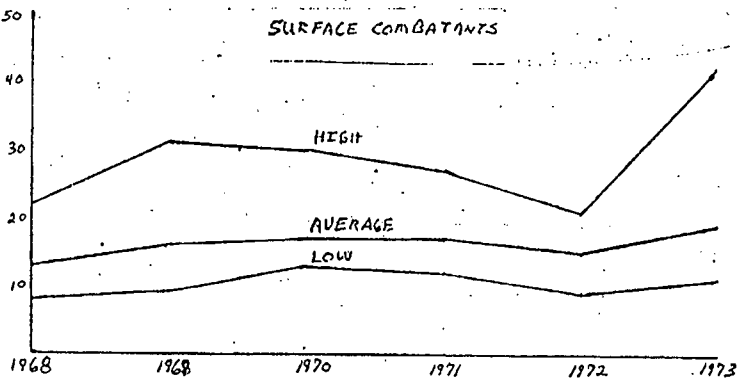
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Soviet General Purpose Naval Force Deployment
Levels In The Mediterranean Sea, 1968-1973

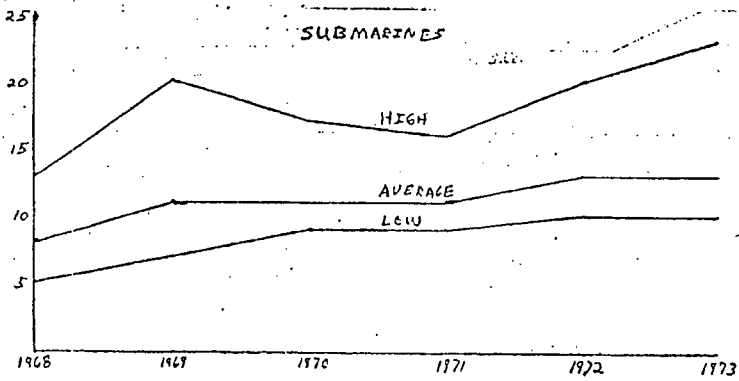
NUMBER
OF SHIPS



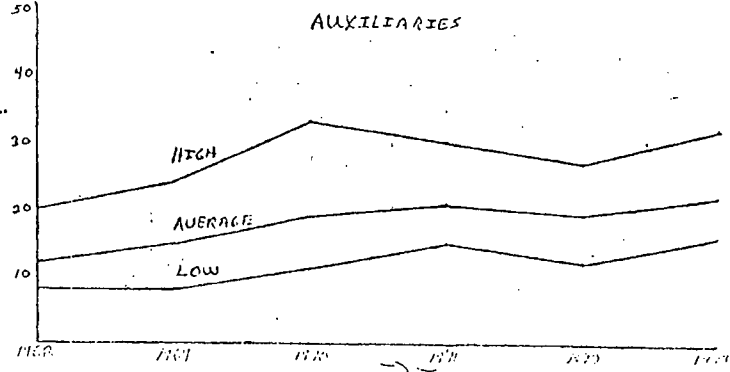
NUMBER
OF SHIPS



NUMBER
OF SHIPS



NUMBER
OF SHIPS



B. Indian Ocean

The Soviet naval presence in the Indian Ocean began in March 1968 with the deployment of a goodwill contingent of four ships. Goodwill visits continued as a principal objective of Soviet operations in the Indian Ocean until 1970 and the average Soviet naval force level there continued to gradually increase.

There was a general slump in Indian Ocean deployment levels from the conclusion of exercise "Ocean" in the spring of 1970 until the outbreak of the India-Pakistan War in December 1971. During the crisis the Soviet naval force in the Indian Ocean had reached a total of 22 units, 45 percent of which were major combatants and submarines. Although units of this force departed the Indian Ocean by late February and early March of 1972, the total number of Soviet ships in the Indian Ocean did not markedly decrease. This was because the Soviets sent eleven ships to Bangladesh to assist in harbor clearing operations. These operations included up to six minesweepers and ten miscellaneous auxiliaries. The presence of these harbor clearing units contributed to a 1972 high of 23 general purpose naval units in the Indian Ocean. Of these, however, only 13 percent were major combatants and submarines, whereas 30 percent were minesweepers and 57 percent were auxiliaries. Since the mine removal craft in Bangladesh were small and not directly involved in the Soviet naval "presence" elsewhere in the Indian Ocean, they have been frequently excluded from the totals of Soviet deployments in the Indian Ocean.

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During October 1972, the Soviets began work to set up a naval support facility in Berbera, Somalia. A combination barracks and repair ship was moored there and used to support the construction of the improved port facilities, a Soviet naval communications station, and reportedly a military airfield. Other Soviet warships were in Berbera on a routine basis.

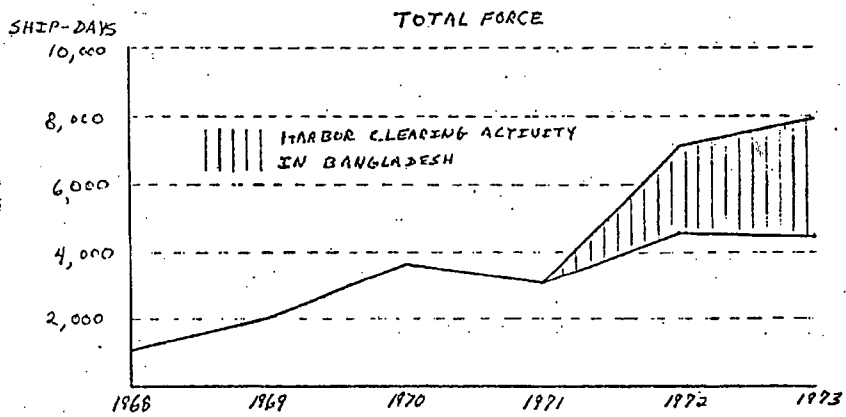
The fluctuations of Soviet naval forces in the Indian Ocean appear to be directly related to US naval initiatives during various crises. During both the India-Pakistan war of 1971 and the recent Yom Kippur War, Soviet naval units entered these waters after major US carrier task forces had been deployed there. In 1973, the aggregate number of Soviet naval units in the Indian Ocean reached a new high in response to the deployment of the USS Hancock and a carrier task force there in late October. In December 1973, when the Soviet augmentation of their Indian Ocean naval force was complete, a peak of 30 general purpose naval units was reached. Of the 30 units counted in the high, 10-12 units were already in the Indian Ocean conducting long term special operations in Bangladesh or Somalia. Only ten units of the total force were major combatants or submarines-- the same number of major combatants and submarines present during the India-Pakistan War.

Soviet naval activity in the Persian Gulf has involved only a small part of the force deployed in the Indian Ocean. The Soviets have yet to conduct a naval exercise in the Persian

Gulf, and only one tenth of the Indian Ocean port calls are conducted in the Persian Gulf.

The following graphs illustrate the growth of Soviet naval deployments to the Indian Ocean since 1968:

Soviet General Purpose Naval Force Deployment Levels In The Indian Ocean, 1968-1973



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Soviet Economic Aid Extended to Countries
in and around the Persian Gulf, 1968-1973

Million US \$

	<u>Total</u>	<u>1968</u>	<u>1969</u>	<u>1970</u>	<u>1971</u>	<u>1972</u>	<u>1973</u>
Total	1,180.3	304.5	140.6	80.1	251.1	215.0	189.0 a/
Afghanistan	255.5	126.7	--	2.8	5.0	121.0	--
Iran	419.8	177.8	--	54.4	--	--	187.6
Iraq	365.4	--	120.7	22.5	222.2	--	--
Jordan	5.5	--	5.5	--	--	--	--
Somalia	23.6	--	--	--	23.6	--	--
Syria	84.3	--	--	--	0.3	84.0	--
Yemen (Aden)	25.1	--	14.4	--	--	10.0	0.7
Yemen (Sana)	1.1	--	--	0.4	--	--	0.7

a. Preliminary data.

CIA/OER
Jan 1974

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Soviet Economic Aid Deliveries to Countries
in and around the Persian Gulf, 1968-72 a/

Million US \$

	<u>1968-1972</u>
Total	<u>653.5</u>
Afghanistan	93.0
Iran	358.3
Iraq	46.7
Jordan	0
Somalia	11.8
Syria	122.7
Yemen (Aden)	6.8
Yemen (Sana)	14.2

a. Estimates of economic aid deliveries in 1973 will be available on 18 January 1974.

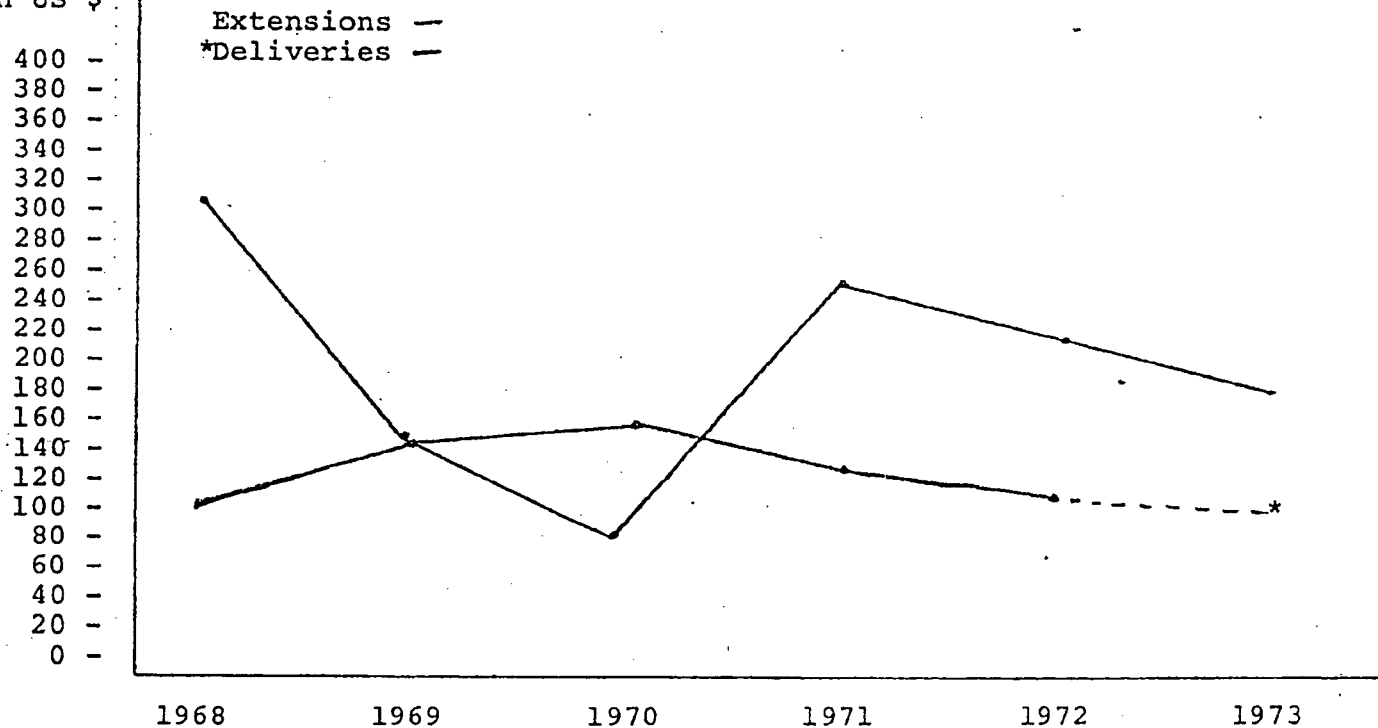
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Soviet Economic Aid Extended and Delivered
to Countries in and around the Persian Gulf,
1968-73

Million US \$



* Estimate of economic aid deliveries in 1973 will be available on 18 January 1974.

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Soviet Exports to and Imports from Countries
in and around the Persian Gulf, 1968-1972 1/

	Total		1968		1969		1970		1971		1972	
	Exports	Imports	Exports	Imports	Exports	Imports	Exports	Imports	Exports	Imports	Exports	Imports
Total	1,814.0	889.6	254.4	97.8	365.1	131.6	383.1	129.2	421.3	188.1	390.1	342.9
Afghanistan	220.9	171.6	39.7	31.0	44.8	30.6	40.0	34.3	50.3	38.4	46.1	37.3
Bahrain	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
Iran	707.9	438.9	88.1	40.1	161.6	56.4	187.8	69.1	154.8	111.2	115.6	162.1
Iraq	403.6	94.0	50.8	4.1	67.7	4.7	66.0	4.6	110.1	6.1	109.0	74.5
Israel	0.3	Negl.	--	--	0.3	Negl.	--	--	--	--	--	--
Jordan	22.1	0	3.4	--	4.3	--	7.1	--	6.6	--	0.7	--
Kuwait	77.9	1.1	15.0	--	15.3	--	10.8	0.3	19.3	0.8	17.5	--
Oman	0	0	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
Qatar	0	0	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
Saudi Arabia	25.9	0.2	3.9	--	4.6	0.2	6.0	--	6.0	--	5.4	--
Somalia	29.1	6.0	3.6	0.1	2.1	Negl.	3.1	0.4	6.1	2.0	14.2	3.5
Syria	264.9	171.7	42.1	20.9	47.8	37.3	46.4	19.2	57.7	29.3	70.9	65.0
United Arab Emirates	0	0	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
Yemen (Aden)	23.4	1.2	1.4	--	6.9	1.0	4.8	0.2	2.4	Negl.	7.9	Negl.
Yemen (Sana)	38.0	4.9	6.4	1.6	9.7	1.4	11.1	1.1	8.0	0.3	2.8	0.5

1. Data are from the official Soviet Trade yearbook. Ocean freight and insurance costs are excluded.

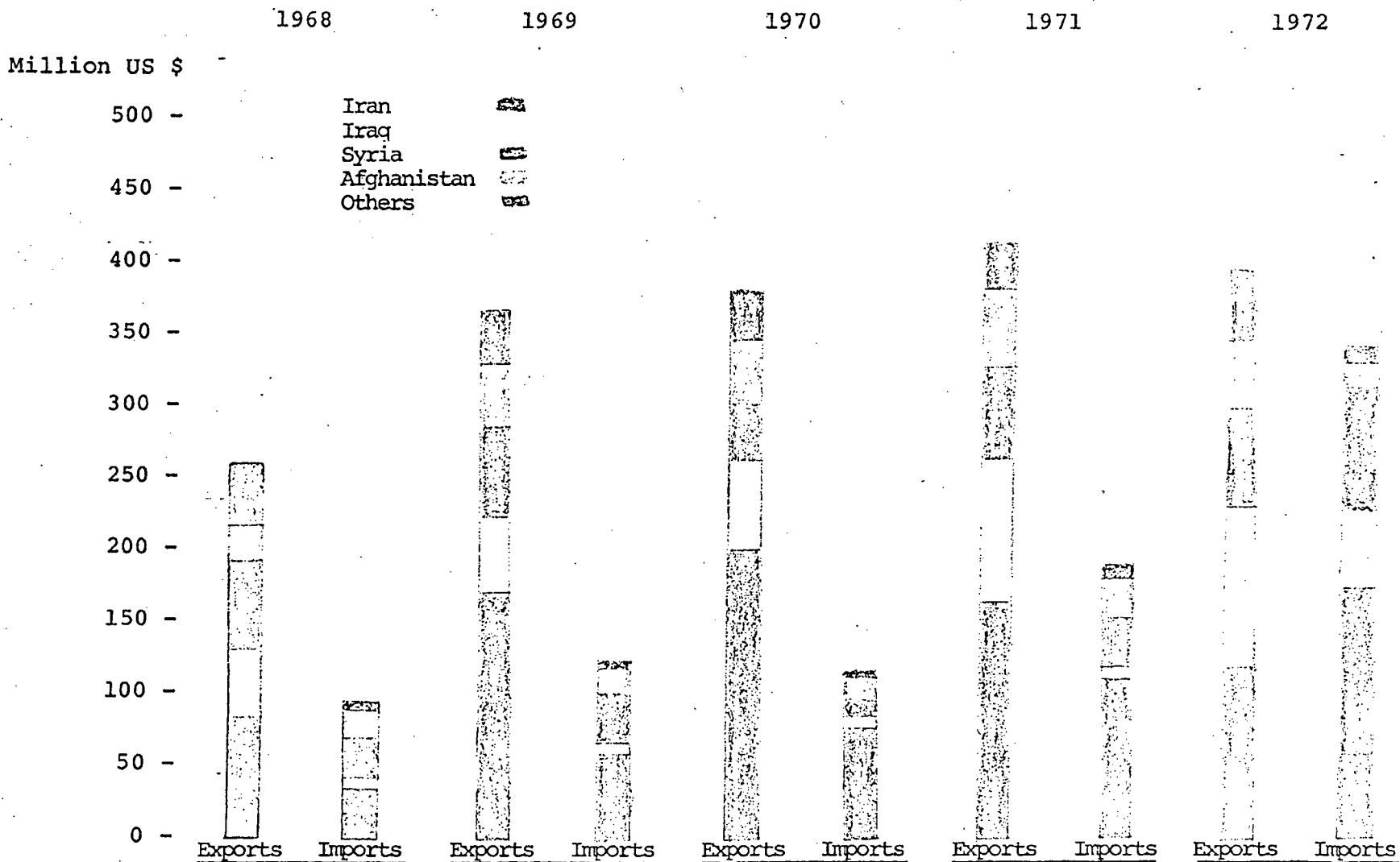
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Soviet Exports to and Imports from Countries
in and around the Persian Gulf, 1968-72



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Soviet Military Aid Extensions to Countries
in and around the Persian Gulf, 1968-1973

Million US \$

	<u>Total</u>	<u>1968</u>	<u>1969</u>	<u>1970</u>	<u>1971</u>	<u>1972</u>	<u>1973</u>
TOTAL	1,836	100	92	241	461	392	550
Afghanistan	107	--	--	--	107	--	--
Iran	421	--	40	135	180	66	--
Iraq	297	8	45	55	25	14	150
Somalia	25	5	--	6	14	--	--
Syria	942	75	--	40	125	302	400 a/
Yemen (Aden)	37	7	5	5	10	10	--
Yemen (Sana)	7	5	2	--	--	--	--

a. Estimated value of military equipment delivered to Syria, following the outbreak of the Arab-Israeli War on 6 October 1973.

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Soviet Military Aid Deliveries to Countries
in and around the Persian Gulf

Million US \$

	<u>Total</u>	<u>1968</u>	<u>1969</u>	<u>1970</u>	<u>1971</u>	<u>1972</u>	<u>1973</u>
TOTAL	<u>1,131</u>	<u>226</u>	<u>185</u>	<u>168</u>	<u>221</u>	<u>331</u>	<u>a/</u>
Afghanistan	101	30	30	20	10	11	--
Iran	308	50	60	50	75	73	--
Iraq	295	100	50	35	30	80	--
Somalia	23	4	5	7	1	6	--
Syria	370	35	35	50	100	150	--
Yemen (Aden)	26	2	4	4	5	11	--
Yemen (Sana)	8	5	1	2	--	--	--

- a. Estimates of military aid deliveries in 1973 will be available 18 January 1974. Preliminary analysis indicates they be more than twice the total of 1972.

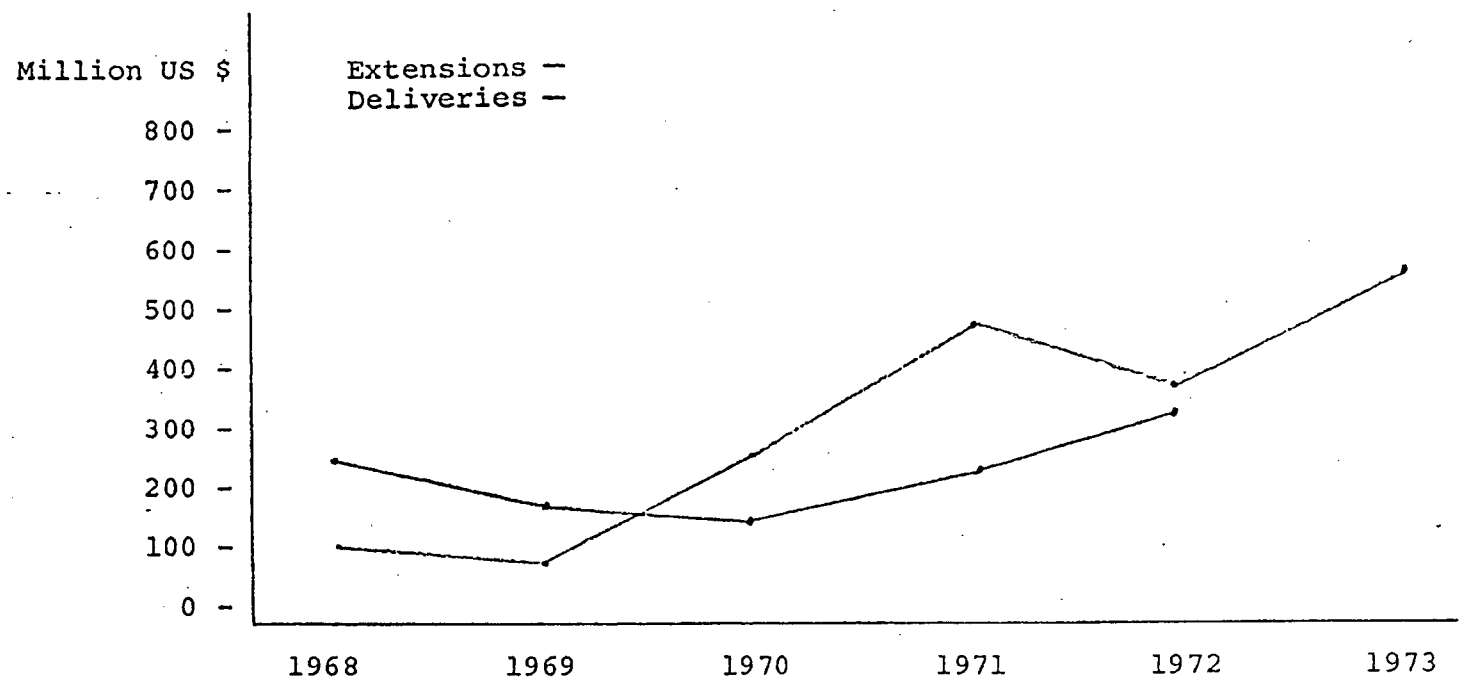
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Soviet Military Aid Extensions and Deliveries
to Countries in and around the Persian Gulf,
1968-1973



Estimate of military aid deliveries in 1973 will be available on 18 January 1974.

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Military Personnel from Countries in and around
the Persian Gulf Trained in the USSR a/

	<u>1968</u>	<u>1969</u>	<u>1970</u>	<u>1971</u>	<u>1972</u>	<u>1973</u>
TOTAL	<u>1,205</u>	<u>1,320</u>	<u>2,110</u>	<u>1,625</u>	<u>1,780</u>	b/
Afghanistan	350	350	500	400	400	--
Iran	--	--	110	40	10	--
Iraq	250	290	370	230	225	--
Somalia	260	170	350	260	450	--
Syria	215	210	220	190	530	--
Yemen (Aden)	--	160	160	105	145	--
Yemen (Sana)	130	140	400	400	20	--

- a. Data refer to the number of persons departing for training but not necessarily completing training. Numbers are rounded to the nearest five.
- b. Totals for 1973 will be available on 18 January 1974.

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