

CURRENT INTELLIGENCE WEEKLY SUMMARY

YEMENI REBEL REGIME GAINING STRENGTH

The new Yemeni regime apparently is gaining some ground as clashes between revolutionary forces and royalist tribes continue in the mountainous northern and eastern sections of Yeman. By 15 October, Sadah, the northern city which has been the center of royalist activity, had fallen to revolutionary forces. Serious fighting has also occurred in the Wadi al-Jawf area and along the road which connects Sana with the rebel-held town of Marib.

UAR Aid Continues

Egyptian troops and military supplies continue to arrive in Yemen in substantial quantities. Nasir is apparently prepared to provide whatever forces are necessary to ensure the success of the revolution. It is estimated that Egypt now has between 1,500 and 2,000 troops in Yemen. Egyptian aircraft are conducting bombing strikes against tribal areas.

Nasir has also provided civilian advisers. On 13 October two of his top-level political aides visited Sana. Observers in Sana have reported that Egyptians in military and civilian attire are much in evidence. According to one report, the fact that the Egyptians are obviously exercising much authority has already resulted in some grumbling and resentment among Yemenis.

There is some evidence of infighting among top leaders of the Revolutionary Council, including rumors of friction between Prime Minister Sallal and Deputy Prime Minister Baydani.

Saudi Involvement

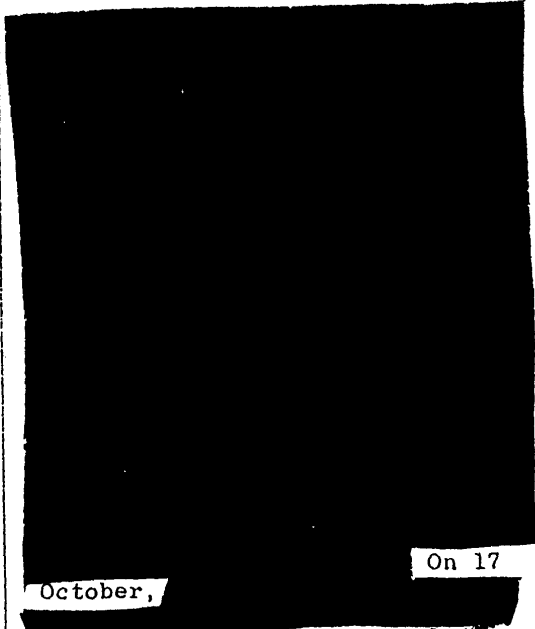
King Saud, meanwhile, is under strong pressure to step up his commitment to the royalist forces. King Husayn, who fears that defeat for the royalists in Yemen may mean overthrow of the Saudi regime, has

urged him to intervene more decisively. Jordanian leaders have stated flatly that Jordanian troops would be sent to support the Saudi regime in the event of an upheaval in Saudi Arabia.

Since the Yemeni revolt began, [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] on 9 October the national guard was reportedly placed in a state of emergency. However, there is nothing to indicate that Saudi troops have actually crossed into Yemen.

Imam Badr, who crossed over briefly into Saudi Arabia, has returned to Yemen after having been supplied with weapons. Prince Hasan, according to Amman radio, has renounced his claim to the Imamate in favor of Badr.



On 17 October, [REDACTED]

Saud issued a decree dissolving the Council of Ministers and appointing Faysal prime minister with authorization to name his own new cabinet.

Soviet Moves

Increased Soviet confidence in the stability of the revolutionary regime is reflected in

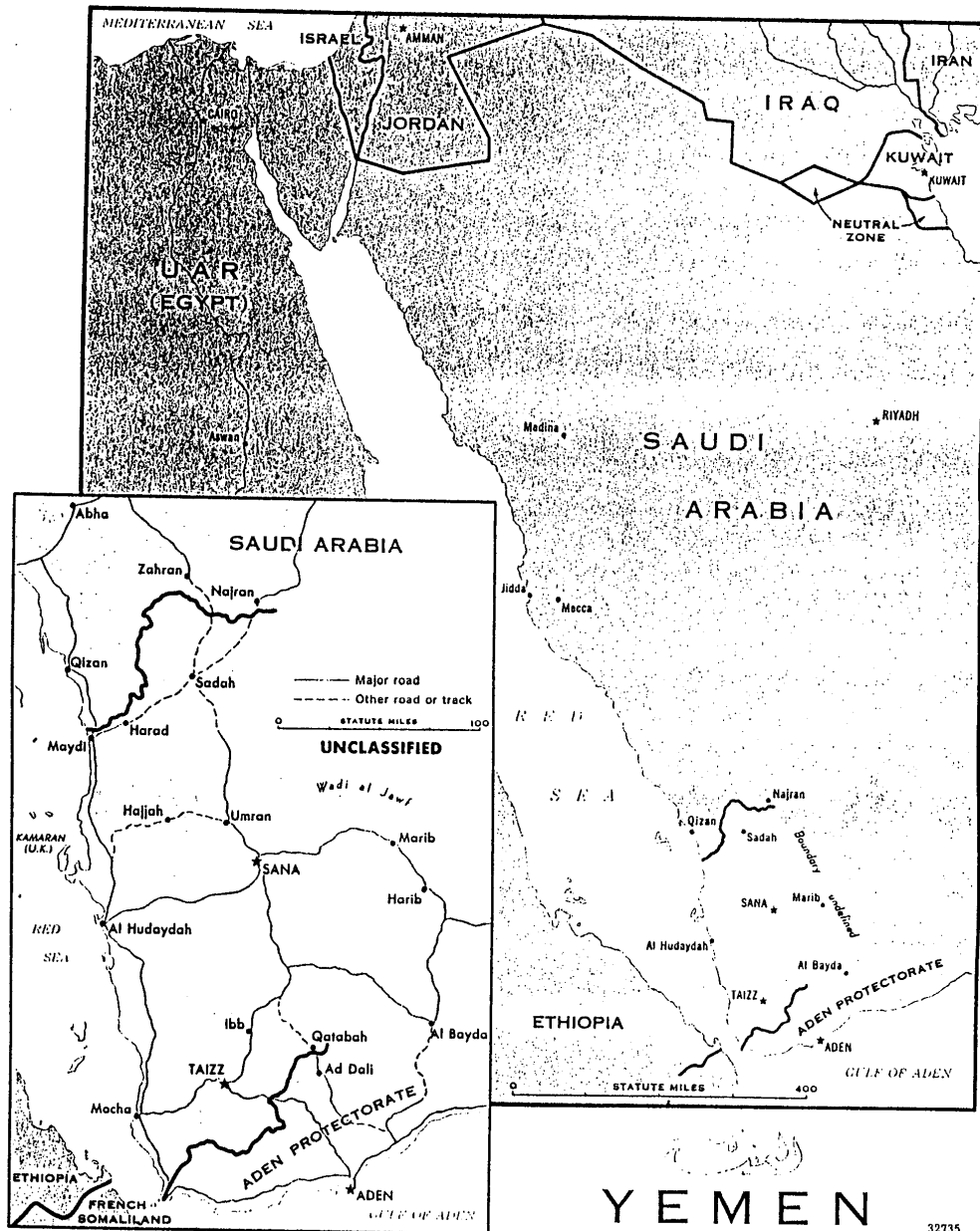
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Moscow's current propaganda on Yemen. While initial Soviet comment had cautiously termed the overthrow of the old regime a "people's revolution," Moscow now describes it as a "national liberation movement," thus giving the new regime considerably more status. The Soviet slogans recently issued for the October

The new government would probably be receptive to any Soviet offers of economic and military aid. On 17 October Sana radio announced that "the technical aid agreement concluded between the Yemeni Arab Republic and the Soviet Union was renewed." This agreement provided for the



Revolution anniversary include a greeting for the first time to the "people of the new Yemeni Republic" who are "struggling selflessly for the freedom and independence of their motherland."

construction of a port at Hudaydah and the supplying of a number of Soviet agricultural experts.