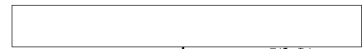


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15 July 1958



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HEADLINE ITEM

The Iraqi Coup (Information as of 0400 EDT)

The new regime in Baghdad is not yet well organized. Although government employees were ordered to return to work on 15 July, no responsible civilian had, as of the night of 14 July, addressed the public. Several persons named to the cabinet were still outside the country.

The regime's control over mob action has not been wholly effective; the British Embassy and information office were sacked on 14 July, and some foreign nationals, possibly including two Americans, were killed. Reports agree that Crown Prince Abd al-illah was killed, but there is still no confirmation of reports that King Faysal is dead. Former Prime Minister Nuri Said apparently has eluded capture, and the revolutionary junta has offered a reward of \$28,000 for his apprehension.

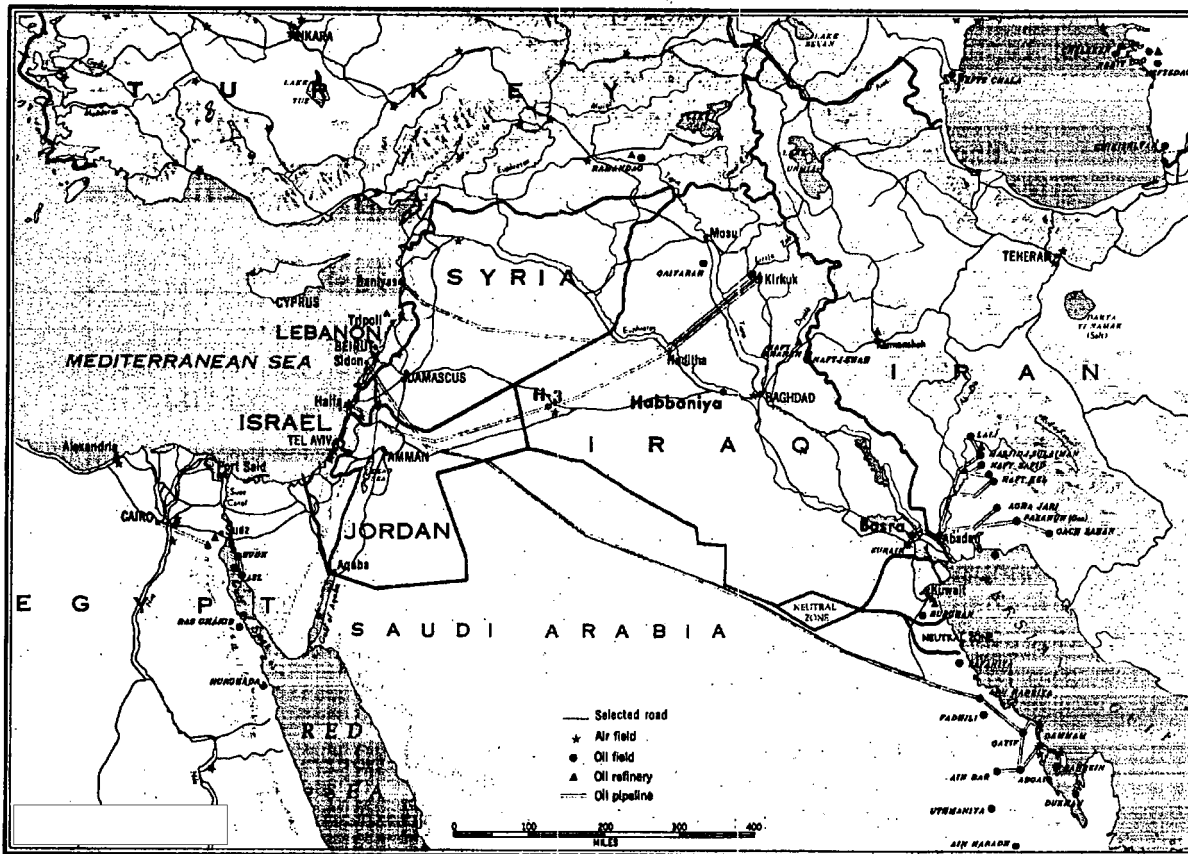
There has been no sign of any countermovement by forces outside the capital, and the Iraqi Air Force appears to be supporting the coup group. [redacted] the coup will be no less popular in the provinces than it is in the capital, and there are some indications that outlying areas are following instructions from Baghdad.

Cairo has moved to give psychological support to the new regime; [redacted]

[redacted] The UAR Government appears apprehensive, however, that pro-Western governments may intervene in the situation.

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King Husayn of Jordan is seeking means of warding off the impact of the coup on his country and is even thinking of trying to reverse the situation in Iraq. Husayn has proclaimed himself head of the Arab Union, has named a new AU chief of staff, and is trying to recruit members of the former Iraqi government to serve in a reconstituted AU cabinet. He says he intends to have the Jordanian Army contact loyal Iraqi units, if such can be found, and then intervene in force to crush the coup. However, Jordan's supply of petroleum products is very short, and the army is reported to have enough for only six days. Since further supplies from Iraq presumably will be cut off, the King has requested emergency measures to provide a flow of petroleum from the port of Aqaba.

Iraq's erstwhile Baghdad Pact partners are showing growing concern. [redacted] recent events point to the possibility that Turkey may be preparing to take some positive action along its southeastern border. Security precautions have been tightened around Iskenderun, and all Turkish forward military positions along the Syrian and Iraqi frontiers are reported being brought up to full strength. Iranian government and military circles are displaying considerable nervousness; military units have been instructed to move from the countryside, where they are training, to the nearest urban center. There is specific concern in Tehran over the repercussions on the Kurds in northwestern Iran. Pakistan's President Mirza has taken a relatively optimistic attitude, asserting that the remaining members of the pact must now really draw close together.

News of the Iraqi coup has been received jubilantly in Saudi Arabia by all levels of opinion except King Saud's

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entourage. The King appears to have panicked; he demands that the Baghdad Pact intervene in Iraq and believes Western troops should be sent to Jordan at once. If Jordan and Iraq are not saved, Saud believes he will have no choice but to "go along" with the UAR.

The farther periphery of the Arab states has also been alarmed. Sudanese Prime Minister Khalil has postponed indefinitely a visit to Britain which had been scheduled for 15 July. He has inquired as to British and American help in the event of an Egyptian attack. In Libya, the Tripolitanian provincial police is highly concerned over the implications of developments in Iraq and has asked for additional weapons from the United States. Further requests of this kind can be expected from pro-Western elements throughout the area.

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