

YEMEN REPORTED SPURNING U.S. AID

2 American Aides Accused of Trying to Destroy City

Special to The New York Times

CAIRO, April 27—The republican Government of Yemen has decided to put a halt to the United States aid program there, the United Arab Republic's national press agency reported tonight from Sana, the Yemeni capital.

The agency said the Sana Government had accused two officials of the United States aid mission of firing a bazooka at an ammunition dump in Taiz yesterday in an attempt to destroy the city, the scene of anti-American rioting.

[In Washington, a State Department spokesman said that the charges of sabotage were "totally unfounded" and that Washington had received no official word from the Yemeni Government "asking us to remove the aid mission." Page 2.]

The influential Cairo newspaper Al Ahram reported this morning that the republican Government had disregarded a United States threat to withdraw its recognition if Yemen did not release four American aid officials who were arrested yesterday and pay compensation for the damage inflicted on United States property during the rioting in Taiz.

Reporting from Sana, the newspaper—which often serves as sounding board for President Gamal Abdel Nasser—said an ultimatum, with a 24-hour deadline, had been delivered yesterday by the United States chargé d'affaires in Sana, Lee Dinsmore.

The newspaper reported that

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the Yemeni National Defense Council, presided over by President Abdullah al-Salal, had subsequently decided to ban United States aid activities, to forbid the United States Embassy's plane to fly in Yemen and to continue the interrogation of the four United States officials and other suspects in the bazooka incident.

Yemeni crowds demonstrated outside the United States aid office in Taiz again today, but caused no damage.

Al Ahram also reported that a Yemeni worker had confessed his part in the bazooka incident and that an unidentified United States aid official had been caught trying to smuggle a box of machine guns into the country.

Program Is Small

The United States economic aid program in Yemen is a small one, amounting to only \$2.4-million this year, an amount that the Yemeni President said last month "is not enough to meet our needs."

The Egyptian press service, Middle East News Agency, quoted a Yemeni Government statement that said the two officials, who were not immediately identified, would be put on trial before a state security court for their "criminal act."

The Yemeni statement declared that investigations had proved that the United States aid mission was "behind most sabotage acts" in the nation.

The statement said four persons had been killed in the bazooka incident, that members of aid mission had opened fire on the funeral procession for the victims and that bazooka ammunition, unlicensed radios and other military equipment had been discovered when Yemeni investigators searched an aid mission camp.

The republican Government, which is supported by the United Arab Republic, has for the last 4½ years been embroiled in a struggle to subdue royalist elements, who are backed by Saudi Arabia. Tension has increased recently and a flareup of fighting is expected soon.

The statement, as reported, gave no indication of when and how the United States aid program, which is largely in road-building and water supply projects, would be ended. But it declared that Yemen would "expel dangerous elements of the [aid] mission and abrogate the aid agreement, which was concluded in 1959.

There was no suggestion that diplomatic relations with the United States, which maintains an embassy in Sana with a branch in Taiz, would be affected.

No comment on the Yemeni allegations was immediately forthcoming from officials of the United States Embassy in Cairo. Earlier in day, however, the embassy asked the Egyptian Government to use its influence to protect United States property in Yemen.

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