



SAUDI ARABIA LATEST DEVELOPMENTS

SAUDI ARABIA SUPPORTS TRANSFER OF PORT OF HODEIDAH TO A NEUTRAL PARTY

- On June 1, 2017, the Coalition to Support Legitimacy in Yemen welcomed statements of UN Envoy to Yemen Ismail Ould Cheikh Ahmad at the Security Council where he called upon Houthi militias and ousted Saleh forces to hand over Hodeidah port to a neutral side.
- The Coalition confirmed its readiness to support the relief efforts ensuring the flow of medical and food aid to the port of Hodeidah easily to the Yemeni people and humanitarian and relief organizations in Yemen.

HOUTHIS REFUSE TO CONSIDER A DIPLOMATIC RESOLUTION

- In a United Nations Security Council briefing on Yemen on May 30, 2017, the United Nations Envoy for Yemen, Ismail Ould Cheikh Ahmed, indicated that Houthis refused to even discuss a proposed agreement on the port city of Hodeidah controlled by the Iranian-backed militia.
- In the briefing, the UN Envoy stated that, "Regrettably, the Ansarallah (Houthis) – General People's Congress (Former President Saleh's party) – delegation in Sana'a had not agreed to discuss such an agreement. He said that his proposal – covering security, economic and humanitarian elements – would allow commercial and humanitarian supplies into Al Hodeidah while halting the diversion of customs revenues and taxes that could be spent on salaries and services."
- On June 5, 2017, Houthi-Saleh forces rejected the UN Envoy as a peace negotiator, calling him biased. In a speech televised on rebel television, Saleh al-Samad, the leader of a pro-rebel political council in Yemen's fractious war, said envoy Ismail Ould Cheikh Ahmed was "not desirable" for resolving the country's conflict. Samad added that the United Nations should know Cheikh Ahmed is "is not wanted after today."

THE PROPOSED ARMS SALE POSES NO CHALLENGE TO U.S. POLICY OF QUALITATIVE MILITARY EDGE

- "I also need to stress that there is nothing in this package of sales, taken individually or as a whole, that will undermine Israel's qualitative military edge. As a matter of law and of longstanding policy, the United States is committed to ensuring Israel maintains a qualitative military edge in the region."

Mike Miller, State Department Director of Regional Security and Arms Transfers

White House Press Call

May 19, 2017

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SAUDI ARABIA AND REGIONAL SECURITY

- “The purpose of this package is to contribute to a regional security architecture that advances defense cooperation for both the United States of America and the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia.”

Vice Admiral Joseph Rixey

Director, Defense Security Cooperation Agency

May 19, 2017

SAUDI-LED COALITION CONTINUES EFFORTS TO PROTECT CIVILIANS AND NONCOMBATANTS IN YEMEN

- No-strike list that includes over 33,000 targets. This list includes locations provided by United Nations and other humanitarian organizations on the ground in Yemen
- Additional vetting criteria for time-sensitive targets. These criteria place extra responsibilities on Coalition pilots before conducting a mission.
- Aligning Coalition targeting practices and personnel training with NATO standards.

SAUDI ARABIA CONTINUES TO LEAD HUMANITARIAN EFFORTS IN YEMEN

- Saudi Arabia has been the single largest donor of humanitarian aid to Yemen.
- \$8.2 billion in humanitarian and developmental assistance to Yemen since April 2015.
- Saudi Arabia was the first to respond to the United Nations appeals in regard of the outbreak of cholera in Yemen, and has donated \$274 million in this respect.
- Most recently, on May 27, 2017, KSRelief and the World Health Organization co-signed an agreement to improve health behavior, hygiene and food safety, and environmental sanitation in the targeted governorates, to combat the cholera epidemic in targeted locations, to purchase infection control products, protective equipment and to deliver them to health centers.