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OSI-WS-10/67

6 March 1967



DIRECTORATE OF  
SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY

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# WEEKLY SURVEYOR

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WEEKLY SURVEYOR

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Directorate of Science and Technology

This publication is intended to furnish the intelligence community with a timely survey of significant current scientific intelligence. The items herein are based on selected incoming reports of all kinds received during the previous week. The comments represent the views of the Office of Scientific Intelligence and the Foreign Missile and Space Analysis Center and are coordinated to the extent possible in the time available within CIA but, being based on the material at hand, are subject to change on receipt of further information or analysis. We caution against action taken solely on the basis of the preliminary evaluations herein. Questions concerning this publication should be directed to the Surveyor Staff, OSI, CIA Headquarters, Langley.

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BIOLOGICAL/CHEMICAL WARFARE

Additional UAR Chemical Attacks in Yemen Reported: [redacted]  
[redacted] a UAR chemical attack on 6 February in which 32 were killed and 19 others were poisoned. [redacted] described the agent as having the smell of oranges, and causing coughing, constriction of the throat and chest, dizziness, and some skin irritation. The attack occurred at Bayt al-Suraym, between Sana and Hodeida. Other attacks, as yet not confirmed, reportedly took place at Mikhlaf Bani Salam, Mikhlaf Bani Salab, and Beni Salama on 4, 8, and 9 February respectively. In each of these latter actions, 70 to 75 persons and animals are said to have died. Beni Salama is about 30 miles south of Sana. [redacted]

Comment: The description of the effects caused by the agent used in the 6 February attack supports belief that this action occurred, although it is not otherwise confirmed. The agent used seems to have been phosgene, the same chemical believed to have been employed by the UAR in the 5 January attack on al-Kitaf that caused deaths reportedly numbering up to 200. The reports of the latter three attacks may refer to a single action, judging by similarities of the location names and of the numbers said to have been killed in each. UAR belief in this weapon system as an effective way to counter the Royalist forces in this difficult terrain is shown, even in the face of Saudi Arabian protests. Use of highly volatile phosgene, however, reduces the risk of an outside agency being able to identify UAR use of a toxic from contaminated ground or from munition fragments. [redacted]