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5/19/73

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

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## Memorandum of Conversation

MADE IN S/S-I: MAY 21 1973

Date

Initial *TJL*

DATE: May 10, 1973

SUBJECT: Yemen Arab Republic - United States Relations  
**1973-5-10 [initials] Iryani, Ahmar, Rogers**PARTICIPANTS: H.E. Shaykh Abdullah bin Husain al-Ahmar, President  
of the Yemen Arab Republic Consultative Assembly

Shaykh Ahmad Al al-Matari, Member of the YAR Assembly

H.E. Yayha Gaghman, Ambassador of the YAR

Honorable William P. Rogers, Secretary of State

Mr. Camille Nowfel, Escort/Interpreter, OPR/LS

Mr. Francois M. Dickman, Director, Office of Arabian  
Peninsula Affairs, NEA/ARP

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SUMMARY: During a call on the Secretary, al-Ahmar stressed the YAR's urgent need for military assistance to meet the threat from Communist-supported South Yemen and for a more active AID presence. He noted the severe drought in the north and hoped a US well drilling program could get underway soon. The Secretary reiterated his interest in helping to expedite matters in the economic field. It was more difficult to do so on the military side. The Secretary however, was encouraged by the growing collaboration between the YAR and Saudi Arabia on military matters. Saudi Arabia also had an interest in the YAR's security and there were advantages to the YAR in the US not becoming a direct supplier. The US, however, would work closely with the Saudis to have them give needed equipment to the YAR army with the US selling the Saudis replacement items. END SUMMARY

The Secretary warmly recalled his visit to Sanaa in July 1972, when diplomatic relations were restored between the YAR and the US, and the great hospitality he had received from the Yemeni people and Shaykh Abdullah. He was pleased that US-YAR relations

NEA/ARP:EMD  
(Drafting Office and Officer)

sb 5/10/73

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