

Confidential



(22210/605/67)

72  
I gave the same direction  
when he was  
Weakened in the  
moment. No matter  
Enter  
UNITED KINGDOM MISSION  
TO THE UNITED NATIONS  
845 THIRD AVENUE  
NEW YORK, N.Y.

27 October, 1967.

31/10

I have now received information from my Government about the matters raised in the telegram of 13 October from the three Eastern Aden Protectorate Sultans enclosed with your letter of 20 October. (65)

The allegations in the telegram from the three Eastern Aden Protectorate Sultans are wholly unwarranted. I explained to you in my letter of 21 September the circumstances in which control in South Arabia was taken over by the nationalist forces and particularly by the National Liberation Front. This process which started in the Federation extended fairly quickly to the States of the Eastern Aden Protectorate. It is quite untrue that we gave backing there either to the National Liberation Front or to any other nationalist group, any more than we did in the Federation. Nor do we now have any intention of intervening between the groups or in support of either of them against anyone else.

There was no question of the Sultans being expelled from South Arabia. They went to Geneva to meet the United Nations Mission of their own free will, although of course they were encouraged to do this by the High Commissioner following the agreement between him and the Mission during his visit to New York. Far from us keeping the Sultans out

/of

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Chairman,  
United Nations Special Mission on South Arabia,  
United Nations,  
New York.

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of South Arabia for this period, the Mission will remember that both they and we urged the Sultans to get to Geneva as quickly as possible. In the event however the Qaiti and Kathiri parties took their time in travelling via Beirut and Cairo, arriving in Geneva only at the end of August.

The air action by the Royal Air Force to which the three Sultans refer in their telegram was limited to three fire power demonstrations on 24 September at the request of the Hadhrami Beduin Legion in the vicinity of three forts in the northern area of Qaiti manned by the Hadhrami Beduin Legion. The Mission will remember that Lord Shackleton explained to them that the Hadhrami Beduin Legion was not only the only force which could maintain security in the Eastern Aden Protectorate, but also provided the only administration in much of the northern desert areas of Qaiti. The three Hadhrami Beduin Legion forts concerned in this incident are in this area where Qaiti administrative control never operated and were being attacked by hostile tribesmen. Such evidence as we have suggests strongly that these disorders were not of a political character as the telegram from the three Sultans might imply, but were an outbreak of attempted looting which followed upon the political upheavals in the area.

I do not feel that it is for me to comment on the other matters raised in the Sultans' telegram, which are more properly for the Mission to consider than for the United Kingdom Government.

(Caradon)

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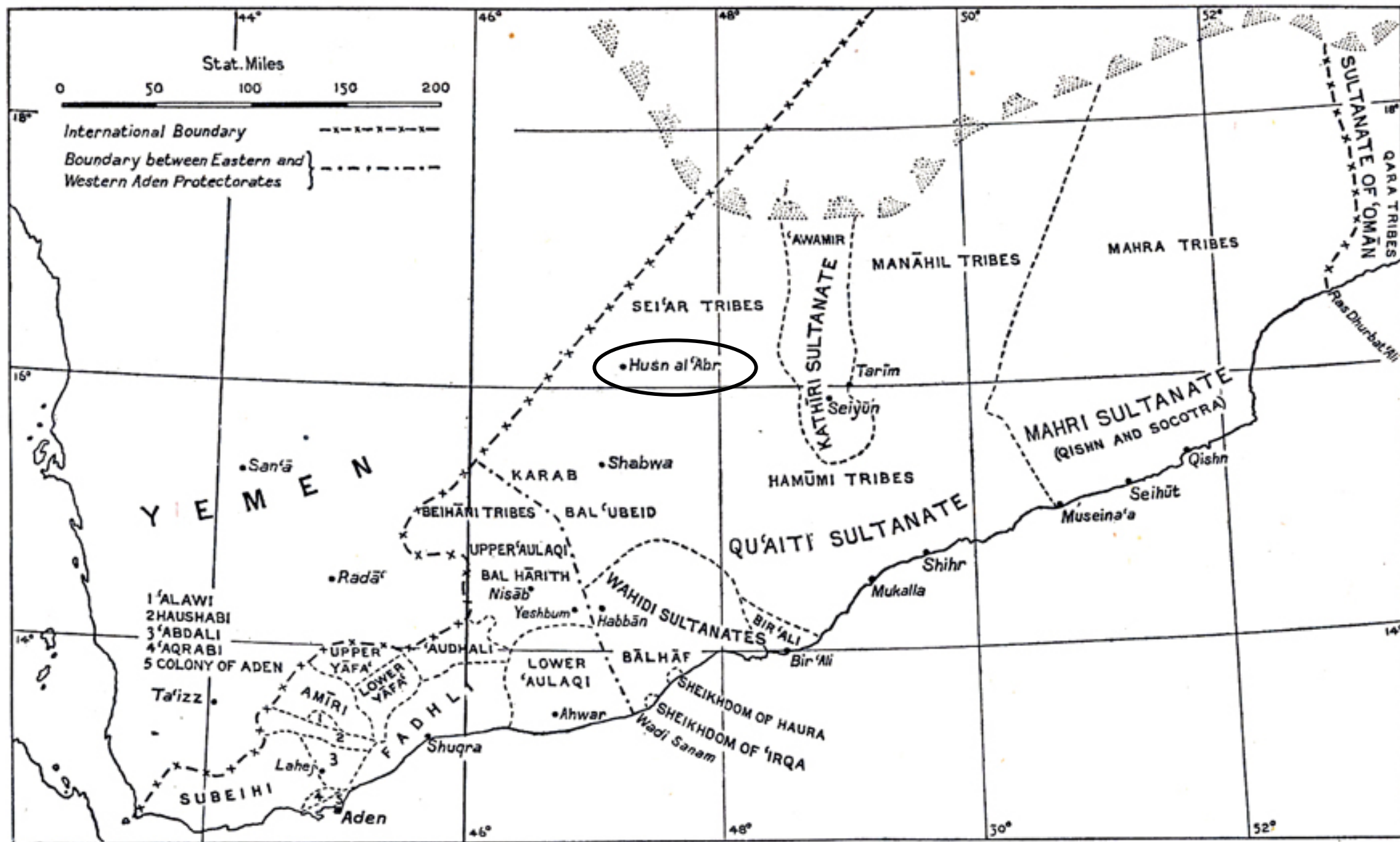
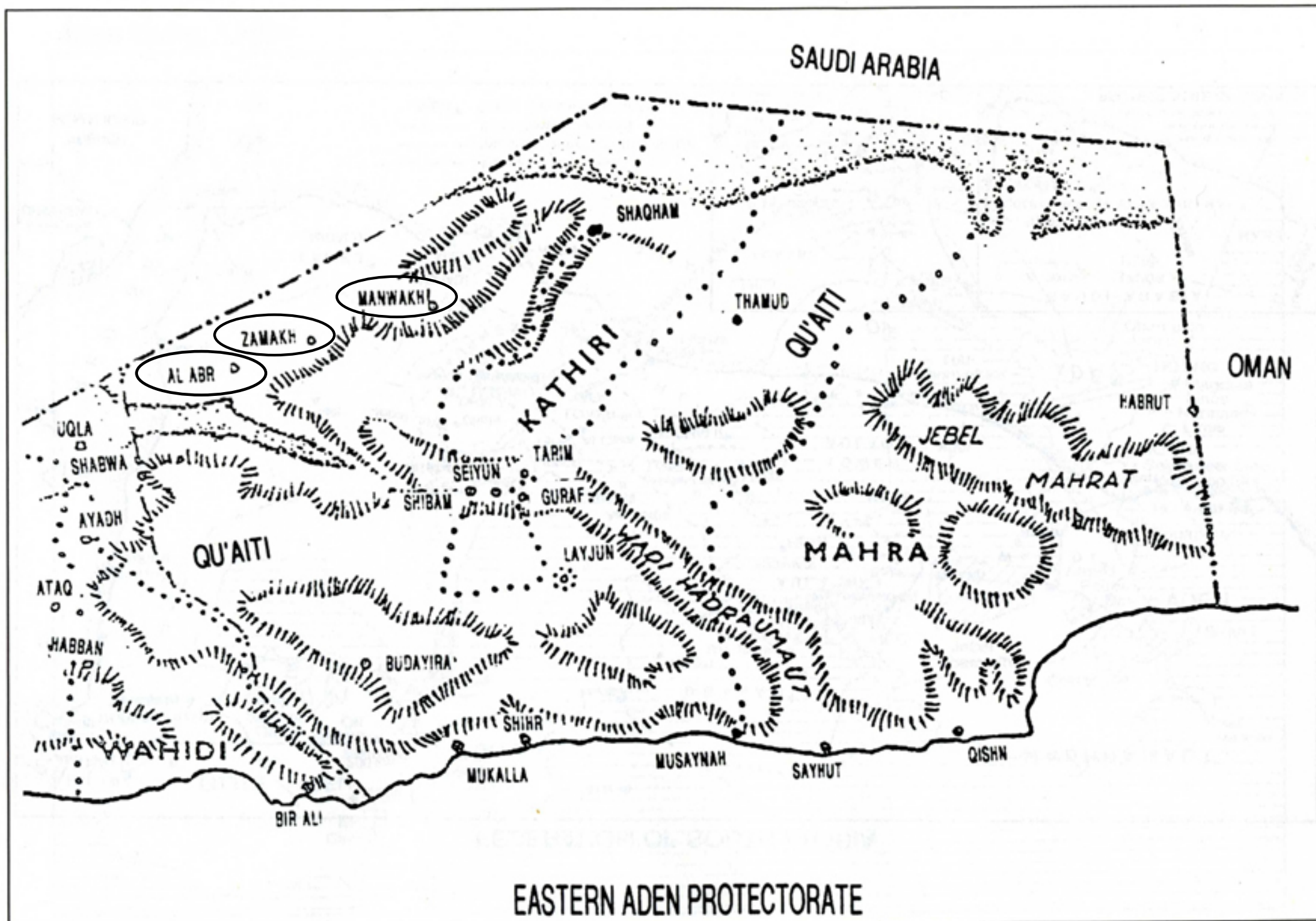


FIG. 37. Administrative divisions, states, and principal tribal territories of the Aden Protectorate





EASTERN ADEN PROTECTORATE