A JUNTA IN LIBYA OUSTS MONARCHY, SETS UP REPUBLIC

Socialist State After Coup
Without Bloodshed

Military Council Proclaims

New Regime Says It Plans

RECOGNITION BY CAIRO

an Arab Nationalist Policy

—King Is in Turkey

Special to The New York Times

BEIRUT, Lebanon, Tuesday, Sept. 2—A revolutionary coun-

cil took control of Libya yesterday after overthrowing the conservative regime of the 79year-old King Idris I, according to reports from Tripoli. Libya was proclaimed a socialist republic with the new name of the Libyan Arab Republic.

The coup—the fourth in the

Arab world in little more than

a year—was reported to have

been bloodless. Crown Prince Hassan al-Rida, 40-year-old nephew of the King, announced by radio that he was relinquishing all his powers in support of the revolution. King Idris has been in Turkey for several weeks undergoing medical treatment.

The military junta that car-

TUNISIA GREECES

*Tripoli

TRIPOLITANIA*

TRIPOLITANIA*

CHAD

Col. Saaduddin Abu Shwirrib,

an army officer of whom little

revolutionary council are be-

lieved to be air force officers

who acquired stature recently

and extensive purchases

arms from her.

Many of the members of the

ried out the coup is headed by

NIGER

The New York Times

is known.

with the conclusion of an air defense agreement with Britain

Sept. 2, 1969

The coup was seen here as a further symptom of a radical trend that has been sweeping much of the Arab world since the Arab-Israeii war of June, 1967.

The United Arab Republic an-

nounced early today that it was according full diplomatic recognition to the new military regime. Iraq extended recognition last night, the first foreign government to do so, and in Damascus the news of the coup was reported in obviously favorable terms.

In its first policy statement, which was broadcast over the Tripoli radio, the new regime

with nonaligned nations. How-Continued on Page 2, Column 4

announced that it would fol-

low an Arab nationalist policy

and would seek to cooperate

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Junta Ousts Libyan Monarchy; Proclaims a Socialist Republic

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ever, it emphasized that the coup was not aimed against any foreign power and was a purely domestic movement.

The statement avoided mention of two matters considered among the most sensitive for Libya: the nation's extensive oil resources and the United States' Wheelus Air Force

Base near Tripoli.

Libya has grown into a major oil exporting country in the last few years. Income from oil this year is expected to total about \$700-million, but it is thought that this may grow to as much as \$1.5-billion

in the next 10 years.

Well-informed observers here, studying the coup, recalled the political unrest in Libya that immediately followed the 1967 war. About 200 Libyans, Syrians and Palestinian Arabs were arrested then and accused of plotting against the monarchy. A total of 105, said to have been members of the Baath party and the Arab nationalist movement, were convicted and imprisoned.

Libyan junta The adopted the Arab nationalist and Baathist slogan of "Socialism, Unity and Freedom." It emphasized that one of the aims of the revolution was to concentrate on solving country's problems of under-

development.

Observers believe that the new leaders may have difficulty finding grounds on which to accuse the monarchy. King Idris and other members of the royal family have been living relatively modestly and known to have avoided corruption.

Three Recent Coups

King Idris, who is regarded as a hero of the Libyan struggle for independence against the former Italian rule, has used most of the oil revenues of recent years to develop his backward country socially and economically. He has ruled since 1951. Libya became a member of the Arab League in 1953.

The displacement of King Idris's Government follows similar actions in Iraq, the Sudan and South Yemen in the last 14

months.

In July of last year, a coup in Baghdad toppled the relatively moderate regime of President Abdel Rahman Arif and established in power an extreme element of the Arab Baath Socialist party. Last May, a leftist military junta seized power in the Sudan after removing the conservative government of the late President Ismail al-Azhari, who died last week. Last June, the radical wing of the National Liberation Front in South Yemen ousted the more moderate President Qahtan al-Shaabi.

These coups were accomanied by more militancy against Israel, and resulted in stronger relations with President Gamal Abdel Nasser of the United Arab Republic and with the So-

viet Union.

The Libyan coup appears to have tipped the scales in favor of the Arab Leftists in the balance of power among the 14 member states of the Arab League. Eight of the fourteen now have leftist governments: the United Arab Republic, the Iraq. Sudan, Syria, Yemen, South Yemen, Algeria and Libya. The countries still with con-



Associated Press Crown Prince Hassan al-Rida has endorsed the revolution.

servative or semi-conservative governments are Saudi Arabia, Kuwait, Jordan, Lebanon, Tunisia and Morocco. Only three Arab kings are still in power: Feisal of Saudi Arabia, Hussein of Jordan and Hassan of Morocco.

For the Arab radical cause, Libya has special importance because of her huge oil wealth. The country already contributes one-fourth of the annual subsidy of about \$390-million paid annually to the United Arab Republic and Jordan since the Middle East War. The other contributors are Saudi Arabia and Kuwait.

Diplomatic quarters here believed it likely that the new Libyan regime might against the West in general and the United States in particular. This, they point out, could make the future of the

Wheelus base doubtful.

These quarters observed that the base now is important for the United States not only because most of the oil companies operating in Libya are American-owned but also because of Libya's strategic position on the Eastern Mediterranean. Since Libya began to export oil in large commercial quantities, she has become a main source for Europe.