

A draft U.N. reports weapons smuggling from Iran to Yemen



Thousands of rocket launchers, machine guns, sniper rifles and other weapons seized in the Arabian Sea by the U.S. Navy in recent months likely originated from a single port in Iran, according to a confidential United Nations report that provides some of the most detailed evidence that Tehran is exporting arms to Yemen and elsewhere.

The draft report prepared by a U.N. Security Council panel of experts on Yemen said small wooden boats and overland transport were used in attempts to smuggle weapons made in Russia, China and Iran along routes to Yemen that the U.S. has tried for years to shut down. The boats left from the Iranian port of Jask on the Sea of Oman, the U.N. report said, citing interviews with the boat's Yemeni crews and data from navigational instruments found on board.

Smuggled weapons were to help the Houthis in their push to seize Marib, a strategic Yemeni city on the border with Saudi Arabia.

Source: Wall Street Journal