

Nations jostle for global influence in Djibouti

Saudi Arabia is to gain a foothold in the Horn of Africa with a military base in Djibouti to bolster its regional security role. Already home to U.S. and French military facilities, Djibouti will also soon host China's first overseas base



Saudi F-15

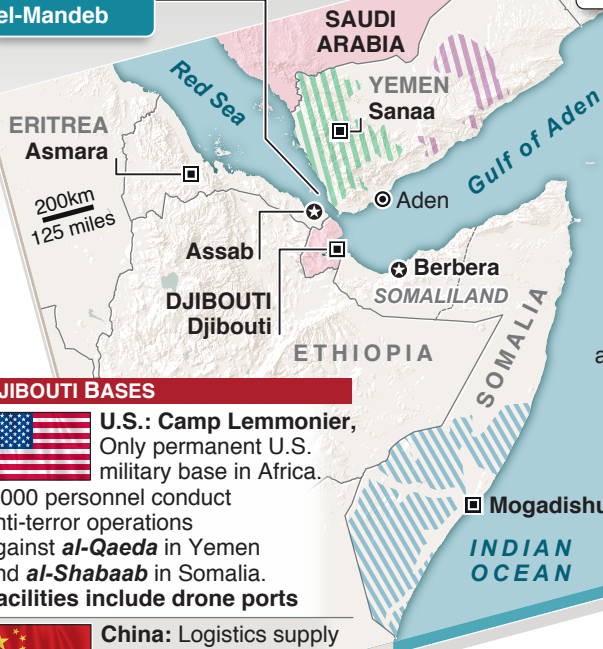
Areas of control

Houthi rebels

al-Qaeda

al-Shabaab

Straits of Bab el-Mandeb



United Arab Emirates:

Key ally in Saudi campaign in Yemen, operates military base in **Assab**, Eritrea, and plans another in **Berbera**, in Somalia's self governing region of Somaliland

DJIBOUTI BASES



U.S.: Camp Lemmonier, Only permanent U.S. military base in Africa.

4,000 personnel conduct anti-terror operations against **al-Qaeda** in Yemen and **al-Shabaab** in Somalia.

Facilities include drone ports



China: Logistics supply facility with capacity to house 10,000 troops. Due to open this year



France: Largest French military base in Africa, with around 1,700 personnel



Djibouti also hosts Japan's only overseas base, plus Spanish and German troops from EU anti-piracy force



Saudi Arabia: Closer ties with Djibouti part of newly assertive policy of countering Iranian proxies in Arab world from Syria to Yemen. **Riyadh is leading coalition fighting Houthi rebels in Yemen**

