

10248-9

IRAN

WEIST -- Aarseth

Screaming "Death to the Shah," nationalist and Communist mobs surge through the streets of Tehran. Statues of the ruler and his father are pelted and desecrated by the fanatic followers of the aged Premier Mohammed Mossadegh. In a brazen act of defiance, the statue of the Shah's father is toppled from its pedestal.

The frenzied crowds demand that the ruler, who fled, be brought back and hanged. Royalists are punched and kicked -- streets are a no man's land as the Mossadegh takes control of the oil-rich country. But his hour of triumph is short-lived. Troops loyal to Shah stage a counter - coup. After nine bloody hours they are in command and are overwhelmed in a startling change of affection. Army officers reveal Mossadegh has surrendered, his reign as virtual dictator of Iran ended.

Shouting pro-Shah slogans and carrying pictures of the ruler, the crowds wait the return of their leader.

96