

New Attack From Egypt Is Reported

JERUSALEM, May 11 (UP)—Tankled Arabs were reported to have attacked a Jewish settlement near the Egyptian border tonight as a bitter Jewish-Arab battle on the Tel Aviv highway neared the suburbs of Jerusalem and threatened to end the temporary truce in the Holy City.

At the same time heavy firing broke out all around the Katamon quarter in the southwestern suburbs of Jerusalem proper.

Reports from Tel Aviv said a large force of Arabs, including Egyptians and moving in behind tanks and artillery, launched a heavy attack on the Jewish settlement of Kfarom in Southern Palestine.

The Jewish reports said the first attack on Kfarom was repulsed with heavy losses to the invaders. A second assault was launched and the battle was still raging near midnight, they said.

(The possibility that this battle account may be exaggerated is indicated by the fact that these Jewish settlements in the south are only agricultural colonies with token defenses.)

On Tel Aviv-Jerusalem roadway, the Jewish Haganah militia reported earlier a big Arab counter-attack near Bad El Wad, 12 miles west of Jerusalem where Haganah sappers had blasted a formidable Arab road block.

(Haganah announced, according to Associated Press, that it had captured Beit Mahsir, main base for Arab forces in the battle for control of the Tel Aviv highway. Beit Mahsir is near Bab El Wad.) It was reported later that Fawzi Bey el Kaukji, Arab commander in chief in Palestine, was leading the fight.

Reports said Fawzi Bey had established headquarters near Yalu, just north of Bab El Wad, and had called all Arabs in the vicinity to join him.

Firing in Southwestern Jerusalem started in the Katamon suburb. It developed that Arabs in the Beit Safafa quarter south of Katamon and Jews in Mekor Haim and Katamon were blasting each other with machine guns.

Haganah announced it would only return Arab fire when necessary to protect its positions, so that hope of keeping the temporary

Ex-British Chief In Palestine Gets Bomb in Mail

LONDON, May 11 (AP)—A foot-long bomb was delivered by mail today to the country home of General Sir Evelyn Barker, former British commander in Palestine, Home Office experts announced.

Barker's life has been threatened by the Jewish Stern group, a Palestine underground organization.

The bomb, delivered to Barker's home in Cobham, Surrey, contained a high explosive, probably gelignite, the Home Office said. It had been mailed in London. A servant became suspicious and called Scotland Yard. Both General and Lady Barker have left their home for an undisclosed destination, and the grounds have been closed by police.

General Barker was put on the Stern group's death list in November, 1946, shortly after he had written a letter forbidding British troops in the Holy Land to fraternize with Jews and declaring the best way to punish them for terrorist acts was "by striking at their pockets and showing our contempt for them."

truce might be maintained. The Jewish Agency protested to a consular truce committee that Arabs had started the firing.

The double outbreak of firing came as the British Army prepared for a mass evacuation of Jerusalem, with the end of the Palestine mandate little more than 72 hours away.

Arab and Jewish quarters were under a state of virtual martial law.

It was announced that General Sir Alan Cunningham, British High Commissioner, would leave Jerusalem for good tomorrow, and it was believed the final evacuation of his troops from the holy city would start then.

In the Sarona suburb of Tel Aviv, selected as the capital, Jewish leaders prepared feverishly to proclaim a Jewish nation immediately after the end of the British mandate at 12:01 a. m. Saturday.

Tel Aviv reported this proclamation may take the form of the American Declaration of Independence.

U. S., France Offer a Plan For Palestine

LAKE SUCCESS, N. Y., May 11 (UP)—The United States and France made a joint 11th-hour move tonight to put some United Nations authority into Palestine after May 15 by introducing a new plan for a trusteeship over Jerusalem.

It was the first time since American abandonment of partition that the United States has received such support for any of its long series of proposals for dealing with the Palestine dilemma. Last month, the United States alone introduced a similar proposal, but it failed to whip up any enthusiasm.

There appeared little chance that the United States and France could push through the new proposal in the less than three days left before the British mandate ends and the Jews proclaim their state.

The American and French delegations have been following an increasingly similar line in recent days on the Palestine tangle.

Yesterday, France indicated it might refuse to serve on the proposed "shadow" agency for continuing a semblance of administration in Palestine as a whole after the mandate ends. And today, American Delegate Philip C. Jessup followed suit by telling a special U. N. subcommittee he doubted whether the United States would accept such a responsibility.

American and French Consuls in Jerusalem have been suggested as two members of a five-member agency to go to Palestine and try to mediate Jewish-Arab warfare.

The French-American draft, which will be referred tomorrow to the special subcommittee on Jerusalem, repeatedly specifies that the solution proposed is to last only until a final settlement is reached on the whole Palestine problem.

The draft calls for a high commissioner to be appointed by the U. N. Trusteeship Council with authority to organize volunteer police forces for maintaining law and order.

The draft says nothing about use of troops from specific nations in Jerusalem.