

# BERNADOTTE GETS COUNTER PEACE PLAN FROM ARABS

## Rejection of Mediator's Proposals Reported— Jewish Reply Expected by Today.

By MAX BOYD

CAIRO, July 3 (AP) — Count Folke Bernadotte, United Nations mediator for Palestine, met with Arab leaders for nearly four hours tonight, presumably to discuss the Arab League's counter-proposals to his recommendations for peace in the Holy Land. One high Arab official predicted Palestine warfare would resume.

All the Swedish count would say as he left the meeting was: "We have agreed to say nothing tonight."

Arab League sources reported the seven-member bloc of Moslem countries has rejected Bernadotte's proposals for ending the Arab-Jewish war.

Riad el Solh Bey, Prime Minister of Lebanon, said, as he left tonight's conference: "Apparently there will be no further discussion with Count Bernadotte."

### Premier's Reply.

Asked about reports that King Abdullah of Trans-Jordan had said the Arabs had rejected the proposals and would resume fighting, the Lebanese Premier said:

"If King Abdullah said so, it will be so."

The Arab League reply to Bernadotte's recommendations was handed to the mediator shortly after his arrival in Cairo. It was not made public.

Bernadotte said, following tonight's meeting, that he would return to his headquarters on the Greek Island of Rhodes tomorrow morning. Asked whether he would visit Tel Aviv, capital of Israel, he replied that when he reached Rhodes he expected to find a message from Tel Aviv awaiting him.

Neutral diplomatic sources in Cairo said they believed it was almost a certainty that Israel would object to some of Bernadotte's suggestions and offer a set of Jewish counter-proposals.

Bernadotte drew up his proposals—which also have not been officially published — after effecting a four-week truce in Palestine fighting. A U.N. spokesman in Lake Success said they would be released tomorrow.

The Cairo newspaper Al Misri said yesterday Bernadotte's suggestions included merging the Arab part of Palestine and Trans-Jordan.

### Comment by Bernadotte.

The truce expires July 9. Bernadotte said whether he asked its extension would depend on meetings with both Jews and Arabs. He said that in "certain circumstances" he might ask for a truce extension, but that at present he would have "to work fast."

In Baghdad, Iraqi Minister of Defense Sadiq Albassam predicted resumption of Palestine fighting. He told reporters: "We do not accept any partition of Palestine and will never agree to creation of a Jewish state as attempted therein. We have a plan from which we will never deviate, and which we will carry out."

In Tel Aviv a spokesman for Irgun Zvai Leumi, strongest Jewish dissident group in Palestine, said it would continue under arms only in Jerusalem. There, he said, it is pledged to make and keep the city a part of Israel.

The Freedom Movement, Irgun's legal successor in Israel, pledged that its functions as a purely political party of opposition to the present government would be confined to normal campaigning and the vote. The spokesman for the Freedom Movement said the party is "slightly left of center."