

# U. N. Undecided on Inquiry In Report of Arab Invasion

## Chairman of Security Council Awaiting Data From Special Commission—Jewish Agency Hears of Walled City Truce

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LAKE SUCCESS, N. Y., May 2.—The convening of a proposed emergency session of the United Nations Security Council tomorrow or Tuesday to devise steps for stemming reported Arab invasions of Palestine was still undecided tonight despite Jewish Agency appeals for urgent action.

From Jerusalem came official notification late tonight that a cease-fire order had been issued for the Walled City. The notice of the cease-fire order was received when most observers here had just about given up hope that an effective Arab-Jewish agreement could be reached.

The cease-fire order, according to word received by Moshe Shertok, political chief of the Jewish Agency, declared that fighting would cease pending negotiations of truce terms that would include freedom of access to the Walled City, on the understanding, however, that if no agreement were

reached, each side would reserve freedom of action.

The formal notification was sent to Mr. Shertok by David Ben Gurion, chairman of the Executive of the Jewish Agency, and was telephoned at a late hour tonight to Dr. Ralph Bunche, the chief of the Secretariat staff assigned to the Palestine Commission.

Last week Mr. Shertok said that he had recommended that the Jewish Agency sign an agreement to preserve the sanctity of the Walled City and its holy places, but he laid down the condition at that time that ingress to the city would probably be demanded.

At that time the representative of the Palestine Arab Higher Committee demanded that the Haganah forces within the Walled City be kept there. Observers here noted that the conditions stated in the announcement from Jerusalem might still result in failure to

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reach a permanent truce agreement, but it was hoped that this initial pact would pave the way for something better.

It was recalled that Francis B. Sayre of the United States pressed vigorously in the Trusteeship Council to get the Arabs and Jews to come to truce terms quickly, for the Walled City, at least.

In connection with the requested Security Council investigation of the invasion report, Alexandre Parodi of France, this month's chairman, consulted with several delegations over the week-end, but he is reluctant to summon a special meeting in the face of sharply conflicting reports on Arab activities in the Holy Land.

The Jewish Agency for Palestine issued a demand to the Council last night to take immediate action in view of the reported "invasion of Palestine by regular forces of Syria and Lebanon crossing northern border, and of Egypt, southern border." Today officials of the Arab Higher Committee branded these accusations as "fantastic Jewish propaganda" without any truth whatever.

In an effort to solve the riddle of charges and denials between the Arabs and Jews, M. Parodi cabled to the three-man truce commission set up in Jerusalem to ask for on-the-spot information.

Tonight the chief French representative said he was still waiting for an answer. He emphasized in a brief communiqué that "it is again pointed out that no decision of any kind will be taken before an official confirmation of the news."

Officials of the Jewish Agency here contended that information from their headquarters in Palestine verified reports that organized fighting forces of regulars had launched what appeared to be the major Arab move to take over the Holy Land by the time Britain's mandate ended May 15.

A spokesman, quoting dispatches from Jerusalem, said that while Syrian troops reported taking part in the invasion were not wearing the official uniform and insignia of regular units there was no mistaking their identity in view of the military equipment they had, including armored cars.

These dispatches, he added, also told of the arrival Friday of 1,500 Iraqi troops in Amman, Trans-Jordan, where they were said to have received a proclamation of Iraq's Regent sending them into action.

In addition to the Iraqi forces, according to these intelligence reports, there were forty planes and great quantities of ammunition.

Still another Jewish Agency intelligence report told of an alleged meeting on Friday between King Abdullah of Trans-Jordan and the Premier and Defense Minister of Syria. The Syrian Premier was quoted as having assured King Abdullah, who previously said that he would lead an Arab invasion army into Palestine before the British mandate ended, that Syria would contribute regular army troops to the force even if that meant the eventual withdrawal of Syria from the United Nations.

Faris el-Khouri, permanent representative for Syria at the United Nations, curtly denied this allegation, and then encompassed a reply to all the Jewish Agency charges in the single statement that they were "all false—all lies."

Isa Nakleh, representing the Palestine Arab Higher Committee here, echoed the same denials but with even more vigor. He stressed that the Arabs had long ago announced their decision that they would not invade Palestine before May 15, and that if they acted after that date they would enter "by legal right."

The protests by the Jewish Agency, according to Mr. Nakleh, are intended merely to agitate the United Nations. The Arabs participating in the fighting, he contended, are volunteers. "If the Jews have a right to enlist volun-

teers all over the world, aren't we entitled to?" he asked.

An official in the Secretariat explained that the Jewish Agency request for immediate Council action was a "marginal question" so far as its legality was concerned. The Agency has not the privilege of submitting a case to the Council, but, the official added, the Council's president is certain to give moral weight to any requests submitted either by the Arab Higher Committee or the Jewish Agency in view of their special status.