

TEL AVIV SUFFERS LIGHT AIR ATTACKS

Israeli Men Take Sarafand Camp, Seized by Arabs on British Withdrawal

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TEL AVIV, Israel, May 19— There was another series of air raids on Tel Aviv today but the attacks were on a small scale and the damage caused was negligible. Planes came in singly, bombed and flew off in the direction of Egypt.

The raids contrasted with yesterday's spectacular attacks in which a bus station was bombed, killing forty-one persons and injuring sixty.

The Haganah announced today that an Israel victory was scored at Sarafand with the capture of a former British Army headquarters there from the Arabs.

The Arabs occupied the camp when the British left on May 15. Israeli forces stormed the camp and after overcoming strong Arab resistance moved in and took over. The Zionists bought the camp from the British and it was supposed to have been turned over to the Zionists on the day of the evacuation. But there was a slip-up in the arrangements and when the Zionists arrived to take over on the fifteenth the British already had left and the Arabs were in control.

Sarafand was the largest British camp in Palestine, covering about 500 acres. It is twenty miles southeast of Tel Aviv and a short distance from the Arab town of Ramleh, which Israeli advance forces entered today. Ramleh is an Arab strongpoint, a few miles from Lydda.

State Virtually Intact

At the moment the state of Israel is virtually intact with the exception of minor infiltrations made in the south by the Arab legion in the direction of Beersheba through the Negeb Desert. Egyptian forces have crossed the border and occupied a seventy-two-mile by five-mile strip up to Gaza, but this is part of the partition area granted to the Arabs. The nearest point to Tel Aviv now commanded by the Arabs is Lydda, which is now under attack. It is about twenty miles from Tel Aviv.

If Ramleh and Lydda fall, and there are indications in this direction, Israel will straighten its inner north-south line.

In the north the campaigns appear to be directed toward line straightening also and it begins to look as if another Arab indentation south from the Lebanese border may be eliminated. Safed, at the lower part of this swath, has fallen and Israeli troops are now at the Lebanese border.

In the Judean hills, south of Jerusalem, the village of Har Tuv was evacuated by Israeli forces.

The village had been isolated and could no longer hold out. In Sharon Valley the Arabs launched a heavy counter-attack a few days ago but the attack failed. In the Jordan Valley Kaukab el Hawa, southwest of Gesher, was attacked unsuccessfully with the loss of thirty dead to the Arab invaders, the Haganah reported.