

**Battle Rages for Ramleh**

TEL AVIV, May 19 (AP)—Irgun Zvai Leumi fighters were trying to capture Ramleh and thus give the Israel control of a strategic position astride communications in that sector.

Foreign reports that Egyptians from the south and Syrians from the north had joined in the vicinity of Lydda and Ramleh were discounted here. Even if they had, the capture of Sarafand would cut them in two again. [A dispatch from inside Jerusalem said the Arabs had reached Latrun, nine miles southeast of Ramleh on the highway to Jerusalem.]

Word that Sarafand had fallen caused rejoicing in Tel Aviv. The Zionists hope to take advantage of its facilities to house 20,000 refugees to the new state.

The Zionists figured that they had a profit of \$2,500,000 in the victory; they said they offered the British that much for the camp.

Israeli military headquarters reported also that Jewish forces captured El Kubiaba, south of Rehovoth—below Ramleh—and repulsed an Arab attack on Kabaub el Hawa, south of the Sea of Galilee. The Jews said thirty Arabs were killed in the latter action.

Mayor Israel Rokach of Tel Aviv has protested the Egyptian aerial bombings of Tel Aviv to President Truman, it was announced tonight.

Similar protests were cabled to Soviet Foreign Minister Molotov and Trygve Lie, Secretary General of the United Nations.

The cables asked that Egypt be compelled to stop the "murderous attacks on this peace-loving city and its citizens."