

LEBANESE SEND REPLY TO U. S. ON SEIZURES

BEIRUT, Lebanon, May 22 (AP)—

The Lebanese Government's reply to the United States' protest against the arrest and internment of forty American passengers from the United States ship *Marine Carp* was cabled today to Washington.

Lowell C. Pinkerton, United States Minister to Lebanon, would not disclose the contents. An informed Lebanese source said the note contended that Lebanon had acted within her rights because "we are convinced these people are en route to Palestine to bear arms against our people."

Mr. Pinkerton said the note had been handed to him by the Lebanese Foreign Ministry and was forwarded immediately to Washington.

The Lebanese Foreign Ministry will be closed until Monday. A press attaché told foreign newsmen that they would be permitted to visit the place of interment at Balabeck on Monday. The attaché said that sixty-nine suspected Zionists, including the forty interned Americans, were being held.

The interference by Egypt and Lebanon with American passengers and cargoes en route to Israel was branded yesterday as a violation of international law by the Lawyers Committee for Justice in Palestine.