BERNADOTTE BARS ARAB-ISRAELI TALK
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Says He Will Meet Two Groups Separately — Tel Aviv Is Wary of Extending Truce

CAIRO, Egypt, June 18 (AP)— Count Folke Bernadotte arrived at his peace headquarters in Rhodes today to begin the attempt to set up a basis for a permanent Palestine settlement.

The United Nations mediator reached the Greek island after conferences in Cairo and Tel Aviv where he received assurances that Arab and Israeli experts would be sent in the role of consultants to help him shape a peace plan. These delegations are expected in Rhodes on Monday.

The Count said he did not expect to have a proposal ready for Israeli and Arab consideration before a week. He said it was too early to say whether top Arab and Israeli leaders would go to the Aegean island to talk peace.

"We must move by easy stages," Rhodes dispatches quoted him as saying. "There is no question of any kind of round-table conference yet."

He expressed satisfaction that the cease-fire was now functioning but said there might be some minor incidents in the coming weeks.

Grave Doubts in Tel Aviv

In Tel Aviv, however, grave doubts were expressed that the truce would last more than another ten days. Preparations were going ahead in Israel for any eventuality.

Tel Aviv had the same tightly guarded blackout last night as it had every night during the month preceding the cease-fire.

Thousands of Israel's troops have returned from the front and are in camps where officers are putting them through intensive training. They have been replaced at the front by thousands of others.

Israeli mobilization for possible renewal of the fighting was continuing. All classes of able-bodied men up to 36 years of age have been called for combat duty. Those over 42 have been mobilized in the Home Guard. Those from 36 to 42 are to be called up as needed. A new order this week authorized the mobilization of men up to 55 and women up to 50 for essential work.

Local arms manufacture was being rushed at top speed in the new state. Under the truce Israel cannot import arms.

SITTING OUT THE WAR IN PALESTINE



An Israeli MP guarding Arab prisoners in the ancient Acre prison
The New York Times (by Gossett, Israel)

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