EGYPTIANS ASSERT ISRAELIS SLEW 37 IN GAZA ATTACKS
By ROBERT C. DOTYSpecial to The New York Times.
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Army Reports Headquarters Blown Up and Troop Truck Ambushed by Raiders

By ROBERT C. DOTY
Special to The New York Times.

CAIRO, Tuesday, March 1—An Egyptian spokesman said that Israeli forces killed thirty-seven Egyptians and wounded twenty-nine others in an attack in the Gaza area last night.

Lieut. Col. Salah Gohar, director of Palestine affairs for the Egyptian Army, said that the incident occurred between 8:30 and 11 o'clock last night nearly two miles inside Egyptian territory northeast and south of Gaza.

On the basis of information telephoned to Cairo from Egyptian headquarters at Gaza, Colonel Gohar gave the following account of the incident:

At 8:30 P. M., a well and a pump providing one-third of the water supply to 100,000 residents and Arab refugees in the town of Gaza was blown up. Shortly thereafter, demolition charges blew up an Egyptian Army administrative headquarters northeast of Gaza and the ruins were sprayed with light automatic weapons fire.

Capt. Mahmoud Ahmed Sadiq, commanding the headquarters, and fourteen soldiers were killed, while fifteen others were wounded.

Truck Hits a Mine

Later, a truck carrying a lieutenant and thirty-five soldiers from a camp south of the Gaza area struck a mine on a road leading to the town. The wreckage of the truck was fired upon in ambush and twenty-two persons were killed and fourteen wounded.

Other forces returned fire as the Israeli patrol withdrew across the armistice demarcation line.

"This by all odds is the most serious incident since the signing of the armistice agreement between Egypt and Israel on Feb. 24, 1949," Colonel Gohar said. "That it was a clearly planned and prearranged attack is demonstrated by the Israeli preparations for the ambush of the line of reinforcements. Such action may lead to the most serious consequences."

A complaint was filed immediately with the Egyptian-Israeli Mixed Armistice Commission. It is expected to send United Nations observers to the scene today. Observers here saw a danger that once the incident became known by the Egyptian public there would be pressure for retaliation on the same scale as the attack. This could easily lead to an outbreak of full-scale hostilities.

Last night's action was the second within a week involving Egyptian Army casualties. An Egyptian Army outpost near Rafa was shelled with mortars and two Egyptian corporals and two soldiers were wounded.

Incidents have been frequent along the demarcation line, usu-

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ally involving clashes between security forces on one side and civilian infiltrators from the other. Seldom have armed units clashed. Never before have the casualties been heavy as in last night's incidents.

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