Israelis Say Troops Meet Two Divisions As Drive Continues
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By The Associated Press.

TEL AVIV, Israel, Thursday, Nov. 1—Israeli troops driving westward across the Sinai desert have encountered two full Egyptian divisions, a Government source said today.

The divisions were described as being in full strength—about 20,000 men.

[An Israeli communiqué early Thursday said: "Action in Sinai is continuing according to plan and our forces have widened the area under their control." No further report had been received up to 5 A. M., New York time.

[On Israel's northeast border, Syrian and Israeli patrols clashed during the night, said a Syrian account reported by The United Press.]

A military source reported that Israeli planes had now shot down nine Egyptian planes, including a Soviet-type MIG-17.

The Israelis were reported to have encircled partly the Egyptian-held Gaza Strip on the Mediterranean. According to an earlier Israeli Army announcement, elements had advanced

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from Abu Aweigila, south of Gaza, toward El Arish on the coast. This would sever the Gaza Strip from Egypt.

No clear picture of the land battle has been given officially, however.

Here in Tel Aviv, an air raid alarm sounded early today, but no planes appeared over the city during the fifteen-minute alert.

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