British, French Ties Cut
By OSGOOD CARUTHERS Special to The New York Times.
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CAIRO, Nov. 1—Egypt broke off relations with Britain and France today as planes of the two countries continued around-the-clock bombing.

[The Cairo Government seized all British and French property in Egypt, The Associated Press reported. Authorities also announced the closing of the Suez Canal as a result of the air attacks, The United Press said.]

As bombs and anti-aircraft fire shook Cairo in an afternoon raid, President Gamal Abdel Nasser broadcast in calm, emphatic tones that arms would be distributed to all Egyptian people and that he would join them in fighting the British and French "from village to village, from house to house" and "to

Continued on Page 5, Column 1

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NASSER PLEDGES FIGHT TO THE END

Continued From Page 1

the last drop of my blood."

The Suez Canal, which Britain and France had said they aimed to seize to protect freedom of navigation, was blocked by the sinking of an Egyptian troopship, the Egyptians asserted. They said British bombers had sunk the vessel near the Firdan bridge on the main road leading across the canal to the Sinai Peninsula.

President Nasser implied that the bombings, which had continued through two days and two nights, had hampered the activities of his Air Force.

He said he had thus decided to withdraw the bulk of his Sinai defense forces to permit them "to join the people in their battle."

The implication was that the Egyptian leader had decided to concentrate his forces in a fight against the expected landing of the British and French, leaving only rear guard elements to try to hold off the Israelis.

Oil Concerns Are Seized

CAIRO, Nov. 1 (AP)—The Egyptian Government today ordered the Finance Ministry to take over all British and French property in Egypt.

Among the properties are the Anglo-Egyptian oil field, a subsidiary of British Shell, and the French-owned Société Egyptienne Pétrole.

Meanwhile, air raid sirens screamed repeatedly in Cairo and British and French warplanes flew over the Nile Delta and Canal Zone to bomb vital installations.

Egyptian military headquarters said six British planes had been knocked down over the Nile Delta, four of them around the big port of Alexandria, and that another had been damaged.

A communiqué said a mosque and populous quarters of Cairo had been hit by bombs and that all Egypt's airfields were under attack.

[A Cairo broadcast as monitored in London said that two women had been killed by air raids on Alexandria and that several houses had been damaged.]

The announcement of the blocking of the canal was made in this Government statement:

"British and French aircraft raided our land forces while they were crossing the Suez Canal at different points and especially near El Ferdan and bombarded the Egyptian warship Akka while passing through the Suez Canal near Timsah Lake. The ship was sunk in the canal and as a result navigation was stopped in the waterway.

"Britain and France stopped navigation in the canal by their action at a time when they shook the world claiming they were protecting navigation in the canal."

The Akka is a 2,140-ton tank landing ship acquired from the United States. Lake Timsah is the halfway point in the 103-mile canal.

Nasser Cites Algerians

President Nasser's broadcast to the Egyptians said:

"We shall fight hard. We shall never give up."

Encouraging the Egyptians with the thought that they had "brothers in Algeria" and in Cyprus fighting against the French and British, President Nasser said, "We shall fight a major war—the soldiers will be the Egyptian people side by side with the Egyptian armed forces."

There were precedents, he said, for a small country with limited resources, fighting against powerful antagonists. He cited the fight of Yugoslavia and Greece against the Germans in World War II and the post-war fight of the Indonesians for independence from the Netherlands, and said these countries finally won.

Calling Israel an "ally" of Britain and France, he said the Egyptians needed "patience and faith" to win. He spoke in a calm, firm voice, after martial music had been played over the national radio. He said eighteen Israeli planes had been knocked down by the Egyptian Air Force since Monday, against the loss of two Egyptian planes.

By late afternoon there had been eight air raid alerts in the Cairo area.

Watchers here said the air attacks appeared to be directed at airports northeast of Cairo. Some suburban residents in that direction were leaving their homes. Universities and primary and secondary schools were closed, however, and a general mobilization affecting all classes between the ages of 21 to 25 was being carried out.

Newspapers said 35,000 volunteers who had completed training in guerrilla tactics in the National Liberation Army and the National Guard had reported to base camps.

The Interior Ministry ordered all British and French citizens in Egypt to report to local authorities within three days to register property and place of residence.

Many Britons and Frenchmen —including newsmen—were deciding whether they would try to go home with the diplomats or face possible internment. Two convoys shepherded by police cars moved out of Cairo with 1,285 Americans for Alexandria, where they hoped to board United States Navy transports. They were mainly women and children.

The Egyptian High Command was almost silent today on the fighting against Israel in the Sinai Desert. But it said a fourth of the Israeli Air Force had been wiped out, and that French planes had joined Israeli aircraft in strafing Egyptian ground forces in that sector.

Swiss to Aid London, Paris

BERN, Switzerland, Nov. 1 (UP)—The Swiss Government has told Britain and France that it will protect their interests in Egypt, it was announced here today. Britain and France asked Swiss assistance after Egypt broke off diplomatic relations with them.

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