**Communiques on the Middle East Fighting**
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# Communiques on the Middle East Fighting

## British-French

*NICOSIA, Cyprus, Nov. 1 (UP)—Following are the texts of communiqués issued by British-French headquarters here today:*

*No. 1:*

Allied Air Forces continued assaults on military airfields in Egypt and the (Suez) Canal Zone from dawn today.

A preliminary analysis of yesterday's bombing showed it was carried out with success and accuracy.

*No. 2:*

British and French carrier and shore-based aircraft today renewed the Allied forces offensive against Egyptian military airfields.

Four airfields which were targets for Allied bombers yesterday were bombed and strafed again this morning, while five more in the delta and Canal Zone also came in for low-level attack.

No losses have been incurred by Allied aircraft since the offensive began at dusk yesterday. A number of attempted interceptions have been made by Egyptian jet fighters, and last night desultory anti-aircraft fire was met by raiding aircraft.

This morning's early morning attacks followed a short lull in operations during the hours of darkness. Today's operations took on a new complexion, with low-level bombing replacing medium-level raids.

Results of last night's bombing are still coming in, but a preliminary survey has underlined its effectiveness and accuracy.

*No. 3:*

An Egyptian block ship which was being towed into a sinking position toward the Lake Timsah Channel halfway down the Suez Canal was twice attacked by British aircraft today.

At the second attempt it was sunk. It is believed clear of the channel, outside the demarcation buoys.

Egyptian reports that this was a deliberate attempt to block the canal are wholly without foundation.

Egyptian claims to have bombed R. A. F. stations in Cyprus are quite untrue.

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*A night communiqué:*

Allied bomber aircraft made concentrated attacks on four Egyptian Air Force airfields this evening. These aircraft were components of forces under control CINC (Commander in Chief) Gen. Sir Charles Keightley, whose deputy is Admiral Pierre Barjot, CINC French forces.

Opposition was encountered from anti-aircraft guns but none from fighters. All our aircraft have so far returned safely. Bombing started at dusk and airfields attacked were Almaza and Inchass near Cairo and Abusuweir and Kabrit, former Royal Air Force stations in the Canal Zone.

Targets were marked by flares dropped by Pathfinder aircraft.

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*LONDON, Nov. 1 (UP)—Following is the text of an Air Ministry communiqué on operations in the Middle East:*

The first wave of R. A. F. fighter-bomber Venom Mark 4's which started all-day strafing of the Egyptian Air Force airfields this morning, reported that the only opposition was ineffectual anti-aircraft fire.

No reports of casualties to the aircraft taking part have been received at the Air Ministry. In addition to fourteen Egyptian aircraft reported destroyed on the ground, the R. A. F. claims ten others damaged on the ground.

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*LONDON, Friday, Nov. 2 (AP)—The Defense Ministry issued the following communiqué as of last night:*

Allied air operations aimed at neutralizing the Egyptian Air Force shifted their emphasis today (Thursday) from the bombing of military airfields to attacks on individual aircraft and airfield installations.

British and French naval strike aircraft operating from carriers jointed land-based ground attack fighter aircraft in sustaining the offensive against nine airfields in the Delta, four of which have been under continual bombardment since air operations were mounted last (Wednesday) night.

Cairo West military airfield was attacked for the first time.

*PARIS, Nov. 1 (AP)—Text of a communiqué issued by the French Defense Ministry this morning:*

Action against this airfield had been deferred until convoys evacuating American nationals from the capital had cleared the immediate area.

No Allied losses have been reported. Egyptian interceptor aircraft were sighted by Allied pilots but failed to come to grips with the raiding aircraft.

Photographic reconnaissance has revealed extensive damage to runways, dispersal aprons and hangars.

Over fifty Egyptian aircraft on the ground are believed to have been destroyed and at least forty seriously damaged. French aircraft attacked and set on fire an Egyptian destroyer of the Russian Skory class off Alexandria this morning.

French and British aircraft carriers joined action in the course of the morning. British-French naval forces are approaching the Suez Canal from the north in the Mediterranean and from the south in the Gulf of Suez.

*A night communiqué of the Defense Ministry:*

Since the evening of Oct. 31 Allied Air Forces, and particularly French aircraft, have been attacking Egyptian military centers, particularly military airfields in the region between the Suez Canal and the Nile.

The reports emphasize the success and precision of our bombardments. Until now our aircraft have encountered practically no effective opposition from the Egyptian Air Force or anti-aircraft defense.

## Egyptian

*CAIRO, Nov. 1 (UP)—Following are the texts of communiqués issued by Egypt today:*

*Communique No. 10:*

British and French planes throughout last night raided all Egyptian airfields, with planes still arriving at the time of the writing of this communiqué.

Also several French squadrons joined with Israeli aircraft in attacking our land forces in the Sinai Peninsula, after our air force succeeded in wiping out more than one-fourth of the Israeli Air Force during the first two days of fighting.

*An earlier unnumbered communiqué:*

Three air raids by British and French jet bombers on Cairo at 1700 G. M. T., 1845 G. M. T. and 2030 G. M. T. resulted in hits on the military academy, a mosque, the Al Maza hospital, the Cairo International Airport and several airfields and a few places in the Shubra district. Loss of life totaled nine.

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*LONDON, Nov. 1 (AP)—The text of an Egyptian communique broadcast by the Cairo radio in Arabic tonight:*

There were nine British air raids on Cairo today, three on Alexandria and three in the Suez Canal Zone area. In the Alexandria raids several houses were damaged and two women were killed.

## Israeli

*TEL AVIV, Israel, Nov. 1 (AP)—An Israeli Army communiqué this morning said:*

The action in the Sinai area is continuing according to plan and our forces have widened the area under their control. An enemy convoy was attacked from the air today along the main axis road west of Bir Gifgafa and suffered losses. There were several fedayeen (commando) actions from the Gaza Strip, resulting in the death of two Israeli civilians. Along the rest of Israel's border it is quiet.

*An Israeli communiqué this afternoon:*

The Israeli forces are continuing their advance toward the Canal.

A large amount of military equipment has fallen into the hands of the army, including T-34 tanks. These were immediately put into action by the army.

There have been a number of armored battles and the air force assisted, attacking enemy armored and transport concentrations. A large number of enemy vehicles in the Central Sinai were destroyed. The air forces assisted the ground forces in their advance.

Egyptian Air Force activity over the area was very weak.

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