

Associated Press

RESUPPLYING THE MARINES: Chinook helicopter landing on Hill 174 to bring U.S. Marines needed supplies during the fighting near demilitarized zone in South Vietnam.

FIGHTING IS HEAVY

Each Side Accuses Other of Making First Assault

By TERENCE SMITH
Special to The New York Times

TEL AVIV, Monday, June 5—Heavy fighting broke out early this morning between Israeli and Egyptian forces along the Sinai border, according to a statement issued by an army spokesman here.

The communiqué issued at 8 A.M. (2 A.M. Eastern Daylight time) read as follows:

"Since the early hours of this morning, heavy fighting has been taking place on the southern front between Egyptian armored and aerial forces which moved against Israel and our forces which went into action in order to check them."

The Government refused any further comment. However Kol Israel, the state broadcasting service, reported at 9 A.M. that there had been two Egyptian attempts to penetrate Israeli air space and that these attempts had been turned back by Israeli planes.

Despite the announcement of apparent warning, Jerusalem remained quiet. Traffic moved freely through the streets of the capital. There was no sound or sign of attack from the Jordanian section.

[The Cairo radio, monitored in Beirut, reported that Israeli planes had raided Cairo and other areas, Reuters said. The radio said that 42 Israeli planes had been shot down.]

Army and Planes in Action

By The Associated Press

TEL AVIV, Monday, June 5—Heavy fighting broke out early today between Israeli and Egyptian forces in Southern Israel, the Israeli Army announced.

The army said Egyptian armored and air forces "moved against Israel. and our forces went into action in order to check them."

The announcement said there was heavy fighting on the southern front.

The southern front is the flank facing the 80,000 Egyptian troops in the Gaza Strip and the Sinai Desert.

The fighting was the first serious clash reported since the new Arab-Israeli crisis developed three weeks ago. President Gamal Abdel Nasser of the United Arab Republic had said previously that Egypt would not make the first move against Israel but would meet any Israeli attack.

Cairo Radio asserted that Israeli forces had invaded Egypt and that Egyptian forces were resisting.

Air raid sirens were sounded for practice alarms in several Israeli cities this morning, sending people hurrying to the shelters.

Kol Israel, the government radio, said people were more surprised than frightened since there had been no indication that war was imminent.

A second Israeli Army communiqué, issued at 8:45 A.M.

Continued on Page 5, Column 3

Reproduced with permission of the copyright owner. Further reproduction prohibited without permission.

ISRAELIS BATTLE EGYPTIAN FORCES

Continued From Page 1, Col. 8

(2:45 A.M. Eastern Daylight time) said:

"A large number of Egyptian aircraft were seen approaching the Israel coast as well as toward the Negev. Israeli aircraft rose to engage them. Heavy fighting is going on."

The Negev is Israel's southern desert facing Egypt.

Cairo Reports Attack

BEIRUT, Monday, June 5 (Reuters)—Egypt said today that Israel had launched land and air attacks on her territory, including air raids on Cairo and other parts of the country.

Syria broadcast an announcement that "we are now in the heart of the battle."

Cairo Radio Reports

CAIRO, Monday, June 5 (UPI)—The Cairo radio interrupted programs today to report that Israeli forces had attacked Egyptian forces.

At 3:35 A.M. New York time Cairo said in an alert to Egyptian armed forces in Gaza and Sinai — and particularly near the Israeli port of Elath:

"The time has come to revenge, attack and liberate Palestine from Zionist gangs."

The message also was directed to "our brothers in Jordan and Syria."

42 Planes Claimed

BEIRUT, Lebanon, Monday, June 5 (Reuters)—The Cario radio said today that 42 Israeli planes had been shot down so far in raids on Cairo and other Egyptian targets.

A broadcast from Syria appealed to the people to "rise for fighting . . . the hour of victory has come." It did not make clear whether Syrian troops were actually in combat.

The Israeli radio said that Egyptian armored forces moved at dawn towards the Negev.

At the same time, radar screens showed numerous jet aircraft approaching the Israeli coast and coming from the south towards the Negev, the radio said.

"Egypt has launched this morning an air and ground offensive," the radio added.

Call to Arms Issued

BEIRUT, Monday, June 5 (AP)—The Cair radio said this morning that Arab armies were moving on all fronts against the enemy.

"O Arab soldiers in Jordan and Syria, your time has come, Attack, destroy and liberate Palestine and launch yourselfs against Tel Aviv," the broadcast said.

It said Israel had fallen into the trap by beginning aggression.

Reproduced with permission of the copyright owner. Further reproduction prohibited without permission.