

Arab People Resist Israeli Aggressors

by Our Correspondent

THE flames of war flared up in the Middle East on October 6 when the Israeli Zionists suddenly launched a new military aggression against Egypt and Syria. This large-scale Israeli armed attack infuriated the Arab people and an angry wave to resist the aggressors is sweeping the Arab world. The governments and people of the various Arab countries are supporting Egypt and Syria in various ways—moral, material and manpower—to resist the aggressors on the land and sea and in the air. Just condemnation of Israeli Zionism and support for the Arab people rings out in all parts of the world.

First Success in Action

From the first day of the resistance, inspiring news of victories by the armed forces and people of Egypt, Syria and Palestine continued pouring in. In their counter-attack, the Egyptian armed forces crossed the Suez Canal and pushed eastwards. They liberated the capital city of Sinai El Qantara which had been occupied by the Israelis since 1967 and broke through the Bar-Lev line—vaunted by the Israelis as “impassable.” On October 9 the heroic Egyptian forces fought a fierce tank battle with the enemy in the central part of the east bank of the Suez Canal during which they completely wiped out the Israeli 190th Armoured Brigade and captured its commander Colonel Assaf Yagoury.

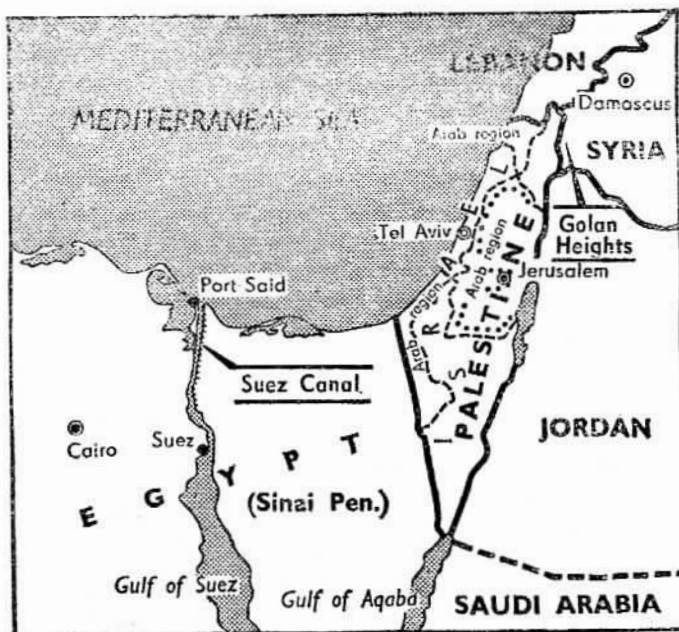
As on the western front, the northern front also saw favourable gains. The Syrian forces and Palestinian guerrillas who are buoyed up with a great fighting mood are dealing blows to the blustering Israeli aggressors. Fiercely engaging the enemy in the occupied Golan Heights, the Syrian forces destroyed a number of enemy fortified positions, beat back several enemy counter-thrusts and are resolutely organizing counter-attacks. At the front and in the enemy's rear, the Palestinian guerrillas are successfully attacking Israeli army camps and reserve units, ambushing enemy convoys, blowing up enemy military installations, and disrupting enemy communications.

A Western news agency report said people with connections in the Pentagon believe that Israel suffered

greater losses in these several days than during the entire June 5 war in 1967. Yitzhak Hofi, Israel's commander of the northern front, lamented: “We have never faced such difficult and critical conditions as we have here.”

Fighting the Common Enemy

On the evening of the day the war broke out, many leaders of Arab countries strongly denounced the Israeli Zionists for launching the new aggression against Egypt and Syria and expressed all-out support for the two countries in their just struggle to resist the aggressors. From Algeria to Saudi Arabia, from both shores of the Red Sea to the Gulf of Aden, the Arab world was astir: In their messages to President Sadat of Egypt and President Assad of Syria, President Boumedienne of Algeria, Chairman Kazafi of Libya, President Nimeri of Sudan, Prime Minister Solh of Lebanon, King Faisal of Saudi Arabia, Emir Khalifa Benhammed Al Thani of Qatar, Amir Sabah Al-Salem



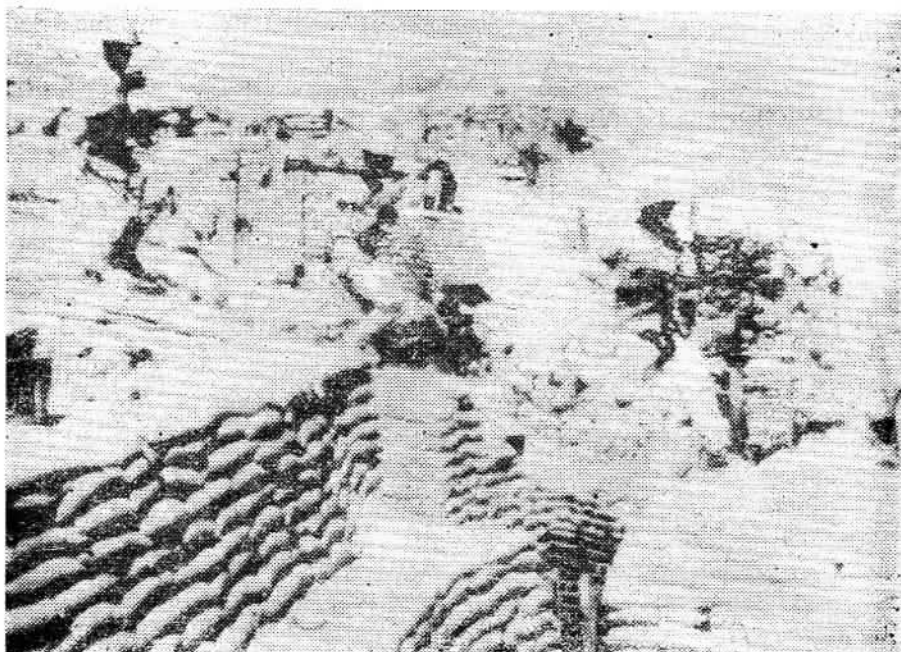
Al-Sabah of Kuwait, King Hassan of Morocco, President Abdu Rahaman Al Eriani of the Yemen Arab Republic, President Ahmed Hassan Al Bakr of Iraq, President Bourguiba of Tunisia, Premier Ali Nasser Mohamed Hassoni of the People's Democratic Republic of Yemen, President Zayid Bin Sultan Alanahayan of the United Arab Emirates and Emir Isa Bin Sulman Al-Khalifa of Bahrain said that they stood on the side of their Egyptian and Syrian brothers and that they had decided to provide men and material resources to support Egypt and Syria in their war of resistance.

Combat troops from Algeria, Sudan, Morocco and Iraq had either already gone to the front lines or had arrived in Cairo to await orders. A Jordanian military spokesman announced over Amman Radio on October 13 that the Jordanian Supreme Command had decided to send its armed forces into Syria to shoulder their military duty in the present battle in defence of sacred Arab land. The Saudi Arabian Defence Ministry announced on October 14 that Saudi Arabian troops had entered Syria to fight by the side of the Syrian armed forces against the Israeli aggressors. Some Arab countries like Tunisia, Morocco, Lebanon and Kuwait sent medical teams and large quantities of medicine. Kuwait's Ministry of Public Health announced cancellation of leave for doctors and nurses and called for readiness to receive the wounded in its hospitals.

A Just Cause Enjoys Abundant Support

The just struggle of the Egyptian, Syrian and other Arab peoples against Israeli aggression received immediate and widespread sympathy and support. The Third World and other countries and people who uphold justice have clearly expressed their stand with the Arab world.

In Africa, President Daddah of Mauritania on October 6 sent identical messages to President Sadat and President Assad which said: "Just as I have solemnly assured you, our indefectible solidarity and unconditional support to you will continue till triumph in our common just cause." On the same day, President Amin of Uganda cabled President Sadat and Chairman Kazafi informing them that all Ugandan military officers undergoing training in Egypt and Libya had been instructed to join the two countries' troops fighting Israel. In separate messages to the Presidents of Egypt and Syria on October 7, President of the Somali Supreme Revolutionary Council Mohamed Siad Barre expressed full support for them in their "battle of destiny against the enemy." He urged all Arab heads of state to take collective action to support Egypt and Syria militarily and materially to defeat Israel. In



Breaching the so-called "impassable" Bar-Lev line.

his messages to the leaders of Egypt, Syria, Sudan, Algeria and many other Arab countries, President Toure of Guinea expressed full support for the struggle against Israeli aggression by the people of the various Arab countries. President Micombero of Burundi in his message to President Sadat said: "All available forces of Burundi are at your disposal for the fight with our common enemy." After Israel launched its aggression, Tanzania, the People's Republic of the Congo and other African countries issued government statements supporting Egypt and Syria in their struggle against aggression. Emperor Haile Selassie I of Ethiopia on October 8 issued a statement which declared: "It is clear that so long as the territories occupied by force are not returned to the governments concerned, these governments will be compelled to take any measure to regain their territories."

Statements denouncing Israel and supporting the Egyptian and Syrian peoples multiplied; in Cairo and Damascus, messages of solidarity kept pouring in from other capitals. Among those who sent messages to the Egyptian and Syrian Presidents pledging firm support for the Arab people's struggle against aggression were President Kim Il Sung of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Prime Minister Bhutto of Pakistan, President Lleshi of the Presidium of the Albanian People's Assembly and Cambodian Head of State Samdech Norodom Sihanouk. Statements showing solidarity were also made by the Government of the Democratic Republic of Viet Nam, the Provisional Revolutionary Government of the Republic of South Viet Nam, the Central Committee of the Lao Patriotic Front and the Federal Executive Council of Yugoslavia.

As the Arab people rose to repulse the Israeli Zionists' armed aggression, the governments of such African countries as Rwanda, Upper Volta, Dahomey

and Cameroon announced the severance of diplomatic relations with Israel.

Israel's Fourth War of Aggression

The massive armed attack on Egypt and Syria which the Israeli Zionists launched on October 6 with the support and connivance of the superpowers is Israel's fourth large-scale war of aggression against the Arab countries in a quarter of a century.

The first Israeli war of aggression began on May 15, 1948. In that war, which did not end until February 1949, Israel seized and occupied more than half of the Arab regions apportioned to the Palestinian people under a United Nations resolution and the western half of the City of Jerusalem, altogether covering 6,700 square kilometres. This brought about large numbers of displaced Arabs.

The second war of aggression started on October 29, 1956. Israel made inroads into Egypt and occupied by force the Gaza Strip and the Sinai Peninsula until March 8, 1957 when it was forced to withdraw.

The third one broke out on June 5, 1967. During this "blitzkrieg," Israel occupied the West Bank of the Jordan River, that part of Jerusalem under Jordanian jurisdiction, the Gaza Strip, the Sinai Peninsula, and the Golan Heights in Syria, totalling over 65,000 square kilometres, and made nearly half a million Arabs homeless refugees.

That Israeli Zionism dares to launch wars of aggression again and again against the Arab countries is the upshot of the policy of aggression and expansion pursued by the imperialists in the Middle East; it is inseparable from the support and connivance of the two superpowers. What they have been doing is detrimental to the interests of the Arab nation, plung-

ing the Middle East into a prolonged state of "no war, no peace."

The initial victories in their heroic fight against the Israeli aggressors scored by the armed forces and people of Egypt, Syria and Palestine have broken the stalemate of "no war, no peace" created in the Middle East by the two superpowers in their own interests, struck heavy blows at the arrogance of the Israeli aggressors and raised the Arab people's morale.

A Just Cause Is Bound to Win

In the present struggle against the Israeli Zionists' aggression, the Arab countries and people are more united than ever before, taking concerted action in dealing with the invaders. This fighting in unity is the very guarantee for victory.

The Arab people's just struggle has won the wide sympathy and support of the whole Third World as well as all countries and people upholding justice, a sympathy and support which in turn inspires the Arab people to carry on the fighting.

The Chinese people have all along sympathized with and supported the just struggle of the Arab countries and people. Immediately after Israel unleashed its October 6 war of aggression, the Chinese Government and people expressed firm support for the Arab people in their just struggle to recover their lost land and restore their national rights. "A just cause enjoys abundant support." The Chinese people are deeply convinced that as long as the Arab people close their ranks further, rely on their own strength and keep themselves strong, persevere in a prolonged struggle and continue to do away with the obstructions and difficulties in their advance, they are sure to win victory in their struggle against aggression.