

Enforce the UN Decision

AN EDITORIAL

VIOLENCE has begun in Palestine. Both Jews and Arabs are being killed, as reactionary Arab leaders inflame their followers against the United Nations decision to set up independent Jewish and Arab states. Not only are Jews the victims of mob passions but in Syria, a dictatorial regime is clearly taking advantage of the Palestine issue to suppress the Syrian Communists, who are Arabs themselves. And all this looks like just the beginning.

Shall the world sit by and watch all this, or is there anything which the UN, and the United States can do?

We think there is.

We believe an appeal from United Nations Secretary General Trygve Lie to the Arab states, which are UN members, could have some effect.

President Truman could help, too, by ordering an immediate embargo on all arms from surplus supplies now being given to the Arab potentates.

Thirty-seven million dollars worth of such supplies were handed out, according to Bartley Crum—and the real amount is probably much higher. All transfers of these war supplies should be stopped.

And so should the program of airplanes, tanks and military aid to Turkey and Iran—both of whom voted with the Arab bloc, and could exercise a certain pressure on the Arab states.

Thirdly, the UN Security Council could meet to consider whether this violence constitutes a danger to peace and security. American-Soviet cooperation should remain in force, and exert itself against chaos in the Holy Land.

Fourthly, Britain could evacuate Palestine quickly, and do so without leaving arms behind for anybody who would defy the United Nations decision. An open pledge to this effect from London might help the situation.

Finally, Jewish leaders in Palestine have the obligation while defending themselves, to make practical approaches to democratic Arab forces in Palestine in order to counteract the Grand Mufti and his followers. Arab-Jewish solidarity to celebrate their joint gains under the UN plan is the need of the hour.