

MONTHLY NEWS LETTER No. 4.

June 1947

1. GENERAL

For a short time in June it seemed that the presence of UNSCOP (United Nations Special Committee on Palestine) was having a restraining effect on the extremists and tension throughout Palestine returned to normal.

On the 9 June, however, two British Policemen who had ventured into the swimming pool at RAMAT GAN were abducted, presumably to be held as hostages for the lives of the "Acre trial" prisoners. Tension rose rapidly as the news was broadcast but returned to normal the following day when the policemen were recovered. Troops approaching QIRYAT SHAUL, north of TEL AVIV disturbed the abductors who fled leaving their weapons behind and the policemen, still clad in bathing costumes, free to make their way to safety.

On the 18 June investigation of a minor explosion which occurred in a building near Citrus House, the British HQ at TEL AVIV, disclosed an attempt to under-mine the main building. The Haganah claim to have frustrated the attempt made by the extremists. The result being that everyone is now very 'tunnel' conscious.

On the 30 June a series of brutal and senseless attacks were made simultaneously in Haifa and Tel Aviv resulting in the death of one British Officer and three men.

The representations made by H.M. Government appear to have put a stop to illegal immigration but it is felt the lull is temporary.

2. OPERATIONS AND GUARD DUTIES

During June, the Bn was called upon to provide two detachments. 'C' Coy (Commander, Major C.J. Mumford MC) moved to TIBERIAS, the town founded by Herod Antipas in 21 A.D. on the edge of the Sea of Galilee. There, the Company was responsible for guarding Church House and providing escorts for servicemen from all over the Middle East who were attending courses of religious instruction under the direction of the Royal Army Chaplains' Department.

'D' Coy (Commander, Major D.R.F. Hart MC) moved to TEL LETWINSKY where they assisted in the guarding of HQ 1st Infantry Division.

The rest of the Bn at Camp 22 was fully engaged on guard duties and operations of a minor nature.

3. YET ANOTHER MOVE

On 22 June, the C.O., who had been officiating as Brigade Commander, returned from Divisional Headquarters to announce that the Brigade was to