Civil Militia Plan Studied

West Meets West in Bermuda

Syria, Israel Trade Fire

TUCKER'S TOWN, Bermuda, March 21. (UP)—President Eisenhower and Prime Minister Harold MacMillan began their formal talks (9:30 a. m. EST) today with the Middle East the top item on their agenda. The President and the Prime Minister opened the session with brief general statements on how they viewed world conditions. Then, flanked by their top foreign policy advisers, tackled one of the principal sources of friction between the two nations—the troubled Middle East.

Ike and MacMillan
Air Mideast Crisis

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Gardner Due To Depart?

WASHINGTON. (UP)—H. Freeman Matthews, U. S. ambassador to The Netherlands who will return to the United States June 1, may succeed Ambassador Arthur Gardner, it was learned today.

Gardner, ambassador to Cuba since May 1963, is due for replacement, an advance headquarters in Oriente.

Matthews, 54, and a foreign service career officer, served at the U. S. Embassy in Havana in 1933.

He has spent most of his career in Europe.

Gardner's expected departure is part of a general shake-up in Latin American ambassador posts now underway. President Eisenhower named a new ambassador to Bolivia this week and at the same time accepted the resignation of the U. S. ambassador to Paraguay.

According to United Press sources, the change in U. S. ambassadors is part of a series of moves in Latin American diplomatic appointments. The moves are believed to be part of a general shake-up in Latin American posts.

Gardner has been ambassador to Cuba since 1963. He was named to the post in 1951 as a career officer and has served in Cuba since then.

He is expected to leave his post in the near future. His departure will be announced at a later date.

Some civilian government officials have pointed out the dangers of losing control over such a reserve force unless it is organized and placed under the control of the national military establishment. It was also assumed that the creation of a military government would have been opposed because of lack of adequate reserve personnel.

It is understood that reports from Managua, Oriente, that between 100 and 150 civilians from that province have joined the guerrilla forces in the Sierra Maestra mountains over the weekend and that the revolutionary forces in that area.

It is also understood that the major attack carried out last week-end against the Boyacito outpost of the army's El Fuerte advance headquarters in Oriente province.

Revolutionaries are reported to have inflicted 90 casualties on the army in the surprise night attack, and to have killed 21 dead and wounded from their own ranks. The army, however, has officially denied an attack took place.

The Cuban military establishment is represented as feeling that government electoral plans should not interfere with practices of the reserve force. It would mean a big increase, because the army would be a civil war.