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## EGYPT AND ISRAEL SUFFER CASUALTIES IN BATTLE RAGING SEVERAL HOURS

TEL AVIV, March 1. (JTA) -- A battle which raged for several hours broke out during the night between Egyptian and Israel troops in the Gaza area when an Egyptian force invaded Israel territory. The battle developed first on Israel territory and later was carried to Egyptian territory, a military spokesman revealed here today. He said that the Israel unit which hurled the Egyptians back in retreat suffered a number of casualties and has since returned to its base.

An extraordinary meeting of the Israel Cabinet was called by Premier Moshe Sharett this afternoon. Premier Sharett reported to the Cabinet on the Israel casualties. The number of Israelis killed and wounded was not made public. (The Egyptian Government issued a statement in Cairo announcing that 37 Egyptians were killed and 30 wounded in the battle.)

A communique, considered by the Israelis as "unprecedented," was issued later in the day by the United Nations Truce Supervision Organization at Jerusalem. The "unprecedented" feature of the communique is that it was issued before the Egyptian-Israel Mixed Armistice Commission had established the facts and even before Egypt filed a protest with the commission. The communique reads:

"Last night, 28 February 1955, Israeli armed forces violently attacked the Egyptian military position near the Gaza railway station. Preliminary reports from United Nations observers indicate automatic weapons, mortars, hand grenades, Molotov cocktails and a large quantity of explosives were used. So far the casualties reported from the Egyptian side are 37 killed and about 30 wounded, very few of whom are civilians."

(At the UN headquarters in New York, various delegations expressed amazement at the speed with which the office of Gen. E. L. Burns, Chief of Staff of the United Nations Truce Supervision Organization, seemed ready to condemn Israel in connection with the flare-up of fighting along the Gaza strip.)

Last night, a military spokesman here reported that it was an Egyptian intelligence unit which was responsible for the murder last Thursday night of Henry Levy, a resident of Rehovoth. The unit which killed Mr. Levy also attacked and looted a government building near Rishon LeZion, which is some 45 miles from the Gaza strip area. The Egyptian unit, which stole some telephone apparatus and documents from the Israel building, was spotted crossing the border region early Saturday morning. An Israel patrol fired on the infiltrators, but they escaped, leaving some of their loot behind.

**EGYPT DISCUSSES INCIDENT WITH U.S. AMBASSADOR; RUSHES TROOPS TO GAZA**

WASHINGTON, March 1. (JTA) -- The American and British Ambassadors in Egypt were summoned today by the Egyptian Foreign Minister who discussed with them the battle in the Gaza area, it was reported here today. The Egyptian Minister threatened "swift retaliation" against Israel.

Later in the day, the Egyptian Foreign Minister met with the ambassadors of all member countries of the United Nations Security Council. At the same time, the Egyptian Government announced that it had cabled a protest to the Security Council.

Other information reaching here was that Egyptian troops were being rushed to the Gaza area. However, State Department sources said that they would withhold comment on the Gaza developments pending receipt of information from the U.S. embassies in Israel and Egypt and from the United Nations Truce Supervision Organization.

**British Government Deplores the "Grave Incident" Near Gaza**

LONDON, March 1. (JTA) -- The British Government deplores the "grave incident" near Gaza which took place last night, a Foreign Office spokesman said today.

The spokesman said that the incident was particularly deplorable in view of the calmer situation during the past few months. He noted that the British Government was awaiting fuller reports of the affair from its Ambassadors in Cairo and Tel Aviv, reporting that Sir Ralph Stevenson, Ambassador to Egypt, had been asked to call on Egyptian Foreign Minister Mahmoud Fawzi.

Meanwhile, a spokesman of the Israel Embassy here, presenting the Israel version of the hours-long battle in the Gaza area, declared: "This grave incident characterizes the increased tension which has recently been prevailing on the Israel-Egyptian border and which, in turn, is part and parcel of Egypt's increasing hostility towards Israel in other fields also."

The Egyptian Cabinet has been called into session to consider with high Army officials the situation, reports received here from Cairo said. They quoted an Egyptian Army spokesman as declaring that it was his belief that "Egypt will retaliate most severely."

The Cairo reports said that an Israel force of about 80 men, using mortars, automatic weapons, small arms and Molotov cocktails attacked and destroyed an Egyptian command post in the Gaza strip and killed or wounded all the persons in it, including some civilians. The Israelis were further charged with ambushing and destroying a truck rushing reinforcements to the post and killing or wounding all the troops in the vehicle. Also, the Israel force is said to have blown up a well and pump supplying a considerable portion of Gaza's water supply.

**U. N. Truce Observers Attacked by Arabs in Gaza**

UNITED NATIONS, N. Y., March 1. (JTA) -- United Nations truce observers were attacked by a large number of Arab refugees in Gaza today, according to reports received here tonight. Although no UN personnel were injured, a UN jeep and a passenger automobile were wrecked and burned by the mob. The police later dispersed the refugee demonstrators.

The reports stated that the Arab refugees were apparently inflamed by the Israel-Egyptian clash in the Gaza strip last night, in which an Egyptian thrust at an Israel military patrol was hurled back into Egyptian territory with heavy losses to the Egyptians.

**ISRAEL DELEGATION AT U. N. ISSUES STATEMENT ON GAZA CLASH**

UNITED NATIONS, N. Y., March 1. (JTA) -- "The military clash of last night must be viewed against a background of mounting Egyptian military pressure against Israel, synchronized with a vicious propaganda campaign which has in recent weeks reached the peak of hysteria," a spokesman for the Israel delegation at the United Nations said today in a statement issued here.

"In a patent attempt to divert Egyptian and general Arab public opinion from her internal and external problems, the Egyptian military dictatorship during the past six months has stepped up its policy of military, political and propaganda aggression against Israel," the statement declared.

"The incursion into Israel territory by Egyptian military units and armed bands on campaigns of murder and sabotage was continued last night when an Egyptian army unit crossed the Israel border near Gaza. It encountered the resistance of a strong Israel defense patrol, and in the ensuing battle the Egyptian troops were chased back across the frontier with the Israel patrol in pursuit. Casualties were inflicted on the Egyptian forces and there were casualties among the Israel patrol.

"The continuous Egyptian military aggressive campaign of the last few months, which has resulted in the killing or wounding of a mounting number of Israeli men and women and in widespread damage to property through Egyptian sabotage operations, has been accompanied by an inflammatory political campaign in Egypt, highlighted by the Egyptian seizure of the Israel vessel Bat-Galim and its crew in the Suez Canal on 28 September 1954 and by the savage hanging of two Jews in Cairo on 31 January 1955.

**Cites Egyptian Violations; Quotes Anti-Israel Threats**

"Since September 1954, Egyptian aggression has been condemned on no less than 27 occasions by the Mixed Armistice Commission. The Egyptian campaign was marked by violent threats to Israel in the Egyptian press and radio whose main theme is characterized by a Cairo broadcast on January 31, 1955 declaring, 'we will not rest until Israel vanishes from existence.' Major Saleh Salem, the Egyptian Minister of National Guidance, said in a press statement published on January 28, 1955, 'Even if Israel should consist only of Tel Aviv, we should never put up with that.'

The gravely deteriorating situation following these persistent Egyptian attacks has engaged the attention of the Mixed Armistice Commission, the Chief of Staff of the United Nations Truce Supervision Organization, Major-General E. L. M. Burns and of governments concerned with stability in the Middle East. The Egyptian Junta has spurned the Security Council decision regarding freedom of passage through the Suez Canal and resolutions of the Mixed Armistice Commission calling on Egypt to curb its aggression.

"On numerous occasions Egyptian forces have crossed the border to violate Israel's territory. Thus, on January 21, an Egyptian Army Unit drove up to the Armistice line and took up firing positions. Part of this unit crossed the line and attacked an Israel military post manned by three soldiers of whom one was killed and the two others wounded. The Egyptians retreated only on the approach of Israel reinforcements. The Israel-Egypt Armistice Commission which met on January 24, condemned Egypt for this attack which it described as 'an aggressive action carried out by a unit of the Egyptian Army in flagrant violation of the General Armistice Agreement.'"

**ISRAEL REPAYS \$3,154,809 TO EXPORT-IMPORT BANK IN WASHINGTON**

WASHINGTON, March 1, (JTA) -- The Government of Israel today made a further installment payment of \$3,154,809.76 to the Export-Import Bank on account of principal and interest on the Bank's loan of 135 million dollars made to Israel in 1949 and 1950.

The Export-Import Bank loan was made to help accelerate Israel's economic development and was earmarked for specific programs in the fields of agriculture, transportation, housing, telecommunications, ports and industry.

The first loan of 100 million dollars was made in June 1949 and a second loan of 35 million dollars in December 1950. The loans were made for a period of fifteen years. With today's payment, the total sum repaid on account of principal and interest comes to \$29,495,936.96.

**ISRAEL DENIES REPORT OF SOVIET OFFER FOR JEWISH EMIGRATION**

JERUSALEM, March 1, (JTA) -- An Israel Foreign Office spokesman today termed "unfounded" and "fantastic" a report from Rome published in this morning's New York press to the effect that the Soviet Union had offered to let some of its Jews immigrate to Israel on the payment of a ransom of \$2,000 to \$3,000 per person.

The report gave as its source a "reliable Italian source" whom it quoted as stating that the Israel Government was considering the Soviet offer with the "greatest caution for fear it might be a device to plant Communist agitators and spies in Israel."

**500 PERSIAN JEWS SEEK EMIGRATION TO ISRAEL; READY TO SETTLE ON LAND**

ISTANBUL, March 1, (JTA) -- Some 500 Persian Jews are ready to immigrate to Israel and to settle in agricultural villages as soon as they arrive in the Jewish State, Naphtali Ben Menahem, director of the Jewish Agency immigration department, declared here today.

Mr. Ben Menahem is in Turkey en route to Iran to make arrangements for the prospective immigrants to leave. He stated that it was necessary for the immigrants to undergo some preparation in Iran so that when they arrived in Israel they would be ready to go directly from ship to settlement.

**REVISIONIST YOUTHS DEMONSTRATE AGAINST BERLIN SYMPHONY CONCERT**

NEW YORK, March 1, (JTA) -- More than 250 members of Betar, the Revisionist youth organization, demonstrated in front of Carnegie Hall tonight in protest against the Berlin Philharmonic Orchestra which held its first New York concert there this evening.

While the pickets marched in front of Carnegie Hall, other Betar members distributed leaflets asking for a boycott of the orchestra's concerts because it was led by Herbert von Karajan and managed by Gerhardt von Westerman, both former members of the Nazi Party.

Meanwhile, the State Department, in identical telegrams yesterday to the Jewish War Veterans and to James C. Petrillo, president of the American Federation of Musicians, whose New York Local 802 had protested the orchestra's tour of the United States, declared that both von Karajan and von Westerman had been cleared by German denazification courts and therefore had fulfilled the legal requirements necessary under the McCarran-Walter Immigration Act to enter the U. S.

PREMIER OF TUNISIA STRESSES AMITY BETWEEN MOSLEMS AND JEWS

TUNIS, March 1. (JTA) -- Tahar ben Ammar, Premier of Tunisia, declared last night that Moslems and Jews have the same rights and privileges in Tunisia.

Speaking during a visit to Gabes, in southern Tunisia, the Premier declared: "We do not have here either Moslems or Jews, only Tunisians having the same rights and privileges. Between these two sections amity and confidence will always reign."

TURKISH NEWSPAPER FORCED TO APOLOGIZE FOR ANTI-JEWISH ARTICLES

ISTANBUL, March 1. (JTA) -- The daily newspaper "Anafartalar" of Canakkale published today a frontpage editorial apologizing to the Jewish community of this city.

Some months ago the newspaper published two violently anti-Semitic editorials, after which Jewish community leaders appealed to the public prosecutor for protection. The prosecutor, on a complaint signed by Jewish community leaders, began a libel action against the newspaper which ended with the public apology.

GERMAN MAYOR APOLOGIZES TO JEWISH COMMUNITY FOR INSULT

FRANKFURT, March 1. (JTA) -- An insult to the tiny Jewish community has finally and grudgingly been retracted, it was reported here today. The insult occurred when the chairman of the Jewish congregation drew the attention of Rueckingen's township administration to the dirtiness of the road outside the local Jewish cemetery and suggested that it be swept prior to Memorial Day.

The reply he received from Mayor Lamm, a former Nazi party member said: "In view of the fact that the township administration is in its entirety composed of Christians, it is well aware of the significance of Memorial Day and needs no lessons from members of other faiths, least of all from the chairman of the Jewish community." At first Mayor Lamm refused to apologize. Only after the Association of Jewish Communities in Hesse threatened him with a suit for insult, did he issue a weasel-worded retraction.

DUTCH MINISTER REPORTS TO SENATE ON ABDUCTED JEWISH ORPHAN

THE HAGUE, March 1. (JTA) -- The Dutch authorities will take action against all persons suspected of being involved in the kidnapping of Anneke Beckman, 14-year-old Jewish war orphan who was abducted by Catholic foster parents when the courts ordered her turned over to the Jewish community, Dr. Leonard Donkar, Justice Minister, announced in the Netherlands Senate last night.

He revealed that after many months, the whereabouts of the child are still not known. He indicated that the Belgian authorities have cooperated fully with the Dutch in their efforts to recover the child. At one time the girl was in a convent in Belgium, but was spirited away just before a police raid.

NOTORIOUS SWEDISH ANTI-SEMITES FINED BY STOCKHOLM AUTHORITIES

STOCKHOLM, March 1. (JTA) -- Einar Aberg, notorious Swedish anti-Semite, has been fined four hundred crowns on charges of disseminating printed matter which carries no reference to its printer, place of publication and date of production. Last August, Mr. Aberg was sentenced to two months imprisonment for publishing and distributing pamphlets containing defamations of Jews and instigation to racial hatred.

Recent proceedings against Mr. Aberg followed repeated interventions by the World Jewish Congress with Swedish diplomatic representatives abroad. The anti-Semitic pamphlets were distributed widely, especially in a number of Latin American countries and the United States.

**MILLARD CASS IS APPOINTED DEPUTY UNDER SECRETARY OF LABOR**

WASHINGTON, March 1. (JTA) -- Secretary of Labor James P. Mitchell announced the appointment of Millard Cass as Deputy Under Secretary of Labor. Mr. Cass has been serving as a Special Assistant to the Secretary.

In his new post, Mr. Cass, as chairman of the Labor Department's new program planning and review committee, will direct and coordinate programs and operations to assure "maximum efficiency and economy." An attorney, Mr. Cass is a member of the Montgomery County Jewish Community.

**3,000 ATTEND "JUDAISM DAY" AT FORT DIX ARMY POST**

FORT DIX, N. J., March 1. (JTA) -- More than 3,000 Jewish soldiers and civilian guests attended "Judaism Day" exercises here today in the largest program of its type ever presented on an Army installation in the United States. The "day," one of three--the other two were assigned to the Catholics and the Protestants--featured religious observances and a review of the history, traditions and meaning of the Jewish faith.

The featured speaker at the exercises was Rabbi Abba Hillel Silver. Major Herman Dicker, senior Jewish Chaplain at the post, spoke on the religious significance of Judaism, and Col. Harry D. Henschel, chairman of the Armed Services Division of the National Jewish Welfare Board, delivered a message from the JWB. The affair was sponsored by the Jewish chaplains at Fort Dix and the JWB.

**ONLY FEW RESIDENTS IN EAST MILTON ARE ANTI-JEWISH, RABBI SAYS**

BOSTON, March 1. (JTA) -- The town authorities and the leaders of other religious groups have been "very understanding and helpful" to the Jews of East Milton, and racial hatred represents an attitude limited to very few residents of the town, Rabbi Jacob Hochman of Temple Shalom, only synagogue in the town, declared in the wake of the receipt of threatening letters and telephone calls by Jewish residents. The FBI is investigating the affair to see if violation of Federal statutes is involved.

In a statement to the "Jewish Advocate," Boston Anglo-Jewish weekly, Rabbi Hochman pointed out that he was welcomed by Christian clergymen when he was installed as rabbi of the temple last December. He noted that the school, police and other municipal authorities had been helpful in many ways. In a statement to a press conference, Rabbi Hochman and Louis Gotz, president of the synagogue, related the community's acceptance of Jewish residents and said that with the support of decent citizens of all faiths bigotry would be wiped out in the town.

**TOLEDO ENACTS COMPREHENSIVE FAIR EMPLOYMENT PRACTICES ORDINANCE**

TOLEDO, O., March 1. (JTA) -- A comprehensive Fair Employment Practices ordinance, modeled after a similar ordinance in effect in Cleveland, has been enacted by a unanimous vote of the City Council here. Administration of the new code has been placed under the jurisdiction of the Board of Community Relations, a department of the municipal government.

The new law stresses the mediation of disputes, with recourse to the Mayor in cases where the Board is unable to adjust differences. Only if the Mayor fails to conciliate will public hearings be held. The ordinance also provides for representation on a panel responsible for hearings held under terms of the law of a member of a religious or racial group involved in the complaint of discrimination. The panel is empowered to issue an order requiring compliance in cases where it holds complaints justified.

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