



Jewish Telegraphic Agency

DAILY NEWS BULLETIN

660 FIRST AVENUE

NEW YORK 16, N.Y.

Contents Copyright: Republication only by previous arrangement

Vol. XXXIV - Fiftieth Year

Thursday, July 13, 1967

No. 134

Israeli Units Sink Two Egyptian Torpedo Boats in Battle Off Sinai Coast

JERUSALEM, July 12. (JTA) -- Two Egyptian torpedo boats attacked an Israel patrol cruising last night off the Sinai coast and both were destroyed the Israeli army spokesman reported today. Both of the attacking torpedo boats apparently exploded and Israeli boats cruising the area reported they could find no survivors. Eight Israeli sailors were injured in the clash, most of them slightly.

The patrol consisted of the destroyer Elath and two Israeli torpedo boats. It was cruising along the Sinai shore some 25 miles east of Port Said when the Egyptian vessels approached and opened fire. One of the Egyptian vessels was claimed by the Israeli torpedo boats and the other by the destroyer.

The spokesman said that the attackers saw only the Israeli torpedo boats and were not aware that the destroyer was part of the patrol. Navy commander Shlomo Erel was in constant contact with the unit and reported this morning to headquarters on the battle. One of the Egyptian boats was so close to Elath when it blew up that it caused some damage to the ship and the injuries to some of the Israeli sailors.

Israel Agrees on Observers but Doubts Plan Will Stop Egyptian Violations

JERUSALEM, July 12. (JTA) -- Israel Minister of Defense Moshe Dayan conferred today with Lt. Gen. Odd Bull, the United Nations Secretary-General's representative in the Middle East, on implementation of the agreement for the stationing of United Nations observers along the Suez Canal to supervise the Egyptian-Israeli cease-fire. It was understood that a general agreement on procedures was reached and Gen. Bull was to proceed to Cairo today to work out similar arrangements with the Egyptian authorities.

(Gen. Bull notified Secretary-General U Thant today that an advance party of seven observers would be ready to take up observation positions along the canal as soon as clearances are arranged.

(Mr. Thant made public today the text of the Israeli and Egyptian letters of agreement to the observer arrangement. It was noted that the Egyptian reply specifically referred to the arrangement as "a temporary measure.")

Although Israel has agreed to the stationing of observers along the canal, there are few illusions here as to the effectiveness of the U.N. measure. The conviction is strong here that Egypt has definitely embarked on an escalation policy and will seek to create crisis after crisis to show that the cease-fire arrangement is unworkable and that a renewed outbreak of fighting can be averted only by an Israeli pullback to the pre-June lines.

It is in this light that the Israelis see the military incidents of the last few days such as the dispatch of two Egyptian bombers over Israeli-held territory yesterday, the deployment of Egyptian torpedo boats in Israeli-controlled waters, which resulted in last night's naval battle and the sinking of two Egyptian vessels and the Egyptian artillery fire this morning on two patrolling Israeli jeeps in the Ras el-Eish area.

The punishment which Egypt has taken in the many violations of the cease-fire it has initiated -- and it has been severe -- has not deterred the Egyptians. They apparently are prepared to pay a military price to achieve political and diplomatic ends.

House to Get Amendment Barring Military Aid and Training to Arab States

WASHINGTON, July 12. (JTA) -- Rep. Bob Wilson, Cal. Rep., and member of the House Armed Services Committee, announced in Congress today that he would seek amendment to the Foreign Aid Bill which would deny U.S. military equipment or training to the Arab states now collaborating with the Soviet Union. The condition, he said, would be mandatory, not discretionary.

The Californian revealed that the United States had trained Syrian army officers in American military establishments. Some of them, he charged, were pro-Communists who previously had received orientation and training in the Soviet Union. He said it was "inexcusable" that the Administration admitted these Syrians for training when such men could be expected to convey "every vestige of intelligence" to Moscow, Hanoi and Peking.

State Dept. Objects to Proposed Ban on Import of Egyptian Cotton

WASHINGTON, July 12. (JTA) -- The State Department voiced strong objections today to a bill which would ban the import of Egyptian cotton. In testimony before the House Agriculture Committee, Undersecretary of State for Political Affairs Eugene V. Rostow said the Administration hoped for an early resumption of diplomatic relations with Egypt and opposed actions that would antagonize President Nasser's regime.

Despite the fact that Egypt ended ties with the United States over the recent Israeli-Arab war, Mr. Rostow said "we wish to do nothing at this stage which would make restoration of normal relations more difficult when conditions evolve sufficiently to permit that step." He stressed that the Administration hoped for early renewal of ties with Egypt and six other Arab nations which ended relations. He expressed regret at the absence of relations and said diplomatic contacts were particularly required in times of tension "when the risk is great that misunderstanding can escalate into hostility."

He told the Congressmen that the bill to ban cotton imports would serve no useful purpose and would be construed by Egypt as a violation of United States pledges on international trade and might have the side effect of penalizing Peru, another exporter of long staple cotton. Congressmen had made it clear that the legislation had been conceived to cut cotton imports from Egypt and the Sudan because of the recent aggressive conduct of the two Moslem nations.

No Peace in Mideast Until Refugee Problem is Solved, Says Sen. Gore

WASHINGTON, July 12. (JTA) -- Sen. Albert Gore, Tennessee Democrat, said today that a firm peace in the Middle East was impossible until the Arab refugee problem is solved.

Sen. Gore, in a report on his 8-day visit to the Middle East to examine the refugee situation, said the return to established refugee camps of 180,000 who fled last month was a necessary first step to resolving the overall problem of 1.3 million Arab refugees.

He suggested the creation of an autonomous buffer zone on the West Bank of the Jordan River with economic ties to both Israel and Jordan. He called for "compassionate, humane treatment of these unfortunate victims of the conflict."

Diplomat Proposes Resettlement of Arab Refugees in Brazil

RIO DE JANEIRO, July 12. (JTA) -- A Brazilian diplomat proposed today that Brazil offer to take in a large proportion of the Arab refugees for settlement in the Amazon River region along with Brazilian colonists.

Carlos Dunshee de Abranches, Brazilian representative on the United Nations Human Rights Commission, made the proposal in an article in *Jornal do Brasil*. He called on Israel and those members of the United Nations who contribute to the support of the refugees, to set up a fund to finance the resettlement of the refugees in Brazil.

Tsur Hails Latin American Friendship and Support for Israel

JERUSALEM, July 12. (JTA) -- Yakov Tsur, president of the Jewish National Fund, who returned last week from a mission in Latin America on behalf of the Israel Government, paid tribute today to the "steadfast loyalty and friendship" which Latin America has shown to Israel in its struggle for life and independence.

Mr. Tsur, who addressed a luncheon he gave in honor of the ambassadors of the seven Latin American countries he visited on his mission, stressed that "a common link of love for freedom and independence has created an unshakable bond between Latin America and Israel."

Euromart Leader Says Europe Should Lead in Settling Arab-Israeli Conflict

BRUSSELS, July 12. (JTA) -- A leading European statesman and a key figure in the organization of the European Economic Community said today in an interview that the European organization must concern itself with the Arab-Israeli problem.

M. Jean Rey, president of the external affairs commission of the European Economic Community, told the Brussels daily, *Le Soir*, that the six-nation organization of Europe should begin to play a real political role and should make its influence felt in the Middle East situation.

"We, almost alone, are in a position to help them to build a common existence," he declared. "Neither the Russians nor the Americans can associate themselves economically with them. We are their main customers and we will have to intensify our relationship with them and begin, with them, to achieve solutions to the problems so violently highlighted today."

M. Rey asserted that the present Middle East crisis could have been avoided had Europe dealt in past years with the refugee problem and the question of freedom of passage of the Suez Canal. He expressed regret that the members of the European Economic Community had been unable to agree on a common position on the Middle East at their recent Rome conference and said the EEC's Council of Ministers could and should find a political solution to the problems of the Middle East.

Pakistan, Backed by Soviet, Seeks Further Assembly Action on Jerusalem

UNITED NATIONS, N.Y., July 12. (JTA) -- A resolution deploring the failure of Israel to comply with a General Assembly resolution on Jerusalem was submitted to the Assembly's emergency session when it convened today. Pakistan, which had moved the original resolution ordering Israel "to rescind all measures already taken and to desist forthwith from taking any action which would alter the status of Jerusalem," introduced the new resolution which expressed "the deepest regret and concern" over Israel's non-compliance. It requested the Security Council to take the necessary measures to secure compliance and called on the Secretary-General to report to the Assembly and the Council on the situation and the implementation of the resolution.

The relatively mild tone of the draft resolution represented a setback for Pakistan and the Arab states which had tried to secure agreement on a much stiffer "condemnation" or "censure." Their efforts in this direction were unavailing and so they compromised on the milder form in the hope that it would prove acceptable to Latin American and other countries specially interested in the Jerusalem situation.

While the resolution was relatively mild, Ambassador Agha Shahi of Pakistan was bitter in his denunciation of Israel when he introduced the resolution. He was strongly supported by the Soviet representative, Ambassador Nikolai Fedorenko, who denounced Israel's actions in Jerusalem as "illegal, arbitrary and a provocative defiance of the United Nations and its Charter."

Referring to the vitriolic attacks against Israel by the Pakistani and Soviet delegates, Israel's Foreign Minister Abba Eban said that the Assembly had been subjected to "an hour of religious bigotry and political hate" and that the anti-Israel remarks were an illustration of habits, which, if pursued, would bring "international discourse to international discord."

Mr. Eban said that Israel's position on the City of Jerusalem was "a landmark in international conciliation since it accepted agreed upon arrangements for the holy places" and stressed that talks had already begun with the Vatican with a view to a satisfactory solution, and that other talks are also being held with other religions. The holy places of all the faiths would be placed under the responsibility of the respective religions, he declared.

The Israeli Foreign Minister deplored the fact that dismay was selectively expressed and had not been aimed at Jordan, when, in 1947, Jerusalem was bombed by that country or besieged by it in 1948. He said that Jordan had refused to acknowledge international interest in the holy places, had destroyed ancient synagogues "in an orgy of hate" and had refused access to the Western Wall.

Mr. Eban said that he had recently seen with his own eyes examples of destruction and sacrilege, such as the result of the bombardment of the Church of the Dormition and the uprooting of gravestones from Mount of Olives Cemetery for use in building secular structures.

The emergency Assembly session will be resumed tomorrow.

Soviet Asks U.N. Economic Council to Make Israel Pay Damages to Arabs

GENEVA, July 12. (JTA) -- The 43rd session of the United Nations Economic and Social Council now in session here accepted a request from the Soviet delegation today that the session agenda be enlarged to include a new item about the "responsibility of Israel for the economic damage" to "Arab and other peace-loving states by its aggression" in the June war.

The announcement of the Soviet request was made by the president for the session, Milan Klusak of Czechoslovakia. The Soviet document declared that Israel "must repay the full value of what it has destroyed and must return all the property it has seized. It must do this in the shortest possible time. Israel also bears responsibility for the economic damage inflicted on other peace-loving states as a result of its aggressive action."

A proposal demanding that Israel pay indemnities to the Arab states for war destruction was incorporated in a draft resolution submitted to an emergency session of the General Assembly by Soviet Premier Kosygin. It was rejected by the session on July 4.

Communist Bloc Leaders Meet to Plan Strategy to Aid Arabs

WASHINGTON, July 12. (JTA) -- A Communist bloc summit conference that planned pro-Arab and anti-Israel strategy has just concluded in Budapest, according to the Czechoslovakian News Agency (C.T.K.).

The meeting was held with the participation of Communist Chief Leonid I. Brezhnev and Soviet Premier Alexei Kosygin. Attending the sessions were President Tito of Yugoslavia, Premier Todor Zhivkov of Bulgaria, Premier János Fock and Communist Leader János Kádár of Hungary, State Council Chairman Walter Ulbricht of East Germany, Party Leader Wladyslaw Gomulka and Premier Joseph Cyrankiewicz of Poland, and President Antonin Novotny and Premier Joseph Lenhart of Czechoslovakia.

The meeting ended with a declaration that the conferees "demonstrated their determination to make fuller use of the appropriate means according to the requirements of the struggle against aggression and restoration of peace in the Middle East." They also discussed measures aimed at consolidating the defense of Arab states and longterm economic cooperation with the Arabs.

Soviet Jews Resist Official Pressure to Join in Condemning Israel

BOSTON, July 12. (JTA) -- A dramatic increase in the pride and self respect of many Russian Jews in spite of enormous recent pressures on them arising from last month's Middle East war has been found by the expert on Russian affairs of the Christian Science Monitor.

In a lengthy analysis of Jewish life in the Soviet Union, Paul Wohl, who spent many years living and working in Russia, said that while Russian Jews have ample grounds for worry over the fact that Israel has become a hostile country in the eyes of the Kremlin, "they have not demeaned themselves."

In spite of an intensive campaign against Jews, Mr. Wohl declared, "Soviet officials still have not been able to produce a declaration of rabbis and Jewish intellectuals condemning Israel." The writer noted that since last March, officials of the few remaining synagogues in the Soviet Union were urged by state security organs to start a letter-writing campaign denouncing Israel, but that such a campaign had not come off.

"Only in Dushambe, Tadzhikistan, did a Jewish congregation -- a congregation without a rabbi -- issue an anti-Israel statement. The large Jewish communities of Moscow (285,000), Leningrad (165,000), Kiev (220,000) and Odessa (250,000) remained silent," Mr. Wohl declared.

In an effort to explain the phenomenon of Soviet failure to elicit the cooperation of Russian Jewry in condemning Israel, Mr. Wohl speculated that: "Either the Kremlin has not used its enormous powers or Soviet Jews have gained a measure of self respect which is something new in the history of the complex relations between the Jews and Russian and Soviet society."

As further evidence of a growing trend of self-respect on the part of Jews, the author cited the fact that many children of Jewish mixed marriages who have the option of registering as an adherent of the faith or nationality of either parent, now choose to label themselves as Jews on their identity papers.

He also cited the repeated demonstration of identity by many Jews who have no religious connections, yet who manage to appear at synagogues and join in the festivities on Simhat Torah.

The writer raised the possibility that "the Kremlin neither wants to give further cause to those Western Communists and Communist sympathizers who have publicly accused the Soviet Union of anti-Semitism nor does it want to exasperate its already stirred up Jews. This may explain," the article declared, "why the pressure on Soviet Jews to come out against Israel was not so strong as to break every resistance, as would have been the case in former years."

Federal Agency Issues Guidelines Protecting Rights of Sabbath Observers

WASHINGTON, July 12. (JTA) -- The Equal Employment Opportunity Commission, a Federal agency, has issued a ruling requiring employers who refuse to hire a person because of his religious beliefs, to prove that they would have faced undue hardship by hiring him. The ruling, which mainly concerns Orthodox Jews, was handed down after a yearlong study of complaints alleging discrimination by employers against Jews who refused to work on the Sabbath or on religious holidays.

The ruling contained guidelines concerning the observance of the Sabbath and religious holidays as they relate to job discrimination. The ruling noted that the Civil Rights Law of 1964 included an obligation on the employer to "make reasonable accommodations to the religious needs of employees and prospective employees where such accommodations can be made without undue hardship on the conduct of the employer's business."

The guidelines stressed that "because of the particularly sensitive nature of discharging or refusing to hire an employee or applicant on account of his religious beliefs, the employer has the burden of proving that an undue hardship renders the required accommodations to the religious needs of the employee unreasonable."

Hebrew Day School Official Asks for Repeal of Blaine Amendment

ALBANY, N.Y., July 12. (JTA) -- An official of Torah Umesorah, the Society for Hebrew Day Schools, urged the New York State Constitutional Convention here to repeal Article XI, section 3 of the State Constitution, which bars the use of public funds for non-public schools.

Testifying before the convention's Bill of Rights and Suffrage Committee, Rabbi Bernard Goldenberg, director of Torah Umesorah's Department of School Organization, asked the delegates to treat the problem in terms of the secular educational needs of the non-public school child, rather than by his creed or the school he attends. He proposed that the wording of the first amendment to the Federal Constitution be substituted for section 3, popularly known as the Blaine Amendment. He said that Orthodox Jewry did not ask that any principles "be shattered except the unholy principle of discrimination against nearly 1,000,000 children who attend non-public schools in New York state."

He said American Orthodox Jewry generally believed that "in the last third of the 20th century, we must recognize that it is the legitimate concern of the state to improve the quality of education for all children in need of such improvement" and that "this concern should not be strangled by the restrictions of a constitutional provision which has outlived its usefulness."