



# Jewish Telegraphic Agency

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### Two Egyptian Craft Reported Sunk in New Suez Canal Incidents

TEL AVIV, Sept. 20. (JTA) -- Egyptian attempts to transport troops on the Suez Canal in violation of an agreement under which both Israel and Egypt were to refrain from use of the waterway, resulted in two incidents this morning and the damaging of three Egyptian vessels by Israeli guns. Two of the craft were reported sunk.

Both incidents occurred at the southern end of the canal, near Port Tewfiq. The first came when six Egyptian vessels, carrying troops, moved into the waterway. The Israelis opened fire, hitting two of the vessels. The Egyptians made a second attempt, two hours later, to get through. Israeli tanks opened fire again from the east bank, hitting one of the vessels. There were no casualties on the Israeli side from the Egyptians returning fire.

Under a "mutuality" cease-fire arrangement negotiated by Lt. Gen. Odd Bull, the United Nations Secretary-General's personal representative on the spot, neither side is to use the waterway unless both sides have equal access. The Egyptians have steadfastly refused to agree to Israeli use of the canal and the only shipping permitted is of the vessels supplying foreign freighters which were stranded in the canal during the June war. The Israeli Foreign Ministry said today that the Egyptian attempt to use the canal was a violation of the agreement.

### First Sabotage Act in Reunified Jerusalem Arouses Indignation

JERUSALEM, Sept. 20. (JTA) -- There was widespread indignation throughout this city today following the bombing last night of the old Fast Hotel, now a condemned tenement house virtually abutting on the wall of the Old City. The building housed a printing shop and about 50 Jewish families who were evacuated. Three men and a woman were injured in the explosion, which was the first act of sabotage since the reunification of the city.

Nine Arabs were arrested today, and four of them were still being detained tonight for further questioning, following the explosion. The four included two Arabs who worked in the printing plant and two others who had been employed on some repair work to the building. Israeli authorities expressed the belief that the action was politically motivated, since the plant was printing new textbooks for the Arab schools as well as handbills in Arabic proclaiming various governmental regulations.

Both the Tel Aviv evening newspapers, Maariv and Yediot Achronoth, called today for stricter measures against what the latter called "the import from the west bank of all explosives, real or ideological." Maariv said that preventive measures against Arab resistance must be taken, "even if the illusion must be shed that we have reached the Messianic days of peace and serenity between Jews and Arabs in Jerusalem."

### Israel Cracks Down on Arab Money Smugglers, Rounds Up Terrorists

Israel security forces, it was revealed today, have apprehended a number of west bank inhabitants who had crossed to Jordan and returned with funds to pay their salaries to former Jordanian civil servants, school teachers and others who had remained on the west bank. The Jordan Government has been interested in continuing to pay these salaries in order to hold their loyalty and command their obedience in such incidents as the school boycott.

The arrested men, it was learned, had posed as porters and freightmen carrying agricultural produce to Jordan. The amount of funds confiscated from them was said to be considerable.

Military government authorities announced today that a number of members of the Arab terrorist El Fatah bands had been rounded up in the west bank area in the last few weeks and would soon be brought to trial before military courts.

Prime Minister Levi Eshkol indicated today that the Government was losing patience with Arab obstructionists. He said the perpetrators of the Hotel Fast outrage would be punished like the infiltrators caught by the army in recent weeks. Visiting west bank areas, he commented that Jordan's main expenditures there had been for fortifications and he said that if the Arabs did not want education -- a reference to the school boycotts -- Israel might reconsider its policies on other services it was providing the west bank inhabitants at great cost to the Israeli taxpayers.

### Ministers Propose More Aid to West Bank, Lifting of Trade Barriers

An inter-ministerial committee dealing with problems of relations between Israel and the occupied territories recommended today that all restrictions be lifted on trade between Israel and the west bank area except that involving agricultural products. The committee recommended allocation of \$1,000,000 to strengthen and develop small industries in the west bank area and an allocation of \$1,300,000 for agriculture there.

### **School Attendance Moving Up in East Jerusalem Despite Boycott**

JERUSALEM, Sept. 20, (JTA) -- All four Arab elementary schools and one intermediate school in East Jerusalem functioned on schedule today, and standby teachers were on hand to conduct classes. Attendance figures were available at only one of the elementary schools, whose principal told the JTA reporter that 200 pupils and three teachers appeared for classes. Last year, when the schools were in Jordanian-held territory, there were 700 pupils and 16 teachers in the same school, the principal said.

Sixty girl students, believed to constitute 40 percent of last year's enrollment, reported at the first East Jerusalem intermediate school to reopen. Grades seven, eight and nine are taught in the school. None of the former teachers reported, but the girls were provided with three teachers from East Jerusalem who had been teaching in other Arab countries and had decided to remain here.

In the Gaza Strip, meanwhile, Israeli education officials declared that attendance of Arab children in the school there has reached 70 percent of last year's figure -- when the area was part of Egypt. The officials estimated that pupil attendance would reach the maximum enrollment within two weeks.

It was announced that Israel has spent over 1.2 million pounds (\$400,000) to repair the school buildings in the Gaza Strip, in anticipation of the opening of the school year this past week.

### **Commerce Minister Sees First Signs of Upturn in Israel's Economy**

JERUSALEM, Sept. 20, (JTA) -- Zvi Sharef, the Israel Minister of Commerce and Industry, cautiously voiced his belief today that the turn had come in Israel's protracted economic recession and that the economy was now moving onto the upgrade. The minister cited the fact that August was the first month since August 1966 in which Israel's industries hired more new workers than they laid off.

Mr. Sharef noted that when he took office in December, the number of employed industrial workers was being reduced at the rate of 100 a day. Now, he said, labor shortages were beginning to be felt in industries requiring skilled hands like electronics, metals and garment-making. He said the main reasons for the upswing were increased purchases by the Defense Ministry, the replacement of imports by local products and increasing export of fashion goods.

### **Bank of Israel Discloses Increase in Foreign Currency Reserves**

JERUSALEM, Sept. 20, (JTA) -- The foreign currency reserves of the Bank of Israel increased by \$163 million in the period between April 30 and August 31, according to the report of the bank published today. Monthly reports were not published during this interval for security reasons.

The increase was ascribed to the inflow of contributions and the greatly increased sale of Israel Bonds during the crisis here. The bank's foreign currency reserves were put at \$776 million.

### **U.N. General Assembly to Take Up Middle East Question on October 15**

UNITED NATIONS, N.Y., Sept. 20, (JTA) -- The Middle East problem, which was referred by the special emergency session of the General Assembly to the regular session which opened yesterday "as a matter of priority," will be taken up by the Assembly on October 15 at the end of the general debate which starts tomorrow. The agreement to place the Middle East problem on the agenda after the general debate was reached today in consultations involving the big powers, the Arab bloc and Israel.

Foreign Minister Abba S. Eban of Israel met today with the foreign ministers of Uruguay, Brazil, and Argentina. He is scheduled to meet Friday with British Foreign Secretary George Brown, and Sunday with Secretary of State Dean Rusk. He conferred last night with Arthur J. Goldberg, head of the United States delegation. He is scheduled to meet this weekend with Maurice Couve de Murville, Foreign Minister of France.

### **Majority of Volunteers Would Like to Stay in Israel, Survey Shows**

TEL AVIV, Sept. 20, (JTA) -- A survey carried out among 2,500 volunteers who came to Israel after the Six-Day War showed that over 60 percent have decided to remain in the Jewish State. Amichai Tzur, head of the government office for volunteers, reported today. He said that many have opted to settle permanently in kibbutzim and that others have chosen to register at universities or to stay on in their present jobs long enough to investigate the conditions for permanent settlement.

"Most volunteers are different from our Israeli youth," Mr. Tzur added. The majority of them are individualists, he said, with whom "a common language" must be found.

He emphasized that immigration to Israel was still a basic need, even though the country "welcomed" the volunteers. "They cannot save Israel," he said. "The volunteers always come too late." Mr. Tzur called upon members of the Women's International Zionist Organization (WIZO) to keep "open house" for the volunteers during the High Holy Days.

## Presidents' Conference Bids United States Act to Aid Jews in Arab Lands

NEW YORK, Sept. 20, (JTA) -- The Conference of Presidents of Major American Jewish Organizations accused Egypt, Syria and Iraq today of a "systematic campaign of abuse" against the Jews in those countries, following the Arab-Israel war of last June. The organization said that "the barbarous treatment of innocent civilians of the Jewish faith in these lands has been attested to by witnesses of unimpeachable integrity."

The Conference, in a statement endorsed by 22 national Jewish organizations, called on governments and religious and humanitarian organizations here and abroad "to demand that human rights and human dignity be restored to the defenseless victims of national and religious hatred."

On behalf of the organizations affiliated with it, the Conference called on the United States Government "to take whatever steps may be necessary in its best judgment to alleviate the plight of the thousands of Jewish men, women and children in Egypt, Iraq and Syria who are being held as political hostages, victims of public abuse, private harassment and -- at best -- official indifference."

Dr. Joachim Prinz of Newark, chairman of the conference, said that the Arab governments themselves "have not denied these atrocities which constitute a flagrant violation of the obligations of every member of the United Nations to promote and preserve human rights." He charged that the governments of Egypt, Iraq and Syria had "carried out or tolerated cruel and inhuman treatment" of local Jewish populations and said this included "arrest, imprisonment, destruction of property, physical abuse and murder."

The Conference made public a country-by-country survey of the plight of the Jews remaining in Arab lands. In Egypt, it said, some 350 persons were still being held incommunicado in Cairo and Alexandria prisons and their families left without means of livelihood. In Iraq, it said, "a veritable reign of terror" exists for the Jews. In Syria, it said, an unknown number of Jews had been arrested and held for ransom. None of the three countries permit Jews bearing their nationality to leave the country.

The report noted that Libya, "after an initial period" of mob violence, was permitting Jews to leave the country although mostly without their possessions. It also noted the "strong leadership" shown by President Bourguiba of Tunisia who halted attacks on the Jews and was permitting Jews to leave Tunisia each month.

## Britain's Chief Rabbi Calls for 'New Partnership' with Lay Leaders

LONDON, Sept. 20, (JTA) -- Plans to increase the influence of the British rabbinate throughout the country were discussed here today at an all-day conference convened by the Chief Rabbinate. Seventy rabbis from all over Great Britain attended the parley. Chief Rabbi Immanuel Jakobovits outlined a plan for what he called "a new partnership" between the religious and lay leaders of the Anglo-Jewish community, under which he said the influence and status of the rabbinate in general would be increased.

One of the speakers at the conference was Ambassador Aharon Remez, Israel envoy to London, who urged the British rabbinate to increase its interest in the political and diplomatic difficulties Israel expects to face in the near future, especially during the current General Assembly session at the United Nations. He asserted categorically that, on the question of Jerusalem, "we have one dogma; Jerusalem will not again be divided." He told the rabbis: "We must mobilize all our spiritual and moral forces to bring home to all religions in the world and to explain that this dogma is not chauvinistic. We have a great spiritual responsibility, and the great religions of the world have nothing to fear and everything to gain by looking forward to our presence in Jerusalem." Another speaker at the conference was Hyam Morrison, chairman of the Joint Palestine Appeal.

## Cleveland Community Publishes Study of Arab Refugee Problem

CLEVELAND, Sept. 20, (JTA) -- A new ten-page study on the situation in the Middle East, "The Arab Refugees and Israel," has been published by the Jewish Community Federation of Cleveland.

It was written by Sol J. Jaffe, former public relations director of the Federation, who spent the summer in Israel studying conditions there. In his report, Mr. Jaffe concludes that the solution to the problem of the Arab refugees -- "the key to peace in the Middle East" -- does not lie in repatriation of the refugees within the borders of Israel, but rather in their resettlement and integration in nearby Arab "host" countries "where the refugees' Arab brethren dwell and where there are vast stretches of land and rivers that could be harnessed for power, irrigation and other development projects that would promote Arab well-being in the Middle East."

## Five SS Men to Face German Court for Wartime Murder of Jews

BONN, Sept. 20, (JTA) -- Five members of the SS who had acted as bodyguards for Adolf Hitler will go on trial at Osnabrueck, probably in January, for the murder of 23 Jews in the fall of 1953 at Lake Maggiore, Italy, it was announced here today. They are accused of having killed 11 men, eight women and four children, all of whom were Jewish. The men, all formerly high officers in the SS, Hitler's Elite Guard, are now under arrest.

## Hadassah Adopts \$9,9 Million Budget, Votes to Sponsor New Youth Movement

MIAMI BEACH, Sept. 20. (JTA) — Hadassah, the Women's Zionist Organization of America, adopted today at its 53rd annual convention here a goal of \$9,898,500 for its 1967-68 programs in Israel and budgeted \$1,629,074 for its United States program. The 2,000 delegates also reelected Mrs. Mortimer Jacobson to a fourth one-year term as president.

The Israeli programs goal included \$6,000,000 for the Hadassah medical organization, \$2,300,000 for Youth Aliyah, \$700,000 for the Jewish National Fund, \$650,000 for its vocational education program, and \$100,000 for Hadassah supplies.

In another action, the delegates agreed to sponsor Young Judea and to create a new and expanded Zionist youth movement in this country. Mrs. Jacobson said that the new Hadassah youth movement would include boys and girls, and young men and women, from nine to 25 years. She said it was being launched with a membership base of 15,000, made up of members of Young Judea and Junior Hadassah. She also reported that a third group for young adults from 18 to 25 was being organized and would have its founding convention in November. She said Junior Hadassah members and Young Judean graduates in the 18 to 25 age category would form the nucleus of the third group.

Asserting that only one-third of some 1,000,000 Jewish young people were affiliated with Jewish youth groups, she said the new group would be aimed at "the unaffiliated and uncommitted" and would not compete with existing American Jewish youth groups. She added that the new group would offer a wide range of seminars and year-around club activities, including summer group programs in this country and summer institutes and year-around study courses in Israel, as well as scholarship programs for study in Israel.

She stated that the new youth group would have an initial budget of \$500,000 to be provided by Hadassah. Young Judea formally asked for Hadassah sponsorship because of the scheduled dissolution of the American Zionist Youth Commission through which Hadassah, in partnership with the Zionist Organization of America, had sponsored Young Judea since 1941.

## Gov. Rockefeller to Campaign for Repeal of Blaine Amendment

ALBANY, N.Y., Sept. 20. (JTA) — Gov. Nelson Rockefeller ended a six-months silence yesterday on the church-school aid issue with a pledge to campaign for the repeal of the Blaine amendment to the state constitution, which bars state aid to non-public schools. The Governor made his promise conditional on agreement by the state constitutional convention to place the question as a separate item on the ballot when the revised proposed state constitution goes before the voters in November. Repeal is generally opposed by Jewish non-Orthodox and community relations agencies and strongly backed by Orthodox Jewish groups. A proposal to repeal the 73-year-old amendment has been approved by the constitutional convention and final passage is considered a formality.

The Governor told a news conference here that if repeal was approved in November, he would name a high-level commission to determine the most practicable way for the state to provide more assistance than it now does for non-public schools. Such aid, in the form of free bus transportation and loans for textbooks, have been held not to conflict with the Blaine Amendment.

Mr. Rockefeller said he had decided to support repeal because in New York State, the limitations of the Blaine Amendment "can have serious implications on providing the best opportunities for the education of all of the children of this state." He said he favored the opportunity to study the issue "without the shackles of the present amendment."

The Catholic elementary school system would be the principal beneficiary of repeal. Orthodox Jews have created a substantial day school program, mainly in New York City, which also would benefit.

Gov. Rockefeller was sharply criticized by the New York Metropolitan Council of the American Jewish Congress which charged that by his stand for elimination of the prohibition on use of tax-raised funds for religiously affiliated schools, he "has revealed once again his lack of understanding of the protection given to both religion and government and particularly the public schools by the principle of separation of church and state."

The statement added that "Experience has also shown that when church groups receive public funds for religiously sponsored education, the independence of the public school system becomes seriously weakened as religious considerations begin to influence the curriculum, the personnel and the very structure of public education. Governor Rockefeller previously demonstrated his lack of concern for this principle and for the threat such proposals pose to the public school system of this state when he supported legislation to supply textbooks to religiously affiliated schools.

"We believe that the people of this state will ignore his counsel, which in effect embraces the concept that the end justifies the means, and will vote in favor of retention of the present wise constitutional provision no matter how the issue is placed on the November ballot."