



daily news bulletin

Published by Jewish Telegraphic Agency 165 West 46th St. New York, N.Y. 10036

© 1978, Jewish Telegraphic Agency, Inc.

Vol. XLII - 68th Year

Monday, June 9, 1978

No. 110

NO TEST NOW OF ISRAELI CARGO TRANSIT THROUGH SUEZ CANAL

TEL AVIV, June 8 (JTA) -- A Liberator flag-ship carrying a sugar cargo to Israel from South Korea will not attempt to pass through the Suez Canal, official sources said today. The vessel, due at Gaza on or about June 10, has passed through the Straits of Gibraltar enroute to Israel after rounding the African continent, the sources reported.

A report last week that the ship would arrive in Gaza a week earlier than originally scheduled set off a flurry of speculation in maritime circles that Israel intended to make a test case of Egypt's willingness to permit Israeli cargoes to transit the Suez Canal in accordance with the January, 1974 Israeli-Egyptian disengagement accord. The waterway was officially re-opened by Egypt last Thursday on the eighth anniversary of its shutdown at the outbreak of the Six-Day War.

Foreign Minister Yigal Allon said in a newspaper interview published Friday that Israel is "entitled to expect that Egypt will at least allow the passage of Israeli cargoes through the Suez Canal, even if not aboard Israeli ships at the present time." But Israel apparently does not intend to make a test case of this, at least for the time being.

SOLDIERS KILL TERRORIST GRENADE THROWER

TEL AVIV, June 8 (JTA) -- A terrorist was killed by Israeli soldiers this morning after throwing two grenades at them, neither of which exploded. The incident occurred at 6:43 a.m. local time at the Beth-Lid road junction between Netanya and Tulkarem where about 20 soldiers were waiting to hitch rides into town. The terrorist, whose name was not released, was identified as a resident of an Arab village near Tulkarem. Border police combed the area for possible accomplices. A suitcase found in a roadside ditch contained an automatic rifle.

An explosive charge detonated in a Kfar Saba apartment building this afternoon causing no casualties and only slight damage. A truck used to transport Israeli sightseers was damaged by a bomb yesterday while parked in Nabulus. There were no casualties.

EGYPTIAN JETS OVERFLY ISRAELI AIRSPACE IN SINAI

TEL AVIV, June 8 (JTA) -- Two Egyptian Air Force planes penetrated Israeli air space over Sinai yesterday afternoon, apparently on a reconnaissance flight, it was disclosed today. Israel has lodged a complaint with the United Nations Emergency Force (UNEF). The planes came from the direction of the Suez Canal zone between Great Bitter Lake and Lake Timсах. It was the first such incident since the Suez Canal was reopened to navigation last Thursday.

An Egyptian army officer and two soldiers captured by Israeli forces on the night of June 3-4 in the southern section of the Suez Canal zone were returned to Egyptian authorities at noon today, an army spokesman said. The men were

apparently on a scouting mission for intelligence purposes. Their mission and today's overflight seemed to indicate Egyptian attempts to increase intelligence activities in the Israel-held portions of Sinai, sources here said today.

Egypt Adds In Body Identification

Egypt meanwhile has endeavored to help Israeli authorities identify the bodies of Israeli soldiers killed in the Yom Kippur War whose remains so far have not been positively identified.

In what is regarded here as a gesture of good will, the Egyptians supplied Israel, through the Red Cross, with detailed information on the sites where the bodies of 39 fallen Israeli soldiers were discovered recently by the Egyptians. The remains were returned to Israel last month but only 20 have been identified. The information supplied by the Egyptians may offer some clues to the identity of the others. Egypt, at the same time, has asked for the return of the remains of several score Egyptian soldiers found recently in Israel-controlled areas of Sinai. The bodies are presumed to be those of the victims of a helicopter crash during the early hours of the Yom Kippur War and members of Egyptian commando units sent to infiltrate behind Israeli lines. The bodies had been buried by a sandstorm.

ASHKELON OIL PORT RE-OPENED AS 20 DAY STRIKE ENDS

TEL AVIV, June 8 (JTA) -- The Ashkelon oil port was re-opened this morning ending a 20 day strike by employees of the Eilat-Ashkelon pipeline company's marine division that cost the government an estimated IL 12 million in waiting fees alone for tankers that were prevented from loading oil. Thirteen of the strikers, who had spent the past week in commandeered company boats outside Ashkelon harbor, came ashore last night and gave themselves up to police. The men, who face charges of illegal use of company property and trespassing, were released on bail.

The strike began after the company engaged an outside contractor to moor and service tankers in the Ashkelon oil port and dismissed several marine division employees and transferred others. Strikers took over company motorboats and forcibly prevented the contractor's crews from approaching the tankers. Their action at one point precipitated a clash with police escort boats, several of which were rammed by the strikers' boats. The pipeline company announced last week that it was shutting down operations for the duration of the walkout. The strikers remained in the boats, receiving supplies from fellow-strikers ashore until last night when choppy seas forced them to abandon their blockade.

SENATE EXTENDS FORD'S AUTHORITY TO CONTINUE MILITARY PURCHASE CREDITS TO ISRAEL

By Joseph Polakoff

WASHINGTON, June 8 (JTA) -- By better than a three-to-one margin, the Senate approved Friday continuation for two years of standby

authority for the President to extend military credits and guarantees for Israel to purchase American equipment. The vote for passage was 68-22 after a move to table the legislation was defeated 32-59. The authorization, first introduced by Sen. Henry M. Jackson (D, Wash) in 1970 and continued biennially since, was sponsored by Jackson and Sens. James Buckley (R-C NY), Hubert H. Humphrey (D Minn), Clifford Case (R NJ) and Harrison Williams (D NJ).

The opposition was led by Sen. John Stennis (D Miss) head of the Senate Armed Services Committee, who contended that the authorization was not within the jurisdictional limits of the Defense Procurement Bill. He was supported by Sens. Barry Goldwater (R Ariz), James Abourezk, (D SD) and Sam Nunn (D-Ga). It was reported here that President Ford, in briefing Congressional leaders on his talks with Egyptian and Israeli leaders, opposed the measure.

The authorization which extends through December 1977, enables the President to grant financial assistance to Israel as may be necessary. It contains no dollar ceiling. Its purpose is to allow credit to be extended in the event the formal foreign aid legislation gets bogged down in the legislative process leaving the President without authority to aid Israel.

RELIGIOUS ZEALOTS SCUFFLE WITH POLICE OVER SABBATH CINEMA IN TEL AVIV

TEL AVIV, June 8 (JTA) -- Several hundred religious zealots scuffled with police here Friday night in an attempt to halt the screening of a film on the Sabbath. The crowd, though mainly young hasidim and other Orthodox youth, included Tel Aviv's Deputy Mayor Chaim Basuk of the National Religious Party who is leading an attempt to force a ban on Sabbath cinema.

Movie houses have been closed on the Sabbath until recently when a number of them began Friday night performances. This has infuriated religious elements who last night called out their followers to demonstrate in front of a movie house screening of the American film "The Longest Day." The demonstration amounted to little more than shouted threats until a group attempted to storm the theater. They were held back by police reinforcements who remained on the scene for several hours to ensure the safety of the departing audience when the film ended.

KISSINGER: U.S. "STRONGLY OPPOSES" EXPULSION OF ANY COUNTRY FROM UN

By Joseph Polakoff

WASHINGTON, June 8 (JTA) -- Secretary of State, Henry A. Kissinger has declared that the United States "strongly opposes" expulsion of any country from the United Nations General Assembly, but said the Administration has "not decided on specific steps" should the Arab bloc and its supporters seek to oust Israel from the Assembly in September.

Kissinger was asked for his view Friday by the Jewish Telegraphic Agency following a difference between two American diplomats over how the threat should be met. Daniel P. Moynihan, U.S. Ambassador-designate to the UN, told the Senate Foreign Relations Committee, that the U.S. should declare "now" that it would freeze its contributions to the UN should even an "effort" be made to expel Israel. But Malcolm Toon, Ambassador-designate to Israel, told the same committee that the Moynihan approach was "very undesirable" and he favored "quiet diplo-

macry" in order to avoid a confrontation between the U.S. and the non-aligned countries.

When the JTA asked Kissinger for his view, he quipped that he would have to "referee" the dispute. The nominations of Moynihan and Toon were approved by the Senate Foreign Relations Committee and the full Senate is expected to act on them this week.

Kissinger also told newsmen that both Israel and Egypt are "taking a constructive" attitude toward new peace moves but said it was "pre-mature" to say he was definitely planning to attempt a new negotiation effort between them. He said a final decision would depend on the talks between President Ford and Israeli Premier Yitzhak Rabin here this week.

GOVERNMENT PLANS ISRAEL'S THIRD DEEP WATER PORT AT YAMIT

TEL AVIV, June 8 (JTA) -- Transport Minister Gad Yacobi disclosed that the government plans to build a third deep-water harbor on Israel's Mediterranean coast and that the best site by far is at Yamit in the Pithat Rafiah region between the Gaza Strip and northern Sinai. Yacobi, who inspected the coastline there Friday, said the additional harbor would be needed by the mid 1980's. He said it would take three years to study and plan the project and eight years to build the harbor and therefore a decision must be made quickly. Israel's present deep-water harbors are at Haifa and Ashkelon.

The Rafiah area has been the subject of controversy since the army appropriated it several years ago as a security zone, forcing the relocation of Bedouin tribes in the region. Yacobi stressed that the area will remain under Israeli control and in fact, has never entered into the debates over the future of the administered territories so there was no cause for argument over investing in Yamit. The Housing Ministry announced a week ago that Israelis may register for future housing at Yamit which is intended to become an industrial area and tourist resort.

DAYAN WOULD PERMIT ISRAELI ARABS TO SERVE IN ARMED FORCES

TEL AVIV, June 8 (JTA) -- Former Defense Minister Moshe Dayan has called for the full integration of Israel's Arab citizens into national life, including compulsory military service. He made the suggestion during the 12th and last of a series of lectures he has been delivering at Bar Ilan University. Arabs are the only minority in Israel not permitted to serve in the armed forces. Druze and Circassians are subject to conscription and Bedouins may volunteer.

TEL AVIV -- A moonlighting municipal employee, Moshe Peitelowitz, was fired after private detectives found that he was out selling insurance when he was supposed to be working for the city.

CORRECTION

A report from Bucharest in the JTA June 5 Daily Bulletin stated incorrectly that American tourists to Israel could stay six days in Rumania at no additional cost. The sentence should have read: American tourists to Israel could stay six days in Rumania with no additional costs in air fare."

JEWISH LEADERS ASK SENATE DELAY MFN PRIVILEGES FOR RUMANIA BECAUSE OF EMIGRATION LAG

WASHINGTON, June 8 (JTA) -- The Senate Finance Committee is considering a proposal from the Conference of Presidents of Major American Jewish Organizations that it take the full 45 days allowed it by law before acting on a bill granting U.S. trade benefits to Rumania. During this period Rabbi Israel Miller, Presidents' Conference chairman, told the committee, "We hope that the Rumanians will demonstrate the kind of positive movement on emigration that will permit favorable action" on most-favored-nation trade treatment and credits for Bucharest.

Rabbi Miller, one of ten witnesses to appear before the committee Friday, said that while for many years, Rumania demonstrated liberal emigration policies for its Jewish citizens, in recent years, "most notably" this year, the rate of Jewish emigration has been "very low" and "a cause for serious concern." He said many thousands of the 100,000 Jews in Rumania have notified their relatives in Israel of a desire to emigrate.

At Friday's hearing, Dr. Charles H. Kremer, a New York dentist who is president of the Rumanian Jewish Federation of America, Inc., praised Rumania for her treatment of various religious groups and minorities. While expressing "regret" that Rumania had reduced her emigration quota, he predicted that the Rumanian government "will re-establish the emigration of its citizens, both Jews and gentiles."

JEWISH RED ARMY HEROES APPEAL TO WORLD WAR II VETS TO AID THEIR EMIGRATION STRUGGLE

LONDON, June 8 (JTA) -- Two much decorated Jewish war heroes of the Soviet Union who were stripped of their rank and deprived of their pensions because they applied for visas to emigrate to Israel, have appealed to World War II veterans in other countries that fought the Nazis to intervene on behalf of their emigration rights.

The appeal, addressed to veterans in the U.S., Britain, France and Israel was signed by Col. (ret.) Efim Davidovich and Col. Lev Ovsicher on the occasion of the 30th anniversary of the Allied victory in Europe. Col. Davidovich holds 15 Soviet medals and orders for bravery in combat and was wounded five times in action against the Germans. Col. Ovsicher, also the recipient of many decorations, was wounded in an air battle over Stalingrad. Still unretired, he was demoted to the ranks and, like Davidovich, lost his pension.

The two war heroes wrote they were now "waging a struggle against anti-Semitism and for the right of free emigration...and for this we are subjected to gruelling persecution on the part of the KGB," the Soviet secret police. Addressing their fellow veterans abroad, they said, "Your uncompromising, honest and courageous struggle with the darkest forces of reaction was effective. Blood was not shed in vain. As a result of the victory (in World War II) mankind has been able to breathe freely once again."

SIDOR BELARSKY DEAD AT 76

NEW YORK, June 8 (JTA) -- Funeral services will be held in Brooklyn tomorrow for Sidor Belarsky, the world famous opera and concert artist who died of a heart ailment Saturday at the North Shore Hospital in Manhasset. He was 76.

Mr. Belarsky was born in Russia and graduated from the Leningrad Conservatory of Music in 1930.

He began his professional career with the Leningrad Opera. He came to the United States in 1931 and thereafter toured this country and Canada in concerts sponsored by the Educational Department of the Workmens Circle. He was also a recording artist of Yiddish songs and performed extensively abroad. At the time of his death, Mr. Belarsky was professor of music at the Jewish Theological Seminary - Herzlia in New York.

GOVERNMENT WILL CONTINUE INCENTIVES FOR EXPORTERS OF MISSIONARY TRACTS

JERUSALEM, June 8 (JTA) -- Minister of Commerce and Industry Haim Barlev has confirmed that the government pays export incentives to publishers of missionary tracts in Israel which are disseminated abroad, and said they would continue to receive the incentives, worth IL 1.64 to the dollar. "I don't care what they are exporting as long as their sales contribute to the economy by bringing in dollars," Barlev told the Knesset Finance Committee.

He also noted that the government cannot discriminate against this particular type of export. Committee member, Shlomo Lorincz, of the Aguda bloc which first raised the issue, contended that contributors to the United Jewish Appeal and purchasers of Israel Bonds would be deterred if they learned that their money subsidized missionary pamphlets. Barlev rejected that argument.

GIRL TERRORIST ON TV THREATENS JEWISH LEADERS WHO HELP ISRAEL

LONDON, June 8 (JTA) -- Terrorist hijacker Leila Khaled used an appearance on a BBC television interview program to warn diaspora Jewish leaders who aid Israel that they are targets for terrorist attack. Khaled, who participated in an abortive attempt to hijack an El Al airliner over Britain several years ago, refused to name the Jewish leaders on the terrorist assassination list "because they would go into hiding."

She admitted, on the "Man Alive" program which is investigating terrorism, that Palestinian terrorists were responsible for wounding J. Edward Steff, managing director of the Marks and Spencer department store two years ago. "Steff is not only a Jew, he is a Zionist. He helps Israel as do many others whose names we have and it is not just the names of the Rothschilds and Steffs," the girl terrorist said.

REP. EILBERG SAYS SOVIET OFFICIAL PLEGGED COOPERATION IN PROSECUTING NAZI WAR CRIMINALS LIVING IN U.S.

WASHINGTON, June 8 (JTA) -- A high Soviet official has pledged to cooperate fully with American authorities in obtaining testimony from Soviet citizens regarding alleged Nazis living in the United States, Rep. Joshua Eilberg (D Pa) disclosed. "I was very surprised by those statements because for several years the State Department has been claiming it has not been able to get Russian cooperation on the very request that we have made without any advance notice to the Soviet government," Eilberg said.

Eilberg, head of a Congressional subcommittee on emigration that just returned from Moscow, said that Mikhail Malarov, First Deputy Procurator, pledged that witnesses would be located.

RABBINICAL COUNCIL URGES FORD TO REASSURE ISRAEL OF U.S. SUPPORT

FALLSBURG, N.Y., June 8 (JTA) -- More than 500 rabbis adopted a resolution at the closing session of the annual convention here of the Rabbinical Council of America expressing "fear and grave concern over recent statements emanating from President Ford and high level authorities indicating a change of policy by our government which is seemingly more favorable to the Arabs and antagonistic to Israel."

The resolution stated that "Israel's pursuit of peace is unquestionable," and that "Picturing the Arabs as the sole pursuers of peace is a denial of Israel's constant striving for a genuine peace. Anything else is a misrepresentation of realities in the Middle East." The resolution, adopted Friday, also said "On the eve of the President's meeting with the Prime Minister of Israel, we call upon our President to encourage the people of Israel by reassuring them that the United States will in no ways lessen its friendship or diminish its support that has created a special relationship between Israel and the United States."

The convention called on the Ford Administration not to impose a settlement that would "jeopardize the position of Israel as a democratic nation in the Middle East so deeply devoted to our democratic ideals and principles."

ISRAELI SUPREME COURT BANS RABBINATE FROM BRANDING WOMAN ADULTERESS

By Gil Sedan

JERUSALEM, June 8 (JTA) -- The Supreme Court has issued a ruling forbidding the Israeli Rabbinate from publicly branding a woman an adulteress. The court decreed, in the case of a divorcee who had a lover prior to her divorce, that the Rabbinate could not insert into the religious divorce certificate (get) the halachic injunction that "This woman is forbidden for both husband and lover."

Justice Yoel Sussman said in the decision that although the halachic ruling forbidding a divorcee to marry her lover was valid within the framework of religious law, there was no reason for it to be recorded in the divorce certificate which is a civil instrument required by civil law. The Justice stressed that the function of a rabbi who performs in marriages or divorce cases is not a judicial one but rather one of a registering authority. Such an authority cannot be permitted to add a limiting clause to a divorce certificate, Justice Sussman said, "because the registration is not for the use of the rabbinical authorities but is a statistical document describing the personal status of the person involved."

In rendering the court's decision, Justice Sussman wrote: "It is true that according to halacha an adulterous woman is forbidden to her lover. But one should not brand her as unfit for marriage so that the adultery is known in public. The appellant might need the certificate (of divorce) for other purposes such as income tax, social security or even to apply for work. If she is forbidden to be married, it is a limitation of the individual's rights to force her to show this limitation in public."

Rabbis May Defy Court

The case involved a Beersheba woman who married six years ago, gave birth to a daughter but divorced her husband two years later in the Beersheba rabbinical court. The woman appealed to that court to expedite the issuance of the di-

vorces certificate on grounds that she was separated from her husband and had become pregnant by another man whom she wanted to marry before their child was born. The rabbinical court rejected her request and delayed issuing the certificate until last year. It included the clause forbidding her to have relations with the father of her child. In ruling in favor of the woman's appeal, the Supreme Court noted that the law requires the divorce certificate to be issued at the time of the divorce, which the rabbinical court had refused to do.

Israel's two chief rabbis indicated that they would defy the Supreme Court's ruling. Sephardic Chief Rabbi Ovadia Yosef said the religious courts would continue to judge purely according to halacha and would not accept any instructions that contravened halachic rules. He claimed that religious courts were bound only by Jewish law. Ashkenazic Chief Rabbi Shlomo Goren issued a similar statement.

GOVERNMENT OBJECTS TO "NEGATIVE" NEWS COVERAGE ON ISRAELI TV, RADIO

By Gil Sedan

JERUSALEM, June 8 (JTA) -- The government has taken Israel's quasi-independent Broadcasting Authority to task for allegedly accentuating the negative and ignoring the positive in its presentation of the news on television.

Aharon Yadlin, Minister of Education and Culture, sent a strongly worded letter to the Authority hinting not too subtly that unless it changes the "tone" of some of its reportage, its independence may be restricted. Some members of the Broadcasting Authority's managing committee expressed dismay over the letter which they regard as an infringement on freedom to report the news.

The Broadcasting Authority which runs Israel's state-owned radio and television was set up as an independent, autonomous body free from political influence. But the Education Ministry is charged with implementing the law by which the Authority was created. Yadlin's letter was said to have been prompted by criticism in the Knesset over several recent tv news reports on controversial issues. One report depicted a lack of assistance by the authorities to residents of a Jerusalem apartment house hit by terrorist bombs.

Yadlin wrote: "I regard as serious the eagerness of tv reporters to stress the negative in our lives and ignore the positive -- which is just as important. One cannot agree to a situation in which the Broadcasting Authority ignores the monopoly it has, its power and independence. This status gives the Broadcasting Authority certain privileges, but to the same extent, also duties -- in the first place the duty to serve as a cultural and educational medium." Yadlin continued: "I am afraid that the kind of atmosphere prevailing at tv news measures the success of a reporter by the number of 'scoops' he brings in without considering the significance behind the stories."

CUBAN UNIT STILL IN SYRIA

TEL AVIV, June 8 (JTA) -- A Cuban armored brigade which was brought to Syria during the Yom Kippur War in 1973 is still stationed there, according to the former Defense Minister Moshe Dayan.