

**Middle East - Suez story No
27-32: Middle East - Suez
story No 27-32 - 57**

HS L 179:114



Dag Hammarskjöld's sand.

40-42-43-44.

Suez story - 31

1-2 Dec. 56

4 interoffice memoranda from Col. A. Katzin
to D.H.

UNITED NATIONS  NATIONS UNIES

INTEROFFICE MEMORANDUM

TO: The Secretary-General

Date: 1 December 1956

FILE NO.: _____

FROM: A. G. Katzin

SENDER'S TELEPHONE EXTENSION: 2432

SUBJECT: Suez Canal Clearance

Confidential

.....

1. The attached schedules reflect the presently planned resources which the U.N. expects to be able to bring to bear between the 6th of December and the 5th of January. All the vessels and floating equipment are either under way or being prepared to arrive at ports on the dates indicated, with the exception of:

- (a) The six salvage vessels of various types indicated under date of December 14th, which it is assumed will be made available to us from U.K. resources on the spot to be manned with our contractors' crews.
- (b) The three pieces of Italian equipment indicated for arrival December 15th which is at present being examined from the point of view of suitability subject to which confirmation for its use is expected not later than Monday.

In the opinion of General Wheeler and of the U.N. contractors, this equipment now fully matches in capacity and capability the total salvage fleet set up under the British/French salvage command for the completion of the operation, the bulk of which is not yet in situ. For reasons of operational maneuverability, it is doubted at present that many more vessels could or should usefully operate in the area at one time. However, to the extent that the present planned U.N. fleet will require to be supplemented, it is assumed that agreement for the use of further British equipment can be negotiated and it is assured that some further competent non-British crews will be forthcoming for this purpose.

.../

SALVAGE EQUIPMENT ARRIVING AT SUEZ CANAL

<u>Dec. 6-7</u>	<u>Dec. 15(tentative)</u>	<u>Jan. 5</u>
<u>At Port Said</u>	<u>At Port Said</u>	<u>At Port Said</u>
4 Salvage vessels (Danish) (Swedish) (2 German)	Under negotiation from Italy:	1 large salvage vessel(Danish)
2 lifting craft (German) 2,000 tons lifting capacity each	1 250 ton floating Diesel pontoon 1 75 ton floating Diesel pontoon 1 50 ton derrick	2 lifting ships - 800 tons lifting capacity each (Danish)
<u>At Suez</u>	A number of camels (not yet defined).	4 camels each 180 tons lifting capacity
1 Salvage vessel(Danish)	<u>Dec. 18</u>	
	<u>At Port Said</u>	
<u>Dec. 12</u>	3 salvage vessels(Dutch) 1 tug (Dutch) 1 200 ton sheerlegs(Dutch) 14 camels each 100 tons lifting capacity(Dutch) 1 tug to work with floating sheerlegs (Dutch)	
<u>At Suez</u>		
1 Tug (Dutch) 1 30-ton Floating Crane (Dutch)		
<u>Dec. 14</u>	<u>Dec. 27</u>	
<u>At Port Said</u>	<u>At Port Said</u>	
6 Salvage vessels of various types	2 ocean-going tugs (Dutch) 1 salvage vessel (Belgian) 1 200 ton sheerlegs(Dutch) 2 tugs to operate sheerlegs(Dutch)	
Note: These will be drawn from British operational craft in the area to be manned by carefully selected Danish, Dutch and Belgian crews which the U.S. has recruited under the con- tractors.		

42

UNITED NATIONS  NATIONS UNIES

INTEROFFICE MEMORANDUM

FILE NO. _____

DATE 1 December 1956

TO: The Secretary-General

FROM: A.G.Katzin *AK*

SUBJECT: Suez Canal Clearance - Personnel.

Confidential

.....

The table of Personnel attached reflects that 610 men of different nationalities are firmly committed to the operation under present planned arrangements including those required to man the six British salvage craft.

In addition, approximately 75 Italians will be added for use with the Italian equipment now under negotiation.

Further screening of non-British crews presenting themselves for recruitment if required is under way against the possibility of it being necessary to man more than the six British vessels which we have already planned should be manned by our contractors. In connection with the manning both of these six vessels and of any that might be added, it is essential that one or two British technicians be left aboard for purposes of preliminary instruction of crews in the operation of the gear.

TABLE OF PERSONNEL

1. Personnel to man all vessels presently set up will number 500 drawn from the following nationalities:
Dutch, Danish, Belgian, German, Swedish.

There are also 20 Arab technicians on one of the boats.
2. Technical crews over and above the total under (1.) mobilized to take over British ships within 10 days of the commencement of the operation number 110 of Dutch, Danish and Belgian nationalities.
3. The above numbers will be increased by Italians to the extent that the Italian vessels now being negotiated for arrival by December 15th is finally confirmed. Confirmation is expected on Monday, Dec.3rd, but will be obtained tomorrow if possible.
4. Recruitment prospects under way for further Dutch, Norwegian, Swedish and Belgian crews to man additional British ships if required. 12 - 15 fully trained Italian crew members employed by Danish companies are on standby at Messina to be included in this group when we call them forward.

1 December 1956

The Secretary-General

A.G.Katzin

Suez Canal Clearance - Personnel.Confidential

.....

The table of Personnel attached reflects that 610 men of different nationalities are firmly committed to the operation under present planned arrangements including those required to man the six British salvage craft.

In addition, approximately 75 Italians will be added for use with the Italian equipment now under negotiation.

Further screening of non-British crews presenting themselves for recruitment if required is under way against the possibility of it being necessary to man more than the six British vessels which we have already planned should be manned by our contractors. In connection with the manning both of these six vessels and of any that might be added, it is essential that one or two British technicians be left aboard for purposes of preliminary instruction of crews in the operation of the gear.

UNITED NATIONS  NATIONS UNIES

INTEROFFICE MEMORANDUM

TO: The Secretary-General

Date: 2 December 1956FROM: A.G. Katzin ~~✱~~

FILE NO.: _____

SENDER'S TELEPHONE EXTENSION: 2432SUBJECT: Suez Canal ClearanceConfidential

.....

The attached schedule of arrivals of salvage equipment supersedes the schedule forwarded to you yesterday. The amendment covers firm order on our part for dispatch to Port Said for arrival December 15th Italian-manned salvage vessels alternative to the Italian equipment tentatively reported for arrival on that date yesterday.

Further lengthy conferences with three representatives of the Salvors Company today now give added assurance to General Wheeler that the U.N. fleet planned for operation will enable us to put on a very favourable showing compared to what has been achieved to date.

SALVAGE EQUIPMENT ARRIVING AT SUEZ CANAL

<u>Dec. 6-7</u>	<u>Dec. 15</u>	<u>Jan. 5</u>
<u>At Port Said</u>	<u>At Port Said</u>	<u>At Port Said</u>
4 Salvage vessels (Danish) (Swedish) (2 German)	2 Salvage vessels with 10 divers (Italian)	1 large Salvage vessel(Danish)
2 lifting craft(German) 2,000 tons lifting capacity each	1 60 ton sheerlegs (Italian)	2 lifting ships - 800 tons lifting capacity each (Danish)
	1 Salvage vessel with 4 camels and 4 divers (Italian)	4 camels each 180 tons lifting capacity
<u>At Suez</u>		
1 Salvage vessel(Danish)		
<u>Dec. 12</u>	<u>Dec. 18</u>	
<u>At Suez</u>	<u>At Port Said</u>	
1 tug (Dutch)	3 Salvage vessels(Dutch)	
1 30-ton Floating Crane (Dutch)	1 tug (Dutch)	
	1 200 ton sheerlegs	
	14 camels each 100 tons lifting capacity (Dutch)	
	1 tug to work with floating sheerlegs(Dutch)	
<u>Dec. 14</u>		
<u>At Port Said</u>	<u>Dec. 27</u>	
6 Salvage vessels of various types	<u>At Port Said</u>	
Note: These will be drawn from British operational craft in the area to be manned by carefully selected Danish, Dutch and Bel- gian crews recruited under the contractors.	2 ocean-going tugs(Dutch)	
	1 salvage vessel(Belgian)	
	1 200 ton sheerlegs(Dutch)	
	2 tugs to operate sheerlegs (Dutch)	

44

UNITED NATIONS  NATIONS UNIES

INTEROFFICE MEMORANDUM

TO: The Secretary-General

Date: December 2 1956

THROUGH:

FILE NO.: _____

FROM: A. G. Katzin ~~A~~

SECRET

SUBJECT: Suez Canal Clearance

1. Arrangements are in hand for General Wheeler and survey party to assemble Tuesday in Athens.
2. It will be flown into Cairo by S.A.S. plane Wednesday morning if clearance is agreed.
3. The party will have diving equipment and a section under General Wheeler will proceed on Wednesday afternoon to move out of the Port Said area to Qantara.
4. General Burns is being requested by Bunche to arrange for a U.N. launch and crew to carry six people to be put at the party's disposal if required.
5. Burns is also being requested to fly the party to Port Said from Cairo and to return it to Cairo at the end of the trip.
6. All technical points for discussion and clearance with Egyptian authorities on the ground to permit the survey party to split up into three sections for rapid survey of technical needs in Suez, Ismalia, and Port Said are prepared and it is hoped that this preliminary work can proceed immediately as it will very materially affect our present technical planning and salvage craft movement from the South.
7. Presumably you would wish us to keep the Egyptian Delegation here fully advised of the arrival times of General Wheeler and his party.