

Small files: Israel - Doron case, Boy incident, Jerusalem parade, Flint inc...

HS L 179:183



Dag Hammarskjöld's saml.

Israel

"Doron" case - 1957/58

1 Oct. - 5 Dec. 57

Gen. Burns (Acting Commander, UNEF)

- 7 code cables to D.H.
- 1 clear cable to D.H.
- 1 code cable from D.H.

INCOMING CODE CABLE

TO: SECRETARY-GENERAL, Copy to BUNCHE, Info LEARY
FROM: ROSENGREN, GAZA
DATE: 1 OCTOBER 1957 1838
NUMBER: UNEF 2100

A. Chairman EIMAC has received Egyptian complaint E-33-57 summarized as follows: On 23 September 1957 at 0300 hours ELT an Egyptian coast guards motorboat encountered a strange motorboat 2½ miles from Sinai shore in front of Rus el Abid and between Bughas Asy and Bughas el Zaranig (MR 84 9 945 North Africa NH 36/3 EL Arish.) When challenged personnel strange boat answered in Arabic and asked half an hour's chance. Noises also heard of heavy things being dropped overboard. Egyptians boarded Israeli motorboat Doran at 0345 hours found crew five Israelis and captain of Italian nationality. Boat contained wireless transmitter and one receiver, maps, signal shots and depth measuring apparatus. Egyptian Delegate Sedky alleges Israelis deliberately sent vessel reconnoitre northern Sinai coast view preparing new aggressive military act against Egypt coast and sounds of heavy objects being thrown overboard proof of small arms being dumped. B. Delegation has asked for investigation also emergency committee meeting. C. For your information Chairman EIMAC has accepted complaint and is proceeding with normal routine investigation and report only. He considers that in present circumstances political implications and untoward publicity resulting from holding a one-sided and impractical MAC meeting, emergency or ordinary, at the moment not advisable. Further this particular incident at present does not meet his policy instructions

(or MAC precedents)

or MAC precedents for an emergency meeting. Under rules of procedure Chairman must be convinced of urgency of matter. Therefore he intends to decline convening emergency meeting. Under these circumstances the alleged incident will merely take its chronological routine place on the extensive list of cases awaiting an ordinary meeting of which none have been held for considerable time. Chairman will advise result of investigation but meanwhile no other action contemplated.

INCOMING CODE CABLE

TO SECRETARY-GENERAL
FROM: ACTING COMMANDER, UNEF, GAZA
DATE: 15 OCTOBER 1957 1454
NUMBER: UNEF 2199

Reur No. 1676 (14 2115Z) and further my UNEF 2100 Chairman EIMAC reports his observers interrogated only Italian captain of Doron on 5 October in Gaza to which place Egyptians had brought crew on 4 October from Cairo. Egyptians hastily returned crew Cairo same evening. No reasons given observers protested interruption investigation on 7 October Chairman repeated request continue with interrogation and investigation. On 9 October SED informed MAC interrogation would continue in Cairo on 12 October as best suitable date. Observers revisited Cairo interrogated remainder of crew who stated inter alia well treated. All appeared fit. Investigation is now complete as far as Egyptian delegation will permit. Observers have thrice been precluded or refused permission enter sealed Doron. Egyptian local authorities also refused permit observers photograph ship or equipment to date. Detailed report on available facts will be in next pouch and following is precis of incident and investigation to date.

1. Seizure of Doren 23 September.
2. Notification to EIMAC 30 September.
3. First postponement by ED 1 October.
4. Proceeded to Port Said 3 October.
5. Viewed Doron 3 October.
6. Interviewed Egyptian motor launch commander 3 October.
7. SED stated crew of Doron to be interrogated in Gaza 3 October.
8. Interrogated captain of Doron in Gaza 5 October.
9. Advised crew of Doron returned to Cairo 5 October.

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10. Advised that crew of Doron available for interrogation in Cairo on 12 October and could see ship and photo 9 October.
11. Interrogated crew of Doron 12 October .
12. Advised could visit Doron to take photos and see interior of ship 12 October.
13. Advised could not visit ship or take photos 13 October.

Message continues in UNEF 2200.

INCOMING CODE CABLE

TO: SECRETARY-GENERAL
FROM: ACTING COMMANDER, UNEF, GAZA
DATE: 15 OCTOBER 1957 1513
NUMBER: UNEF 2200

Continuation of UNEF 2199.

In the lack of any evidence to contrary Chairman EIMAC and Observers investigating the case are of the firm opinion that the Doron was engaged on a routine fishing trip when apprehended. Chairman endeavouring proceed further with this investigation in particular pressing for a complete internal inspection of the vessel and the sounding equipment and chart. This may indicate depth of water in which craft seized. Present feeling is craft taken in waters 20 to 26 fathoms deep indicating vessel caught considerably further off shore (perhaps 10 to 20 miles) than alleged in complaint namely $2\frac{1}{2}$ miles off shore. New subject: your new subject: Have no news on seizure by Israel of Egyptian boat "Defakis" 30 September. EIMAC on 10 October received complaint from Senior Egyptian delegate as follows: "We got certain information that an Egyptian freight ship and its crew are detained in Israel. The Egyptian authorities are greatly interyested in the matter. Such an act of piracy is a very dangerous art, and a violent breach of the General Armistice Agreement (Art. 1 para 1 and Art. 2 para 2.) The Egyptian authorities are highly interested in an early and urgent investigation. An emergency meeting is requested." Chairman replied same date stating nothing in Egyptian letter gave facts which would in any way indicate alleged incident a breach of GAA. Delegation asked

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give full details vessel crew and circumstances detention. No reply as yet. Chairman does not intend attempt to investigate incident until further details are made available by delegation and does not intend granting an emergency meeting.

INCOMING CODE CABLE

TO: SECRETARY-GENERAL
FROM: ACTING COMMANDER, UNEF, GAZA
DATE: 19 OCTOBER 1957 1007
NUMBER: UNEF 2236

Further to my UNEF 2199 - 2200 Chairman EIMAC reports UNMOs visited Cairo 16 and 17 October in endeavour to inspect interior of vessel and reinterrogate the captain of Doron. However, Sedky (SED) stated neither available and he did not know when they would be available. Chairman oralsy repeated request to acting SED in Gaza on 19 October.

Underlined as per copy rec'd.

INCOMING CODE CABLE

TO: SECRETARY-GENERAL
FROM: BURNS, GAZA
DATE: 2 NOVEMBER 1957 0717
NUMBER: UNEF 2316

Nelson has referred to me letter received from Sedky addressed to Leary protesting attitude of Chairman EIMAC in refusing emergency meeting in Doron case and not investigating case of unnamed Egyptian shipped allegedly seized by Israel. I have replied stating full agreement with Chairman's denial of emergency meeting and calling attention to delays and obstacles placed in way of investigations by Egyptian authorities. Copies of letters are being pouched for your information. With reference to Doron situation remains as reported in UNEF 2236. Requests to inspect interior of Doron and reinterrogate its captain were repeated in letter from Chairman to SED on ~~22~~ 23 October but no reply received. Has Israel made any representations to you concerning return of Doron and crew? If they should would you consider that it would serve any purpose to suggest to Israel Delegation that they take this up through Mixed Armistice Commission? With reference to unnamed vessel informal inquiries have been made with UN liaison officer in Tel Aviv and UNTSO Jerusalem but no information available. Ref your 1676 of 14 October would appreciate any information which you might have.

INCOMING CODE CABLE

TO: BURNS
FROM: ROSENGREN, GAZA
DATE: 28 NOVEMBER 1957, 1137 EST.
NUMBER: UNEF 2544.

Further by 2464. Chairman ELMAC states UNMOS received full cooperation from Egyptian Authorities during continuation of Doron investigation on 20-21 November. UNMOS reinterrogated Doron Captain and one Israeli sailor and interrogated two officers from Egyptian coast guard vessel. Also inspected interior of Doron including sounding equipment and were permitted to remove tape for evidence. Extract from log of Egyptian vessel also promised. Investigation in Cairo is continuing today. Previous conclusions have in no way been changed by new evidence. Doron Captain and crew member report good treatment and have each received letter from home.

INCOMING CODE CABLE

TO: BUNCHE
FROM: BURNS, GAZA
DATE: 3 DECEMBER 1958 0856
NUMBER: UNEF 2193

Egyptian Delegate EIMAC has requested emergency meeting re seizure on 29 November by Israeli motor boat of Egyptian boat sailing to Beirut. Chairman advised him that he is not in a position to give decision at this time on emergency meeting request. Chairman pointed out to Delegate that in view of Israeli authorities attitude towards EIMAC, it would be useless to request them to agree to MAC investigation in Israel. No MAC meeting could take place without an investigation report.

Chairman, therefore, asked Egyptian Delegate whether he wants UNEF to inquire of the Israeli authorities what ~~their~~ their position is in regard to release of boat, load and crew. Chairman also pointed out that crucial aspect of incident is determination of the exact place of occurrence, since he does not consider the General Armistice Agreement violated in cases of incidents outside the 3 mile limit specified in GAA.

Will keep you informed.

36 FFF GAZA 197 05 1105Z

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UNEF 2202 FOR SEGGEN FOLLOWING IS EXTRACT FROM JPOST FOUR DEC
QUOTE ISRAEL HAS CONFISCATED THE EGYPTIAN SCHOONER MASSOUD CMA WHICH
STRAYED INTO HAIFA BAY LAST SATURDAY CMA BUT IS TO RELEASE HER EIGHT
CREW MEMBERS ON THURSDAY PAREN TODAY UNPAREN CMA MR WALTER EYTAN CMA
THE DIRECTOR=

P2

GENERAL OF THE FOREIGN MINISTRY ANNOUNCED ON WEDNESDAY STOP
PARA STOP THE CARGO DASH ONEHUNDREDFIFTY TONS OF SALT AND RUGS DASH
CAN BE PICKED UP SUBQUOTE AT ANY TIME BY ITS OWNERS CMA THEIR
AGENTS OR PERHAPS THROUGH THE UUU NNN UNSUBQUOTE CMA HE ADDED STOP
PARA THE CONFISCATION OF=

P3

THE MASSOUD DASH SUBQUOTE AYE NEW DEPARTURE FOR ISRAEL POLICY CMA
UNSUBQUOTE MR EYTAN SAID DASH IS IN REPRISAL FOR THE CONFISCATION
BY EGYPT OF TWO ISRAEL VESSELS CMA THE BAT GALIM AND THE DORON
STOP PARA DOTS THE MASSOUD WAS ACCOSTED BY A POLICE PATROL BOAT
EARLY SATURDAY MORNING=

P4/47

JUST OUTSIDE THE HAIFA BREAKWATER STOP FROM STATEMENTS MADE BY
THE CREW CMA IT APPEARS THEY THOUGHT THEY WERE ALREADY AT THEIR
TINATION CMA BEIRUT STOP PARA THE CREW WILL PROBABLY BE HANDED OVER
TO THE UUU NNN EMERGENCY FORCE AT THE GAZA STRIP BORDER UNQUOTE=

BURNS=

CFM 2202 =

1967
DEC - 5 AM 7:30
TELETYPE UNIT
UNITED NATIONS

OUTGOING CODE CABLE

URGENT

TO: BURNS GAZA
FROM: SECRETARY GENERAL
DATE: 22 January 1958
NUMBER:

Re UNEF 186 point four. Have just received message from Fawzi to the effect that Doron matter quote is moving unquote and that quote as a first step the crew will forthwith be released and handed over unquote. I advise you to approach Israelis, who are informed about this decision, and plead for immediate release of crew of fishing boat held by Israel (see UNEF 52). After success of such move we should immediately consider approach to Egypt about girl supposedly held.