

Water Crossing

HAIFA -- Should the present Mideast cease-fire be broken, the Israel Army will be prepared to cross water obstacles in fighting against Egypt and Jordan. This was revealed by Brig. General Yerachmiel Dori, Chief Engineering Officer of the Israel Army, in an interview published in the magazine of the Technion - Israel Institute of Technology.

The cease-fire with Egypt, which has been in force since August 1970, has enabled the Engineering Corps to turn its attention to a rela-

tively new field: the crossing of water obstacles. Since the main frontiers of post-Six-Day-War Israel are "wet", as termed by General Dori, "this puts a tremendous challenge before the Engineering Corps, and we have started making dispositions which might provide the engineering solutions to these obstacles."

This is interpreted to mean that Israel possesses landing craft and bridging equipment of various sizes and has developed tactics for crossing rivers, canals and open sea, and landing on beaches and shorelines.

Israel's water borders include the Jordan River with the Kingdom of Jordan on the East, and the Mediterranean Sea, Suez Canal, Gulf of Suez and Red Sea separating it and Egypt on the Southwest.

"In this, too, we were pioneers" said Gen. Dori. "We have built up the power and the means which would give the Israel Defense Forces freedom of action if and when the occasion should arise."

The article reveals that the former Egyptian rail line across the Sinai desert was dismantled and its steel rails and ties were used by the Israelis to build the fortifications of the now famous "Bar-Lev Line" along the Suez Canal. This took place under heavy Egyptian Artillery barrages.

General Dori disclosed that the Engineering Corps had recently financed a number of research projects in Technion's Faculties of Civil and Agricultural Engineering.

The article pointed out that "the achievements of the Engineering Corps would not have been possible without the knowledge and skills acquired at the Technion. A considerable part of the Corps personnel today are graduates of the Technion and in fields which call for challenge and initiative most Technion graduates remain in the service after their compulsory duty is finished. One of the branches of the Corps, for instance, is composed almost entirely of

NEW YORK (WNS)--A group of seven Soviet religious leaders will be in the United States next month on a ten-day visit sponsored by the Appeal of Conscience, an interfaith group, Rabbi Arthur Schneier of Park East Synagogue, president of the Appeal, announced this week. Among the leaders will be Rabbi Yakov L. Fishman, Chief Rabbi of Moscow.

Technion graduates. All of them possess a Master's degree and some are preparing for a doctorate. All of them are connected with research work done at the Technion and some of them even teach at the Technion."

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