

# Israelis Are Releasing Some 500 Prisoners A Day

By JACK BRAYLEY

Canadian Press Staff Writer

GAZA, No. Man's Land (CP)—Pte. Don McIntosh of Hamilton leaned on the wheel of his big lorry, pushed back his blue and white United Nations helmet, surveyed the sand and scrub and declared:

"I can't figure why in heck they're fighting over it." He was looking over the rather bleak and desolate panorama of the Gaza strip waiting for noon and the start of a prisoner-of-war exchange.

In the distance, beyond a road-block, was a hillside encampment where the Israeli flag rippled in a sharp breeze. Under it, in little ejected knots, squatted the Egyptian prisoners, marshalled by a busman Israeli provost.

She was the first military policeman McIntosh had seen. Grinning, he said it might help reduce defaulters if policemen were introduced in the Canadian Army.

Off to one side, hatless, quiet and seemingly embarrassed, stood two Egyptian colonels. At the road block an Israeli officer with an English accent and wearing British campaign ribbons handed a muster role of the prisoners to Maj. Don Morgan of Vancouver.

**LONG DAY**  
The long line of Canadian lorries wheeled into position, nosing into Israeli-held territory to make their turns while Yugoslav armed guards directed the Canadian drivers.

"The only tough part about this deal is we drive all day with the Yugoslavs and can't talk to them because neither of us speaks the other's language," said Pte. Charles Younger of Toronto. He gave his Slav friend a good-natured dig in the ribs and got a wide grin.

At a safe distance in the scrub stood curious goat-herders, fine featured and looking like biblical figures in their flowing robes.

Where the UNEF officials, International Red Cross and Israeli officers met, the conversation was stilled and formal—the UNEF wanting to appear properly neutral, the Israelis seeking to be correct and the Egyptian colonels looking as though they just wanted to get it over with.

**COFFEE BREAK**  
Then the Israeli major smiled and asked if anybody would like coffee and cakes. The hefty woman provost relaxed. She handed this writer a glass of coffee and a selection of pastry which, when fresh a few days before, would surely have competed with anything in the best bake shop at

home. After the K-rations of this hard-living border area, they hit the spot. The coffee even warmed the Egyptian colonels and one—also with a British accent—pleasantly offered the writer a cigarette.

Then the exchange started. It was a one-sided affair, only four Israelis—three from a 1955 skirmish and one air force pilot from the recent invasion—being handed over by the Egyptians who received in turn more than 3,000 Egyptians.

The skilled service corps drivers in their big six-wheelers are delivering the Egyptian prisoners to their military authorities at the rate of 100 a day.

When the Canadian trucks were in line, the Egyptian prisoners moved up in sections in command of one of their own NCOs. They were obviously in good physical condition, comfortably dressed though a bit tattered and wearing new footwear issued by the Israelis.

**NO ENTHUSIASM**  
They marched unsmiling but smartly and boarded the Canadian lorries and took their places without comment, which was unusual for Egyptians are normally a vocal people when on the move.

Then the trucks started toward the Egyptian lines and home. There were a few stretcher cases and these were being checked at UNEF field hospitals en route.

The Canadian drivers, based at El Arish, 40 miles west of the exchange site, had a good look at the scorched earth policy of the withdrawing Israelis as the trucks proceeded to the frontier rendezvous.

Every vestige of any military installation was erased, the road gouged, communication lines cut, rail lines twisted, abandoned Egyptian tanks and transports blown up and air strips pockmarked. No civilian property appeared to be damaged.

The POW exchange is possibly the most spectacular role of the Canadian service corps, the unending workhorse of the UNEF effort—moving, feeding, supplying under command of Maj. Douglas Nicholson of Cornwall, Ont., and Jasper, Alta.

**DRIVERS CHEERED**  
The prisoner convoy was in charge of Lieut. Paul Tomelin of Calgary and Edmonton. He said everything was going smoothly, with the Egyptians very co-operative, almost docile. The Canadian trucks were cheered through all the Arab villages and in fact had some time making their way safely through the welcoming crowds.

This exuberance on the part of the Sinai population is given as heartily to all UNEF vehicles as it is to the returning POWs and is in marked contrast to the more reserved deportment of the people of the canal zone, where the main UN force is based.

Lieut. Tomelin said the exchange was uneventful and that there had been no trouble in delivering the Egyptians to the rail head at Misfa station.

Most of the drivers reported their passengers appeared fairly glum on the homeward journey, but Pte. Johnny MacIsaac of Inverness, N.S., said his group sang happily.

**OLD STUFF**  
The prisoner exchange was "old hat" to Cpl. Archie Gillis of New Waterford, N.S., and Orillia, Ont. He handled prisoners in the European theatre in the Second World War and again in Korea.

"The Germans were resentful and stubborn," the ROKs (Korean) were happy and laughing; but these gyppos don't seem natural at all for POWs. They're going home and yet they are so darn glum."

Other drivers taking part in the exchange operation included Cpls. Ira Belaire of Kingston, Ont., and William Arlette of Toronto; Ptes. Tom Doyle, Kingston; Jack Newman, Toronto; Melvin McDonald, London, Ont.; Rene Larocque, Ottawa; Jean Paul Fortier, Val d'Or, Que.

Dennis Beaumier, Trois-Rivières, Que.; Babe Groulx, Aylmer, Ont.; Charles Emond, Dalton Mills, Kingston, Ont.; Lucien Therberge, Montreal; Charles Mitchell, Birle, Man.; and Robert MacDonald, Montague, P.E.I.

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## Toronto Mother Injured By Car; Seek Assailant

TORONTO (CP)—Police in suburban Vaughan Township reported Friday that exhaustive street-by-street checks have failed to turn up the car that struck and seriously injured a 35-year-old mother as she walked home from a bus stop at midnight Wednesday.

Police Chief Clifford Mosher said there is no evidence to support the theory that the man who hailed Mrs. Phyllis Cumming was trying to pick her up nor is there proof that this man was the driver of the car that she says ran her down moments later.

Mrs. Cumming, mother of two children, told police at Northwestern General Hospital that she remembers nothing after hearing an automobile engine start up behind her. The woman was found semi-conscious and bleeding on a lonely road in suburban North York Township by a passing motorist. She said she regained consciousness in a moving car and her screams of pain apparently alarmed the driver. He stopped, pitched her out and sped off.

Chief Mosher said police believe that the Cumming case is directly connected with three similar incidents involving women, one of whom died.

**\$500,000 Fire In Yorkton, Sask.**  
YORKTON, Sask. (CP)—One of the worst fires in the history of this Eastern Saskatchewan city Sunday destroyed a large business block and damaged three other buildings in the downtown area.

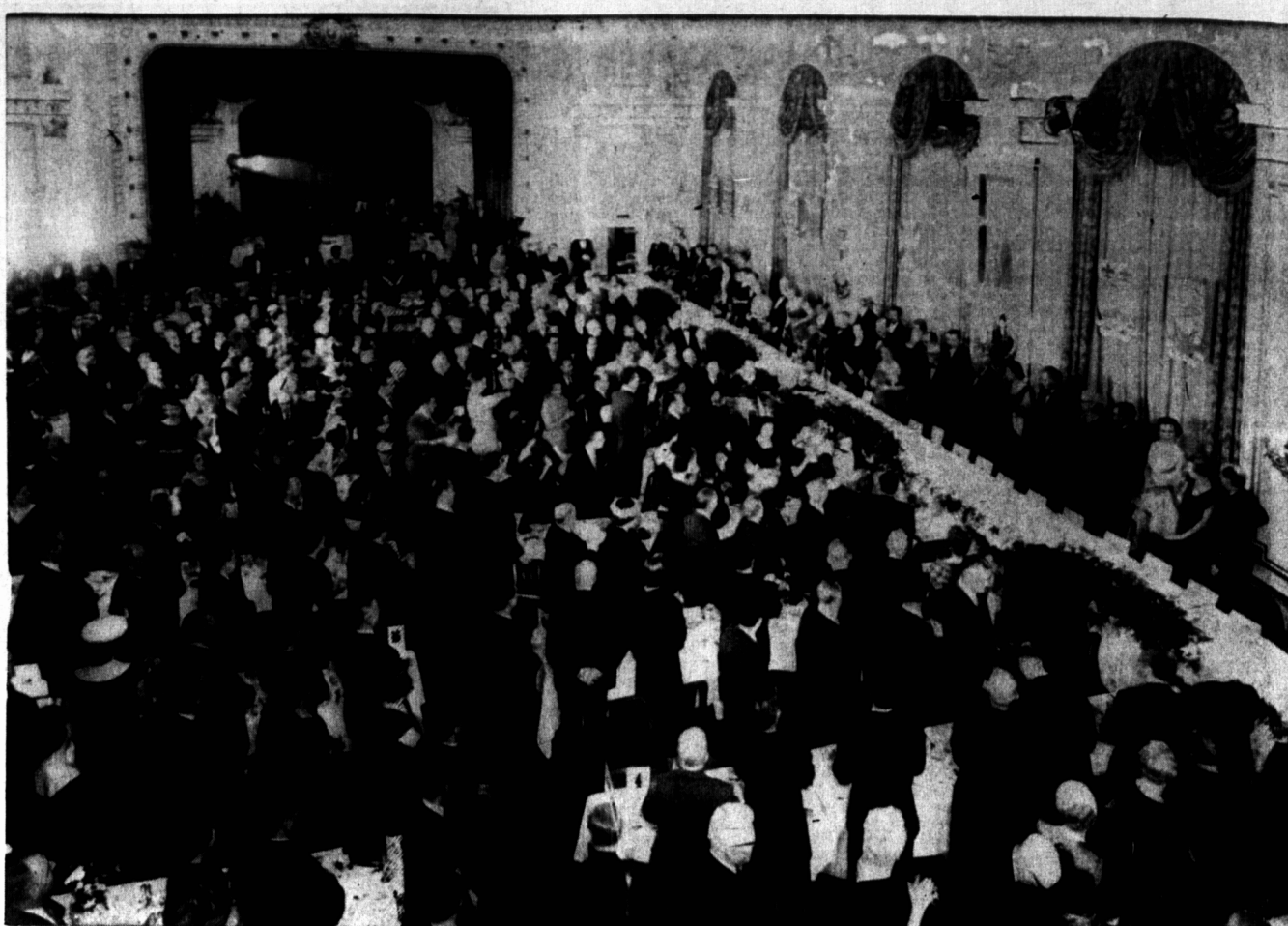
One man lost his home and four other families were forced out of their apartments in the blaze which broke out shortly after midnight and was not under control until 10 a. m. Thousands of dollars worth of stock was evacuated from nearby stores threatened by the fire and lay unguarded on the streets.

Fire Chief Burton Harper estimated total damage may reach \$500,000.

**St. Joseph's Choir Awarded Trophy**  
SAINT JOHN, N. B. (CP)—St. Joseph's University Choir Saturday was awarded the Lincoln Trophy, emblematic of the best choral group in Canada, for the second year in a row.

It was the sixth time in eight years New Brunswick singers have captured the trophy.

The prize was made available for Canadian competition in 1948.



MAIN BALLROOM, CHATEAU FRONTENAC, DURING PRIME MINISTER'S BIRTHDAY DINNER

## British Nurses Join Queues Of Britons Emigrating To Canada

By KEN METHERAL  
Canadian Press Staff Writer

LONDON (CP)—British nurses have joined the queue of Britons trying to emigrate to Canada.

Each week upwards of 80 British nurses are filling out application forms for entry to Ontario alone, says Henry Donaldson, Ontario director of immigration in London. The total for all Canada is estimated to exceed 100 a week.

Donaldson says Ontario wants at least 1,000 nurses from Britain this year. "They are wanted urgently and we can place all the nurses we can get."

Main requirements for the nurses is that they be "state registered and trained in midwifery."

Donaldson said some 300 nurses have applied since he launched a

recruiting drive in Britain less than a month ago.

"We want British nurses because we think they are the best," he said.

**CONDITIONS BETTER**  
A spokesman for the Nursing Association in London said he "wasn't the least surprised" at the response to the Ontario appeal.

"In Canada you look on nurses as human beings, but, unfortunately, in this country they are regarded as machines that must never break down."

A big incentive for the nurses is the higher salary standard prevailing in Canada. They can start out at about four times their take-home pay in Britain. Basic salaries for British nurses range from 418 to £523 a year before deductions for hospital accom-

modation, meals, national insurance and so on.

A nurse who has completed three years training and has a year's experience, can expect about £17 a month in take-home pay.

In Britain, nurses work a 48-hour week and are not paid overtime. Efforts are made to balance the hours each week. But it is not unusual for nurses to work between 50 and 60 hours in one week. In Canada, they can look forward to a 42-hour week.

The Nursing Association spokesman said one bad feature of the present movement of nurses to Canada is the fact that they also are needed in Britain.

TOKYO (Reuters)—Foreign Minister Bobusuke Kishi was appointed acting prime minister Thursday night after doctors reported that Premier Tanzan Ishihashi is at present unable to attend to his duties for medical reasons. He is suffering from bronchial pneumonia.

## Will Restore Fort Macleod But Not On Eroding Island

FORT MACLEOD, Alta. (CP)—

Restoration of Fort Macleod, built in 1874 as the first North West Mounted Police fort in Alberta, is under way on the bank of the Oldman River here.

The original fort was built on an island in the river which runs through this Southwest Alberta town, but the island has since been greatly reduced in size by erosion.

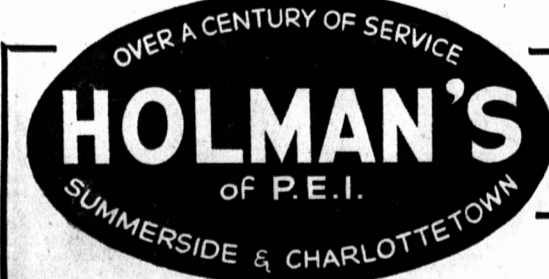
At a cost of \$40,000, the fort is being rebuilt by a private group, though it is expected grants will be offered by the provincial and federal governments. Present plans are to include a museum and library in the fort.

The historic cairn at Fort Macleod, bears this inscription: "To commemorate the arrival in October, 1874, after an arduous

march of 1,000 miles, of the North West Mounted Police and the building on the island immediately to the northeast of the town of the first fort, named after their commanding officer, Col. F. J. Macleod.

"Their coming brought law and order into a wild and lawless country and laid the foundations of those social conditions which later made possible the settlement of the country and the birth of its cities, towns, villages and peaceful farms."

**COAST INLET**  
Loughborough Inlet on the British Columbia coast was named by Captain Vancouver in 1792 after the lord chancellor of England.



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