

Egypt: The Suez Canal hits the headlines again...and it's good news! Just South of Port Said - the United Nations salvage fleet is raising the tug "Edgar Bonnet", *one of the last major obstructions.*

~~One of the last major obstructions,~~ The Canal is now open to shipping of up to 20,000 tons. And in a few days the vital waterway should be completely cleared - over a month ahead of schedule - ~~bringing~~^A tribute to the work of the salvage teams.

Co-inciding with this news, the United Nations Secretary-General, Mr Hammarskjöld arrived in Cairo: ~~for the talks on the Middle East~~

In meetings with Colonel Nasser, the Secretary-General is said to have discussed the future operation of the Canal and the situation in Gaza. ^S Meanwhile, with the evacuation of Israeli troops, Egypt has tightened her grip on the Gaza area. Trains are arriving, loaded ~~with~~ not only with supplies for the area - but also with troops, ostensibly to join the staff of the Egyptian Civil Administrator, General Latif.

Already, the United Nations force seems to have taken a secondary role. A Danish unit has moved nearer the Israeli border - at the request of the Egyptian Government.

~~With the British Government advising shipowners not to use the Canal~~ ^{AT PRESENT,} the completion of an Israeli pipe-line from the Gulf of Akaba to Beersheba assumes an even greater importance.

The 160-mile pipe-line can carry oil half-way to the Mediterranean port of Haifa - continuing the journey by rail tank-cars. With huge storage facilities in the gulf - this could prove an alternative route for Persian and Iraki oil-shipment to the West.

Finally, to the troubled border-areas of Gaza come Hungarian refugees - seeking to build a new life - far from the terror that drove them from their homeland.

Here, they are settling down in temporary hutments. One day, thriving homesteads will tell a story of triumph over an inhospitable soil.

~~and not even the threats of Egyptian terrorism~~ ^{NOTHING} will crush the ideals of these freedom-loving settlers in the troubled Middle East....