

Red-Israel Break; Hint New Berlin Blockade

Diplomatic Relations Cut After Tel Aviv Bombing

LONDON, Thursday, Feb. 11 (AP)—Russia broke off diplomatic relations today with Israel over the bombing of the Soviet legation Monday in Tel Aviv.

The break, announced on the Moscow radio, blamed the Israeli government and said its police connived in the assault.

Price Control Standby Power Seen Possible

WASHINGTON, Feb. 11 (AP)—James F. Brownlee took a job as government consultant on price and other controls today in a move suggesting the issue of standby powers in that field is far from dead.

The New York investment banker's assignment also was taken as meaning that the Eisenhower administration has decided against the one-stroke erasure of all remaining price curbs which has been urged in some quarters.

Sen. Capehart (R-Ind) said about the time Brownlee's appointment was announced that he has personal assurance the administration has an "open mind" on the standby powers issue. Capehart is author of a bill to keep control authority on the books for application in case of a future emergency.

The Indianian, chairman of the banking committee which handles controls legislation, did not relate his statement directly to the Brownlee post. But he said he was assured the administration is making a study on the subject matter of his bill.

The present economic controls law expires April 30.

The Soviet government ordered members of the Israeli legation to get out of Moscow immediately and told its own legation personnel to leave Tel Aviv.

Four Soviet legation personnel were injured in the bomb blast. The bombing was attributed generally to anti-Zionist charges in Moscow in connection with a purge of nine doctors, some of them Jewish. The doctors were accused of destroying or attempting to destroy some top Soviet leaders.

The announcement of the break came a few hours after a Moscow broadcast accused Israeli police of "connivance" in the bomb explosion.

-- In the Far East --

TAIPEH, Formosa, Thursday, Feb. 12 (AP)—The Nationalist Defense Ministry's military information service reported Wednesday more than 100 Chinese Communists were killed and 47 taken prisoner in a sea battle of junks off the Red mainland Monday.

SEOUL, Thursday, Feb. 12 (AP)—The Korean battle front was the quietest—and the warmest—of the new year Wednesday as Lt. Gen. Maxwell D. Taylor took over the 17-nation U.S. Eighth Army as its fourth commander.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 11 (AP)—Announced U.S. battle casualties in Korea reached 129,819 today, an increase of 395 since last week.

Ike Refuses Plea Of Convicted Spies

WASHINGTON, Feb. 11 (AP)—President Eisenhower refused today to spare the lives of Julius and Ethel Rosenberg, sentenced to death in the electric chair for conspiring to slip atomic secrets to Russia.

Their crime, he said, "far exceeds that of taking the life of another citizen; it involves the deliberate betrayal of the entire nation and could very well result in the death of many thousands of innocent citizens."

The Rosenbergs, man and wife, are awaiting execution in New York's Sing Sing Prison.

They appealed for presidential clemency—the last resort in their long court fight—on the ground that they were innocent. With the appeal, Federal Judge Irving R. Kaufman of New York granted a stay of execution until five days after the President announced his decision.

This does not necessarily mean the couple will die five days hence. The question of a date for their execution will come before Judge Kaufman again.

The Rosenbergs heard of Eisenhower's action on a prison radio, prison officials said. They had no comment.

Their attorney, Emanuel Bloch, said in New York that he was shocked by the news.

He said he would appeal the decision to the U.S. Supreme Court.

The Rosenbergs will be the first American civilians to pay with their lives for the crime of espionage against the United States.

Long Sees Attack On Waste Charge

WASHINGTON, Feb. 11 (AP)—Sen. Long (D-La) said today the Air Force, hoping to confuse the public, has opened a "counter attack" against his charges of fabulous waste on overseas air bases.

He spoke as senators delved into the strategic planning of the Air Force and Sen. Margaret Chase Smith (R-Me) hinted at "big mistakes in the development of this country's air outposts around the world."

The inquiry is being held behind closed doors by the Senate Armed Services Committee.

Senator Thomas Dies; Was High Commissioner

HONOLULU, Feb. 11 (AP)—Former Sen. Elbert D. Thomas of Utah, high commissioner of the U.S. trust territories of the Pacific, died suddenly at his home shortly before noon today.

He was 69. The exact cause of death was not immediately determined.

'Isolation' Seen In Treaty OK

BERLIN, Feb. 11 (AP) The Communists talked tough today about a new blockade of Berlin.

The East Berlin party leadership issued a manifesto, obviously backed by the Russians, which declared "further isolation" of the West sectors can be counted on if West Germany ratifies the European Defense Treaty next month.

Only Eastern adoption of the Soviet proposal for uniting Germany and Berlin can stave off such consequences, the Communists declared. Their manifesto was printed by the Soviet Army newspaper Taegliche Rundschau.

In West Berlin, a spokesman for the dominant Socialist party said the manifesto apparently is the starting signal for new measures against the West.

American authorities said the declaration was so bold and blunt it must be taken seriously. Nevertheless, Cecil Lyon, chief of the U. S. High Commission's Berlin staff, commented tersely:

"Sometimes they say one thing and do another."

While the West was weighing the words of the new threat, the Communists were going about measures that were suspiciously like preparations that preceded the Berlin Blockade of 1948-49.

Section gangs laid special S-bahn elevated tracks and switches at strategic points in the Soviet sector. The work appeared to be part of a plan to cut off service to West Berlin. The elevated lines carry the brunt of the city's traffic.

CIO Recommends Taft-Hartley Change

WASHINGTON, Feb. 11 (AP)—The CIO Executive Board called for seven basic changes in the Taft-Hartley Act today in the interest of "justice and fairness."

The proposals were given out as the House Labor Committee pushed forward its hearings on members' suggestions to amend the Labor Management Act of 1947.

Rooney Involved In Jelke Testimony

NEW YORK, Feb. 11 (AP) —Mickey Rooney's name popped up today from the purple past of call girl Pat Ward, but the pint-sized movie star said "we were never alone."

Miss Ward, a copper-haired 19-year-old, is star witness at the cafe society procuring trial of Minot Mickey Jelke, who isn't much taller than Rooney.

Also mentioned as Miss Ward's acquaintances from the pre-Jelke days—when she was an already-tarnished belle of cafe society—were disc jockey Jack Eigen, comedian Joey Adams and a "well-known newspaperman"—not identified. Eigen and Adams both denied any more than casual meetings with her.

The union made it clear that it still wants outright repeal of the law but said that "because of the realities of the situation" it is ready "to co-operate with a sincere effort to amend the law by eliminating its union-busting and other anti-labor provisions."

"Justice and fairness are all we ask," the board said. "Justice and fairness, we hope, are what the Congress wants."

Chairman McConnell (R-Pa) of the House committee indicated that's what he has in mind although he came out flat-footedly against "such an extreme approach as outright repeal of the act."

McConnell made his comment after Rep. Byrd (D-W.Va.), a freshman lawmaker from a coal-mining district, told the committee his constituents regard the T-H Act as "a slave labor law" and want it thrown out.

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