

# Adenauer Wins Soviet Nod For War Prisoners Release

MOSCOW (AP)—Chancellor Konrad Adenauer flew home today with an agreement to establish diplomatic relations between the Soviet Union and West Germany and the Kremlin's promise to return all Germans still held in the Soviet Union.

Before taking off, the 73-year-old West German chief gave Soviet Premier Bulganin an informal invitation to visit him in Bonn.

There was no apparent progress made on the other key issue raised by Adenauer in the five-day conference—the reunification of his divided country.

A joint communique signed by Adenauer and Bulganin said only that the agreement to exchange ambassadors "will further the settlement of pending problems affecting the whole of Germany, and must thus help the solution of the principal national problem of the German people—the re-establishment of the unity of the German democratic state."

The two delegations also agreed to set up committees to work for development of German-Soviet trade.

In an exchange of letters with Bulganin at the close of the conference, Adenauer also put on the rights which we cannot relinquish." In his letter he insisted that the fixing of Germany's final border must be done only in a final peace treaty, and that his government still insists on its claim to speak for all of Germany.

Before leaving for home, Adenauer told a news conference that in agreeing to establish relations with the Russians, he had not abandoned any of his government's ties and obligations to the North Atlantic Alliance and the Western European Union.

He added that the Russians had not demanded this of him, although Bulganin had said at the outset of the talks that West German membership in NATO and WEU was the chief barrier to German reunification.

"I want to declare emphatically that no secret deal or pact of any kind was made between us and the Soviet government," Adenauer told the newsmen.

The joint communique made no mention of the German prisoners but Adenauer said Bulganin and Soviet Communist party chief Nikita Khrushchev had agreed to return the 9,626 Germans the Soviets admit holding as war criminals.

The Chancellor added that Bulganin and Khrushchev had said they knew of no other Germans held by the Soviets, but had promised to investigate and to hand over any they found. The West Germans have claimed that 100,000 Germans are being detained.

"We believe the Soviets will keep this promise, and we hope these other detained Germans also will be able to return to their homeland," Adenauer said.

The West German leader said he expected the release of the "so-called war criminals" to start almost immediately after his delegation returned to Bonn.

Some, he said, will be amnestied while others will be turned over to the West German government to be dealt with according to its laws. A German press spokesman added that those prisoners with homes in West Germany would be handed over to the Bonn government, while natives of East Germany would be released to the Communist regime there.

The agreement at the end of the conference came as a considerable surprise since the earlier sessions of the talks had shown the two delegations far apart on the major issues.

The agreement was worked out in a final 7 1/2-hour session, the fourth plenary meeting of the

negotiations for which the Russian government had invited Adenauer to Moscow.

The communique said the pact would become effective when ratified by the Bonn Cabinet and the Bundestag (lower house) of the West German Parliament, as well as by the Presidium of the Supreme Soviet.

Adenauer left the Soviet capital by plane shortly after 10 a.m.

Bulganin, other Soviet leaders, many members of the diplomatic corps and troops of the Moscow garrison were at the airport to give him a full-scale sendoff. Before stepping into the plane, Adenauer told the Soviet Premier: "I hope we shall see each other again and that we shall see each other in Bonn."

Speaking into a microphone, he said: "We are leaving for our country with the conviction that we've worked well together in Moscow for peace throughout the world. I am convinced our work will bear good fruit for both our peoples."

Bulganin, in a brief farewell, replied: "I agree with you in the hope we should continue our work with great success. I wish you a good flight, good health and successful work."

Despite the accord at the end of the conference, a Moscow radio broadcast heard in London reported the Soviet leaders had raised new issues at the closing conference session.

The broadcast said Bulganin charged that more than 100,000 Soviet citizens are being detained in West Germany, a reference apparently to displaced persons of Russian and Baltic origin whose return Moscow demanded recently.

The broadcast said Soviet Foreign Minister V. M. Molotov also had asked the Bonn government to force American organizations in West Germany to stop sending leaflet-carrying balloons across the Iron Curtain. Molotov charged they were a menace to air traffic as well as hostile to the Soviet Union and its allies.

The sponsors in New York of the balloon project, the Free Europe Committee, Inc., denied the charges. They said the balloons flew too high to interfere with planes and that they reached only the satellite states—not the Soviet Union—with "news and information from which they have been cut off by the artificial barrier known as the Iron Curtain."

Announcement of the Adenauer-Bulganin agreement surprised and puzzled official circles in Bonn. Some politicians and diplomats felt

the failure of the conference communique to mention the return of the prisoners would give the Russians the chance to renege on the agreement.

The opposition Socialists said they regarded the result of the talks "with gravity and concern."

The chairman of the second largest party in Adenauer's government coalition, Thomas Dehler of the Free Democrats, said flatly he was deeply disappointed. He charged the agreement to establish diplomatic relations was a "tragic" recognition of Germany's present division which put reunification in the distant future.

U.S. officials in Washington said Adenauer had made about the best bargain he could in swapping establishment of diplomatic relations for release of the prisoners. Soviet organs had high praise for the conference outcome. A Pravda editorial, broadcast by Moscow radio, said the agreement showed what could be done "when urgent international problems are discussed and solved with the interests of both sides being taken into account."

## Python Causes 'Bad Luck'

WILMINGTON, N. C. (AP)—The crew of the Isthmian freighter Steel Surveyor heaved a sigh of relief today after ridding the ship of the "curse of the white python."

The rare python was among a load of animals unloaded here yesterday from the far east.

A near mishap occurred when a cargo boom gave way on the ship and plunged toward a crowd of onlookers watching the unloadings. Steel cables in the ship's rigging halted the fall of the boom within a yard of the dock. There were no injuries.

Swiss animal trapper Peter Ryhiner attributed the mishap to the "bad luck" attributed to the white python. The 7 1/2-foot snake had cast a pall over the entire trip, Ryhiner said.

"In Singapore it was riots; in India it was floods. Our best tiger jumped overboard in the Red Sea. Then we were chased into a strike-bound port by a hurricane. And now the cargo boom breaks. I hardly know what to expect next," the bearded Ryhiner declared.

The unloadings continued without further incident, however, by nightfall the python was en route to its new home in the Philadelphia Zoo.

**FACE-LIFTING**  
PANAMA (AP)—A giant face-lifting job on the Panama Canal has been completed. Some 2,475,000 cubic yards of rock and shale were blasted off Contractor's Hill to remove the threat of rock slides. Shipping was uninterrupted.

**SNOW IN QUEBEC**  
QUEBEC (AP)—The province of Quebec had its first snowfall yesterday. It snowed for three hours in Laurentide Park, 40 miles north of here, and left a covering over a large area.



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