

Pakistan Gets New Premier; Says Afghan Slew Liaquat

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KARACHI, Pakistan, Oct. 17—Governor General Khwaja Nazimuddin assumed the leadership of this grief-stricken nation today as the capital paid final homage to the assassinated Prime Minister Liaquat Ali Khan.

Governor General Nazimuddin's appointment to the Prime Ministership was announced by the Cabinet this morning and he appealed for national support in a broadcast tonight.

Since Pakistan is still a dominion and not a republic like India in the British Commonwealth, Prime Minister Nazimuddin's successor as Governor General will be appointed by King George, on the advice of the Pakistani Cabinet. It is believed here that ailing Finance Minister Ghulam Muhammed will be offered this post of constitutional head of the state. [The Associated Press reported from London that Ghulam Muhammed had been appointed.]

Meanwhile, the Government declared officially that the assassin had been identified as a national of Afghanistan named Said Akbar from the Afghan village of Khost. He was described as having resided for some time in the Hazara district of Pakistan's North West Frontier Province where an Afghan-sponsored agitation for the creation of an independent tribal state of "Pushtunistan" has been rife.

The announcement said that

2,040 rupees (\$612) had been found on the assassin's body and that 10,000 rupees had been discovered in his quarters in Abbottabad.

"The recovery of this large sum of money suggests that Said Akbar was, in all probability, a hired assassin," the Government press note declared. "Among other papers so far recovered are a map showing strategic places in north-western Pakistan and some papers inscribed in Persian [one of the principal languages of Afghanistan]."

Relations Severely Strained

Relations between Pakistan and Afghanistan have been severely strained for four years. Afghanistan insists that Pakistan's Pathan nationals in the North West Frontier and tribal areas who bear racial and cultural affinity to the Afghans should be allowed to form an independent state. Pakistan, which inherited the former British role in administering this turbulent area, has resisted any change in the status of the tribes which subsist on a Pakistani subsidy of about \$10,000,000 a year.

A widespread round-up of the assassin's associates and others was reported from West Punjab. It was said that among those arrested were close spectators of the shooting who tore the assassin limb from limb after he had pumped two bullets into the Prime Minister's breast as he began to address the Moslem League political meeting yesterday afternoon at Rawalpindi.

According to these reports, the police apparently suspected that the assassin's attackers might be conspirators who wished to silence the paid killer as soon as he had done his job.

Although members of various anti-government groups were said to be included in the round-up, the Government's identification of the slayer as an Afghan national has inevitably focused attention on the dispute between Pakistan and Afghanistan.

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Another Repercussion

Another ugly repercussion is produced by the Indian backing of the "Pushtunistan" movement which, coupled with the serious dispute between India and Pakistan over control of the state of Kashmir, places Karachi between two fires.

These considerations, along with the unfavorable reception of the report on the Kashmir problem by Dr. Frank P. Graham, the latest United Nations mediator in the Kashmir dispute, have had disturbing effects here. The leading Karachi newspaper Dawn, in an editorial today, described the Graham report, which was released simultaneously with the news of Mr. Liaquat Ali's death, as "rubbing salt in our wounds."

[Dr. Graham's report, United Nations observers feel, gave a neutral account of his unsuccessful efforts to effect demilitarization of Kashmir. The report blames neither side for the impasse, but urges a renewal of talks. Pakistan criticism against the report, these observers believe, may be based on the view that the report should have laid responsibility for the deadlock on India.]

Whether relations between India and Pakistan will deteriorate further under the new Prime Minister is a question that is met on every side, since Mr. Liaquat Ali was regarded both here and in India as a moderating influence.

Many Pakistanis, in fact, took exception to his moderate policies, and it remains to be seen what course the Nazimuddin administration will take.

The new Prime Minister had been active in local Bengal politics since he reached his majority. Now 57 years of age, he was Premier of Pakistan's East Bengal Province when called to the Governor Generalship upon the death of Mohammad Ali Jinnah, the "founder of Pakistan," in 1948.

Gain for East Pakistan

Mr. Nazimuddin's assumption of the Prime Ministership gives East Pakistan a new voice in the national government, for which it has been clamoring for a long time. Although separated from the larger land mass of Pakistan by a thousand miles of Indian territory, East

Bengal contains more than half of the total population and contributes most heavily to the country's financial stability by jute and rice growing.

LEADING FIGURES IN PAKISTAN'S CRISIS



Gov. Gen. Khwaja Nazimuddin, who will be new Prime Minister.
Associated Press



Finance Minister Ghulam Muhammad, named Governor General.
The New York Times

An estimated 700,000 persons witnessed the Moslem rites and the state funeral procession for the assassinated Prime Minister this afternoon. Since all public transportation was halted by mourning that closed all commercial activities, thousands walked as far as twelve miles in the broiling sun to watch the procession and the services through three hours of tropical afternoon heat.

The body was flown from Rawalpindi this morning and placed on public view, draped in the green and white Crescent flag of the country. At 1 P. M., it was taken to the prayer ground on a decorated gun carriage drawn by a detachment of the Royal Pakistan Navy and escorted by units of all the services and civic organizations. After the chanted Moslem prayers, the body was carried over a four-mile route through downtown Karachi to the Jinnah tomb. There Liaquat Ali Khan was placed at rest in a grave beside that of his mentor who had made him the first Prime Minister of the new Moslem nation four years, two months and three days ago.



Sir Mohammed Zafrullah Khan, the country's Foreign Minister, boarding plane at Idlewild yesterday en route home.

Foreign Minister Flies Home

Sir Mohammed Zafrullah Khan, Foreign Minister of Pakistan, left yesterday from the New York International Airport, Idlewild, Queens, for London on his way to Karachi. Sir Mohammed, who was here for the Kashmir discussions before the Security Council of the United Nations, said he was leaving because of the situation created by the assassination of Prime Minister Liaquat Ali Khan.

Sir Mohammed said Liaquat Ali's death was a "very serious setback for Pakistan, particularly in respect of the contribution Pakistan has to make and is to make in international cooperation."

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