



UN Secretariat Item Scan - Barcode - Record Title

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S-0882-0001-35-00001

Expanded Number **S-0882-0001-35-00001**

Title **Items-in-India - Lal Bahadur Shastri**

Date Created **10/01/1966**

Record Type **Archival Item**

Container **S-0882-0001: Correspondence Files of the Secretary-General: U Thant: with Heads of State, Governments, Permanent Representatives and Observers to the United Nations**

Print Name of Person Submit Image

Signature of Person Submit

10 Jan. 1966 Robin T. Miller

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ECSC

HIS EXCELLENCY DR. SARVAPALLI RADHAKRISHNAN  
PRESIDENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF INDIA  
NEW DELHI (INDIA)

I HAVE LEARNED WITH THE DEEPEST FEELINGS OF SHOCK AND GRIEF OF THE SUDDEN DEATH OF PRIME MINISTER LAL BAHADUR SHASTRI. HIS PASSING CONSTITUTES PROFOUND LOSS NOT ONLY TO HIS FAMILY AND TO HIS COUNTRY BUT ALSO TO ASIA AND THE WHOLE WORLD. IT IS FELT WITH SPECIAL SADNESS IN THE UNITED NATIONS WHERE, UNDER HIS LEADERSHIP OF THE GOVERNMENT, INDIA HAS CONTINUED AND STRENGTHENED ITS LOYAL SUPPORT OF THE UNITED NATIONS. THE SHOCK OF PRIME MINISTER SHASTRI'S DEATH IS ALL THE HARDER TO BEAR BECAUSE IT FOLLOWED SO CLOSELY UPON HIS LAST GREAT ACT OF STATESMANSHIP IN SIGNING WITH PRESIDENT AYUB KHAN OF PAKISTAN THE TASHKENT DECLARATION. I GRIEVE FOR HIM PERSONALLY AS ONE WHO CAME TO KNOW HIS QUALITIES BEST IN MY RECENT DIRECT DISCUSSIONS WITH HIM CONCERNING THE PERSISTENT CONFLICT BETWEEN INDIA AND PAKISTAN, AND ALSO AS A FELLOW ASIAN AND A WARM AND GOOD FRIEND.

PLEASE ACCEPT AND CONVEY TO MRS. SHASTRI AND THEIR FAMILY AND TO THE GOVERNMENT AND PEOPLE OF INDIA MY MOST HEARTFELT CONDOLENCES. HIGHEST CONSIDERATION.

U THANT  
SECRETARY-GENERAL

Josef Holz-Bennett

10 Jan.

J. Rolz-Bennett

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EOSG

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ETAT PRIORITE

MR. C.V. NARASIMHAN

FIVE FIRST MAIN ROAD

GANDHINAGAR

MADRAS 20 (INDIA)

NO DISTRIBUTION

SECGEN WISHES TO KNOW WHETHER YOU WOULD BE ABLE TO REPRESENT HIM AT  
PRIME MINISTER SHASTRI'S FUNERAL AND IF AFFIRMATIVE WHETHER YOU FEEL  
MCDIARMID SHOULD ACCOMPANY YOU. PLEASE ADVISE. REGARDS

ROLZ-BENNETT

J. Rolz-Bennett

Under-Secretary

UNITED NATIONS

Press Services  
Office of Public Information  
United Nations, N.Y.

(FOR USE OF INFORMATION MEDIA -- NOT AN OFFICIAL RECORD)

Press Release SG/SM/429  
10 January 1966

STATEMENT BY THE SECRETARY-GENERAL ON THE DEATH  
OF PRIME MINISTER LAL BAHADUR SHASTRI OF INDIA

It is with the deepest sense of shock that I have learned of the sudden and untimely death of Mr. Lal Bahadur Shastri, Prime Minister of India.

Not India alone, nor Asia alone, but the whole world will mourn Mr. Shastri's passing. The United Nations will carry a full share of that burden of grief, and I am sure that I can speak for the Organization as a whole, as well as on my own behalf, in expressing to his family, to the Government of India and to the Indian nation our most heartfelt condolences.

Prime Minister Shastri gave his great country guidance and leadership which helped it not only to approach with renewed vigour its immense tasks of social and economic improvement, but also to exert with undiminished determination at the international level its powerful influence for the good of all mankind.

He led his country in maintaining and enhancing its position as one of the most loyal supporters of the United Nations.

I mourn the loss of Prime Minister Shastri as a statesman with whom I had so recently been directly engaged in negotiations to resolve the conflict which had disturbed his country's relations with Pakistan, as a fellow Asian, and as a warm and good friend.

His death has come all the more as a shock because it has followed so closely upon his signing of the "Tashkent Declaration" with President Ayub Khan of Pakistan. I had wholeheartedly welcomed this declaration, in which the two leaders expressed their firm resolve to restore normal and peaceful relations between their two countries, reaffirming their obligations under the Charter of the United Nations not to resort to the use of force to settle their disputes and agreeing to the withdrawal of their respective troops to positions held before 5 August 1965. The withdrawal, as is well known, is in conformity with the Security Council's resolution of 20 September 1965 (S/6697).

(more)

Press Release SG/SM/429  
10 January 1966

I was about to pay tribute to the statesmanship of the two leaders and to convey my compliments also to Premier Alexei Kosygin and other members of the Soviet Government for their initiative in bringing about the meeting which resulted in the adoption of the declaration.

I pay this tribute now with a special sense of poignancy.

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UNITED NATIONS

Press Services  
Office of Public Information  
United Nations, N.Y.

(FOR USE OF INFORMATION MEDIA -- NOT AN OFFICIAL RECORD)

Press Release SG/SM/430  
11 January 1966

MESSAGE FROM SECRETARY-GENERAL TO PRESIDENT OF INDIA

The Secretary-General, U Thant, sent the following cable of condolences yesterday to the President of the Republic of India, Sarvapelli Radhajrishnan:

"I have learned with the deepest feelings of shock and grief of the sudden death of Prime Minister Lal Bahadur Shastri. His passing constitutes a profound loss, not only to his family and to his country, but also to Asia and the whole world. It is felt with special sadness in the United Nations where, under his leadership of the Government, India has continued and strengthened its loyal support of the United Nations.

"The shock of Prime Minister Shastri's death is all the harder to bear because it followed so closely upon his last great act of statesmanship in signing, with President Ayub Khan of Pakistan, the Tashkent Declaration. I grieve for him personally as one who came to know his qualities best in my recent direct discussions with him concerning the painful conflict between India and Pakistan, and also as a fellow Asian and a warm and good friend.

"Please accept and convey to Mrs. Shastri and their family, and to the Government and people of India, my most heartfelt condolences."

\* \*\*\* \*

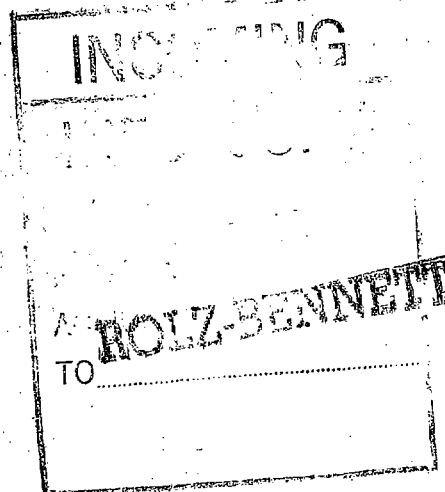
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- UNATION NEWYORK -



ROLZ BENNETT FROM NARASIMHAN RECEIVED YOUR CABLE  
PROCEEDING DELHI THIS AFTERNOON TO REPRESENT  
SECCEN AT PRIME MINISTER'S FUNERAL RETURNING MADRAS  
THURSDAY MCDIARMID MAY ALSO BE  
DESIGNATED TO JOIN ME ON THIS OCCASION

A 0634 11 JAN RA

UNATION 222422

REM/pw cc: Mr. Narasimhan  
Mr. Miller  
Mr. Hoffman  
Mr. Lemieux ✓  
Mr. Sivasankar  
Mr. Owen

11 Jun. 1966 C. Sivasankar

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BTAT PRIORITY

UNDEVELO

NEW DELHI (INDIA)

MODIARMD

SECRETARY-GENERAL HAS DESIGNATED NARASIMHAN TO REPRESENT HIM AT  
SHASTRY'S FUNERAL, ACCOMPANIED BY YOU, COL. JOHN CAUTIER AND LT.  
COL. J.A. HILLIARD.

ROLZ-BENNETT

José Rolz-Bennett



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ETATPTY IMMEDIATE

- HIS EXCELLENCY U THANT SECRETARY GENERAL  
UNITED NATIONS ORGANISATION NEWYORK -

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☐ ACTION REQUIRED

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Return to: [illegible]

WE ARE MOST GRATEFUL TO YOUR EXCELLENCY FOR THE INTIMATE FEELINGS  
EXPRESSED IN YOUR MESSAGE OF CONDOLENCE ON THE TRAGIC DEATH  
OF SHRI LAL BAHADUR SHASTRI (.) IN OUR HOUR OF MOURNING YOUR  
SYMPATHY IS A SOURCE

NB123 HIS PAGE 2/20

OF GREAT CONSOLATION TO US AND WE SINCERELY THANK YOU FOR IT (.)

S RADHAKRISHNAN

THE PRESIDENT OF INDIA

COL U S

UNITED NATIONS  
1966 JAN 17 AM 10.59  
TELEGRAPHIC

RM/pw cc: Mr. Narasimhan  
Mr. Miller  
Mr. Lemieux ✓  
Registry

19 January 1966

Dear Mrs. Deskine,

Many thanks for your letter of 14 January 1966 and  
your eloquent tribute to the late Prime Minister Shastri  
of India.

Yours sincerely,

Robin T. Miller  
Principal Officer

Mrs. Marie Deskine  
350 Lincoln Road - Suite 420  
Miami Beach  
Florida