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1. New elections of officers of the West German press association (Bundespressekonferenz) were held on 29 June 1955 at the German press club in Bonn. Dr. Ferdinand Hiegeler was elected chairman for 1955-56, and Hilde Purwin was elected secretary. According to several West German newspaper men, the CDU had attempted to have Dr. August Wegener chosen as chairman.

2. A prominent German correspondent in Bonn, (Fm) Koerfgiebel, and (Fm) Hoffer, the election that Dr. Otto John and Hans Globke were attempting to fill the top posts in the Bundespressekonferenz with CDU journalists, in order to support the association to the ends of the Chancellor's party. Hiegeler was elected over Wegener largely as a reaction against these pressure tactics.

3. It is rumored that the CDU will now try to split the Bundespressekonferenz and form a separate association composed of journalists favored by the Government. Leaders of the latter group are Franz Hange, correspondent of the DPA and a liaison between Chancellor Adenauer, Dr. Albert Oeffler, publisher of the Christlich-Demokratischer Pressedienst; (Fm) Hans Dahlke, publisher of Bildung und Leben, Catholic Journals; (Fm) Arbogast, a free-lance writer for several Catholic papers; and (Fm) Hans Paul Bergmann, CDU free-lance writer.

4. The attempt to split the Bundespressekonferenz is said to have resulted from Lenz's failure in 1953 and 1954 to establish a weekly sheet for the control of the press. Dr. Albert Oeffler has allegedly been given 30,000 marks by Lenz's office for the purpose of splitting the present association and the establishment of the new one. The present Bundespressekonferenz has 207 members, including [illegible] journalists to the West German Parliament.

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