

4060-4

NOV 23 1960

SHAL then Ar

# NEW AGE

COMMUNIST PARTY WEEKLY

## ORISSA FLOODS Worst In 100 Years

by TRUNK TELEPHONE. CUTTACK

Orissa has become a vast flood zone. The havoc caused is beyond words. "It is a fact beyond any shadow of doubt that during the last hundred years, there was no such flood of such a magnitude and so devastating," says the State's ex-Minister Pabitra Mohan Pradhan, M.L.A. (Samaj, August 20)

The great Mahanadi, along with the Brahmani and Baitarani, are in floods. The whole district of Balasore has been submerged under water and half of Cuttack, a good part of Puri, parts of Dhenkanal, Sambalpur and Keonjhar Districts, on both sides of the gushing flooded streams are most affected.

Countless Oriyas have been rendered homeless, foodless, refugees. Human beings and peasants' cattle are seen shrieking and floating down the rivers. Observers from safe areas have even witnessed two elephants and two tigers in the rushing floods being washed towards the sea. The pitiful wailings of men, women and children are heard the whole night for miles around.

For days no telephone and telegraph messages could be sent out, the poles were washed away. From August 15, railway traffic to Calcutta has been stopped because of the breaches between Balasore and Cuttack. A whole railway bridge has been washed away, just beyond Balasore. The State Government was taken unawares and was not prepared to face the calamity despite earlier flood experiences.

Even the Congress daily, Samaj, is bitter. It wrote editorially on August 18, "It was expected that after the 1955 floods, the Government would remain prepared for facing such eventualities. But in practice, it has been otherwise." It adds, "What to speak of rendering help and distributing relief to the people, when the Government has not established even minimum arrangement for supplying information."

The State Government has belatedly formed a so-called Relief Committee which not only excludes the Communists but almost all other prominent persons, well known for their services to the people and experience of such relief work.

Everybody in Orissa wants the Union Government to respond immediately and send military personnel with equipment to help in relief operations, sanction an adequate amount of money for relief and above all press the State Government not to make a racket of relief work but seek and function with the cooperation of all.

Five squads of the Communist Party are operating day and night in the flooded areas, headed by Communist M.L.A.s. More are being organised but they lack resources.

We appeal to our brother Party units throughout the country and to all our fellow countrymen with a heart to send all they can for relief to the stricken, directly to Secretary, Communist Party, State Headquarters, Cuttack 2.

and fair criticism in the common cause of defending India's sovereignty, building up our economy and safeguarding the cause of world peace.

We solemnly warn: Anti-Communism is alien to Indian national tradition. It is the old ragged, badly discredited banner of world's worst reactionaries, all through the various phases that world history has passed ever since the days of Karl Marx. It is today the much-publicised ideology of the U.S. aggressors and enslavers.

In our country anti-Communism is the mask of those who seek a pro-imperialist change in our independent foreign policy.

Inside India, anti-Communism is mouthed by the friends and patrons of Thimayya and the admirers

of Ayub. In our Plan discussion, anti-Communism is used by the champions of private enterprise and opponents of the public sector and land reforms.

Anti-Communism is also used by the Congress leaders, including Pandit Nehru as diversionary tactics, as a part of their partisan struggle against our Party. This confuses the people and aids the forces of reaction.

India's Prime Minister must choose his words and company after more serious thought and with a greater sense of national responsibility. We have not hinged fear and nothing to hide. We have learnt to keep thinking and working all the time in the service of our people and for the glory of our nation. (August 24)

VOL. VIII, NO. 35 SUNDAY, AUGUST 28, 1960 25 nP.

### Editorial

There was a time when Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru's temperamental outbursts endeared him still more to our patriotic people. The old days are gone. The Prime Minister's present-day outbursts are tending to endear him to the forces of the Right. His latest, during the foreign policy debate in the Rajya Sabha was acclaimed in banner headlines by the Big Business daily Press.

More, his baseless and unwarranted aspersions against (the All-India Peace Council and) our Party were boxed, in black type, on the front-page of the Jan Sangh mouthpiece, the Organiser. The Jan Sangh is no friend of the Prime Minister and his foreign policy but the very fact that his words do serve the propaganda purposes of the Jan Sangh constitutes their damnation and our exoneration in terms of Indian patriotism and world peace.

The Prime Minister's words, however, deserve more than such a summary though justified treatment.

# NEHRU IS ALL WRONG

THE Prime Minister's attack ranged far and wide. He asked our spokesman, Comrade Bhupesh Gupta, "Whether it is not a fact that the members of the Communist Party have not been roaming about our border areas carrying on this campaign against India in this matter?" He was duly and promptly answered on the floor of the House itself, though the bourgeois Press either blacked out or played down the answer.

Let us unravel the very origin of this whole tale of the so-called Communist fifth-column activities on our borders. It was first invented by the Praja Socialist leader, H. V. Kamath, and publicised through the columns of the anti-Nehru, anti-Krishna Menon, anti-CPI but cent per cent pro-American, pro-private-enterprise weekly Current. In those days of tension over our border dispute with China the columnists and correspondents of the monopoly Press picked up and popularised the story for their Red-baiting purposes and gave it wide currency.

Congress President Sanjeeva Reddy strained his wits to sell the slander in one of his Calcutta speeches. He was immediately contradicted by no less a person than West Bengal's Chief Minister B. C. Roy. Let the Prime Minister get the true facts straight from his Congress Chief Minister of the State.

### Of-Repeated Slander

The same slander was repeated about that time by the Jan Sangh member from Almora in the U.P. State Assembly, an adjournment motion moved, all the noise made and an official enquiry instituted. During the current session of the U.P. Assembly Chief Minister Sampurnanand

had to answer on the floor of the House that the enquiry had revealed that the Jan Sangh allegation was baseless.

If the Prime Minister of the country makes against our Party a slanderous allegation, originally emanating from the American lobby sources within our country and the same as has already been investigated and contradicted by two of his State Chief Ministers the least we can say is that he does not know his facts, and more we leave to the political intelligence of our readers and the conscience of Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru.

### Attack On "New Age"

The Prime Minister let himself go at New Age as well. Referring to "this China border question," he alleged, "New Age has been carrying on not only unpatriotic, that is a vague word, that is a feeble word, but most anti-national campaign."

Unlike Pandit Nehru, New Age claims no monopoly of patriotism or wisdom. We are prepared to argue man-to-man, and discuss with an open mind all that we write, in terms of the interests of our nation, the welfare of our people and the cause of world peace.

The Prime Minister has made a general allegation, not referred to any specific article nor even any sentence, that has appeared in New Age, which in his opinion is anti-national.

In such an amazing situation, all that we can say is that uttering a slander is not making an argument that deserves a big answer.

When the Prime Minister of our country slanders our Party and its organ he really does not hurt us but only discredits himself and lowers the moral standards of our national life

New Age readers know that we are unflinching champions of whatever is progressive and positive in India's foreign and Plan policies, while many who sail under and swear by Pandit Nehru are not.

The readers of New Age, as well as the Prime Minister, know that the stand of our Party on the India-China border dispute is contained in the Meerut resolution of the National Council of our Party, it is pledged to defend the territorial integrity of the country and pleads for a policy of negotiations to settle the unfortunate dispute with the neighbour. Pandit Nehru has spoken several times in public meetings on the problem but never once had he any criticism of our resolution. The reason is simple. No hostile criticism can be effectively made of our policy stand.

Pandit Nehru does not relish criticism of the limitations and failings of his own policies. However, he cannot command the servile 'Yes-Sir' from our Party and its mouthpiece. He has always in the past, and he will in the future as well, get from us only honourable cooperation

## Soviet Science Does It Again

IN all the vast aeons of time no living thing had ever left the earth, soared into outer space and then returned to our planet. On August 20, Soviet science accomplished this stupendous feat and incalculably increased Man's mastery over Nature.

A new stage has been ushered in the exploration of outer space, the most momentous after the launching of the first Sputnik less than three years ago. We are visibly approaching the day when Man will journey to the Moon and the planets and return again to Mother Earth.

The whole world applauds in admiration

at this fresh demonstration of the capacities of Soviet science, powered by the mightiest force on earth—a people on the march to Communism. First to make a Socialist Revolution, first to engage in building Communism, and first to break through to the cosmos—such is the mighty Soviet land, its people and its Communist Party.

New Age joins the millions of our countrymen and men of goodwill in all countries in sending the most ardent greetings and congratulations to the Soviet people, Government and Communist Party—pioneers always in humanity's advance to its glorious destiny.

















# U. S. SPY IN THE DOCK

★ by cable from MASOOD ALI KHAN

MOSCOW, August 23

This was to have been the dismal story of a pitiable specimen of humanity but before it was over, two happy dogs stole the headlines from the American spy.

THE culprit of the spy-flight has been given a just but mild sentence after a trial the fairness of which has been universally recognised and as I write, the people here celebrate another Soviet victory—the miraculous flight and safe return to earth of the Soviet space-ship with animals on board after a journey of more than 700,000 miles in cosmos.

The contrast of the two flights is the contrast of the two worlds and it was sharply brought out by the three-day trial of Francis Gary Powers which has just ended in Moscow.

The news of the launching of the new giant space-ship with two dogs and other animals on board came on the last day of the trial when the court had retired to consider the verdict and we were all waiting for the result. As loud-speakers announced the great news, somebody remarked: "I think the two dogs in the cosmos are better than one spy in the airspace of the Soviet Union" and everyone laughed.

Here was aggression on earth and peaceful conquest of space, espionage science on one side, and the television bringing live pictures from cosmos on the other; no doubt people prefer flight of the two intelligent dogs to this smart creature, a synthetic product of American wisdom, this smiling button-pusher with blind faith in his superiors and his evil instruments who could have released a hydrogen bomb with the same ease if his orders said so.

## Historic Trial

This was a great and historical trial with not only Francis Powers, the dupe, but the Western Powers in the dock. It unmasked Western imperialists and brought before the public forum their dark intrigues and aggressive designs, their play with death and the great dangers which face the world today.

Powers was tried in the Hall of Columns of the House of Unions by a Military Collegium of the Supreme Court of the USSR in the presence of hundreds of foreign and local correspondents, diplomats and a large number of observers from many lands, most of them legal experts, and about 1,500 representatives of the public.

The whole proceedings were translated into English for the benefit of the accused. He was given all possible facilities for his defence and many witnesses and experts were produced to prove the case in spite of the fact that Powers himself, the State Department and the U.S. President had pleaded guilty from the very beginning.

On the first day, the President Judge, Lt. General of Justice Victor Borisoglebsky, explained to the defendant his rights and procedure of the court. He asked if the parties had any objection to the interpreters, whether the defendant had

received the indictment and Powers replied that he had received the text of the indictment last Wednesday seven days ago and had been told of the trial.

The Presiding Judge explained to the defendant that he could give testimony in English, take part in the judicial proceedings, put questions to the witnesses and experts, submit new evidence, he could ask the court to consider new documents. He was told that he was entitled to a counsel for defence and the last word at the end of the proceedings. Do you understand these rights, asked the Judge to make sure, and Powers replied, yes, without hesitation.

The court consisted of the President Judge, two penal assessors and the Secretary of

and Powers replied that he had not been tortured but treated well. "Much better than I had expected". Later he added that he had been "treated very nicely".

Describing his feelings during the flight, Powers said he was physically all right but nervy and scared. Asked why, he replied, "It was just the idea of being over the Soviet Union—it is not something I would like to be doing every day."

Powers said that he was flying at a maximum altitude of nearly 68,000 feet when he saw an orange flash and heard and felt a hollow sounding explosion. His plane began to fall and break up and after losing height he baled out.

## Purpose Of Flight

Asked what was the purpose of the flight, Powers answered that he was ordered to do so. His job was to operate the equipment whose purpose he did not fully understand. When

There was a ripple of amusement at this in the hall. The plane had a destructor unit and his instructions were to blow up the aircraft, evade capture and by means of his survival equipment make for the nearest border.

Powers was asked to comment on the currency, valuables, gold rings and trinkets he had on him. "This was more or less considered part of my survival equipment," he said. Later he declared it was for "the food I would need on my 1400-mile walk and to aid me in any way."

"But you did not succeed in bribing any Soviet citizen? The very first people you met detained you?" said the prosecutor. "I did not try," said Powers. "Even if you had tried, you would not have found any," retorted Rudenko. "I think so, too" said Powers.

The pistol with silencer, he claimed, was for hunting and caused some laughter in the hall. Rudenko incredulously asked him to repeat his answer and Powers said, "I do not think the

Europe, "big wheels" as he called them, visited the base.

Powers revealed that even Cardinal Spellman had visited them and there followed an interesting exchange between him and the prosecutor.

Rudenko—"So Spellman is also interested in military bases?"

Powers—"I would say he is interested in military personnel, not bases."

Rudenko—"Personnel which carry out spy flights?"

Powers—"I do not think he would think too much of what a person does but of what a person is."

## Special Assignments

The prosecutor asked Powers to describe the special assignments he was given by his superiors and Powers obliged: "In 1956 they seemed more interested in the Black Sea Area; later the centre of interest seemed to

# More Than A Fair Trial SAYS AMERICAN LAWYER

the court; the case for the prosecution was presented by Roman Rudenko, Procurator-General of the USSR and the counsel for defence was Mikhail Grinyov.

The prosecution and defendant Powers were both asked if they had any objection to the court and both replied no. The Judge explained, "Defendant, you have the right to object to the composition of the court or to its individual members on grounds of any of them being related to any party in the case or having a personal interest in the case. Have you any objection?"

Powers—"No." Judge—"You can object to the prosecutor on the same grounds."

Powers—No objection. The Judge asked whether he had any objection to the experts and he replied that he had none. Powers was asked whether he had any objection to his defence counsel. He said he had none. Asked if he had any requests or wanted to make a statement at that stage, Powers replied in the negative. Only after these preliminaries had been completed, the indictment was read out.

## Powers Pleads Guilty

He was asked and pleaded guilty to spying under the Soviet Union's "Law of Criminal Responsibility for State Crimes", for which he could be sentenced to death or up to 15 years in jail.

After an interval of 20 minutes, interrogation of the defendant by the prosecutor began. Powers told the court that he flew his U-2 plane at an altitude his commander believed was beyond the reach of the Soviet defences. "I was told it was absolutely safe and that the only danger would be by a mechanical defect in the plane."

He told that he was given a poisoned needle to kill himself if tortured. The Prosecutor asked—"Were you?"

asked that he could probably guess the purpose, he replied "I could pretty well guess, I did not know exactly."

Question: Now you know exactly?

Powers: Now I have seen the results I have a better idea.

Question: From the first minute of the flight did you doubt the fact that it was a spy flight?

Powers: I did not doubt this. In spite of this Powers repeated many times that he just operated the switches turning them on and off at certain places but he did not know his equipment. "There could be no other reason for the flight than spying," he declared later.

There came a tense moment during the cross-examination when Rudenko asked: "You could with the same ease have released an atomic bomb?"

There was pin-drop silence in the big hall. Powers thought for a moment, then replied in his innocent voice, "It could be done, I am sure", but he added, after realising the full implications of what he had said, "It was not that type of a plane." Rudenko countered: "This plane flies at 20,000 metres; it violated our space. From the ground no one can see what it has on board." Powers: "That is right."

Powers declared he did not see whether the plane had identification marks or not and the prosecutor said he would leave it to the experts.

## Commander's Instructions

Powers declared that the commander of his detachment Col. Shelton, had told him that in the event of trouble "any field outside the Soviet Union would be better than any inside."

pistol had anything to do with the spy mission".

The way Powers behaved in the court showed beyond a shadow of doubt that he was in his right senses and all hullabaloo in the Western Press about brainwashing, etc., was sheer nonsense. Powers' parents and his wife who came for trial were also sure of this and his father, Oliver Powers, said after the first day of the trial, "that is my boy, right down the line. Every word was his."

Powers said that he had marked airfields, oil stores and other objects on his map during the flight, apart from operating the camera, the tape-recorder for recording Soviet radar signals and other equipment. He described the route of his flight in detail, and how and under what circumstances he had signed the contract with the Central Intelligence Agency of the USA. He was offered 2,500 dollars per month and "I liked the sound of a flying job with more money." One thousand dollars were withheld every month and were to be paid after the successful completion of the contract.

## Training For Spying

Powers said that the U.S. law stipulated punishment of ten years in jail or 10,000 dollars fine or both for divulging terms of his top secret contract.

Francis Powers described his training period, places where he had worked, the preparations he had to undergo before his spy flight and conditions at Adana, Turkey, where his spy detachment was based. He said, high-ranking military officers like the U.S. Air Force Chief of Staff General Thomas White and General Frank Everest, Commander, U.S. Air Force in

move toward the East. I was told on one night I might see a rocket being launched. By that I assumed they were interested in rockets."

Rudenko: "Were these intelligence flights?"

Powers: "I have no idea. I just turned switches on and off."

Rudenko: "Like on May 1, you saw with what results?"

Powers: "Yes."

Rudenko: "Do not all these facts make clear to you that they were intelligence flights?"

Powers: "I suppose they were." And so on all the time, he thought he was being very clever but he came round and agreed to the charges just as easily.

The trial brought out, without a shadow of doubt, the role of the accomplices in this dirty spying business of the USA—the help given by countries like Britain, Norway, Pakistan, Iran, Turkey and others.

Pakistan was constantly being used as a spy base and Powers had arrived at Peshawar four or five days before his flight of May 1, accompanied by 20 people and his Commander Shelton in a cargo plane. Pakistan personnel at the control tower had directed them to land. The aircraft on which Powers made his abortive flight was brought there on the eve of his spy mission by another pilot.

## Visit To Pakistan

Powers had visited Peshawar earlier, in June 1959, when he ferried a U-2 Plane. He said he was familiar with the place. None of the Pakistanis had met him personally. Rudenko asked: "Pakistani authorities were informed that your plane will be

★ SEE PAGE 13