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# NEW AGE

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Ordinarily, a municipal by-election evokes little interest except among the people directly concerned. The by-election that took place from the Kamlanagar constituency to the Delhi Corporation on Sunday, May 14, was, however, an exception. Not merely the parties that contested the election but also the general public and the entire Press took the election seriously. Its result, the victory of the Jan Sangh over the Congress, has been widely commented upon in the Press and in political circles.

With this victory, the Jan Sangh has now 30 members out of a total membership of 86 in the Delhi Municipal Corporation. What makes the election significant, however, is not only this number but also and above all, the background in which it took place.

THE ghastly riots that occurred in Jabalpur, Saugor and other places in Madhya Pradesh are still fresh in public memory. Normal conditions have not yet been restored there. Muslims who were the victims of communal frenzy are still being subjected to intimidation and harassment. The role that the Jan Sangh played in these riots is too well-known to need narration.

## Danger Signal

These riots shocked the conscience of all honest, democratic-minded and decent people. They showed how bold the forces of obscurantism and dark reaction had become and how unscrupulously they were utilising the discontent and sense of frustration among large mass of people. These riots were a warning and a danger signal. Prime Minister Nehru, when he learned the details, lashed out at members of his own party most of whom had failed to

live up to the traditions of our national movement and had done nothing to protect the members of the minority community.

Shortly after these riots, in the first week of April, took place the election to a Lok Sabha constituency in Delhi. The Jan Sangh won the seat, defeating the Congress by a margin of ten thousand votes. This was the first time that the Jan Sangh captured a Lok Sabha seat in Delhi.

Taking place in this background, the Corporation by-election, rendered necessary by the death of a Congressman who had held the seat, acquired great importance. It was looked upon as a crucial contest. Local issues hardly figured in the election. The Jan Sangh propaganda was avowedly communal. The Con-

gress was denounced for permitting cow slaughter in Delhi and for "softness" towards Muslims. Simultaneously, they made demagogic use of the discontent created by the Central Government's taxation proposals and its attitude towards its employees.

## Communist Support

After careful consideration, the Communist Party resolved not to set up its own candidate in the constituency. Notwithstanding all its differences with the Congress, the Communist Party, recognising the growing menace of Jan Sangh in the capital city of India, where it had already attain-

## National Council To Meet In Bangalore

The National Council of the Communist Party of India will meet at Bangalore from June 18th onwards.

### Have You Sent Your Cash To Orissa Fund ?

If not rush it immediately. There is no time to lose.

# Fight The Menace Of COMMUNALISM

— AJOY GHOSH

ed appreciable strength, decided to ask its followers, mainly workers, to vote for the Congress candidate.

Smt. Aruna Asaf Ali, a former Mayor of Delhi, who had been compelled to renounce her office because of the obstructive attitude adopted by Congress Corporators towards her, went to the voters in the constituency and tried her utmost to ensure victory for the Congress.

Despite all this, the Jan Sangh won the seat—though by a narrow margin of 286 votes. It is worth noting that out of 11 polling stations from where the Congress polled a majority of votes (total number of polling stations—25) six were those where workers constituted the bulk of the electorate.

A few persons and a paper

like the Hindustan Times tried to make out that Communist support had "earned the Congress unpopularity", but such comments were an exception. Facts refuted them. Practically all Congressmen, as also newspapers, agreed that but for the support given by the Communist Party, the Congress defeat would have been far heavier. Typical in this respect was the comment of the staff reporter of the Statesman:

"Had the Communist Party not supported the Congress, the latter might have lost by the big margin of 3,000 to 4,000 votes. . . . The labour areas where the Congress got 60 per cent to 70 per cent of the votes are strongholds of the Communist Party."

By itself this election would have passed unnoticed. But, as we have already stated, it acquired great significance because of the context in which it was held. Moreover, it has to be seen together with other developments—the menacing rise of the Jan Sangh influence in several States, the revival and strengthening of Muslim communalism in some areas, the renewed threat of the Akalis to launch struggle, the bitter controversy that has developed in Assam over the issue of language and so on.

## Welcome Development

All the precious heritage of our national movement is in danger of being swept away. All the values we have been cherishing are in danger of being submerged under the rising tide of communalism, casteism and regionalism.

Such a situation, we have pointed out many a time and also recently in the resolution adopted by the Sixth Congress of our Party, could not have arisen but for the policies pursued by the Con-

# SAY NO TO JOHNSON

## — Menace To Asian Peace, Insult To India

Comrade Ajoy Ghosh, General Secretary of the Communist Party of India, has issued the following statement in New Delhi on May 17:

The U.S. Vice-President's current tour of American military allies and puppet regimes in Southeast Asia and the Far East in course of which he has decided to visit India also, is both a grave menace to Asian peace and an insult to our country.

The immediate background and the declared purpose of the tour, as well as the performance to-date in course of it, all convincingly prove that U.S. aggression and military intervention in this part of the world is being stepped

up to a level never reached before.

India's response to these threatening U.S. moves can only be one of the strongest opposition by all possible means.

Nevertheless, Mr. Johnson insists on coming to India and the argument is advanced that the purpose of the visit here at least is primarily economic, not political. It is a grave insult to the intelligence of the Indian people.

The U.S. Government seeks indirectly to tell us that with the bait of greater economic aid, India's opposition to its aggressive moves in Southeast Asia can be neutralised or softened. We must seriously ponder over what

it is that has given them ground to cherish such hopes.

The Communist Party demands that the Prime Minister and other leaders of the Government of India tell Mr. Johnson plainly and bluntly that India will not put up with the new threats to peace and the independence of peoples that the USA is raising all over the world, be it against Vietnam, Laos or Cuba.

In particular, with its special responsibility as Chairman of the International Commission for Vietnam, India must tell the USA that it cannot be allowed to tear to shreds the 1954 Geneva Agreement on Vietnam as it is

seeking to do by increased arms supply and by sending more military personnel, by intensifying the murderous campaign against patriots in South Vietnam whose only crime is that they demand countrywide elections and unification of their homeland which, according to the Geneva Agreement, should have been held five years ago.

Mr. Johnson must be given a thundering NO in reply—that is the demand of the Indian people. Economic aid or no economic aid, India will even more strongly support the people's struggle to gain or preserve their independence, India will even more strongly than before oppose the U.S. threats to world peace.

\* SEE PAGE FOUR



# DELHI CORPORATION BY-ELECTION

Parliament is not in session. The weather is hot. The event of the week in the Capital is the Corporation by-election.

THE ruling party lost last month the Parliamentary by-election and this week a prestige Corporation seat. During the last General Elections to the Corporation, the victorious Congress Councillor emerged as No. 2 in the whole of Delhi in terms of votes polled. In this by-election the Congress candidate lost to the Jan Sangh, the Congress votes being 6,868 and the Sangh recording 7,146, a bare majority but a victory alright.

During the last elections there was a triangular contest between Congress, Communist and Jan Sangh candidates. This time the Communists supported the Congress and yet it lost. The constituency was Kamalanagar - Jawaharnagar a dominant new rising middle class area with the university campus thrown in, and a few labour areas. The voters were 25,000; over 50 per cent middle class traders, mostly Punjabi refugees. It is they who swung the balance decisively in favour of the Jan Sangh.

There were 600 university teachers and about 1,500 students and employees, most of them were away on vacations but the majority of those in town voted Congress.

There were over 1,000 building and daily labourers and about two-and-a-half thousand mill workers, a big majority of whom voted Congress. Chandrawal, the small rural area, mostly Gujars selling milk and vegetables to the city, had about 2,000 voters, majority of whom voted Congress.

## Jan Sangh Campaign

The Jan Sangh began the campaign in a big way. It was greatly encouraged by its victory in the Parliamentary by-election. Their main slogan was that the need of the hour was to dislodge the Congress from all positions of power and that the Jan Sangh was the only alternative, capable of doing the job. Their effort was to fully exploit the anti-Congress discontent. They made big noise about cow-slaughter but concentrated against increased taxes, for all the grievances of the people they held the Congress responsible.

They attacked the Communists very vigorously, their running theme was that Communists had been bribed by the Congress and hence no Communist candidate had been put up against the Congress this time.

The Jan Sangh campaign was very well organised, they mobilised all their strength in the city and even got workers from nearby Punjab districts. Their door-to-door canvassing was sustained and effective.

The Congress began its public campaign very late and its door-to-door canvassing later still.

The Congress spokesmen

PAGE TWO

# Assam : New Turn In Language Tangle

From MADHUSUDAN BHATTACHARYA BRILLONG

With mounting mass support behind the agitation in Cachar for recognition of Bengali as an additional official language of Assam, the language tangle in this State has been taking a new turn, bringing in its trail newer complications.

THE agitation in the Bengali-speaking district of Cachar is led by a Sangram Parishad (Council of Action), the President of which is an independent Muslim lawyer of the district and the Secretary, a former PSP leader.

It may be mentioned in this connection that almost all the members of the PSP of Cachar resigned their party membership some time ago due to their differences with the State leadership on the question of State language as also the State leadership's stand during last year's language disturbances, though they still claim to have faith in "democratic Socialism".

The Sangram Parishad itself may be said to be the product of an agitation that has been continuing in that district for some time now. The demand of the Sangram Parishad is recognition of Bengali as an additional State language of Assam, together with Assamese or in the alternative, separation of Cachar from Assam.

The District Sangram Parishad has its sub-divisional units in all the three sub-divisions of the district. It was decided by the Sangram Parishad that the entire district should be covered by batches of leaders and volunteers with a view to enlisting mass support behind the demand and accordingly, all the three sub-divisional units sent pad yatris to tour the rural areas.

This pad yatra began on April 14 which was also the first day of the Bengali year. The pad yatris were given hearty greetings in fairly big mass meetings on that day which was observed as a Sanakalpa Divas—day of oath-taking. In these meetings many volunteers enlisted themselves for the satyagraha that is proposed by the Sangram Parishad. The people who turned up for the meetings also took the pledge to make all sacrifices for the cause of the mother-tongue and some volunteers were reported to have signed the pledge with their blood. Copies of the Assam Official Language Act were burnt in bonfires in some of those meetings.

But mere preaching of high ideals will not be enough. With heightened awareness of their social and political rights as free Indians, the citizens of Delhi expect election-time pledges to be implemented. When this does not happen year after year, the Jan Sangh's loud propaganda that "Hindu religion and culture are in danger" yields rich anti-Congress dividends. Unless like-minded democrats and Socialists come together Delhi's future as free and sovereign India's capital is indeed gloomy.

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The pad yatra it seems from reports reaching here, has roused almost the entire district. While in Karimganj Sub-Division, it has been able to rouse almost all classes of people, including the peasantry, in the other sub-divisions also it has succeeded in rousing a very big section of the people. Almost the entire youth has been mobilised behind the movement in all the three sub-divisions.

NEW AGE

of that district is still quite limited and this might give a handle to the communal elements to direct their fire against these minority communities.

But others point out that while in Karimganj, so far the strongest base of the agitation, the said minority communities have taken part in the agitation with an abandon, in the other two sub-divisions also some quite influential persons from among these communities have been participating in the agitation so that it would not be possible for the communal elements to give a communal turn to the movement. However, it is felt here that the danger of a chauvinist outburst with likely repercussions in the Brahmaputra valley cannot be ruled out.

## Congress Attitude

Though the leaderships of the three District Congress Committees of Cachar maintain views on the issue identical with those of the leaders of the Sangram Parishad, they have not formally joined the agitation. But some of the Congressmen, it is said, have been maintaining some kind of link with it, though in their individual capacity.

That some Congressmen have been connected with the agitation is borne out by a recent statement of the General Secretary of the Assam Pradesh Congress Committee who said that although any Congressman feel aggrieved by any decision of the Pradesh Congress, he was free to appeal to the AICC and similarly, if anybody felt aggrieved at any measure of the State Government, he might appeal to the Union Government. He denounced the agitation as one of anti-Congress elements and appealed to the Congressmen of Cachar to refrain from associating in any manner with the Sangram Parishad.

A delegation of the three Congress Committees of Cachar is meeting the Prime Minister in Delhi to press their demand for recognition of Bengali as one of the State languages of Assam and separation of Cachar from Assam. It is believed here that the final attitude of the Congress leaders of the district will depend on the outcome of their negotiations with the Prime Minister.

The Communist Party is not a component of this Sangram Parishad. The situation in that district, from all available accounts, seems to be very tense. While the separatist leaders of the Hills welcome the developments in Cachar, the Assamese middle-class views the agitation unfavourably as is evident from the Press comments.

The Assam Tribune which is supposed to represent the

According to some observers here, there is still some danger of a communal turn in one form or other unless the present composition of the leadership of the agitation is changed. They point out that participation of leading individuals of certain minority communities

\* SEE PAGE 14

MAY 21, 1961

# DELHI BY-ELECTION

\* FROM FACING PAGE

Joshi campaigned in favour of the Congress candidate and it helped to raise the morale.

A section of the Congress worked for the Jan Sangh and against the Congress.

The Communists, after the experience of the Parliamentary by-election, where the Jan Sangh got in because of the triangular conflict, decided not to put up any candidate of their own and thus weaken the chances of the Congress to defeat the Jan Sangh. When it was realised that the Jan Sangh was having it all its own way, the Congress was passive, divided and paralysed that the Communists came out with positive support for the Congress candidate.

During the last few days the Communists were able to organise an effective anti-Jan Sangh campaign. They were able to get the majority of the labourers, town poor and university students for the Congress candidate. It was no easy battle for the Communists, they had a hard time convincing their mass following to vote Congress but they succeeded with the anti-communal argument. They, of course, criticised the Congress for all its failings and its responsibility for the present sorry situation.

When the results were announced all, whether Congressmen, Jan Sanghis or independents admitted the worth and effectiveness of the Communist contribution. Without Communist participation in favour of the Congress, the Congress vote would have been less than half of what it was. Congressmen are demoralised but the defeat is leading them to some new and hard thinking.

The Jan Sangh feels greatly encouraged. Their slogan now is "capture the Corporation," its elections will be held about the same time as the General Elections. The Chairman of the Delhi Praja Socialist Party, Mr. Mustaf Ahmad, unashamedly said that his party had not supported the Congress against the Jan Sangh. He deprecated the Congress-Communist alliance and asserted that it would strengthen the Jan Sangh!

"Even the unwilling citizens will vote for the Sangh. The Communists are anti-national and anti-democratic," (Bindustan Times, May 16). The main front of the PSP leaders is anti-Communist not anti-communal and whatever little support they had went to the Jan Sangh.

The Hindustan Times in its editorial "Warned Again" expressed exactly the same sentiments. It wrote, "The Congress by now should have been convinced that any lapse from its declared policy and any truck with the Communists earns it unpopularity."

The Jan Sangh, PSP and the Hindustan Times talk the same language and operate together as a reactionary gang. Communism is not a problem to them, Communism is their enemy. Their brand of anti-communism is not likely to go down with local Congressmen after the bitter experience of their two defeats, once in the Parliamentary by-election and now in the Corporation by-election.

and other member-countries of TCM. If now it is to be as heavily taxed in Great Britain as well, India might as well write tea off as a major exchange-earner. A

wealth officials, to demand of Great Britain to either keep out of ECM, or give up the preferences it enjoys in our own and other Commonwealth markets.

MAY 21, 1961

# New Threat To Indian Exports

CONGRESS leaders are never tired of recalling the traditional ties between India and Great Britain. Especially eloquent are their perorations in respect of the economic ties binding the two countries. But soon, it seems, they will have to switch to another theme—that of chagrin and disappointment at Britain's leaving them in the lurch.

## A Hope Belied

They had so long believed that Britain, with whom India was tied through the sterling and the Commonwealth preferences, and which had so long resisted U.S. pressure to join the European Common Market (ECM), would never betray the interests of other members of the Commonwealth. And these interests, they had thought, consisted in maintaining intact the system of preferences which in certain cases helped India's goods to get a duty free or preferential entry into the British market.

Britain's joining ECM would have naturally led to her abandoning these preferences, and adopting the common ECM tariffs. Such an eventuality, they believed, would never come to pass, for had not Britain given repeated assurances that in deciding its policy in the matter it would take proper care of the interests of India and other countries of the Commonwealth?

The latest developments in London, and confabulations between it and Paris, the nerve centre of ECM, point to Britain's gradual slipping into the Common Market.

Such a step will inevitably impinge on India's exports, especially in tea and textiles. The former is already heavily taxed in West Germany

similar fate may overtake Indian coffee, as also jute textiles and other manufactured goods. Especially telling will be the effect on her exports to the African colonies of Great Britain, which, by the statutes of ECM will also become its integral constituents. All in all it will be a major blow to India's exports which should make New Delhi sit up and take notice.

It is in this context that the Government's reported scepticism about the British assurances, which seem to have been reiterated, is somewhat heartening. It could not surely give credence to these assurances in the face of hard facts, which point to Britain's ultimately ditching the interests of its partners for the sake of securing its own interests in Western Europe. But a mere expression of annoyance, or protest on the Government's part, is no answer to a situation which demands firm action. It has to tell London, in no uncertain terms, that in joining ECM it is being guilty not only of bad faith towards its economic allies, but also of violating the principles enshrined in the General Agreement on Trade and Tariffs. It should, moreover, categorically indict Great Britain for letting India down at a bad hour when all her efforts have to be directed towards increasing her exports.

## What We Have To Demand

The entire nation—from the Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce and Industry to the Government—is united in its opinion of the ECM as a closed trade grouping harmful to the interests of countries like ours. This should give added courage to our representatives at the forthcoming meetings of the GATT, and the Common-

Name of the Indian firm receiving loan	Name of the U.S. Government agency giving the loan	Amount of the loan
<b>Dollar loans:</b>		
National Rayon Corporation Ltd.	Export-Import Bank	\$1,800,000 (Rs. 86 lakhs approximately)
Sundatta Food and Fibres Ltd.	-do-	\$60,000 (Rs. 3 lakhs approximately)
Hindustan Aluminium Corporation Ltd.	-do-	\$13.65 million (Rs. 6.50 crores approximately)
Ahmedabad Electric Co. Ltd.	Development Loan Fund	\$3.90 million (Rs. 1.86 crores)
Premier Automobiles Ltd. (formal loan agreement not yet signed)	-do-	\$7.2 million (Rs. 3.43 crores)
<b>Rupee loans:</b>		
Otis Elevator Co.	Export-Import Bank (Cooly Loan)	Rs. 10 lakhs
Goodyear Tyre and Rubber Co.	-do-	Rs. 2.25 crores
Mysore Cements Ltd.	-do-	Rs. 55 lakhs
Synthetics and Chemicals Ltd.	-do-	Rs. 3.92 crores
Hindustan Aluminium Corporation Ltd.	-do-	Rs. 1 crore
Merk Sharp and Dhome of India (P) Ltd.	-do-	Rs. 50 lakhs
Ex-Sell-O Corporation	-do-	Rs. 20 lakhs
Seshasayee Bros.	-do-	Rs. 2 crores
Premier Tyres Ltd., Bombay.	-do-	Rs. 30 lakhs
Lederle Laboratories India (P) Ltd.	-do-	Rs. 25 lakhs
Gabriel India Private Ltd.	-do-	Rs. 5 lakhs
Lilac Ltd.	-do-	Rs. 52 lakhs
Carrier India Private Ltd.	-do-	Rs. 37.5 lakhs

wealth officials, to demand of Great Britain to either keep out of ECM, or give up the preferences it enjoys in our own and other Commonwealth markets.

SIDE LIGHT: An interesting sidelight on the latest policy statement on foreign capital has been thrown by the Eastern Economist (May 12) which says:

# INSIDE OUR NEWS & ECONOMY NOTES

## Progress Of Collaboration

"Notes of the Week" in the last issue of New Age had dealt with the implications of the latest policy statement on 'Videshi Capital'. This week we bring to our readers certain astounding figures which show that the policy, enunciated now, has in fact been in operation in practice since long.

Even last year, according to the Economic Times (May 15), as many as 300 cases of foreign collaboration for new projects received the sanction of the Union Government. And in as many as 53 cases out of these it was the foreign collaborator—or collaborators—who had a major share, and not their Indian partners as one would normally assume.

In 1959, 1958 and 1957 the number of collaboration deals sanctioned was 146, 103 and 81 respectively—quite an impressive progress by any standard.

The Economic Times attributes this sharp increase in the number of such deals to a "growing recognition abroad of favourable climate for investment in India". This climate, no doubt, will be further improved after the new statement, which means there will be many more deals of this type than we have had hitherto.

Not all of these deals, however, are based purely on foreign private interests. Very often certain Government agencies in the United States also give them a helping hand. Below is a list of Indian firms which received loans from either the U.S. Development Loan Fund or the Export-Import Bank during the Second Plan period. Most of these firms, it should be noted, have been floated in collaboration with American concerns.

## Growth Of Private Enterprise

THE increase in the number of collaboration deals has gone hand in hand with the growth of corporate enterprise. This is shown by the number of new company registrations in 1960-61, which, at 1683, was the highest since 1951-52. These companies together had an authorised capital of Rs. 287 crores.

Over the Second Plan period as a whole the total number of companies registered was 6039. The total paid-up capital of the companies at work during the Plan period registered an increase of Rs. 700 crores.

The total number of Government companies, formed during the five years of the Plan, was 87. These together had a paid-up capital of Rs. 432 crores.

While the increase in the number of Government companies, and in their share in the corporate sector is welcome, what is not so welcome is the consistent growth of the private sector which these figures reveal. They certainly give a lie to the apprehensions, expressed by the industrial circles, that the official policies inhibit the flourishing of private enterprise. Equally they expose the official claim that in the Government's mixed pattern private sector has been kept in leash.

The Plans—the Second as well as the proposed Third—call for giving new commanding heights to the public sector. But to do this it is as much necessary to put curbs on the growth of private enterprise, as it is to give new fillip to State enterprise—a consideration which, judging from the figures given above, does not seem to weigh much with the Government. It is high time, however, that it takes it into account lest the Plan's objective remains a distant dream.

## Strategic!

Moscow, May 15:—Twenty thousand women's fur coats bought by the Soviet Union from an unidentified U.S. firm were stopped in shipment at London and Stockholm because the U.S. State Department regarded them as strategic materials, reported the Soviet news-agency TASS.

"It is difficult to believe", added TASS, "that the security of the USA depends on trade in these articles of women's wear."

—ESSEN

(May 16)

PAGE THREE



## DEFEND DEMOCRACY!

### Editorial

THE PUNJAB GOVERNMENT'S show-cause notice on the Chheharta Municipal Committee as to why it should not be superseded within seven days is surely not in consonance with all that we have been hearing from spokesmen of the Congress and its Government about the decentralised democracy that is being introduced in State after State in our country.

When action is sought to be taken against a local body elected by the people, the least that is expected of a Government is that it proves its charges against that body. But the Punjab Government has done nothing of that sort.

About half of the charges relate to the old Municipal Committee which functioned from 1953 to 1959. Apart from the legal aspect that even if the charges are true, the present Committee cannot be held responsible for what the old Committee had done, the fact remains that six members of the old Committee were re-elected with thumping majorities and the three others were candidates of the Mazdoor Muhaz pledged to work in the Committee as the outgoing Committee had worked. One would consider this a clear verdict of the people's satisfaction with the work of the old Committee. Not so the Kairon Government.

Similarly baseless are the charges against the present Committee. To quote just one instance, there is the charge that the construction of drains in a particular private *ahata* was delayed, while the truth is that the delay was caused by the stay order of a civil court. How can any Government hold the Municipal Committee responsible for this?

Why then the show-cause notice on the Chheharta Municipal Committee?

BECAUSE there are elements who dislike the Committee for its refusal to bestow undue favours on anyone—an unpardonable crime when many Congress leaders have begun to believe it is their birthright to ask for and receive such favours.

BECAUSE the Committee while accepting all reasonable suggestions made by the Deputy High Commissioner has firmly resisted all illegal interference and incorrect proposals.

BECAUSE the Committee has adopted progressive taxation and other policies and its employees, especially Class IV employees, have better service conditions than under most other Committees.

BECAUSE the work of this Committee, commended by inspectors of local bodies and other officials, was in sharp contrast to most other committees run by the Congress.

For these very reasons the Committee is very dear to the people of Chheharta, for these very reasons the Government wants it superseded.

It is not an attack on Communists alone. Of the nine members of the Committee, five are Communists including its President, two are Congressmen including the Vice-President and two non-party. Despite these varied political affiliations, the Committee has taken various decisions and functioned unanimously—because its only concern has been to serve the people.

What has been laid bare by the action of the Punjab Government is that it is not prepared to tolerate an elected body just because it has pursued independent pro-people policies. Only those bodies are safe which are prepared to wallow in corruption and nepotism for which the Congress regime in Punjab has become notorious.

It is a serious attack on the democratic rights of the people, an example of the growing authoritarian tendencies in the ruling party. It is an attack that has to be stopped here and now—a common task for all democrats—Congressmen, and Communists, those who belong to all parties and no party.

## Defiant Angola

A FULL-SCALE liberation war rages in Angolia. The entire people have risen in their fury to smash to smithereens the hated Portuguese rule. The fascist Portuguese tyrants have vented all their rage and fury against the valiant Angolese patriots. There is no blood-thirsty measure, no sadistic torture that they have not used. But in vain. Angolia remains defiant and determined to be free.

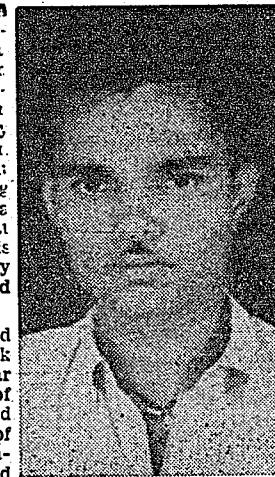
The patriots have had to pay a very heavy price. In the last two months, over 20,000 Angolese have been killed, thousands more thrust into concentration camps and over 30,000 refugees have fled across the borders. Hundreds of villages have been devastated by savage air-raids where the horrible napalm bombs have been showered down upon the defenceless villagers.

In the cities and indeed, wherever the Portuguese troops are able to reach, there is a veritable orgy of killing, raping and arson. No man with a black skin is to be spared—such are the orders of Salazar.

This is a veritable dance of death but it is equally the death throes of Portuguese rule in Angolia. The people there had never tamely submitted to alien domi-

## Goan Guerilla Martyr MANOHAR KRISHNA PEDNEKAR

MANOHAR KRISHNA PEDNEKAR, a devoted worker of the Go. Freedom movement and section leader of the underground Go. Commandos in Panjim area, died on May 13 in an unknown village in Bicholim taluk, as a result of injuries sustained during the successful ambush of a large column of jeeps at Morlem last week. In this ambush four white army officers were killed and several others injured.



He carried a sentence of 12 years in connection with underground activities. Undisclosed lies the grave of Pednekar. But his memory will lead the Goan Commandos to liberate Goa soon and rejoin the motherland so as to bring the day nearer when they can go and openly pay homage to their departed comrade.

When ambush occurred followed by counter-attack by the enemy, Pednekar was hit by a piece of grenade, and was wounded seriously. Amidst volleys of bullets, the Goan Commando guerillas removed him and carried him to a safe hideout miles away. All possible efforts to save him were made by the doctor sympathisers of the

hide-out carried out intense searches in several villages around Sanquelim throughout last week. But guerillas successfully dodged them.

The body of Pednekar was, after midnight on May 13, cremated with a fitting funeral, suited to a revolutionary hero.

Pednekar was one of the participants in the daring operation in Betim last month. To him also goes the credit of many other underground activities during 1955-57.

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Undisclosed lies the grave of Pednekar. But his memory will lead the Goan Commandos to liberate Goa soon and rejoin the motherland so as to bring the day nearer when they can go and openly pay homage to their departed comrade.

## Fight Against Communalism

\* FROM FRONT PAGE

gress itself—policies which breed discontent and frustration among the masses, policies which mean concentration of fire on the forces of the Left and the Communist Party, policies which lead to direct or indirect alliance with parties and elements of communal reaction. At the same time, we must note that in recent periods a number of Congress leaders and Congressmen have shown growing awareness of the communal menace and want that measures should be taken to curb it.

We welcome this development. We deem it necessary, however, to stress certain points. We do so not in order to rake up the past but in order that a serious and concerted struggle against disruptive tendencies may be waged here and now.

FIRST, resolutions against communalism, no matter how emphatically worded, would achieve nothing unless matched by action. Important in

this connection was the alliance of the Congress with the Muslim League in Kerala which gave a new impetus to Muslim communalism and in its turn helped Hindu communalism, too. Is the Congress prepared to revise its policy in Kerala? This is the straight question to which the Congress has to give a straight answer.

It was with the help of the Congress that a Muslim Leaguer was elected to the office of Speaker in the Kerala Assembly. That office has fallen vacant. The Communist Party has announced that if the Congress sets up a non-Muslim Leaguer as candidate for Speakership, Communist legislators will vote for him. We have also announced that if in the Assembly seat which has fallen vacant, the Congress sets up a non-Muslim Leaguer as candidate, we shall support him.

We have made this offer in all seriousness and in the earnest hope that it will be accepted. Consistent with the declarations that the

leaders of the Congress have made recently we urge upon them to take a bold and clearcut position on this crucial issue. That will help to weaken the forces of communalism not only in Kerala but in all parts of the country.

SECONDLY, events in Madhya Pradesh, Delhi as well as other States have shown that the Congress by itself cannot wage an effective battle against the forces of communalism. Not only is its influence far less than what it was in the days of the freedom movement but also it is well known that many Congressmen themselves are communal-minded. They dare not vote against resolutions denouncing communalism but they do nothing to implement them.

Hence, it is essential that Congress leaders give a call to Congress Committees and to Congressmen to join hand with all other parties and elements that oppose communalism, that stand for secularism, in order to develop a powerful united campaign. Thus alone can the dark forces of reaction and obscurantism be fought and defeated.

There exist differences among Congressmen, Socialists, Communists and others on many issues. But they all agree that religion should not be mixed up with politics, that all parties should try to win the support of the masses on the basis of political and economic programmes, that tendencies which are threatening the unity of the nation should be combated. This agreement can and must be made the basis for joint activity against communalism.

We appeal to all democratic parties in the country to pay serious attention to this problem. It is high time that forces which want to save the country from communalism get together and evolve ways and means by which this menace can be fought.

(May 17)

## ANOTHER SUCCESS FOR GOA GUERILLAS

THE flexible ingenuity of guerilla battle-craft, the people's way to wrest freedom, has scored yet another victory on the book-tailored tactics applied by the fascist army command in Goa.

After the Betim raid on April 28, when the Portuguese garrison was taken by complete surprise and the whole fortress was seized to the last round of cartridge, and the garrison commander along with two other ranks were shot down, the Portuguese authorities seem to have revived their lessons in tactics expounded by the Himmlers and Stulpnagels of the Reichwehr.

They have put out the whole military and police might of the State in combing the country for the Betim heroes. They have searched more than two hundred houses in Bardes taluk alone last week (and how they search with dogs and probes and beating-ups)—but to their shame and to the glory of the people who have given shelter to their heroes, they drew blank everywhere.

Their military jeeps and armoured cars, mounted with light and medium machine-guns, are patrol-

ing the country in large formations round the clock. By these activities, they think that they will be able to terrorise the people on the one hand and seal off the country against surprise attacks on the other.

But it does not seem to be working well for them; instead it seems to be going all in favour of the guerilla forces and working out exactly the way the guerillas want it to be. Now, as recent happenings indicate, the guerillas did not have to go all the way to attack the enemy's prepared defences and fortified posts. The fascists themselves are coming to the guerillas to be attacked at a time and on the ground chosen for the purpose by the guerilla tacticians.

In the night of May 6, a military patrol detachment in several jeeps was ambushed at Morlem near Sanquelim, a military area HQ, by a small group of guerillas.

It was a very neat job of roadblock planning, suitably sited on the far side of a road bend with land mines, grenade pits and cover parties wielding automatic weapons. The jeeps drove into the mine field unsuspectingly and got blown up one by one—their retreat cut off by felled

trees helped by a screen of automatic fire. The detachment was disarmed to the last man and to the last weapon. Three Europeans, including the detachment commander and two native soldiers fell wounded, two of them seriously.

This job completed, the ambush heroes deployed themselves in several small units and attacked several police stations separately the same night. The police force everywhere surrendered without resistance and handed over their arms and ammunition to the attacking parties.

Thereafter, all these units converged on to the Quirim military post—the garrison which remained unshaken in the earlier attack last month due to faulty equipment. The post, they found, had already been alerted and reinforced overwhelmingly by the troops of the area command.

Although the element of surprise had been lost to the guerilla fighters they, nonetheless, unhesitatingly mounted their attack. There was intense exchange of fire from both sides which lasted for more than two hours.

In the meantime, the demolition party got busy

and crawled through the screen of flying bullets to lay charges against the sidewalks of the post, with a great bang the walls crumbled and the resistance collapsed. The enemy suffered considerable loss in men and material both. It is reported that eight white soldiers are lying in a precarious condition in the military hospital. Their commanding officer died on the spot.

The guerillas suffered no casualty whatsoever in the operations that night and returned safely with all captured war material to their base command.

This new strategy of "dispersal to divide and concentration to hit" has completely baffled the Portuguese army command in Goa. The night of May 6, which saw synchronised guerilla attacks in several places in a widespread area, coupled with the distribution of revolutionary literature in every part of the country the same night, applied successfully the application of "strategic surprise in time and space" for the skilful guerilla fighters.

The Portuguese have changed their tactics and

so have the guerillas but all to the advantage of the latter.

The latest intelligence from Goa reveals that the Portuguese are withdrawing their police and army detachments from all the outlying posts in Goa and concentrating them in strong formations at a few strategically important places. Within the last few days they have already closed down the following important police and military outposts: Marcelas, Chandor, Raiabandar, Shiroda and Mardol. More posts and police stations are expected to be closed down shortly.

This again is bound to contribute to the tactical advantage of the patriotic forces in Goa who will now have a larger undefended area for their free movement and a bigger chunk of less harassed population for their recruitment.

This is a clear indication that the brother fighters in Angolia have considerably drained the expeditionary army in Goa with the result that the Salazar Government does not know how to face the new situation in Goa.

(May 12)

## Days Of Foreign Imperialists Are Over

Text of the handbills distributed all over Goa on the night of May 6, 1961, the night of widespread attacks on military and police petrols.

It is not only we who made the daring attack on Batim on April 25 which ended in a victory for us. The people of Betim and those outside have also their share in this victory.

Ferry-men and khalasis, passengers and drivers of buses and taxis, shopkeepers and customers in the shops lining the two sides of the road, people in the bar and telegraph office and the general public of Betim—all of them cooperated with us sincerely.

It was because of their cooperation and help that we won this victory. This is our understanding. Hadn't that been so, it would have been impossible to beard the lion in this den. Hence, we thank you all and send our salute.

The alien rulers are shaking in fear after our attack on Betim. They have become mad. There is no doubt that these are their last days. Like a mad dog, they are attacking and biting anybody and everybody. Therefore, people should remain careful and face up to these mad men fearlessly. Our whole strength is behind you like your shadow.

We had decided not to

touch Cabo Viegas and to avoid bloodshed on both sides. But unfortunately Cabo put his hand on the trigger and his soldiers burst hand grenades and what exactly we wanted to avoid happened. What can anyone do if you put a stone on your own leg? If our intention was to kill, would the bloodshed have been so little?

Whatever be our hardships, we are taking every care to see that our people are not made to suffer unnecessarily. Fortunately, nothing untoward happened to the public. We wanted to reward those who had worked for us and helped us. But they refused to accept anything. This speaks highly of their greatness and patriotism.

The same will be our behaviour at all times. People should not be misguided and fall prey to the false propaganda of the enemy and their cooperation is our strength. To safeguard this and advance further, we are prepared to make any sacrifice. We think it is not necessary to tell you that the imperialists rule by relying on untruth and repression. People should sift truth from untruth and continue to render all assistance to the liberation struggle that is on. This is our request to you.

FREE GOA ZINBAD!  
FREEDOM OR DEATH!

## Workers Demonstrate Against Calcutta Power Crisis

From JNAN BIKASH MOITRA

CALCUTTA, May 13.

A LARGE number of workers from mills and factories in and around Calcutta and many citizens went in a mass deputation to Chief Minister Dr. B. C. Roy on May 11 to submit their demands in connection with the grave power crisis that has hit the Greater Calcutta industrial region for the past two months.

About thirty trade unions participated in the demonstration which was organised under the joint auspices of the BPTUC and the UTUC.

On their way to meet the Chief Minister, the workers and citizens thunderously demonstrated in front of the head office of the British-owned Calcutta Electric Supply Corporation (CESC) which is mainly responsible for the present power famine.

The demonstration was stopped by the police near the Writers' Building, the Secretariat of the State Government. Ranen Sen, M.L.A., President of the BPTUC, Jatin Chakravarty, M.L.A., Secretary of the UTUC, and other trade union leaders then saw the Chief Minister and handed over to him a memorandum which analysed the causes of the power crisis and showed how it had seriously affected the workers as well as industrial production.

The memorandum made the following demands:

- A thorough probe into the affairs of the CESC and into the working of the DVC's power generation system.
- Taking over of the CESC by the West Bengal Government.
- Setting up of a coordinating body to regulate the different power generation and distribution systems in this State.
- Full compensation to workers for losses in wages, compensation to be

paid out of a "pool fund", constituted with contributions from the Union Government and the State Government, the CESC and the employers.

No lay-off or retrenchment and full compensation in case of lay-off. After returning from the Writers' Building, the trade union leaders reported on their talks with the Chief Minister and told the workers and citizens that they had now no other alternative except building up a powerful mass movement.

## CONGRESS DEMOCRACY!

A CLASSIC example of the Congress Party's attitude to the opposition parties was provided on May 12 when, in contradiction of the Calcutta Municipal Act and in total disregard of all canons of democratic behaviour, the Congress Municipal Association in Calcutta Corporation formed the nine standing committees of the Civic body without taking a single councillor of the United Citizens' Committee (UCC), the organisation of opposition groups, on any of these committees.

Under the unbroken regime of the Congress for

over thirty years, Calcutta Corporation has become a byword for rank corruption and colossal inefficiency. After the Corporation elections in March last, the Congress came to office with the help of a few independents. It is now seeking to cover up its misdeeds and streamline its administration in the present term of the Corporation by excluding all opposition elements.

The UCC councillors strongly protested against this attitude of the Congress and declined to take part in the elections to the Standing Committees.

NEW AGE



# FARCE IN JERUSALEM

The trial of the Nazi war criminal Adolf Eichmann, a former S. S. Obersturmbannführer and chief of the special section of the Gestapo, opened in Jerusalem's People's House on April 11. In the Second World War this section, headed by Eichmann, dealt with the deportation and destruction of millions of peaceful civilians of different nationalities, Jews in the first place, in Nazi Germany, the USSR, Poland, Czechoslovakia, Hungary, Austria, France and other European countries.

Many bourgeois newspapers and magazines in Europe and America present the trial as another "sensational," describing at length how he sits in a bullet-proof glass booth, how he talks from this booth with his lawyer and the judges, how he spent the time in prison, etc. Savouring all kinds of unimportant details of the trial, the reactionary bourgeois press obviously wants to lead the readers away from the main thing, from the essence of the matter. And the essence of the matter is this:

## Condemned Already

By sentence of the International Tribunal in Nuremberg the Gestapo, as other State organisations of Nazi Germany, was condemned as a criminal organisation. Adolf Eichmann was one of the chief Gestapo leaders; he was closely connected by many years of service with his boss Kaltenbrunner, who was hanged by sentence of the International Tribunal.

Eichmann's role in the preparation and execution of the monstrous crimes of fascism, his direct responsibility for the Gestapo atrocities were exposed and proved by numerous documents and witness testimonies in the course of the trial of the main Nazi criminals in Nuremberg.

Thus it was clear already then that S. S. man Eichmann, one of the main leaders of the Hitlerite "death machine," was to be mercilessly punished, that he was to share the lot of the other fascist bandits.

But, Eichmann managed to evade retribution. He went into hiding and for many years lived under an assumed name.

How could this happen?

## Living Accomplices

These days the Western Press sometimes recalls the Nuremberg trial. Some people are even prepared to call the Eichmann trial "a second Nuremberg," but only as far as it does not concern the living accomplices in the crimes of Hitlerism who have found shelter in Western Germany.

The British Daily Mail writes that the ghosts of Hitler and Himmler will sit on the bench side by side with Eichmann. Little by little, it is suggested to the Western readers that the Nazi butcher sitting under the bell jar is merely "a ghost" of the Third

Reich unable to cast a shadow on the present and in particular on today's Western Germany.

Is it not because of this that the Bonn Correspondent of the Guardian has called upon the Western world to display "special sympathy for the Bonn Republic" so as "not to embitter this young creation and thus turn it into a criminal"?

## Eichmann's Patrons

But the thing is precisely that Eichmann is connected

Vatican, which immediately after the rout of Nazi Germany took patronage over those Eichmanns who had to save their skins.

## Bonn's Anxiety

Eichmann's arrest has caused serious anxiety for the Bonn leading circles which are afraid that Eichmann's trial could expose many former Nazis, at present in responsible positions in West Germany and NATO and who, just as Eichmann, should be called to account before mankind for their atrocities perpetrated during World War II. And the Bonn ruling circles are sparing no effort to turn the Eichmann trial into a farce. They have found allies among the Israeli rulers.

According to the West German Press, a special representative of the West German Government, as early as in June 1960, met Ben Gurion, the Israeli Prime Minister, in

vities of the former Nazis who have as yet not received just punishment. According to the Hamburg Die Andere Zeitung, Eichmann had the intentions of naming 337 of his accomplices, many of whom are at present occupying high posts in West Germany.

On March 10, at a Press Conference in Bonn, Chancellor Adenauer expressed the assurance that the Government and the Judiciary of Israel would not use this trial "for political purposes."

In reply to this statement the Israeli Government, as was reported on March 20 by the Israeli newspaper Maariv, informed Chancellor Adenauer of its desire to prevent the aggravation of relations between Israel and West Germany on account of the Eichmann trial. On March 31, in an interview for the Israeli Press Ben Gurion tried to whitewash the German revenge-seekers, and ten days later received the thanks of the German Chancellor.

Neues Deutschland and other newspapers of the

ful population there. Naturally, he did not remain merely a witness of this crime.

One gets the impression that the Israeli Government, in an attempt to toady to the West German ruling circles, has entered into collusion with West German revenge-seekers and is trying to save the surviving Nazi criminals from exposure. This is being done in contradiction to the international agreements, particularly the Declaration of the USSR, the USA and Great Britain of October 30, 1943, on the responsibility of the Nazis for the atrocities perpetrated by them. According to this document Nazi criminals have to be sought out, tried and punished. The principles of this Declaration were confirmed by the resolutions of the U. N. General Assembly.

## Justice Must Triumph

The world public shows great anxiety and concern in connection with the now definitely shaping out tendencies of the Israeli ruling circles to use the Eichmann trial in the interests of their dubious and highly selfish policy, instead of exposing to the full the heinous crimes of the Nazi butchers, so that justice would triumph. This policy is being pursued in the interests of the imperialists revenge-seeking circles which are trying to cover up the traces of the Nazi crimes, to save from a just punishment Eichmann's accomplices who are now holding high posts in West Germany and NATO, and who are trying at any cost to get hold of nuclear and missile weapons for starting a new world war.

It is to be hoped that broad sections of the population in all countries, including Israel, will find necessary measures and means so as not to allow the Eichmann trial to be turned into a pitiful farce to please the sinister revenge-seeking forces.

The Eichmann trial should lead not only to the just punishment of this inveterate criminal, but also to a proper exposure of all those Nazi criminals, who have had a hand in Eichmann's atrocities, but have not received their due yet.

## Demand Of Millions

Such is the demand of millions of innocent victims who suffered at the hands of the Nazi executioners, such is the demand of all honest mankind. And this demand will be carried out by those who have not forgotten the pledge of the prisoners of Nazi death camps: "This must not happen again!"

The underground dealings of the Israeli ruling circles with the criminals in West Germany will not remain unnoticed, and will be brought to naught.

# Israeli-West German collaboration to shield Nazi criminals

not only with the "ghosts" of the past. He is connected with the ruling circles of the Bonn Republic and finds support in those quarters.

Eichmann landed in the dock almost 16 years after the memorable day in May 1945 when Kaltenbrunner, the chief of the Nazi secret police, advised him to find shelter in Nazi "underground." It has been proven by documents, and the Western Press, including the Bonn Press, widely informed their readers after Eichmann's arrest that this S. S. executioner who cold-bloodedly sent millions to the gas chambers of Oswiecim, Treblinka, Maidanek and other Nazi death camps, had found refuge in the Federal Republic of Germany up till 1950!

And if Eichmann succeeded to hide in a remote corner of north-west Germany, in Lüneburger Heide and bide his time for years, waiting for a convenient moment to flee beyond the ocean, he has to thank not his "good fortune" but many living persons who are up to the present day active in the Federal Republic of Germany and in a number of other countries of the "free world."

He has to thank for this the neo-Nazi and reactionary organisations, including the

Brussels and expressed the apprehensions of his Government in connection with Eichmann's arrest. It was pointed out in the Press that in order to avoid an aggravation in relations with West Germany, Ben Gurion after this meeting, gave instructions to cut down on the publication of materials of the preliminary investigation and promised to familiarise the West German Government beforehand with these materials.

The Israeli Government, especially altering Israeli laws, made it possible to appoint the West German lawyer Servatius, Eichmann's defence attorney. This lawyer was a defence attorney of war criminals at the Nuremberg trial, and as the foreign Press reported is "actually a confidential agent of numerous fascists" living in West Germany today. The Israeli Government also took upon itself all the expenses of Eichmann's defence.

## Assurance To W. Germany

Bonn ruling circles are striving through Servatius to render the necessary pressure on Eichmann himself and on Israeli judicial organs, trying to cover up the criminal acti-

German Democratic Republic described the speech made by the chief prosecutor of Israel at the trial in Jerusalem as a condemnation of the whole Nazi regime. At the same time the newspaper emphasised that not a single word was said in the indictment about the ex-Nazis who have been legalised in West Germany and against whom Eichmann was prepared to testify.

The trial obviously hushes up the past and present of Eichmann's fellow spirits and accomplices in crimes, such as Oberlander, the Minister of the Interior, and former SA Führer Schroeder, Minister Seeborn, the vicious revenge-seeker, war criminal and Commander-in-Chief of the Bundeswehr Fortsch, General Speidel and others.

## Violation Of Agreements

And what about the West German Minister of Defence Strauss, who was an eye-witness of the Nazi crimes and one of the main protectors of war criminals? He himself has testified that he was in Lvov at the time when the barbarians from Oberlander's punitive battalion shot the peace-

# CEYLON: REACTION MUST BE SMASHED

## BUT ON LANGUAGE, FIND POLITICAL SOLUTION

—SAYS COMMUNIST LEADER

"WHILE fighting back the conspiracy of foreign reaction and the separatism of the Federal Party in Ceylon, we Communists urge on the Government the necessity to take positive steps now for a political solution of the language question." This was stressed by Pieter Keuneman, General Secretary of the Communist Party of Ceylon, speaking during the debate in the Ceylonese Parliament on the emergency.

He said that neither sixty days of the Federal Party satyagraha nor a fortnight of the Government's emergency had solved the political problems involved in the language issue.

Replying to Mr. Sivasinghamperam, M.P. for Udupiti, who had stated that the satyagraha campaign would be resumed once the emergency was lifted, Pieter Keuneman said that, after the breakdown of the talks between the Minister of Justice and

the Federal Party leaders, the F. P. had in word and deed relegated language questions to a secondary place and brought the demand for separatism to the fore.

He quoted Mr. Sivasinghamperam's own speech at Jaffna, reported in the Daily Mirror of April 17, that the starting of the separate postal service by the F. P. was the first step to the foundation of a separate state.

The Communist Party, he said, would fight back all attempts at separatism and division of the country. He condemned the political strike called by the Ceylon

Workers' Congress leaders and said that he was glad to see that they had not continued this strike in support of the F.P.'s separatist campaign.

## BANK STRIKE

The Communist Party profoundly disagreed with the remarks made by the Prime Minister in her broadcast about the strike of the bank employees. The Prime Minister had been grossly misinformed of the true facts. It was the bank managements and not the union that had been responsible for prolonging the strike. The Government should make retribution to

the bank employees by compelling the bank managements to grant their demands.

## ARMED FORCES

Referring to allegations of excesses by the armed forces in the North, he said that many of the allegations that had been repeated by the member for Bulathsinhala (Mr. E. Samarakoddy) had been made to him, too, and that he had investigated several of them. Some of the allegations were true while others were not. He urged the Government to investigate and make statements in the House on all allegations that had been made.

There had been certain incidents of high-handed conduct by certain army personnel in the first three days of the Emergency. Clear instructions should be issued to the troops that their job was to fight separatism and disorder and not to harass ordinary Tamil people.

## TAMILS & F.P.

Pieter Keuneman said that in the debate there had been two sets of assumptions which were wrong and which impeded a settlement. The first assumption was that anyone who spoke about the language rights of the Tamils was anti-Sinhalese. The other, equally wrong assumption was that anyone who criticised the Federal Party or its actions was anti-Tamil.

"The Federal Party is a political party whose actions are open to criticism and attack like any other. Are people anti-Sinhalese because they criticise the UNP."

"We must distinguish always between the rights of the Tamils and their language and the reactionary and separatist aims and actions of the Federal Party. I am confident that the Tamils will reject the Federal Party one day in the same way that the Sinhalese rejected the UNP."

Addressing the Government, Pieter Keuneman said:

"We are with you in fighting back separatism and reaction. But remember that, whether there is a Federal Party or not, there will always be a Tamil people and a Tamil language whose rights must be clarified and ensured. Emergencies and armies may settle the questions of conspiracies and attempts at separatism, but they cannot settle language questions which need a political solution."

It was no use trying to negotiate language questions with the Federal Party. The Federal Party was not interested in settling language questions but with federalism and now separatism.

## AVOID DELAY

The Government should announce its own policy on the status and rights of the Tamil language and do so without delay.

Within the framework of a unitary State and Sinhala being the official language, the rights of the Tamil language and its place in the administration should be clearly and unambiguously defined so that no Tamil person would suffer disability in dealing with the Government owing to his language.

# IRAQ: DANGEROUS PORTENTS

## All-Out Attack On Democratic Forces

When nearly three years ago, the Iraqi people, led by their present Premier Kassem, had stormed Baghdad and smashed the Baghdad Pact, there was jubilation in our country. Hopes ran high in the resurgent Afro-Asian countries—we were looking to the Kassem Government to lead Iraq and set an example to other Arab countries to move firmly along the path of national democratic development with the help of all those democratic forces which had brought that Government to power.

BUT the turn which the Iraqi Government has taken lately forebodes serious dangers to Iraq's future and is causing deep concern among all friends of the Iraqi people abroad.

## REPRESSION

The present situation in Iraq is marked by the following three characteristics:

Continuation of Government's repression against the democratic and progressive movement in the country;

Continuation of the activities of reaction against the present regime; and

Increasing consciousness among national parties and sections of the country of the dangers facing the national movement in general and democracy in particular, in Iraq.

The disastrous and almost mad practice of assassinating Communists and nationalists is still going on in different parts of the country. Government security officers and others in responsible posts are busy harassing, persecuting and arresting nationalists in Iraq to whatever party they may belong.

While these nationalists

attacks from fascist and reactionary elements, to prevent the teachers from expressing their free will and from electing their own real representatives. Everyone in Iraq knows that the present Executive Committee of the Teachers' Trade Union is filled with Government representatives and infested with rabid reactionary and pro-imperialist elements.

Similar was the fate planned for the Students' Union also. Many of its leaders were arrested and thrown into concentration camps as the Government's "preparation" for elections to that body. Despite such measures, the Government found it difficult to plant its representatives and the mouthpieces of the reactionary forces on its Executive Committee. So the Government now is simply holding up these elections.

## RESISTANCE

The women's democratic movement is also under fire from the Government. Five branches of the Iraqi Women's League have been closed down by military orders, their quarters raided by the police. On the eve of the annual conference of the organisation, military police descended upon its headquarters and several of its members were taken into custody. The attempt was to prevent the holding of the conference. But the brave Iraqi women, defying Government repression, did hold their conference.

Today the Iraqi people are seeing that repression that was started against

the Communists is now threatening wider sections of the national and democratic forces of the country. With their own experience, they are realising that the "anti-Communist campaign" with which repression was launched was only meant to hoodwink the masses.

Today entire national minorities are facing immediate danger to their hard-won rights. To take one instance, despite the fact that the Provisional Constitution had proclaimed equal rights for the Arabs and Kurds, a special campaign has now been started against the latter—ideological as well as political. False and dangerous ideas of amalgamating Kurdish and Arab nationalities are being openly aired both in Government and reactionary papers—and even in some of the speeches of Premier Kassem.

The Iraqi people are not submitting themselves passively to all this.

Lately, a rise in taxes on petrol and tobacco was followed by a countrywide strike of automobile drivers and protest demonstrations. The Government fell upon the people with savage fury. And the reactionary elements tried to benefit from the situation.

With increasing consciousness of the dangers facing national independence and sovereignty of the country from such a turn of events, the Iraqi people are now rallying their forces to save their Republic from slipping back into the arms of reaction, internal as well as external.



# Kerala Communists Offer Support To Congress To Fight Muslim League

The Communist Party in Kerala has offered its support to the Congress if its leadership is prepared to give up the alliance with Muslim League and fight League candidates for the Speakership of the Kerala Assembly and in the bye-election to the Assembly caused by the death of Muslim League leader and Speaker Seethi Sahab.

But if the Congress leadership decides to ensure the victory of the League candidates overtly or covertly, the Communist Party has declared, it would put up its own candidates and fight communal politics and those who encourage it.

A resolution of the State Executive Committee of the Party, adopted at its session in Trivandrum from May 8 to 11 reads:

THE Executive Committee endorses the statement issued by the Secretariat of the State Council of the Party on the firm stand which the ruling Congress Party has begun to take against the dangerous growth of communalism and communal political parties.

The Executive Committee wishes to reiterate what the statement had emphasised about the responsibility of Congress policies in the past for strengthening communal and religious organisations like the Muslim League and Jan Sangh in many States.

We cannot forget, nor can anybody cover it up, that for its narrow partisan interests, the Congress allied itself with the Akalis in the Punjab, and in Kerala with the Muslim League, Nair Service Society and reactionary Catholic communal organisations.

The Communist Party is happy to note that nationalists in the Congress have begun to be aware of this growing danger and the Party welcomes the call of the Congress leadership and Prime Minister Nehru for an uncompromising struggle against communalism.

But the Party wishes to remind the Congress leadership that to successfully resist communal politics and the attempts to fan communal passions and for building national unity, it is necessary to take steps to remove social inequalities and disabilities, to protect the rights and interests of the backward minority communities and create in them the confidence that these are safe.

Equally has the Congress leadership to prove in practice that in its partisan interests it will not encourage communal forces and ally with them.

In this situation, Kerala has again become the testing stone for the Congress to show that its declarations against communalism are sincere.

To remove the Communist Government from office undemocratically and itself assume office, the Congress, during the "liberation" struggle and the mid-term elections, worked hand in glove with communal forces like the Muslim League and called it democratic unity.

Today Congress President Sanjeeva Reddy claims that there was no such united front. But it is an open secret that there was such an alliance with the Muslim League and other communal forces

is also anxious to know what policy the Congress will adopt in the forthcoming election of the Speaker of the Legislative Assembly, in the bye-election from the Kuttippuram constituency and in the municipal and panchayat elections. As for the Communist Party, it has decided to take a firm stand against communal politics and wage an uncompromising struggle against it.

If in the election to the Speakership and in the Kuttippuram bye-election, the Congress is ready to give up its alliance with the Muslim League and fight the League's candidates, the Executive Committee declares that it will have the support of the Communist Party.

and that there is still a very strong trend in the Kerala Congress leadership that this alliance should be continued. Along with the rest of the people, the Communist Party

But if the Congress decides to ensure the victory of the Muslim League overtly or covertly, then the Communist Party will put up its own candidates for Speakership and in the Kuttippuram bye-election and fight both communal politics and those who encourage it. This the Communist Party considers to be its national, patriotic and democratic task and the Executive believes that in fulfilling this task, it will have the support and blessings of all patriotic elements.

The Executive Committee wishes to remind the people that the Communist Party has always defended the interests of the Muslims and other national and communal

minorities and resisted all attacks on them. It reiterates the assurance that it will continue to do so in future also.

The Executive Committee hopes that the Muslim masses in Kerala will remember that the Muslim League leadership has a black record of keeping the Muslims isolated from the rest of the people in the name of religion for their own selfish interests and of betraying the best interests of the Muslims at decisive stages.

The Executive Committee hopes that the Muslims will realise that they can effectively safeguard their minority interests only if they stand together with the rest of our people.

## SAVE 12 LAKH FAMILIES ! Workers' Proposals To Rehabilitate Coir Industry

Coir is one of the key national industries of Kerala and the importance of the over-a-century-old industry to the economy of the State can be gauged from the fact that on it depends the livelihood of twelve lakh people living in the 80-mile coastal stretch of Travancore and that it is a big foreign exchange-earner for the country.

This industry has been in a state of stagnation for a number of years now and the Governments, both at the Centre and in the State, despite the many proposals made by the workers and their organisations, have not taken a single effective step to put the industry back on its feet.

The Coir Factory Unemployment Agitation Committee has again put forward a series of constructive practical suggestions to end the stagnation in the industry. Here below we print the resolution adopted by a public meeting held under the auspices of the Committee on April 23 last P. T. Punnoose, M.P. presiding:

THE coir industry is passing through a crisis. This industry which was started about the year 1859 recorded steady progress for a pretty long time and became the sole means of livelihood of about 12 lakhs of people inhabiting the coastal region of the State.

From Chavara in the south to Aroor in the north, for a distance of about 80 miles, the people depend entirely upon this industry for their livelihood. There is no other industry in this region to provide them with employment. The oil mill industry and the Alleppey port, the other two erstwhile sources of employment, are already ruined.

### 25 Years Of Stagnation

The trade unions of this country have been clamouring for the regeneration of the coir industry which is on the decline for more than a quarter of a century. The allocations made by the Government under the Five-Year Plans for the

Board, it must be pointed out, are not at all in keeping with the high objectives with which it was formed. In spite of the constitution or reconstitution of the Board and the committees, the crisis in the coir industry is deepening day by day.

### Two-Thirds Unemployed

The number of workers employed in this industry prior to the year 1948 was 50,000. This is now reduced to 17,000. Worse still, even these workers who are retained are getting only two to three days work in a week. It can be seen thus that on a modest estimate about 34,000 workers have been thrown out of employment during this period.

What is more tragic is the fact that when these 34,000 workers and their families are experiencing the agonies of abject poverty and starvation, the Ministers are claiming brazen-facedly that there has been progress in this industry. They, the Ministers, are obviously taking the increase in the volume of export and the rise in price of coir yarn as the basis of their claim.

But it is significant that the Government does not care to state as to why it is that in spite of this enormous increase in export, the foreign exchange earned from this source has come down from 12 to 15 crores of rupees to seven to eight crores of rupees a year. The Government does not even appear to have taken notice of this aspect.

The fall in the foreign exchange earned has been obviously due to the fall in the export of manufactured coir goods. It again is the cause of the huge unemployment prevailing in the coir industry. As many as 46 coir factories have been closed

down and 34,000 workers thrown out of employment as pointed out elsewhere.

It is true that there has been a substantial rise in the price of coir yarn; but it is equally true that this has not benefited the tens of thousands of coir yarn spinners who are still labouring under inordinate hardship and penury. The benefit of the price rise is exclusively shared by those monopolists who deal in coconut husks and also by other intermediaries. The Government is totally ignoring this fact.

### Proiteers' Malpractices

Greedy businessmen who have no responsibility towards this industry or this country are competing with each other and are ruining this industry. In their mad pursuit after money they are indulging in all sorts of malpractices such as the debasement of quality and the export of inferior stuffs against orders for superior qualities and are thus deceiving foreign buyers.

In this attempt of theirs, they lower the price of coir goods and deprive the industry of its legitimate margin of profit. They try to secure orders by quoting very low prices and then to compensate their loss, they invariably resort to such questionable practices as quality debasement. No sooner the foreign buyer finds out this deception than we lose our foreign market for coir goods. It is in this way the industry is ruined.

Another feature that has to be taken notice of is the existence of a huge number of mushroom firms or feeder units owned by persons having

\* SEE FACING PAGE

## MADHYA PRADESH : NEHRU'S VISIT AND AFTER

Nehru's strong words at Bhopal have not had the desired effect on the Madhya Pradesh Government. This was revealed in Delhi a few days ago by Shakir Ali Khan, Communist MLA from Bhopal.

A VETERAN of the State's People's Conference movement of the pre-independence days, when he led a persistent and difficult struggle against the Nawab of Bhopal, Shakir Ali is a rare visitor to Delhi. He comes to the seat of the Government of India only when the developments in his own area or State compel him to do so. Since the last disturbances in Jabalpur this was his second visit.

### P. M. Lashes At Congressmen

In his characteristic unruffled and soft-spoken way Shakir Ali Khan surveyed for New Age the Madhya Pradesh scene since the Prime Ministers visit to Bhopal which took place on April 23 last.

This was Nehru's first visit to Madhya Pradesh after the Jabalpur events

and it was with these that he was most concerned. He utilised every minute of his stay and took every possible opportunity to focus attention on this.

Instead of staying at the Governor's residence as he normally does, the Prime Minister this time stayed with the Chief Minister. From the airport, he drove straight to a meeting of the State Cabinet to which Deputy Ministers had also been invited. He spoke for 90 minutes and explained to them the national and international repercussions of these communal disturbances of Madhya Pradesh.

He next met the officials of the State Government, Police officials, too, were present. He told them how administration had to remain impartial at all costs.

Immediately afterwards, he addressed the joint meeting

## KATJU MUST GO ! First Step To Ease Communal Tension, Says Communist Leader

of the Congress State Legislature Party and the Pradesh Congress Committee. It was attended by M.P.s as well as the District Congress leaders. In all about 500 people were present.

It was here that Nehru spoke of the colossal failure of Congressmen in Jabalpur. His enquiry, he said, had revealed that not a single Congressman was even hurt during the disturbances. This, he said, was clear indication that they did nothing to actively fight the communal frenzy. He reminded his audience that the Congress had never been an organisation of cowards.

### Katju To Their Defence

Nehru's strong words stung the State leaders to the quick. Chief Minister Dr. Katju, in the name of thanking Nehru, started making a speech in which he was trying to justify the failure and offer excuses, saying that the disturbances

came too suddenly and they were taken by surprise. Immediately after the riots had taken place, Katju said, Congressmen had intervened and had done good work.

At this, Nehru got wild. He jumped from his seat and grabbed the mike. He said, in effect, that what Katju was trying to say was all false. They had done nothing and had set in their homes like purdah women.

At the public meeting in the evening, the Prime Minister was asked by the PCC President, Deshlehra, for marg-darshan, for guidance and leadership.

Nehru said it was a lie to say that Muslims had attacked Hindus. The fact was that they had been made victims of systematic attacks. India had been disgraced as a result and "I cannot show my face." He turned round to ask Dr. Katju what was the percentage of Muslims in the population of Madhya Pradesh—two or four. He was told that it was four. Then he turned round to ask his audience—how it could be true that four per cent would decide to launch an attack on 96 per cent of the population!

### At The PCC Meetings

He declared publicly at that mass meeting that it should be made a principle that if communal riots took place in any area, even before an enquiry took place, at least some important officials should be immediately transferred.

Nehru then left Bhopal. The joint meeting of the PCC and the Legislature Party continued the next day. Here both Seth Govind Das and Dr. Katju came out in open opposition to all that the Prime Minister had said in the course of his stay. They declared first, that Nehru's information about what had happened was not correct. Secondly, if officials were transferred, it would demoralise the services. If such a principle were to be laid down, they said, it should be only for the future. It should not apply in the present instance. (In this connection, one should remember that grave charges of manslaughter and unjustified killing have been levelled against Jabalpur police—this, over and above the "normal" repression and excesses).

There is a Secular Citizens' Committee in which Congressmen, Communists, PSP people and Independents are active. Prof. Mahesh Dutt Mishra is its President and Maya Ram Surjan, Chief Editor of Hindi daily Nai Duniya, is its Secretary.

### Big Campaign Needed

Shakir Ali Khan in conclusion felt that to secure implementation of the policies proclaimed by Nehru, Lal Bahadur Shastri and the Centre it was necessary that Dr. Katju was removed and replaced by somebody who believed in those policies and was prepared to carry them out.

### Tension Continues

It is this attitude of Dr. Katju and Seth Govind Das that characterises the whole behaviour of the State and local authorities on Madhya Pradesh today. It is happening for the first time, Shakir Ali said, that after several months have passed since the actual disturb-

ances, the situation has not returned to normal and shows no indications of doing so. Usually in the case of communal riots, after some time, passions subside and things return to normal. This is not happening in Jabalpur and that is what is most alarming, he said.

Confidence has not returned so far as the minority community is concerned. They are boycotting the judicial enquiry because none of their demands have been met. Some of them who had moved into the houses Government built for them have had to leave after three or four days because the houses were continually being pelted with stones.

### Fight Against Communalism

Public meetings organised by Congress workers from outside like Subhadra Joshi, M.P., and by Communists, although they have been successfully held, were nevertheless sought to be disturbed by Hindu communalist elements. It is only through these meetings that Nehru's stand is being supported and popularised. Every one else—the State Congress, the State Government, the PSP, S.P., etc.—either keep quiet or actively encourage the officials and the communalists to carry on as before.

It is difficult to justify the State Government's refusal to make certain transfers of officials which are necessary to restore confidence among the minority community, said Shakir Ali. He pointed out that the local administration could claim no credit for quelling the disturbances when they took place, that job was done by the army.

## Disastrous Consequences If Coir Crisis Is Not Solved

no sufficient capital. These persons enter the industry animated solely by money-making motives and are causing irreparable damage to the industry. It is sad that neither the Coir Board nor the Government is taking effective steps to prevent their influx into the industry.

These businessmen are now engaged in decentralising this industry and also in flouting the standardised rates of wages fixed by the Coir Industrial Relations Council. Needless to state that the total outcome of all this is the complete ruin of this industry, severe unemployment and starvation.

### National Calamity

The decline of the coir industry has already developed into a national calamity. Even a cursory observation of the facts and figures collected by trade unions and other mass organisations of this region will show that of late this calamity has assumed huge dimensions.

Ninety-five per cent of the families residing in working class areas are subsisting on a single meal a day. All the members of these families including little children are engaged in spinning coir yarn day and night and are trying in vain to keep the wolf from the door. Most of these people have already either pledged or sold their house-

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hold utensils of any value. Many of them are now practically starving. They are living in miserable huts with no proper roofing. On account of frequent starvation a great many of them have fallen victims to such terrible diseases as consumption. These unfortunate ones, without getting any medical aid whatsoever, are hovering between life and death.

This meeting desires to warn the Government that any failure on its part to take effective and urgent measures to meet this situation will have very disastrous consequences. It, therefore, urges the Government to take necessary steps:

● For the formation of a Coir Trading Corporation, with necessary arrangements for quality control of goods;

● For restricting the export of coir yarn and fibre;

● For the inclusion of coir factories into the development schemes under the Five Year Plans;

● For taking over the management of coir factories that have been closed down and for their proper conduct by forming co-operative societies;

● For starting public works with a view to providing some sort of relief from unemployment;

● For giving legal sanction to standardised wages;

● For implementing gratuity schemes in the coir industry;

● For starting new industries with a view to solving the present unemployment;

● For inducing the Governments of countries like Holland and Belgium to exempt coir goods from prohibitive taxes if possible or at least to minimise the burden of such taxes;

● For finding out new markets for coir goods;

● For enforcing the use of coir goods like mats and mattings in military and police quarters, camps, etc., in government offices and hospitals and in estates;

● For bringing the coir industry under the purview of the Industrial Development and Regulation Act;

● For legalising and enforcing the licensing system introduced by the Coir Board;

● For denying licenses to those businessmen who possess no factories;

● For penalising quality debasement and the export of inferior stuff against orders for superior qualities;

● For the development of the port at Alleppey;

● For the construction of a railway line, via Alleppey connecting Ernakulam and Kayamkulam.



# RACIALIST REPUBLIC SHALL NOT PASS! S. Africa Gets Ready For Action

Police swoop in South Africa . . . Homes raided . . . Documents seized. Dr. Y. M. Dadoo, a leader of the Congress Movement in exile, fills in the background to this latest expression of fascist fear and oppression in an article in Daily Worker, London.

ON March 25-26 an event took place in South Africa which may prove decisive in ending the whole structure of apartheid and white domination.

On these two days there was held in Pietermaritzburg, the capital of the Natal Province, the all-in African People's Conference called by the Continuation Committee of African leaders from all walks of life.

There came together an historic concourse of 1,400 delegates from cities and towns, villages and farms from almost every part of the Union.

These 1,400 men and women, braving the rain, overcoming the long distances which some had to cover on foot and defying harassment, demonstrated the united determination of the African people to oppose apartheid and the fascist republic of Dr. Verwoerd and to win democratic rights for all.

He said: "We have suffered enough under the oppressive Government. . . the time has now come for the African people to feel, speak and act as one. . . The decisions of the conference must lead to a drawn-out, continuous struggle until our objects are achieved."

## DEMANDS

The Pietermaritzburg conference unanimously demanded "that a National Convention of elected representatives of all adult men and women on an equal basis irrespective of race, colour, creed or other limitations be called not later than May 31, 1961."

The conference also resolved: "That should the minority Government ignore this demand of the representatives of the united will of the African people:

## ALL SECTIONS

Such unity embracing every section of the African people, professional men and mineworkers, factory workers, labourers on the white man's farms and the peasants on the reserves, has seldom been seen before in South Africa.

Mr. Nelson Mandela, former National Volunteer-in-Chief

of the Congress Defiance Campaign and the Vice-President of the now-banned African National Congress and who had courageously withstood the agony of the Treason Trial for four long years and the disability of Government bans prohibiting him from taking part in gatherings for many long years, opened the Conference.

Chief Albert J. Lutuli, President-General of the banned African National Congress, a great patriot and fighter and the beloved leader of the people whom the Government confines to his home town area of Lower Tugela, called for support for the resolution.

"When Dr. Verwoerd and those who accept his leadership stand granite-like for our oppression, let us, and all freedom-lovers, be even more granite-like for our emancipation and with a courage that rises with danger defy apartheid," he said.

"The decision of the Pietermaritzburg conference must be given the widest possible support and I call on all South Africans—both black and white—Indian, African, Coloured and European—to support this demand so that a truly democratic non-racial constitution can be formulated for our country."

The response from all over the country was swift and sure. An all-in conference of the Indian community held under the auspices of the Indian Congress on April 9, demanded the implementation of the call of the All-African People's Conference for a national convention.

The conference resolved "to support to the fullest extent the inspiring call of the African people, and to do all in our power to implement the decisions for a free and democratic South Africa."

The Coloured People's Congress which is a part of the Congress Alliance, through a mass rally at Capetown on April 7, fully backed the African demands and called upon the 1,500,000 coloured people to join in the countrywide demonstrations and "to stock up your food, pull in your belts. The time has come."

The South African Congress of Democrats, an organisation of white democrats which is allied to the Congress Alliance, at its annual conference, urged the White people:

"Mere passivity is not enough. We must show now that we are prepared to struggle for the rights of all South Africans regardless of race to rule themselves as they see fit.

"Only by thus aligning ourselves with the people of

# POLICE SWOOPS

GOVERNMENT threats of drastic measures against eye-of-the-Republic demonstrations in South Africa were followed by nationwide security and uniformed police swoops on offices and homes on Thursday, April 27.

There were at least 15 simultaneous raids on offices in the centre of Johannesburg and they were systematically searched.

After searching these premises for five hours, the detectives took possession of a large number of documents, a typewriter, a duplicator and other articles. Among the offices raided were those of the National Action Council, the body preparing for the May demonstrations, the Congress of Democrats, the South African Congress of Trade Unions, New Age, the weekly newspaper, and others occupied by Whites and non-Whites.

Many African homes in Rand township were also raided and uniformed police guards were left at premises whose occupants could not be found.

The raiding detectives had warrants in terms of the Unlawful Organisation Act, passed last year to outlaw the Pan African Congress and the African National Congress, and under laws prohibiting strikes by African workers and fixing stiff penalties for incitement.

These raids followed similar action by the police in Durban and Pietermaritzburg a week before.

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Africa can whites expect to share in the great future that lies ahead."

The National Council of Action set up in terms of the resolutions adopted by the all-in African People's Conference has issued an ultimatum to the National Government "to convene a national convention by not later than May 31, 1961, which convention shall have sovereign powers to determine in any way the majority of the representatives decide, a new non-racial democratic constitution for South Africa."

The Government remains intransigent.

Dr. Verwoerd, speaking after the demand for a national convention, said: "The Government was aware of the possible dangers facing South Africa both externally and internally and was giving its full attention to mobilising

the country's machinery against them.

"I am prepared to say we recognise the position as very serious and we must be ready for any eventualities."

## NEW CHAPTER

The die is cast. The establishment of a fascist republic on May 31 will meet with resolute opposition by means of countrywide demonstrations, stay-in-homes which may last for days and by mass non-cooperation with the authorities.

A new chapter in the glorious struggle of the South African people for justice and freedom is about to open.

We cannot, however, minimise the dangers which face the brave fighters for freedom. The ruthless, racist Government of Dr. Verwoerd

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# Casablanca Conference of Freedom-Fighters End Portugese Colonies

Leaders of all the Portuguese colonies met in conference at Casablanca from April 18 to 21 last. India (Goa) was represented by George Vaz of the Goan People's Party, Cajetan Lobo of the Goa Liberation Council and Dr. P. Gaitonde of the National Congress, Goa.

THE Portuguese African colonies were fully represented by Mario Andrade, President of the MPLA (Popular Liberation Movement of Angola), Viriato DaCruz, Secretary General of the MPLA, Pascal Livuala, Secretary-General of the L'Union Nationale des Travailleurs Ingoisais.

Marcelino Dos Santos and Adelino Gwambe came from Uniao Democratica Nacional de Mosambique; Miguel Trovoado from St. Tome and Principe; Alfred Bangoura and Malan N'Diaye from Guine and Adriano Araujo from Cape Verde.

Even before the delegates met at Casablanca, strict security measures were enforced by the Casablanca authorities and during the conference nine Portuguese citizens were arrested and detained by the police for distributing leaflets against the conference and moving about in a suspicious manner trailing the delegates. At least one of the suspects was carrying a revolver.

All throughout the conference, which met at the Central "Salle de Fetes", there was always a strong police guard as a security measure.

All these precautions were necessary as there is a considerable Portuguese population in the former Spanish Morocco which is now a part of free Morocco.

The outstanding achievement of the Casablanca Conference was that for the first time nationalists from the various Portuguese colonies were coming together to forge common links and a strong organisation to wage a common battle against the most brutal form of colonialism as upheld by the Portuguese fascists. The international solidarity of the anti-colonial forces was most necessary because of the combination of all the imperialists and colonialists who had directly intervened in the Congo to defeat the advent of freedom in the African colonies.

Special resolutions were passed on Angola, Mosambique, S. Tome, Cape Verde, Guine and Principe and Goa, Daman and Diu.

The conference has set up its headquarters at Casablanca with the permanent Secretariat functioning from Casablanca. Mario de Andrades has been elected President and Marcelino dos Santos General Secretary. All the delegates to the Casablanca Conference have been elected to the Consultative Council. All nationalist organisations from the colonies are welcome to affiliate themselves to the CONCEP — "Confederation Des Organisations Nationalistes Des Colonies Portugueses". Each colony will be allowed two representatives on the Consultative Council. A call has been issued for the formation of united fronts against Portuguese rule in all the colonies.

The movement is to be intensified in all the colonies and the intensity of the movement in Angola will be accelerated. All the African countries and especially the Casablanca Powers have been requested to be vigilant and grant every aid to the peoples fighting against Portuguese rule.

"We call upon the Indian people of South Africa to once again prepare them-

Bandung which demanded a peaceful transfer of power on the part of the imperialist countries and the conference of the Casablanca Powers which took a definite stand against neo-colonialism and the machinations of the imperialists to subvert the nationalist aspirations of the African countries. The actual results of the policy of neo-colonialism were being seen in the Congo where a sovereign republic was being disrupted.

On Goa, the conference saw the danger of neo-colonialism, and the Right wing of the nationalist movement in Goa seeking a compromise solution with the liberal sections in the Portuguese opposition who refuse to take a definite stand for the liquidation of Portuguese colonialism.

As a matter of policy, the conference has clearly defined that there can be no compromise with the Portuguese opposition as represented by the bourgeois-liberal politicians who want to reform colonialism but not reject it. The conference is prepared to open negotiations with the Portuguese opposition provided it gets united under a common leadership and recognises the right of the colonies to freedom and self-determination and only then could the nationalists as united in the Casablanca Conference discuss on an organisational level the necessity of making common cause with the anti-fascist democratic opposition in Portugal.

The Conference by a special resolution on the U. N. has called upon all countries to enforce the "December 14, 1960" resolution of the United Nations on colonialism and bring about an end to Portuguese colonialism.

General Declaration

The Casablanca Conference adopted a general Declaration of Unity, Solidarity and Cooperation of all the anti-colonial forces and ratified the decisions and resolutions of the Afro-Asian People's Solidarity Conference at Cairo and the All-African People's Conference held at Accra.

The conference of nationalist parties of the Portuguese colonies clearly takes the stand that there can be no compromise with imperialism and affirms radical anti-colonialism. Thus it stands as a distinct phase between the Afro-Asian Conference at



MARIO ANDRADE  
Angola liberation movement leader

other countries including Guinea, Liberia and several Ministers from Morocco.

Mario de Andrade, President of the MPLA (Angola), was elected President of the conference. In his speech he analysed the present phase of the movement against colonialism—calling the Portuguese colonialists the most barbaric and brutal. He gave a first hand report of the atrocities in Angola where the people were in the midst of a grim struggle for basic human rights.

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"We call upon the Indian people of South Africa to once again prepare them-

selfes to struggle relentlessly side by side with all freedom-loving people against Nationalist tyranny. We call upon all the people of South Africa to unite to stop a Nationalist Republic."

A Conference of the Transvaal Indian Congress said:

"The Government will ignore this demand at its peril.

"We resolve to support to the fullest extent the inspiring call of the African people at the Maritzburg conference, and to do all in our power to implement the decisions for a democratic and free South Africa."

VERWOERD'S FASCIST REPUBLIC MUST NOT COME TO PASS!

Indian Support

BOTH the Transvaal Indian Congress and the Transvaal Indian Youth Congress have welcomed the decisions of the Pietermaritzburg All-African Conference. The Youth Congress announced:

"We call upon the Indian people of South Africa to once again prepare them-

# RESOLUTION ON GOA

The conference of nationalist organisations in Portuguese colonies, held in Casablanca, from April 18 to 20—

CONSIDERING that the people of Goa, Daman and Diu are ethnically, culturally and traditionally an integral part of the people of India,

CONSIDERING that Goa, Daman and Diu are part and parcel of India separated only by artificial barriers,

CONSIDERING that the economy of these territories is entirely dependent on the life and economic geography of India,

CONSIDERING that the people of these territories have always vehemently repudiated Portuguese occupation and conquest,

CONSIDERING that the satyagraha of 1946 and the subsequent intense struggle and peaceful resistance of 1954-1955 when thousands of nationalists were arrested prove conclusively that the people demand integration of their political destinies with India,

DEMANDS that the Portuguese Government release immediately all political prisoners.

AFFIRMS its solidarity with the people of Goa, Daman and Diu in the struggle for freedom from Portuguese colonial rule.

SUPPORTS wholeheartedly their aspirations to reunite their political destinies with India.

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# S. AFRICAN CAMPAIGN

\* FROM FACING PAGE

is capable of atrocities far greater than those of Sharpeville and Langa.

## HELP THEM

In this hour of our trial I make this fervent appeal to the people of Britain and the whole world to render full support to the righteous struggle of the great majority of the South African people.

Send message of solidarity to the National Council of Action, 14 Macosa House, 17 Commissioner Street, Johannesburg.

Demand that the British Government shall not supply arms and tanks to South African Government.

Demand that the British Government will not enter into any bilateral trade, financial or defence agreements with South Africa.

Call upon their political parties, trade unions and all other associations and bodies to organise acts of solidarity.

VERWOERD'S FASCIST REPUBLIC MUST NOT COME TO PASS!

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# TAMILNAD COMMUNISTS

## Joint Statement

JOINT statement issued on April 28, 1961, by representatives of the Communist Party, Dravida Munnetra Kazhagam, Tamil National Party, Tamil Arasu Kazhagam, and the We Tamils Movement:

The intense repression let loose on Tamilan nationals living in Ceylon by the Ceylon Government will be condemned by all interested in people's rights.

We condemn the oppressive action on Ceylon Tamilans by setting the army on them for the only reason that they expressed their desire without resorting to violence not to accept Sinhalese thrust on them.

Political differences which arise between Sinhalese and Ceylon Tamilans should always be resolved through negotiations and settlement. It is necessary that the Ceylon Government comes forward to create a suitable atmosphere for this and that the leaders on the side of the Tamilans cooperate with the Government for it.

We wish to point out that instead of this, the way of the Government to deal with the Tamilans only as a minority and to tackle the Tamilans with a suitable bias so that it has a tendency to evolve into a Sinhalese-Tamil struggle, is wrong and dangerous.

The Tamil nationals in Ceylon are not just a minority community scattered in various places. They are a distinct nationality in two contiguous provinces of Ceylon. Hence the Ceylon Tamilans issue is the issue of language and cultural rights of a nationality and not merely an issue of concessions to a minority.

If the Ceylon Government is actuated by the good intention that both Tamilans and Sinhalese in Ceylon should live in fraternity and work for the progress of Ceylon, then it should deal with respect equally the language and culture of both nationalities and strive for mutual confidence and good relations be-

tween them. But recent events have disclosed that the Ceylon Government has failed to adopt this outlook. Hence, the Ceylon Government should expeditiously take steps to:

- (i) Withdraw the military from the Tamil areas;
- (ii) Remove the bans already imposed;
- (iii) Release the imprisoned Tamil leaders.

We appeal to people in India and all Indian parties to regard this not only as a Tamilan issue but as a democratic and humanitarian issue and extend their sympathy and support to the suffering Tamilans.

We also appeal to the democratic organisations in Ceylon to see that they take steps for a peaceful settlement of this issue.

We request Prime Minister Nehru in view of his influence based on friendship with the Ceylon Government to use his good offices for a peaceful settlement of this issue.

We also request the Chief Minister of Tamilnad State to inform suitably Prime Minister Nehru how upset and

proper implementation of the law and some other problems connected with the language issue have still to be amicably solved. It is the duty of the Ceylon Government to examine these and come forward to solve these issues. They cannot be solved by repression.

### Federal Party's Struggle

The Federal Party of Ceylon gives prominence to the formation of a federal State, composed of two parts, the Sinhalese areas and the Tamil area. It gives greater importance to the question of a federal structure of the State than the question of the linguistic rights of the Ceylon Tamilans. News has come of its struggle taking the line of running a parallel Government to run its own postal service with its own stamps, etc. The fact that the struggle under the leadership of the Federal Party has left the bounds of linguistic rights and is being conducted under slogans aimed at changing the State structure has divided and weakened the struggle for the linguistic rights of Ceylon Tamilans.

### Wrong Slogans

In the light of all these aspects, it will be clear how utterly wrong are the slogans of "We Tamilans" of Tamilnad, such as "The Tamil-speaking areas of Ceylon must be an-

On this page we print two statements on the language agitation in Ceylon—one by a number of parties in Tamilnad including the Communist Party and the second by the Secretariat of the Tamilnad Council of the Communist Party criticising the stand of the joint statement and saying that it was "wrong for the representative of the Communist Party to have agreed to and signed such a wrong one-sided statement."

sants filling the paddy fields. It supported the Catholic church in the struggle against the Government taking over the management of private schools. As a result of all this, ground has been created for suspicion against this leadership in the minds of the majority of the people of Ceylon. Taking all this into account, we are of the opinion that the leadership of the Federal Party must strive for a solution of the language problem, remaining within the bounds of linguistic rights and thereby secure the support of the majority of the population of Ceylon.

### One-Sided Statement

We would appeal to all responsible parties in Tamilnad to consider all these aspects of the problem in giving their advice. We are of the opinion that the joint statement of April 28, 1961, was not drafted on this basis. That statement which finds in the attempt to impose Sinhala on the Ceylon Tamilans the cause of the present struggle, fails to point out the fact that the Federal Party demanded a federal State structure and that as a result, a demand which was beyond the bounds of linguistic rights came to the fore and created a situation in

which it has become difficult for it to be solved.

Similarly the demand made in the statement for equality of status between Tamil and Sinhalese will only lead to emphasising the demand for a federal structure. We also strongly emphasise that repression by Government will not lead to a solution of the problem. But the joint statement only emphasises repression and flatly ignores the responsibility of the Federal Party in this regard. It fails to ask them to confine their demands within the bounds of linguistic rights. As such, the statement is one-sided. Such a statement will not help to show our deep interest in the unity between the Sinhalese and Ceylon Tamil population.

## ... AND THE CEYLON TAMIL AGITATION

- angry the Tamilnad people are over the plight of Ceylon Tamilans.
- (sd.) M. R. Venkataraman (CPI).
  - " N. V. Natarajan (DMK);
  - " E. V. K. Sampath (Tamil National Party)
  - " M. P. Sivagnana Gramani (Tamil Arasu Kazhagam);
  - " C. A. Varadarajan (We Tamils Movement).

It is but natural that such demands as "federal structure" and "separate State" should have aroused suspicions among the people of Ceylon who desire to protect and safeguard the sovereignty and unity of Ceylon. These cannot develop the unity and goodwill between the Sinhalese and Ceylon Tamilans so very necessary for finding an amicable solution for the language problem.

The present Government, which came to power as a result of the general elections of July 1960 has announced its desire to take certain democratic measures. The imperialists and reactionaries in Ceylon are displeased with the contemplated measures. Reaction has not ceased its conspiracies against this Government.

It will be to the advantage of these reactionary forces if the struggle of the Ceylon Tamilans weakens the unity and democratic development of Ceylon. Democratic forces, both in Ceylon and in India, cannot fail to take into account this danger.

### F.P. Backs Reaction

The leadership of the Federal Party which is leading the struggle of the Ceylon Tamilans, opposed the Ceylon Government, taking over the naval base at Trincomalee which was in the hands of the British Government; it protested against the reform measures aimed to help the toiling pe-

oples of Ceylon. It is but natural that such demands as "federal structure" and "separate State" should have aroused suspicions among the people of Ceylon who desire to protect and safeguard the sovereignty and unity of Ceylon. These cannot develop the unity and goodwill between the Sinhalese and Ceylon Tamilans so very necessary for finding an amicable solution for the language problem.

We desire to point out that it is improper to demand either that the Government of India should intervene in this internal affair of Ceylon or that the issue should be taken to the U.N. The Communist Party cannot agree to such demands. It will give rise to the charge of interference in the internal affairs of a sovereign and independent State.

### Unity Essential

The demand for either a separate State for the areas of the Ceylon Tamilans or for a federal State is beyond the limits of the linguistic rights of Ceylon Tamilans. To raise them would only strengthen the hands of the reactionary forces interested in the perpetuation of internal strife. International events are serving as warning to us and show how imperialists are conspiring to regain their lost hold in the newly liberated countries of Asia and Africa.

Unity between the Sinhalese and Ceylonese Tamil people is indispensable for the development of Ceylon. Only on this basis could there be a proper

which it has become difficult for it to be solved.

Similarly the demand made in the statement for equality of status between Tamil and Sinhalese will only lead to emphasising the demand for a federal structure. We also strongly emphasise that repression by Government will not lead to a solution of the problem. But the joint statement only emphasises repression and flatly ignores the responsibility of the Federal Party in this regard. It fails to ask them to confine their demands within the bounds of linguistic rights. As such, the statement is one-sided. Such a statement will not help to show our deep interest in the unity between the Sinhalese and Ceylon Tamil population.

It is regrettable that that statement did not take into account and deal with all aspects of the question. We consider it wrong for the representative of the Communist Party to have agreed to and signed such a wrong and one-sided statement.

### Internal Problem

This must be considered an internal problem of Ceylon. The Government of Ceylon must give up repression, release the leaders and come forward to solve the problem by negotiations. We appeal to the leaders of the Ceylon Tamilans to come forward and seek a solution within the bounds of linguistic rights.

# SOCIALIST WORLD CELEBRATES TAGORE CENTENARY

## SOVIET UNION

by cable from MASOOD ALI KHAN.

Tagore centenary celebrations have been going on in Moscow for the last few days and everyday there has been one function or another devoted to the memory of the great Poet of India.

An exhibition of his books and documents opened in Moscow's palatial Lenin Library on May 5 and has aroused considerable interest here.

As we entered we found on our left an excellent portrait of the poet Rabindranath Tagore with the dates 1861-1961 under it and a quotation from Lunacharsky on the significance of Tagore's work. Under the picture stood fresh spring flowers yellow daffodils and red tulips, a fitting offering to the bard who sang so well of nature, of love and beauty.

There is a notice informing us that Tagore's books have been published 97 times in the Soviet Union in something like three million copies. These figures speak for the popularity and esteem that one finds everywhere for the great Rabindranath in the Soviet Union. Stands display Indian editions of Tagore's works, his books published in foreign countries and translations of his work into Russian and 17 other languages of the USSR.

There are many photographs of Tagore from his young days to the last years of his life and musical scores of Soviet composers who have set Tagore's songs, poems and ballads to music. Some reproductions of Tagore's paintings are also displayed.

### German Democratic Republic

by cable from BERLIN

THE German Democratic Republic paid homage to Poet Tagore in a big way. Months earlier, a committee had been constituted to organise celebrations in Berlin, Leipzig, Dresden, Weimar and in almost every provincial capital. To mark the occasion Letters from Russia and Home and the World have been published. In spite of the large edition Home and the World is already sold out. Gora, Kabuliwallah and other stories and a collection of poems and short stories are in press.

On May 6, in spite of bad weather, a large crowd attended the naming of a street after Tagore.

On May 9, the main function was attended by our Cultural Attaché in Prague Joardar, Deputy Premier Abusch, General Secretary of GDR Peace Council Willmann and a large number of prominent people.

Prof. Ruben, Director of the Institute of Indology, emphasised in his speech Tagore's role in India's struggle for freedom and his stand for world peace and against fascism. In the cultural programme that followed poems were recited and fragments from letters and short stories read by German artists.

All these documents are a part of the collection of the

Niyazi and choreography is by Danilova. There are some interesting attempts at combining the European idiom of classical ballet with movements of the Indian dance. One finds dancers in Indian costumes dancing on the tips of the toes or girls in sarees being lifted up by their male partners. Some of the effects are quite beautiful though perhaps unusual for Indian eyes.

But it certainly shows that a synthesis of the European dance technique, symphonic music and Indian dancing is certainly possible and can give birth to great ballet of the future. We have to wait for that genius who shall absorb the traditions of the east and the west in his personality and give birth to the new. As a matter of fact some one like another Tagore is required to show the way.

### At The Bolshoi

The huge Red and Gold Hall and all balconies of Moscow's grand Bolshoi Theatre were filled in the evening of May 8 to mark the centenary. A huge portrait of the Indian Poet adorned the facade of the theatre between the gigantic columns.

Inside, the big stage was decorated with fresh flowers and plants and on a skyblue background, the familiar face of Tagore looked at the Moscow audience. Golden laurel leaves surrounded the oval frame. Two dates 1861 and 1961 were brilliantly lit on both sides of the picture and baroque chandeliers adorned the stage. This was a historic occasion fittingly celebrated in a historic setting.

Nikolai Tikhonov, presiding over the gala meeting, paid a poet's tribute to a poet. Tagore, he said was a great friend of the Soviet people. He opened the soul of India to the Soviet readers. Tagore was born on the crossroads of time and not only defended the age-old culture of India but also searched for the new. Today Rabindranath Tagore is just as dear to us as our friendship with the people of India, he said.

Fyodor Petrov, 84-year-old scholar and veteran revolutionary who accompanied Tagore during the Poet's visit to Moscow in 1930, gave a detailed account of his meetings and conversations. Petrov recalled that Tagore was not only interested in literary matters but wanted to know everything about economy, agriculture, education and culture of the new revolutionary society and he was greatly impressed by all he saw.

Many other speakers paid tributes to Tagore and dealt with different aspects of his personality.

Arismov of the Gorky Institute of International Literature declared that the detached humanism of the early Tagore later grew into the humanism of struggle. Ear-

lier he had wanted to dig with his pen in the mine of his own thoughts as he had himself put it. Later, he took in the all-embracing struggle of the Indian people within his fold and depicted it in his work, for example, in his novel Gora.

### Concert Programme

An interesting concert followed in which Moscow's leading artists participated. The scenes from Tagore's play, the Red Oleanders, were performed and parts of the ballet Chitra which is based on Tagore's libretto and music were also presented and drew a lot of applause. A symphonic poem "On reading Tagore" by the composer Vlasov was played by the Bolshoi Theatre orchestra and some of Tagore's famous songs arranged by the composer Balasanyan were sung with great feeling by the Soloist Barritone Kibkalo accompanied by the symphony orchestra of the

Theatre and were a high light of the evening. Submol Ghosh recited portions from Gitanjali and brought the original music of Tagore's verse to the ears of the enraptured audience.

At the end, a documentary film on Tagore was shown which has been produced in Moscow by Director Bubrik. It contains moving shots of the Poet in the Soviet Union and in India and presents the natural beauty of our country with great love and deep lyrical feelings.

Tagore centenary was observed in many other cities of the USSR.

After the space flight of Gagarin and the May Day, Moscow moved on to celebrate Tagore's Centenary and observed it in a big way. All newspapers on Sunday carried long articles on Tagore and as they are even pasted on notice boards in the streets, Tagore's face was to be seen everywhere and people stood in groups and read accounts of the great sage of India and friend of the Soviet Union.

## CHINA

MORE than one thousand people from Peking art and literary circles gathered at a meeting on May 15 to commemorate the Centenary of the birth of Rabindranath Tagore. The meeting formed part of varied activities in Peking in commemoration of the great Indian Poet.

Mao Tun, Vice-Chairman of the Federation of Literary and Art Circles and Chairman of the committee for organising the commemoration activities, in his opening remarks pointed out that the Chinese people regarded the works of Tagore as the common heritage of mankind. He stressed the important role of Tagore's works in helping the Chinese people to understand the development of modern Indian literature and the life of the Indian people. He was confident that the commemoration activities would help to further strengthen the cultural interchange and mutual understanding between the Chinese and Indian people.

An introduction to Tagore's life and works was given by Prof. Chi Hsien-lin. Referring to the two visits of Tagore to China and Sino-Indian cultural exchange, he pointed out that seeds of friendship had been sown between the Chinese and Indian peoples by two thousand years or more. He said that he hoped and was confident that these seeds would blossom and bear rich fruit.

Indian Ambassador G. Par-

thasarathi spoke at the meeting, where members of the Indian Embassy and Indian students in Peking were present. Present also were cultural officials of various embassies in Peking.

An exhibition specially arranged for the occasion in an adjacent hall attracted wide interest. On display were Chinese translations of the works of Tagore including the latest publication by the People's Publishing House to honour his centenary and paintings and gifts presented by the poet to his Chinese friends. These included a manuscript written by Tagore for the opening of an exhibition in India of works by the late well-known Chinese painter Hsu Pei-hung, and a Chinese fan inscribed by the poet and presented by him to Mei Lan-fang, famous Peking opera actor. Photos which the poet took during his visits to China were also displayed.

A recital of Tagore's poems and Indian music presented at the meeting were warmly applauded.

To mark the Centenary in the past days Peking radio stations have broadcast recitals of Tagore's poems. The Kwangming Daily and a number of literary periodicals have published articles on his works.

As early as 1915, Tagore's works began to be introduced in China. Instead of merely relying on English translations as in the pre-liberation days, his works are now being translated into Chinese directly from Bengali.

## Communist Party Statement

THE Secretariat of the Tamilnad Council of the Communist Party of India in its meeting on May 3 and 4, 1961, discussed the struggle being conducted in Ceylon under the leadership of the Federal Party of Ceylon, as well as the problem of the support to the struggle by the parties and people of Tamilnad. In this connection, the Secretariat also examined the slogans of the various parties in Tamilnad and also the joint statement issued on April 28, 1961, by some parties of Tamilnad, including the Communist Party.

Ceylon is an independent and sovereign State. The Sinhala language today is the State language in Ceylon. The question of linguistic rights of the Tamil-speaking Ceylonese is an important one. It

is an internal affair of Ceylon and it has to be settled amicably and democratically by the people and the Government of Ceylon. Such a settlement would strengthen the unity and goodwill between the Sinhalese and Tamil-speaking people of Ceylon—both citizens of Ceylon, and strengthen the independence and democratic development of Ceylon.

It is a fact that the Government headed by the late Bandaranaike as well as the present Government headed by Sirimavo Bandaranaike, unlike the previous Governments of Ceylon, came forward to take certain steps concerning the linguistic rights of Ceylon Tamilans. In 1958, the Tamil Language Special Law was also enacted. It is true that the problem of



# INVITATION WITHDRAWN

by cable from MASOOD ALI KHAN MOSCOW, May 15.

So the high and mighty are scared of Yuri Gagarin. The Presidents of France and the USA, in all their State splendour, cannot face peaceful competition with this charming and very pleasant young man. Why are they afraid to coexist with him even for a few days in such a big city as Paris?

GAGARIN, world's first cosmonaut, had been invited to attend the aviation exhibition in Paris due to open at the end of this month. The whole of France was waiting impatiently to welcome the space hero. But now the invitation has been withdrawn.

Those responsible have forgotten their French good manners and stooped to this uncultured stupidity. Why? Maybe, the space pilot had somehow annoyed the French people or their Government by some word or gesture? Oh, no! They explain officially and semi-officially that Gagarin's presence in Paris at the time of the visit of the President of the United States would be an embarrassment.

## Embarrassing - For Whom?

L'Humanite asked yesterday—Embarrassing for whom? If President Kennedy demanded the cancellation of the invitation to Yuri Gagarin, General de Gaulle obeyed much more promptly and readily than his own Generals. And if de Gaulle puts the blame on Kennedy unjustifiably, why is the U.S. President ready to take the responsibility on his own head, the paper asks.

Whatever the case, it is not really important to know which of the two Presidents is more scared. What is quite obvious is that their meeting has very little in common with that spirit of peace and goodwill which Gagarin's arrival would have brought to the French capital.

## ASSAM

\* FROM PAGE 2

views of the Assamese middle-class, in a recent editorial comment denounced the agitation as uncalculated and "ill-conceived" and observed that if the threatened satyagraha comes off, the Government would be left with no option but to put it down with the police and military. It also warned of the likely repercussions of this move "elsewhere" in the State and felt that this might disturb the work of rehabilitation of the victims of last year's riot.

This comment is considered very significant by observers. Meanwhile, the "cold war" between the Assamese Press and West Bengal Press has appeared with renewed vigour. While the nationalist Press of Calcutta has so far confined itself to prominently splashing of the news of the progress of the agitation in Cachar and lending its general support to the objectives of the movement, the Press in Assam (controlled by Assamese owners) has also not yet transgressed beyond general

denunciation of the agitation as mentioned above. But certain Cachar Journals seem to have thrown overboard all restraint in their campaign. In their chauvinist campaign they seem to have surpassed all record of chauvinism hitherto noticed in this part of the country.

It is felt by some here that if these Cachar Journals do not exercise some amount of restraint, it might provoke an equally passionate chauvinist campaign in the Assam Valley and may alienate even those who, though not quite in agreement with the agitation, have some amount of sympathy with their objectives.

Taking all factors into consideration, it is felt here that the situation in Assam has been drifting towards a crisis of no mean dimension and unless democratic forces could bring about a rapprochement among the different linguistic groups, the coming period holds out a grave threat to the integrity of the State.

To belittle this magnificent Soviet achievement, some Western Correspondents started the rumour that Yuri Gagarin was not the first man to enter cosmic space. They could not say that the first man was not a Soviet astronaut. This nobody would believe. So they had to be content with the second best lie which went as follows:

The first to fly into space was not Gagarin but Vladimir Ilyushin, the test pilot who is the son of the famous aviation engineer and aircraft designer Sergei Ilyushin. This man, it was alleged, came back with shock and injuries and is in a hospital under treatment. Vladimir Ilyushin, they said, had been sent up in a rocket some days before Gagarin's flight.

## A Lie Exposed

The man who did his utmost to give currency to this story was one Bobrovsky, Correspondent of the French Radio and Television. It was pointed out here that Lt.-Col. Ilyushin had received a grievous leg injury in a car accident as far back as June 8, 1960, and had not done any

# Kennedy Afraid Of Coexisting With Gagarin In Paris

he is not at fault. It is his system and his capitalist world which are far behind and no cheap trick with visas or invitations is going to set it right. As we would say in India, facing Gagarin with Shepard is like showing the oil lamp to the sun.

flying for the last eleven months since the accident. "There could certainly be no question of me preparing for a space flight with my badly injured leg," Vladimir Ilyushin said contradicting this story. He sincerely congratulated the first Soviet spaceman for his outstanding feat and added: "I do of course envy him in the good sense of the word."

That was not the end of the story, however. London's Daily Telegraph then published a photograph on May 5 as a great revelation saying that this photo was originally published by Moscow's Red Star on January 1 this year and it proved that the younger Ilyushin was quite healthy. This photograph showed him and other airmen in a group photo with President Brezhnev in the Kremlin after they had been decorated on New Year's eve. Ilyushin was sitting next to Leonid Brezhnev in the first row behind a table and the other famous Soviet pilot Georgi Mosolov (who broke the world record for the highest flight in an aeroplane in a jet-66 by soaring upto 34,200 metres just before May Day 1961) was also there on the other side of Brezhnev.

Next day, May 6, Red Star published an angry letter by Mosolov protesting against this slander and printed two photographs. The one published by the Telegraph where Ilyushin's leg was not visible and another sent by Mosolov taken just after the ceremony which showed all

## Vital Statistics Of Peaceful Competition

The main statistics of the two flights—Gagarin's and Shepard's—are recorded below for comparison.

	USSR April 12	USA May 5
Pilot	Moulder, son of a carpenter	Navy officer, son of an army colonel
Distance	25,000-mile orbit of the earth	300 miles
Maximum height	188 miles	115 miles
Speed	18,000 mph (sustained)	5,000 mph (a few seconds)
Duration	1 hr. 48 min.	15 min.
Weight of ship	4.6 tons	1.3 tons
Rocket thrust	800,000 lbs	78,000 lbs

the air men including Ilyushin on the left supporting himself on a walking stick and his right leg in plaster. This group was taken in memory of the occasion outside the Kremlin on the Red Square and it finally put an end to this mischievous invention of the Western Press.

Some Russian emigres in America even started the story that Gagarin belonged to the noble family of Prince Gagarin and was not a proletarian. They were not against acquir-

ing the air men including Ilyushin on the left supporting himself on a walking stick and his right leg in plaster. This group was taken in memory of the occasion outside the Kremlin on the Red Square and it finally put an end to this mischievous invention of the Western Press.

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# LYNDON JOHNSON'S TOUR AND U. S. STRATEGY

As Lyndon Johnson's visit to India nears, the clearer becomes the new U.S. strategy in Asia. The obstructive tactics and the baffled rage at Geneva are manifestations of a most dangerously bellicose approach to world problems. This is matched by the accompanying deed of a tightening of military alliances both in Europe and in Asia.

THE Economist, London (May 13) comments:

"Vice-President Lyndon Johnson's mission to Asia makes sense in the context of reassurance to Asian allies disheartened by the collapse of the pro-Western forces in Laos on the eve of the Geneva Conference. It would make less sense if it turned out to be a possibly dangerous reaction to the Cuban humiliation.

"Mr. Johnson is to visit South Vietnam, the Philippines, Formosa, Siam, Pakistan and a solitary neutral, India."

It is now evident that Lyndon Johnson's tour is intended for both purposes—to reassure allies and to plan fresh adventures in Asia in a vain attempt to recoup the Cuban defeat. In the Philippines he had quite a bit of explaining to do about how and why the U.S. came to accept the proposal for a neutralised Laos—neutralism is still "immoral" for this U.S. puppet.

## Outrageous Agreement

This was followed by the outrageous agreement with South Vietnam. The Hindu (May 14) reported that the joint communique issued in Saigon "announced that powerful new military and economic support is being thrown into the United States efforts to halt a feared Communist take-over in Southeast Asia." The words are ominously similar to those used just prior to the abortive invasion of Cuba.

The 150,000-strong South Vietnam army is to be increased, in the first place by 20,000 men. The same report states, "The U.S. assured South Vietnam, that it would pay more than half the cost of training, clothing and paying the troops as well as provide full equipment and arms. The United States would help South Vietnam in maintaining its 70,000 civil guard."

"The two Governments would collaborate in using military specialists to work with South Vietnam armed forces... Other allied Governments were called upon to help the United States and South Vietnam to counter the guerrilla fight... They are believed to be most likely to assist in the South Vietnam programme."

The report concludes with the revealing statement: "The United States was hopeful that its major effort in Vietnam would help to reassure the Philippines, Thailand and other South Asian countries."

It is not only in South Vietnam that the U.S. is reaffirming its role of ineffectual aggressor. Lyndon Johnson went on to Taiwan where, if anything, his statements were even more provocative.

## NEUTRALS' SUMMIT

SPORADIC news about the forthcoming Neutrals' Summit has appeared in the daily Press. They confirm the

impression of the reluctance with which the Government of India has accepted the idea and decided to send its representative to the preparatory conference in Cairo, scheduled for next month.

The first objection of the Government of India, according to the UNI message of May 14, seems to be "serious doubts" as to who the neutrals were and how they were to be identified... India's reservations are also believed to extend to the neutral status of certain of the proposed invitees to the conference. In this connection Cuba and Liberia have been mentioned.

Its second objection appears to refer to the possible agenda of the conference. UNI reports: "As regards the scope of the neutral summit, India is believed to hold that whatever the conference may or may not do, there should not be violent condemnation of one side or the other and no attempt to pass judgment on recent happenings."

## Objections Have No Validity

Both these objections are strange to say the least. While it is true that there are certain marginal cases like Liberia or Mexico, it is quite clear that the bulk of the invitees to the conference adhere to a foreign policy which closely resembles that of the Government of India—peaceful coexistence, resistance to war moves and support to anti-colonial struggle.

Moreover, the Government has always been ready to go to a conference with the other Commonwealth countries on the plea that this helps the cause of peace and will gradually induce a saner attitude even on the part of the United Kingdom. There is no reason why it cannot go to the neutrals' summit and seek to win over those few invitees whose neutralism it suspects.

If true, what is highly objectionable and besmirches the name of India is the reported opposition to the inclusion of Cuba. This gallant State has become a veritable torch of freedom for all those peoples struggling against the tutelage of the U.S.

It is the first Latin American State to break from the military alliance of the U.S. and has given courage to such States as Brazil and Mexico. Nor does it have any military pact with the Socialist camp. The only foreign base on its soil is the U.S. marine base for whose evacuation it has been pressing. On what grounds then, can Cuba be excluded?

India's reservations about the scope of the conference are equally invalid. In the recent period certain events have taken place which cry out for clear judgment and firm action by all anti-imperialist States. To mention only three of the most prominent among these—Congo, Cuba and Laos.

It is essential that the non-aligned countries should sharply pose and unequivocally answer such questions:

Who was responsible for Lumumba's murder? Who helped the invaders of Cuba's sovereignty? Who plotted to overthrow the neutralist Government of Sovanna Phouma in Laos? These questions need to be asked not to bring any partisan advantage to the Socialist camp but to help to clarify the tasks of the non-aligned countries in their common desire to save world peace and strengthen their own independence.

## THE CONGO SCENE

THE Congo situation has begun to acquire a certain pattern. The arrest of Tshombe, the declaration of Kasavubu that he would like to convene Parliament and his reported greater control over Mobutu's gang, could have created quite some illusions in the mind of the unwary reader.

Indeed, the attempt is being made to create the impression that Kasavubu is going in for some sort of rapprochement with the Gizenga Government and that happy days are ahead in the Congo.

Unfortunately, the truth is to the contrary. The arrest of Tshombe is purely a move in the factional squabbles of the murderers of Lumumba. It is an indication, however, of a new phase in U.S. policy towards the Congo. The U.S. now appears to be anxious to take a further step towards pushing out the Belgians and establishing its sole supremacy.

Tshombe, who is a Belgian agent, has done his dirty work and his continued refusal to cooperate with the United Nations now comes in the way of the U.S. plans. So he has to go and the manner of his removal is a matter of no concern.

Similarly, the new draft of the proposed Congolese constitution "would invest wider powers in the President and the central administration—particularly in an emergency—than those envisaged by the conference of leaders in Madagascar in March, which would have set up a loose confederation of States, each with a large degree of autonomy." (Reuter, May 12)

## Chosen Instrument

Kasavubu is now the chosen instrument of the U.S. His authority is to be increased and it is he who will now ask for greater U.N. "assistance" to assert that authority throughout the Congo.

For this purpose he may well use also the device of calling a session of the truncated Congolese Parliament. He knows full well that in the present perilous state of affairs it would be quite unwise for Gizenga and other loyal followers of Lumumba to attend any session of Parliament in Leopoldville. Who knows if their attendance would not be used to physically liquidate them?

It could be that Kasavubu will have a majority in such a Parliament—many of whose members have already been murdered. He could then use "Parliament's mandate" and U.N. assistance to start a large-scale offensive against the "recalcitrant" Gizenga Government.

It is at this point that India is more directly involved, since it would be Indian troops that would be sought to be used in this nefarious conspiracy. When these troops were sent to the Congo we had warned about their possible misuse. The Government's answer at that time was that its troops would be under Indian command and would not in any case be used against the patriotic Congolese forces. The day seems to be drawing near when this pledge will need to be redeemed.

The despatching of a senior General and a high official of the Defence Ministry to the Congo is a sign that the Government intends to retain its independence of action in the Congo, even if its troops have technically to be subordinate to the U.N. Command.

## Two Crucial Questions

It is equally encouraging that Pandit Nehru has been quite firm about the return of Rajeshwar Dayal to the Congo, despite the tremendous U.S. and U.K. Press campaign and official pressure.

But such actions are by no means enough. The Government has yet to show the slightest signs of any change in its wrong policies on two crucial questions—the change of the composition of the U.N. Secretariat and the recognition of the Gizenga Government. Without a reversal of existing official attitudes on these two problems, India can do little good to the cause of Congolese freedom and, indeed, to her own anti-imperialist reputation.

—MOHIT SEN

(May 16)

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# U. S. STALLING AT GENEVA

★ by ZIAUL HAQ

At Geneva after four days of stalling by the United States the international conference on Laos did open on May 16. What were the United States' objections to the conference starting on May 12 as scheduled? Did these objections have any validity?

**A**n effective cease-fire verified by the International Commission and no equality of status at the conference table with the two other Laotian delegations for the Pathet Lao—these were the two conditions on which the U.S. made the opening of the conference contingent. Long before the U.S. advanced these conditions, it was known to all that effective, de facto, cease-fire so far as the main fronts of fighting were concerned had taken place in Laos.

That the cease-fire should be verified by the International Commission before the conference in Geneva could open had nowhere been made a condition in the two co-Chairmen's letter of April 24 with which this whole process restarted.

## Cease-Fire Verified

Still the Americans sought to make it a condition. Unfortunately for them, the condition, almost as soon as it was made, was fulfilled. The International Commission's report that the cease-fire in Laos was effective to their satisfaction was in the hands of the co-Chairmen.

The ground from under the feet of that argument was removed. Not only that. The whole U.S. propaganda line—that the Souvanna Phouma and the Pathet Lao forces were refusing to accept cease-fire because they had the military advantage on their

side (which was a fact) and that they wanted to press this advantage—was blown up. It was shown on the authority of the International Commission that despite almost overwhelming military advantage what the Souvanna Phouma and Pathet Lao forces were interested in was a peaceful negotiated settlement of the issue and that they had faith in themselves and the conference that was assembling in Geneva.

Just the reverse of the opposite side and its U.S. patrons who were bent upon creating all sorts of obstructions both inside Laos as well as at the international conference.

The argument of a verified cease-fire having not taken place knocked out, the wrangle on the status of the Pathet Lao delegation was begun. And before it could be raised the authoritative voice of Cambodia's Head of State, Prince Norodom Sihanouk, rang out branding the U. S. suggestion as fantastic and absurd which could only have been made with the deliberate intent of making the Geneva conference ineffective.

Apart from the fact that the realities of the Laotian situation could not be wished away—if they could be wished away nobody would have felt the impelling necessity of coming to a conference in Geneva—it was the Pathet Lao (through the Democratic Republic of Viet Nam delegation) which was represented besides the Royal Government and the French at the discus-

sion of the Laotian question at the 1954 Geneva conference on Indo-China.

There was a Laotian question before the 1954 conference only because there was a struggle for Laotian national independence led by the Pathet Lao. There would have been none otherwise.

That conference resulted in the recognition of the independence of Laos and laid down a course for its national integration. The only other party concerned in the implementation of this course besides the Royal Laotian Government was the Pathet Lao or the Neo Lao Haksat, as its political wing came to be called.

## Status of Pathet Lao

Had the phenomenon of uninterrupted U.S. interference in Laos not intervened that course would have been followed and the Laotian question would have been solved and the need for a reconvened and enlarged Geneva conference on Laos would not have arisen.

Now when the need for such a conference reassembling has been so unanimously recognised and when all participating countries have sent their delegations the United States raises this objection about the status of the Pathet Lao delegation! No wonder that such a stand cannot receive the support even of the closest allies of the USA and the conference cannot be held up for long on that pretext.

As the conference starts its work despite U.S. objections the only "trump" card the U.S. can hold back is to direct its puppet Boun Oum to keep out. This again is so strongly reminiscent of U.S. tactics at the 1954 conference regarding Vietnam. Then it was Ngo Dinh Diem who was the "trump" held back, taking an intransigent stand.

The Geneva conference starting its work in spite of so much of U.S. opposition and resistance shows how isolated the United States is on this issue. It constitutes a defeat for the U.S. and a moral victory for those who want to see a peaceful independent, unified, neutral Laos.

There have been more serious setbacks for the U.S. in Laos itself. The King of Laos who had persuaded Sihanouk against the latter's wishes that he should not participate in the Geneva conference as it would constitute an interference in the internal affairs of Laos has had to withdraw his objection. The Americans thought that they would be able to keep Sihanouk away from the conference and this would either totally sabotage or irreparably weaken the conference. That plot has completely misfired.

Then, the idea that by staging the farce of a national assembly session it would be possible to broaden the Boun Oum "Government" and invest it with some respectability does not seem to be working. For, although the so-called assembly which excludes all Souvanna Phouma and Pathet Lao supporters and is the product of the Savannakhet coup did open in Vientiane on May 11, it has not found possible as yet to produce a "coalition Government" for which it was called.

Still more serious for the U.S. and its puppets is the failure to resist the opening of military and political talks among the three parties in Laos. The Boun Oum-Nosavan clique resisted it for long arguing over the site. They have ultimately had to agree to hold the talks in the territory that is free from U.S. interference.

They still want to make cease-fire regulations and control the first item on the

agenda for these talks relegating the question of a coalition Government to a secondary position. The Souvanna Phouma and Neo Lao Haksat side demand that the first thing now is to create a coalition Government.

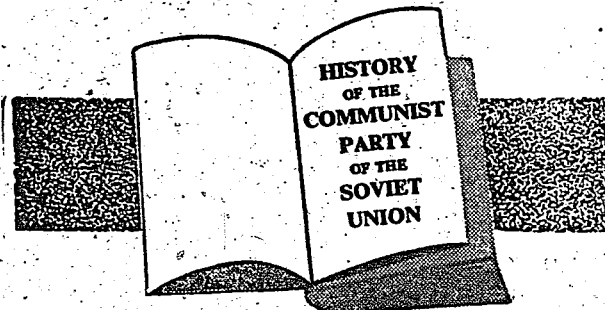
At the May 14 session, Nounhak Phomsavan, head of the Neo Lao Haksat delegation set forth the following proposals for restoring stable peace in Laos: Strict compliance with the cease-fire order; establishment of an interim coalition Government on the basis of the Government of Souvanna Phouma; a general election to the National Assembly; drafting of the terms of an armistice, guarantees of peace and neutrality of Laos, and extension of democratic freedoms.

The Boun Oum side is still stalling over the question.

In sharp contrast with the Americans and their puppets stand has been the constructive and positive stand of all Socialist countries' delegations at Geneva. The U. S. inspired attempt in our Press which tries to discover some difference between the Soviet and Chinese stands at Geneva has failed completely to produce a single fact to substantiate that speculation. Both Souvanna Phouma and Sihanouk have paid glowing tributes to China's efforts before and now at the securing of an independent, peaceful, neutral and unified Laos.

It is the distinct attempt now of U.S. imperialists to create both in and around Laos—mainly in South Vietnam and Thailand—such a threatening situation which, if they are compelled to retreat politically in Laos, would enable them to start a "local" war in Indo-China. This they feel could enable them to restore the grip they are fast losing there. That is the mission with which the Kennedy administration seems to be inspired at the moment.

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## Pathet Lao's Desire For Peaceful Solution

**W**E have scored a number of victories over the rebels and their complete defeat is close at hand. However, striving for peace, we have responded to the call of the Chairmen of the 1954 Geneva conference and agreed to cease-fire so that a conference for settling the Laotian problem in a peaceful way could open in Geneva." This statement was made by the Pathet Lao delegation at a press conference in Geneva on May 14.

Analyzing the situation now obtaining in Laos, the leader of the delegation Vongvichit emphasized that but for American interference and military aid from the United States, the rebels would not have dared to come out with arms in hand against the patriots, against the people.

He stressed the importance of establishing peace

in Laos through internal talks with the participation of all the three forces operating in the country.

On the other hand an international conference is necessary to put an end to the American interference which brought about the rebellion against the lawful Government of Prince Souvanna Phouma, to ensure complete peace and strict neutrality.

Rebuffing the American diplomats and those who are following in their wake, Vongvichit sharply denounced the attempts to discriminate the delegations of the Souvanna Phouma Government and the Neo Lao Haksat Party.

"I declare most resolutely that the participation of these delegations in the conference is an absolutely indispensable condition for peaceful solution of the

Laotian problem. Should the conference open in presence of only thirteen countries, without the participation of the delegations of Laos, the problem would remain unsolved". We have nothing against representatives of the Boun Oum-Nosavan group participating in the conference, Vongvichit added.

He then pointed out that the rebels supported by the United States have been delaying for a long time the tripartite talks in Laos, staging meanwhile military provocations with a view to preventing the Geneva conference.

"The Laotian people will not tolerate any foul provocations and sabotage, any interference in their internal affairs. The settling of the Laotian problem is the will of the Laotian people".