

Two Top Men Block Refinery Project



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COALITION

The reply which the ULF has sent to the SLFP stating that there was no basis for negotiations on the terms set out by the SLFP, i.e. Coalition without the MEP and the CP, was the only one which the ULF, as such, could have sent in the circumstances. But it is wrong to think that the possibilities of a coalition between the SLFP and the Left have been ruled out altogether.

Whilst there is undoubtedly overwhelming support in the rank and file of the entire progressive movement for a SLFP-ULF coalition—and it will probably come some day—and whilst this advance in the political thinking of the people cannot be pushed back by the loud campaigns of the reactionary press and the Big Business Lobby difficulties have no doubt been created in the actual mechanics of bringing a Coalition Cabinet into being.

Anti-coalitionists in the SLFP, unable to oppose the move before the rank and file in the Executive Committee, have been able to utilise the mistakes of one Left Party and popular prejudices about another to create what might superficially seem a total roadblock.

But, in Ceylon, people often get around such roadblocks, and the forthcoming LSSP conference this week end might authorise the High Command to go-it-alone with the SLFP. There is also no doubt that even those who want the LSSP to go it alone will want to preserve the unity of the ULF.

The reply sent by the ULF to the Prime Minister this week was consistent with the earlier decisions of the constituent parties that the ULF should go into the Coalition as a whole and with representatives of the three parties in the Cabinet. Since a Coalition on this footing has not been found possible, the LSSP in an enlarged Conference has sought to examine the position, and it is likely that a decision might be arrived at which might authorise the LSSP leadership to negotiate on a footing which the SLFP finds acceptable. When this happens, it is likely that the MEP and the CP will review the position anew.

Knowledgeable political circles feel that the CP, consistent with its position ever since 1956 of extending responsive co-operation to the SLFP, will not raise serious objections to the LSSP going-it-alone into the Coalition on the footing that it would be an accession of strength to the progressive movement even if one of the Left parties coalesced with the SLFP. What the MEP will do, it is felt, is unpredictable, but it will probably largely depend on what the BJB feel about a SLFP-LSSP Coalition. But in the long run the LSSP, MEP and CP would still like to maintain the unity of the ULF, even with the LSSP in the Cabinet.

It is necessary to stress that even if the LSSP decides to go-it-alone into the Cabinet, anti-coalitionists in the SLFP will seek to raise other roadblocks in the mechanics of Cabinet-making. Attempts will be made to give the LSSP nominees no post of significance and other such hurdles will also be set up.

But this is where the Prime Minister comes into the picture. The Cabinet, no doubt contrary to the Executive Committee's decision, which had authorised a Coalition with any Left party

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A decision on the question of the refinery has been blocked and delayed because two men in key positions who are so intent on siting it on the totally unsuitable and terribly uneconomic location at Boosa have adopted methods and tactics which call for immediate action by the Government. The men concerned are M.S. Perera, General Manager of the Petroleum Corporation, and A.N.S. Kulasinghe, the Chief Harbour Engineer.

The story of the recent intrigues to delay the Refinery Project until facts are twisted to support the Boosa site is one which will make any honest citizen of this country boil with indignation, for every day's delay in establishing the Refinery costs the country a vast sum in foreign exchange. It is a fantastic commentary on the state of affairs in Ceylon that after nearly four years of investigations it has not yet been possible to arrive at a decision regarding the siting of the Petroleum/Fertiliser Plant. But, unless these two men are prevented from doing more damage on behalf of an influential sectional lobby, Ceylon may not see the Refinery for many years to come.

When the representatives of the two prospective contractors, Technoexport and the ENI left Ceylon a few weeks ago, they were assured, it is learnt, by the Petroleum Corporation that a decision regarding the site would be taken by the middle of May 1964. The fact remains, however, that even to-date, this matter has not been even put to the Cabinet for a decision since decision-making at the Petroleum Corporation level itself has been delayed, in the most curious manner, through the deliberate acts of persons who had the power to do so. Although Technoexport and the ENI submitted their reports on the sites by the first week of April and a Committee of Officials further reported on these studies before the end of April 1964, the General Manager of the Corporation has successfully prevented a decision on the matter.

The General Manager's principal problem has turned out to be that the site which is closest to his heart has been proved to be the most uneconomic of all the sites.

Additional Costs

Costs worked out on purely economic criteria have shown that the Boosa site will involve additional capital investment, operating costs and foreign exchange in comparison to Kolonnawa. The actual position seems to be somewhat as follows: (a) Investment Costs — Kolonnawa is cheaper than Boosa by Rs. 22.6 million; (b) Operating Costs — Boosa site will involve an additional operating cost of Rs. 6.5 million based on chartered coastal tankers for transport of petroleum products between

Galle and Colombo harbours. If, on the other hand, coastal tankers are to be purchased outright by the Petroleum Corporation, the additional operating cost for Boosa will be Rs. 4.7 million per annum. But this will involve an expenditure of Rs. 16 million for the purchase of such tankers which is an additional cost to Boosa; (c) Foreign Exchange Implications — Based on purchased coastal tankers, Boosa site will cost Rs. 29.6 million more than Kolonnawa in foreign exchange. Based on chartered coastal tankers this figure will be Rs. 78.8 million.

In terms of percentage, Boosa will cost about 18% more in investment than Kolonnawa and will be about 38% more in foreign exchange. As far as operating costs go, locating the refinery in Boosa will reduce the annual refinery income by at least 25%.

In the face of these alarming figures, the Chief Harbour Engineer, A. N. S. Kulasinghe, and the General Manager, M. S. Perera, have attempted to justify Boosa on the grounds of "regional development".

Jugglery

In this connection it is important to appreciate that even if the additional capital expenditure incurred in the construction of a new harbour in Galle is justified on grounds of regional development, the resulting annual operating cost (Rs. 4.7 million) is a factor which will seriously affect refinery profitability. It is extremely revealing in this connection how the Chief Harbour Engineer Kulasinghe has changed his estimates for the harbour development in Galle for this (refinery) project.

His first estimate given to Technoexport experts for the latter's site report was Rs. 20 million. Since then, this figure has been reduced to Rs. 15 million. At a Conference held on April 24, 1964, with the Directors of the Petroleum Corporation, it is reliably learnt, that he stated that the estimate should actually be much lower and reduced it to Rs. 10.4 million. And now, it is further learnt, that the Harbour Engineer maintains that a new harbour is not required at all in Galle since he

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MIRROR

of the

WEEK'S AFFAIRS

An interpretative summary of some of the principal items of news in the daily papers in the English language published in Colombo, May 27th to June 2nd.

WEDNESDAY, May 27

The Daily News frontpaged another speech of the Mahanayake Thero of Malwatta in which he criticised people who refused to "accept" advice in regard to "protecting Buddhism". The Mahanayake asked: "If Russia or China were going to seize this country would they be doing it for the protection of Buddhism or to destroy it?" The Daily Mirror screamed under the headline TO HELL WITH PORTFOLIOS that members of the MEP will not accept any portfolios in a SLFP-ULF coalition government if their leader, Mr. Philip Gunawardena, was left out. The Times of Ceylon's frontpage splash was MAHANAYAKE OFFERED CHINA TRIP and that the PM had forwarded the invitation to him, but that he may decline it. The Observer hinted that there was yet another NEW COALITION PLAN for the ULF to be united and yet join the Government: the formula was that the LSSP should go into the coalition alone but as representatives of the ULF. The late edition of the Observer and the Times announced the death of the Indian Prime Minister under headline MR. NEHRU IS DEAD. He had died at 2 p.m. following a paralytic stroke at 6 a.m. after which he had been unconscious. His funeral was fixed for tomorrow, and Ceylon's Prime Minister, Mrs. Bandaranaike, left in the evening for New Delhi. The Ceylon government also declared tomorrow to be a public, bank, postal and mercantile holiday as a mark of respect for Mr. Nehru.

THURSDAY, May 28

The Daily News, apart from highlighting the death of Mr. Nehru and the swearing in of Mr. Nanda as Caretaker (or Interim) PM, made a frontpage sensation of the fact that Mr. Dudley Senanayake could not be accommodated in the Air Force plane which took the PM to Madras. The Daily News grieved that he had been told that the Air Force Heron "was full". The Daily Mirror, for once, was content to report the news—death of Mr. Nehru—without its customary slanting. The Times was also deeply concerned that the PM had not taken the

Leader of the Opposition, Mr. Dudley Senanayake, in the same plane. The Observer was chiefly concerned with the funeral news from New Delhi. The Observer also published a report from Washington which stressed that the US was sending out a highpowered team led by Secretary of State, Dean Rusk, not only "to reassure Indian leaders of America's continued support and help to India at a crucial moment in her history", but also "it was intended as a warning to elements who might take advantage of India's great difficulty at the moment."

FRIDAY, May 29

The Daily News reported that the Ceylon PM, Mrs. Bandaranaike, was due back tomorrow after attending the Nehru's funeral. Like the Daily News, the Daily Mirror reported details of Nehru's funeral, but the latter made a headline of the fact that there had been an earth tremour in New Delhi a short time before Mr. Nehru's body was taken away from his residence. The Times of Ceylon devoted most of its front page to Mr. Nehru's funeral, but also highlighted press statements from Portugal which had branded Mr. Nehru as "an abominable figure" under the headline "Highwayman of Goa is Dead". The Observer switched over from the funeral news to Air Ceylon for its front main splash and stated that the airline men demanded a "clean up" starting with the "sacking of the G.M. and his Deputy". The Observer also highlighted the "earthquake" in New Delhi and quoted Shakespeare:

"When beggars die, there are no comets seen;
The heavens themselves blaze forth the death of princes."

The earth tremour which had occurred one hour before the funeral, had lasted only a few seconds but had been preceded by a roaring noise. The epicentre, according to the Delhi observatory, was only about 15 kilometres (ten miles) away from Delhi. In the meantime, in Washington, President Johnson had fixed a special top level conference at Honolulu of all key men concerned about Asian affairs owing to the situation in Laos and South Vietnam.

SATURDAY, May 30

The Daily News main front page lead was the statement of the Central Committee of the Communist Party which had re-iterated that in the interests of the country and progressive unity the best

thing would be for the whole of the ULF to be in the Coalition. The Daily Mirror went back to its usual downtown journalism with a screamer COALITION 'BLUES' GRIP MPS because the "prolonged delay in taking a decision on the proposed SLFP-ULF coalition has resulted in the slowing down of the administration and the stagnation of the economy." It also reported on its front page, (echoing Sir John of old), "PREMIER STAKES IN DELHI" The Daily Mirror and the Times published part of a statement by the Mahanayake Thero of Malwatta, which had been broadcast over Radio Ceylon on Thursday night and Friday morning that the statements attributed to him in the press about the Coalition were incorrect, with the addenda that he had told the Times representative in Kandy that "his views had been correctly reported in the Times group of newspapers." The Observer ignored the Mahanayake episode, and proclaimed that an islandwide opinion survey had shown that there would be no split the LSSP about the "going-it-alone" policy as the Centre and the Left would abide by the majority view. A Washington report stated that the Indian Socialist Leader, Dr. Lohia, had been arrested in Jackson (Mississippi) for attempting to enter a "White's Only" restaurant. The State Department had tendered an apology to him after he had been released because the cafeteria owner had declined to prefer charges against him. Speculation was rife in New Delhi as to who would be Nehru's successor: three names were mentioned—Nanda, Shastri and Morarji Desai.

SUNDAY, May 31

The Sunday Times made a front page lead of THAT HERON TRIP publishing a statement by the PM that no request had reached her before she left that Mr. Dudley Senanayake had wished to make the trip, for it she had known she might have considered making some arrangements. The Sunday Times, however, gave what it called the "full UNP Story" making a martyr of the UNP leader. The paper also devoted sizable columnage to a statement by J. R. Jayawardene regarding the abortive efforts he had made to find a way of sending his leader to New Delhi. The Sunday Observer was in a particularly outrageous anti SLFP-ULF mood with its front page covered with headlines BIB 'PURISTS' REBEL, THAT PLANE SEAT, THREE POINT PLAN TO SECURE POWER—BEWARE OF MARXIST STRATEGY, WARNS UNP, and WE MUST WIN 21 DEMANDS (GCSU Chief). The Sunday Observer also belatedly published the statement of the Mahanayake Thero which had been broadcast on Thursday, and which the Times group had publicised yesterday with the

addenda that it was satisfied that "its reports were correct", and that no contradiction of the news had been received in the Observer Office. The Sunday Observer also published letters received by J. R. Jayawardene in 1941 from Mr. Nehru — without mentioning that it was in the heyday of JR's flirtation with the Left and his campaign to take the Communists into the Ceylon National Congress. Reports from New Delhi indicated that Lal Bahadur Shastri was likely to have an overwhelming majority in any contest for the leadership of the Congress Party. The Congress President, Kamaraj, was reported to be making all efforts to secure the election unanimously.

MONDAY, June 1

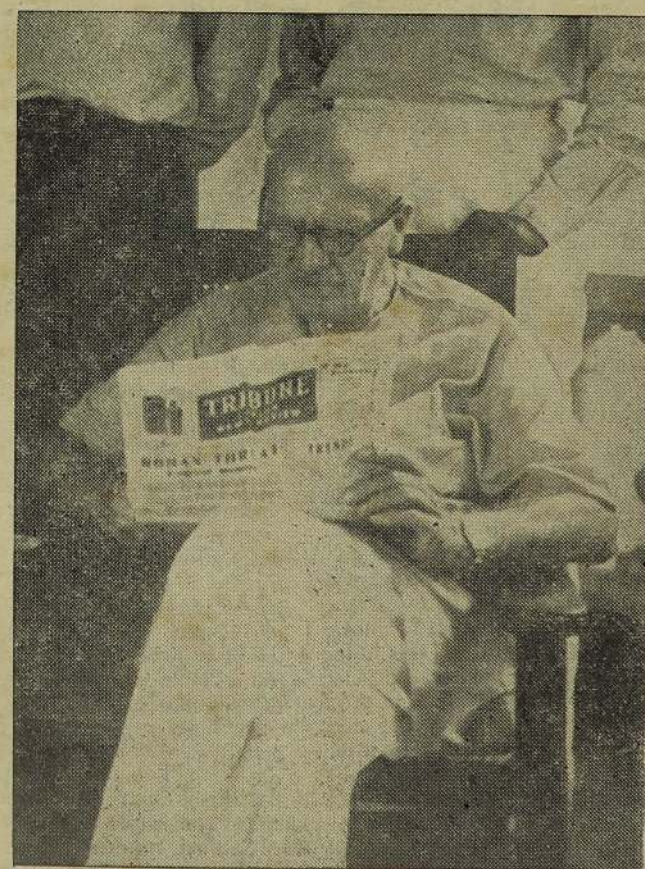
The Daily News, after pointing out that the question of the Coalition depended in the LSSP decision next weekend, printed a facsimile of a statement in Sinhala from the Mahanayake Thero of Malwatta in which he stated that "although several misleading statements attributed to him had been published in the newspapers within the last few days no such misleading statement had been published in the Daily News", thus making the confusion, about what the venerable Mahanayake was about more confounded. The Daily Mirror, forgetting that it had many times pronounced Finis to the Coalition, declared that it was TIME NOW FOR WOOING IN GOVT. COALITION CAMP. The Times which had also ceremonially buried the coalition many times in recent weeks reported that Dr. N. M Perera had stated that "LSSP SIGHTS SET ON 3 PORTFOLIOS". The Observer provocatively proclaimed that the LSSP

boss was talking from a "position of strength" and had refused to attend any ULF meeting until Mr. Philip Gunawardena withdrew the remark he had complained of. The Observer had a frontpage second lead that U.S. READY TO RESUME AID. The Peking Radio had stated that the Soviet Union was not an Asian State and that she had no right to attend the Second Afroasian Conference. Reports from Rangoon indicated that about one lakh Indians would be repatriated from Burma before the end of this year. Pathet Lao leader, Prince Soupanouvong has stated that he preferred an immediate meeting between the leaders of the three factions to a full-fledged second Geneva Conference. He had stated that the US was responsible for the crisis because it had inspired the right-wing coup of April 19.

TUESDAY, June 2.

The Daily News reported that Kamaraj had achieved unanimity on Nehru's successor and that Shastri would be elected and be sworn in as PM from June 9. The Daily Mirror front page revelled in the fact that ULF unity was "fizzling out" as the END NEARS. The Times of Ceylon splashed across its front page that SHASTRI was elected the new Premier of India and that he never been abroad and that he had never worn Western clothes. It also raised the query HAS ULF UNITY COME TO AN END? The Observer reported that the Government had decided to suspend the issue of the compulsory retirement notices on the Sinhala non-proficient, pending consultation of legal opinion. Reports from New York quoted Mr Melvin

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Professor J. B. S. Haldane is seen reading TRIBUNE during his last visit to Ceylon.

CANCER

need not kill

I HAVE written no articles for PATRIOT since last monsoon for a very good reason. In October I went to the US for a month, attending a conference on the possible origin of life in Florida, and lecturing in seven universities in other states, and in the Rocketeller Institute. While there I felt somewhat ill, and nearly fainted at the end of my third lecture on one day.

Two doctors made a diagnosis which I interpreted to mean that they thought I had cancer, though they did not use that word. Surgical operations and hospital treatment are very expensive in the US. So I wrote to London making an appointment with a physician on my way home. After very thorough examinations, one of which was a minor operation under an anaesthetic, it was decided that I had got cancer and it was removed on 20th November 1963. However, two more small operations were needed, and one of the wounds healed very slowly; so I got home to Bhubaneswar only at the end of March.

No Difficulty

Hospital treatment is free in Britain, and I had no difficulties because I was an Indian citizen. However, I paid eight guineas (Rs. 112) a week to be in an "amenity ward". Mr. T. T. Krishnamachari will be glad to learn that I earned this sum from two broadcasts, a newspaper article, and some verse. The latter may be unique as the first comic verse about cancer composed by a patient with that disease.

I also composed two mathematical papers. I had a very pleasant time in University College Hospital, largely because my former colleagues and pupils in the college across the street, where Gandhi studied law, and in the Medical School, visited me. My wife also came from India and was with me during the six

weeks or so when I was somewhat ill.

Let nobody pity me. I was never in severe pain, modern anaesthetics do not cause

vomiting, and I am not afraid of death. The nurse who gave me most of the attention never spoke a word of sympathy, and learned to laugh with me when I winced or made wry faces in response to the very moderate pain which she sometimes caused when dressing my wounds. She reserved her sympathy for children, and adults who found their pain or other symptoms distressing; and concentrated, in my case, on encouraging me to do a little more for myself every day.

When I had climbed twenty-five flights of stairs on two consecutive days, the hospital decided that I could stay with friends, coming in for a couple of hours daily for a salt bath and other treatment designed to encourage wound healing.

Standard of Nursing

I should have had the operations done in India but for the fact that while India has some first-rate surgeons, the standard of nursing is a good

By courtesy of the Patriot, the New Delhi daily of the Link group, we publish a very interesting article by the world famous scientist together with a poem in lighter vein about his experiences as a patient who had to undergo an operation for cancer.

by
J. B. S. HALDANE

deal lower than that of England, and the chance of wound infection therefore greater. On the other hand, several people, including one prominent Indian, advised me not to return in the hot weather. After a week in Bhubaneswar I am already much better, and have no intention of going to the hills in May. I have quarrelled mildly with my wife because she wants the fan on when I don't.

Cancer is not a major medical problem in India as yet, because most people die of other diseases. But I hope that the fraction of Indians dying of cancer will go up in the next few years. At present it is responsible for about one death in six in England. It would rise to somewhere near this figure in India if we could eradicate typhoid, smallpox, cholera and other infections as we have eradicated malaria in most districts.

For some reason people, at least in England, generally speak less openly about cancer than about most other diseases. They harbour two delusions about it, that it is necessarily painful, and necessarily fatal.

My own cancer was in the sigmoid flexure, near the hinder end of my gut. The symptoms were those of mild dysentery, and it was treated as such for some months. There was no serious pain, and only slight bleeding. If one must have cancer, this is as good a place as any except the skin to have it. The reason is interesting.

A cancer consists of cells which have changed their normal way of life, and started to multiply indefinitely. If that is all, they form a so-called benign tumour, which is not

CANCER CAN BE FUN TOO

I wish I had the voice of Homer.
To sing of rectal carcinoma,
Which kills a lot more chaps in fact,
Than were bumped off when Troy was sacked.

Yet, thanks to modern surgeons' skills,
It can be killed before it kills,
Upon a scientific basis,
In over nine out of ten cases.

I noticed I was passing blood,
(Only a few drops, not a flood),
So pausing on my homeward way,
From Tallahassee to Bombay,
I asked a doctor, now my friend,
To peer into my hinder end,
To prove or to disprove the rumour,
That I had a malignant tumour.
They pumped in BaSO4

Till I could really stand no more,
And, when sufficient had been pressed in,
They radiographed my large intestine.
In order to decide the issue,
They next scraped out some bits of tissue,
(Before they did so, some good pal,
Had knocked me out with pentothal,
Whose action is extremely quick,
And does not leave me feeling sick).

The microscope returned the answer,
That I had certainly got cancer.
So I was wheeled to the theatre,
Where holes were made to make me better.
One set is in my perineum,
Where I can feel, but can't yet see 'em.
Another made me like a kipper,
Or female prey of Jack the Ripper.
Through this incision, I don't doubt,
The neoplasm was taken out,
Along with colon, and lymph nodes.
Where cancer cells might find abodes,
A third much smaller hole is meant,
To function as a ventral vent:
So now I am like two-faced Janus,
The only god who sees his anus,
I'll swear, without the risk of perjury,
It was a snappy bit of surgery.
My rectum is a serious loss to me,
But I've a very neat colostomy,
And hope as soon as I am able,
To make it keep a fixed time table.

So do not wait for aches and pains,
To have a surgeon mend your drains;
If he says "cancer" you're a dunce.
Unless you have it out at once,
For if you wait it's sure to swell,
And may have progeny as well.

My final word, before I'm done,
Is "Cancer can be rather fun",
Thanks to the nurses and Nye Bevan,
The N.H.S. ● is quiet like heaven,
Provided one confronts the tumour,
With a sufficient sense of humour.
I know that cancer often kills,
But so do cars and sleeping pills;
And it can hurt one till one sweats,
So can bad teeth and unpaid debts.
A spot of laughter, I am sure,
Often accelerates one's cure;
So let us patients do our bit,
To help the surgeons make us fit.

J. B. S. Haldane

University College
Hospital
January 1964

● National Health Service

usually dangerous unless it is inside the skull, when its growth presses on the brain. But a cancer has no definite border. Its cells infiltrate among their innocent neighbours, and may migrate to other organs. The usual path of migration is along lymphatics, which are vessels that drain off tissue fluids into the blood stream, passing through lymph nodes, sometimes called lymphatic glands, on the way.

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EXTRAVAGANCE

recurring losses

We find that there had been recurring losses in Air Ceylon and we are not satisfied with the way in which profits had been arrived at in certain years. There have been instances in which bonuses have been paid in the face of losses. It is also observed that in 1959/60 a bonus has been declared on provisional account which reflected a profit, whereas the final audited accounts actually showed a loss—vide paragraph 26.

Some important financial aspects of the general working of Air Ceylon during the years 1951/52 to 1961/62 are referred to in Appendix D.

Extravagance

One of the main causes for the present poor financial position appears to be the extravagance shown in the past. In fact the first and main consideration appears to have been prestige while financial considerations have been secondary. As an example of this is a transaction with the Esufali Trust for the lease of the first mezzanine and second floors of Hemas Building negotiated in May 1956 to house the subsequent renting out of the ground and first floors of Cargills Building to accommodate the administration, accounts and regional and internal booking offices. Details of this transaction are outlined in paras 47 and 48.

A portion of the Hemas Building belonging to the Esufali Trust was being occupied by a firm at the time these negotiations were taking place. This firm had been paid by Air Ceylon a sum of Rs. 60,000/- being compensation for loss of business calculated over a period 10 years. Of this amount only Rs. 31,950.50 had been paid to the firm while the balance Rs. 28,049.50 which constituted arrears of rent and electricity payable by the firm to the Esufali Trust had been paid direct to the latter. The Board decision of 8.2.56 is appended "As regards office accommodation the decision arrived at the conference that space should be taken totalling Rs. 7000/- per month.

The General Manager mentioned that according to the new arrangements space to be taken was that now occupied by Messrs. Chandiram. The total rent that would have to be paid for the Traffic office as well as the General offices would be Rs. 6500/- Of this sum the landlord has intimated that Rs. 500/- must be paid in advance for a period of 10 years. This would amount to a sum of Rs. 60,000/-. The balance rental therefore that would be payable each

month would be Rs. 6000/- The lease would have to be for a period of 10 years. The advance rent that was to be paid to the landlord would be in turn be paid to Messrs. Chandiram as compensation for loss of their premises and their having to move to the smaller and lesser convenient premises on the ground floor that are now occupied by the Air Ceylon Ticket office. The Board agreed to the increased rental and the deviation from the original decision in view of the fact that the KLM General Agency, was to be transferred to Air Ceylon as from 1st April 1956."

The building itself together with an additional portion had thereafter been taken with effect from 1.4.57 on a ten year lease at Rs. 6,536.25 per mensem making a total lease rent of Rs. 78,435 per annum. Portions of this building however had been rented out to the Central Bank and the Arts Council on one 1.12.58 at Rs. 22,000 per mensem and Rs. 500 per mensem respectively. The ground and the first floors of the Cargills building was also thereafter rented out by Air Ceylon at a rental of Rs. 7,000 per mensem with effect from 1.1.59 and the Administration, Accounts and Regional and Internal Booking offices shifted from Hemas Building to Cargills Building. The portions occupied by the Central Bank and Arts Council were handed back to the Esufali Trust on 1.11.63 and the rent payable by Air Ceylon for Hemas Building was thereby reduced to Rs. 4000/-per mensem.

The groundfloor of Cargills building was vacated by Air Ceylon on 30-3-62 and the Regional and Internal Booking offices shifted back to Hemas Building. The rent payable for Cargills Building was consequently reduced to Rs. 3500/-per mensem. The Administration and Accounts Sections accommodated in the first floor of Cargills was shifted on 30-4-63 to the Old Survey Building in Lower Chatham Street and that section of the Cargills building has not been determined yet

Revenue Lost

In addition to the lease rent for the Hemas Building other charges on account of Hemas Building included 15% of cost of operating the lift and cost of electricity for stairway lights and water pump. Re-decoration of Hemas Building has cost Air Ceylon Rs. 49,000/-

and that of Cargills building Rs. 39,000/-

Portions of the Ground Floor of Hemas Building had been sub-let to Trans World Airlines at a rental of Rs. 1000/- per month which included certain other services as well and so was another portion of the building let out to KLM at 1150/- per month. Since Air Ceylon gave up the TWA and KLM Sales Agencies, these Airline offices have moved out and Air Ceylon has lost the revenue which helped to off-set a portion of the rent paid. KLM terminated their lease even prior to 1-11-63 on the date the rent was reduced to Rs. 4000 per mensem. The entire rental of Rs. 4000 per mensem for the ground and mezzanine floors of Hemas Building has to be met from Air Ceylon's funds since TWA left.

The Traffic and Sales Division which is now accommodated in this building is expected to move very shortly to the Survey building after its renovation and re-decoration which work is expected to cost over Rs. 100,000. The intention is to sub-let the Hemas building thereafter.

It is a matter of conjecture whether from a business point of view it would be more profitable to continue to house the Traffic and Sales Division in Hemas Building considering the good location and passenger appeal. This would result in saving of over Rupees One lakh on re-decorating the Survey building and the other attendant expenses that will be incurred in shifting. It would also enable Air Ceylon

to give up the extra space earmarked in the Survey building and save the rent payable for that section. The present proposal on the other hand might result in the Hemas Building being rented out at a substantial loss while at the same time a vast expense would be incurred in re-decorating the Survey building together with the risk of reduction of business. It has to be borne in mind that with the completion of development works at Katunayake more foreign airlines are bound to open up offices in Colombo which would mean stiffer competition for Air Ceylon. However, for purposes of better administrative control it would appear that the shifting of the Traffic and Sales Division from Hemas Building to Survey Building would be preferable.

The unavailed of transportation account covering the internal, regional and international services has been commented on by the Auditor General very comprehensively in his report for the year ended 31st March 1962. His observations has been reproduced in Appendix E. The question of framing suitable by-laws as provided for in Section 29 of the Air Ceylon (in corporation) Act 7 of 1959 may be usefully considered by the Board.

Not Maintained

We do not see the necessity for the General Manager to be supplied with a chauffeur driven car. We note that no log book is maintained in this regard. The cost of maintenance is also very high (Rs. 5685 in 1962-63, excluding the driver's wages). We find the Auditor General, too has since brought to the notice of the Ministry this irregularity and the fact that an average of

This is the fourth instalment from the Report of the Special Committee on Air Ceylon. It refers to the recurring losses sustained by Air Ceylon which has been mainly due to its extravagance. The Committee urges that the Treasury should consider the feasibility of obtaining the services of an expert under the Colombo Plan with a knowledge of engineering and costing experience to reorganise the Accounts Division and to train the personnel concerned.

Rs. 350- per month is being spent on petrol for this car. We are of the view that this car should be disposed of, and the General Manager be paid a monthly travelling allowance of a sum not exceeding Rs. 200 depending on the travelling he is called upon to perform. There would then be no need for a driver and this post may be suppressed.

Subsistence rate for Air Ceylon officers (including Air Crew) for travel within the island are not laid down with the result that there is no proper method or control regarding such payments. Such rates applicable to various grades should immediately be formulated. Similar arrangements may be made in the case of flights to India.

Allocations made for entertainment and publicity in the 1962-63 budget are as follows:- Entertainment Rs. 17,800, publicity Rs 129,000. while we agree that expenditure on these items is necessary these allocations we feel could be reduced with proper control.

Sections 14 (3) of the Air Ceylon Act provides for the establishment of a pension or a provident fund. Originally there has been a provident fund association but at the time of the creation of the national provident fund in 1958 it had been resolved to dissolve this association and distribute the amounts lying to the credits of

continued on page 12

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last press conference

NEW DELHI, May 24

The Prime Minister's press conference in May covered a large number of subjects in perhaps the briefest time allotted to any of his meetings with the press ever since the practice was started after independence. But although the Prime Minister's answers were concise and short, they conveyed news whose coverage and comment would require as much newspaper space as has been usual in the past.

The Prime Minister's replies set at rest a number of speculations as well as set the pace for a few more. He lent confirmation to the news which has been going the rounds in New Delhi that he will be accompanied to the Commonwealth Premiers' meeting in London by a Cabinet Minister. The idea is to reduce the strain on him of the day-to-day participation in the Conference, as well as to provide a helping hand for his over-all needs.

Reluctant

While confirming this, the Prime Minister appeared to be rather reluctant to name the specific Minister who would accompany him. It appears however that Sri Lal Bahadur Shastri is unlikely to be the accompanying personage. Perhaps his presence in New Delhi during the P.M.'s absence is considered essential.

After his series of successes in the Security Council where

his last performance is said to have "out-Menoned Menon", Sri M.C. Chagla is a hot favourite for this assignment. An additional point being made out in his favour is that in the expected discussions with President Ayub in London, and with President Nasser in Cairo—where the P.M. is likely to break journey on the way home Sri Chagla will be of valuable help.

But there are other names also in the list of personages being mentioned in this connection. The most prominent among these is Smt. Indira Gandhi. Since the P.M. has confirmed that the accompanying person would be a Minister, the view is held that an eve-of-departure appointment of Smt. Gandhi as a Cabinet Minister is almost certain. It is noted that while the Prime Minister scotched speculations about any major Cabinet changes in the near future — and a firm denial of

occasional rumours of his intention to relinquish office soon — his statement left room for any such addition to the Cabinet as occasioned by Smt. Gandhi's appointment.

Indo-China

A significant facet of the new phase of India's foreign policy was also revealed by the Prime Minister's handling of questions relating to the serious crisis developing in Laos and the other States of former Indo-China. His answers revealed a close and continuing contact of Indian policy with the developments there, but at the same time a calculated avoidance of excessive commitment by this country in relation to the disputed issues.

It was clear that Indian diplomacy would henceforth seek to project a limited initiative in the solution of such crisis. This would seem to be in marked contrast with the earlier phase of India's foreign policy, when India's initiative in resolving the Korean and Indo-China crisis was a major projection on the international scene. The present phase appears to be one of limited initiative — the limitation being that imposed by the altered international situation in which China and its allies are likely to present a constant source of irritation and opposition to anything put forth by this country. It is therefore recognised as imprudent to stretch out the Indian diplomatic arm in such international situations in a manner as cannot be sustained by virtue of domestic exigencies. Not isolation but realism is the word which describes the current phase of foreign policy.

Pakistan

The Prime Minister's press conference did bring out clearly that he attached the highest importance to a turn in Indo-Pakistan relations which would end the vicious circle of hate feeding hate. That the prospect which he now places before the country — in fact before the people of both countries — is of a reversal of hatred into positive amity and collaboration.

In recent weeks there have been enough indications to show that what the Prime Minister was aiming at was

not the humdrum ends of diplomacy, but something unorthodox. He made this clear once again when he accepted the implications flowing from what appeared to be a casual remark in Parliament about an eventual constitutional tie between the two countries. It became clear from his replies this was a prospect for which he was actively working — and it was in this that the importance of Sheikh Abdullah's mission lay.

The P.M.'s approach is a two-tier one. It is aimed both at the Government of Pakistan and the people — people and forces of good-will in both countries. Beneath this approach lies a fundamental reappraisal of the outlook for Indo-Pak relations which is somewhat extraordinary and almost revolutionary. It does not seek anything magical by way of reunion of the two countries but a step by step closeness in relations. The actual extent to which this process will go, and the manner in which the recess of amity will start will depend upon the response in Pakistan to the amity drive. But there is a major premise beneath this approach — that the people of the two countries have not only a common past but largely a common destiny.

Kashmir

In this context the Kashmir dispute naturally acquires a different meaning. Requirements of real politik as well as the very objective of Indo-Pak amity do necessitate a clear reaffirmation of India's position in regard to the State's irrevocable accession. But this is mellowed by removing the dispute from its present domain and placing it in the larger perspective of Indo-Pak amity. In such a context there is room for both countries to be responsive and helpful to each other — for adjustments and new approaches of resolving the tangle such as could hardly have been conceived before. But again this is a process in which the P.M. is proceeding cautiously and gradually. The fact that he has chosen Sheikh Abdullah to be the chief executioner of his design lends the whole thing a fascinating touch.

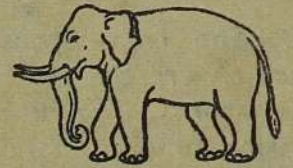
A distinctive thing about the current endeavours of Sri Nehru is that his idealism has not altogether over-powered his obligations as a political figure and a Prime Minister. This is clearly indicated by the policy stand taken by Sri Lal Bahadur Shastri, Sri Krishnamachari, Sri G. M. Sadiq and, above all, by Sri M.C. Chagla about Kashmir's constitutional status. For once it is a policy combining in a rare manner idealism with the course of real politik and the two levels of approach helping each other.

The presence of Sri T. T. Krishnamachari in the Prime Minister's press conference

has led to a spate of loose talk from which varied conclusions are being drawn. This is the first time that a Cabinet Minister has been present in the P.M.'s press conference.

Was it an indication of TTK's desire to remain close to the Prime Minister and to make this widely known? Was it his watching brief over the P.M.? Or was it an advance, though subtle TTK move to deputise for the Prime Minister in the handling of external affairs for the duration of Commonwealth Prime Ministers' Conference?

Tribune Correspondent



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OCEANOGRAPHIC

INDIAN OCEAN

what surveys reveal

The treacherous Atlantic and the deep Pacific were charted fairly extensively by early navigators. They knew of the presence of submarine mountains and submerged islands, deep crevices, pools of rich fish grounds. They also knew of seasonal changes in the direction of winds and ocean currents. Consequently at the beginning of this century oceanographers could make reliable relief maps of the two largest oceans without much difficulty.

But the Indian Ocean, which, with an area of 28, 350,000 square miles, was third in size and profoundly influenced the lives of people in many Asian and African countries, did not interest oceanographers until recently. The gap in the knowledge of the geography of the Indian Ocean was acutely felt during World War II when the Allied naval command faced the difficult problem of clearing it of enemy submarines. The wide disparity between weather forecasts in the subcontinent was also attributed to inadequacy of data from the Indian Ocean where most of the meteorological elements affecting the area originated.

UN - Sponsored

But the task of making a thorough survey of the ocean was not taken up until the scientists charged with the problem of finding food for the ever-increasing population of the area stressed the need to assess and exploit the resources of the Indian Ocean. Eventually a number of countries, including the Soviet Union, the USA, the UK and India, agreed to participate in a UN-sponsored programme known as the International Indian Ocean Expedition.

In the last two years has been undertaken one of the most fruitful efforts in international cooperation in science, profound in scope, perhaps second only to the International Geophysical Year programme which concluded five years ago. Two dozen

research ships equipped with modern scientific tools have been making a systematic study of the Indian Ocean. The scientists have kept up a 24-hour schedule, sending depth charges, measuring temperature and sampling water at different layers, gauging ocean currents and heat flow from the earth's interior and collecting specimens of marine life and fossils. Last week the US contingent of the expedition met in Washington, DC, for the annual meeting of the American Geophysical Union.

The most spectacular discovery of the US team is a wall-like submarine ridge 8,000 ft high and 3,600 miles long, running north-south along the 90th meridian east of Greenwich, as a straight line. This has been named as 90-Degree Ridge. Four years ago scientists aboard the Russian research ship Vityaz had observed two submarine mountains, one near Malagasy and the other near the centre of the Indian Ocean.

It is now thought that these ridges are not unconnected fragments, but part of a worldwide system of mid-ocean ridges. This system has been found to extend into the Indian Ocean in the form of an inverted "Y", split down its centre by a deep cleft. Dr Bruce C. Heezen and Miss Marie Tharp of Lamont Geological Observatory, who prepared a tentative chart of the Indian Ocean floor, think that these ridges are related to the basic forces responsible for

the formation of continents and ocean basins.

Divergent Views

There are two views about the nature of these forces. Some experts believe that the molten rock in the earth's interior wells up to the surface near the midocean ridges, accounting for their fissures, their volcanic and seismic activities and their abnormal heat. According to them the welled-up material then spreads sideways before descending beneath the continental shelf

The other school of thought believes that the magma (molten rock) is not pliant enough to behave in that manner. It is said that the enormous heat of the molten rock at great depths separates its lighter constituents which then rise to the surface and form the continental rock.

Dr Heezen and Miss Tharp have noted that horizontal movements in the ocean floor have broken and displaced the ridge system at various points. For instance, south of the Arabian Peninsula there is a displacement of some 250 miles. Scientists think that it is related to a gigantic fault that runs underwater from near the Pakistan-Iran border to the eastern shore of Malagasy. It has been named the John Murray Fault after an explorer of that region. The fault parallels a similar phenomenon on land; the great African Rift Valley that extends north through the Dead Sea Valley of Asia Minor. Along the Murray Fault the eastern side is said to have shifted north in relation to the western side.

As in the case of other oceans great "abyssal plains" have been discovered on the bed of the Indian Ocean. The Indian subcontinent is flanked by two such plains, each with depths of 10,000 to 15,000 ft. In 1953 a Soviet team exploring the Pacific, south of the Kurile Islands, had come across a giant underwater

The SLFP Government, led by Mrs. Srimavo Bandaranaike, can well be proud of two decisions it made in recent weeks. First, to keep out the Peace Corps and not to renew the contracts of those Peace Corps Volunteers who had been smuggled into the country two years ago. Second, to refuse permission to the US Oceanographic Survey ship Pioneer to conduct a detailed survey of the submarine trench in Trincomalee Harbour. The Daily Mirror now, not only the voice of Big Business and the Vatican but also the Voice of America, shed crocodile tears on May 19th that the Government had refused this ship permission to examine the submarine trench. The story was put out that the ship was conducting "scientific research" only. The USIS Lobby also secured pieces in the Observer and the Daily News about its wonderful discoveries off Trincomalee — of a wonderful underwater spectacle that would attract tourists. But what these papers failed to point out was that, in the context of the Seventh Fleet moving into the Indian Ocean with it the Polaris submarines carrying nuclear warheads, the request to investigate the submarine trench in Trincomalee assumes a sinister significance.

However, our support to the refusal to permit this investigation of the trench is not to decry the value of such oceanographic surveys. We publish, by courtesy of the Link, an article on what this and other recent surveys of the Indian Ocean have revealed. No doubt, the article is based on published reports. The submarine trench in Trincomalee would be a "secret" matter after the survey and it would only have helped the Pentagon. Ceylon does not want to be a base of submarines of any power which has the money to build them.

groove stretching up to the Behring Sea. The team investigated 12 of the 18 known great depressions in the Pacific and found that the world's deepest cavity was large enough to hold two Everests one on top of the other. In comparison the abyssal plains in the Indian Ocean are small.

Dr Heezen thinks that abyssal plains are formed by turbidity currents—masses of silt or other material that race across the sea bottom at great speed. Such "catastrophic" currents are also set in motion occasionally by earthquakes. These currents often gather such great momentum that strong undersea cables are severed. In the recent earthquake which flattened most of Alaska town of Anchorage, the undersea cable between London and Australia was broken. Scientists attribute this to the terrific turbidity current set in motion by the earthquake.

According to Dr. Heezen the abyssal plain in the Arabian Sea is associated with the Indus river; and the one in the Bay of Bengal with the Ganges and the Brahmaputra. Another one off Africa seems a creation of the Zambesi river. A fourth abyssal plain has been discovered off Somalia and Kenya.

Heat Flow

The fact that mid-ocean ridges are lines of great internal activity is shown by the frequent occurrences of earthquake along these lines and the abnormally high upward flow of heat from the earth's interior. Heat flow measurements have been an important aspect of the Indian Ocean expedition. The flow is measured by lowering a needle-like device into ocean floor. Scientists have

observed that some ridges in the ocean show no sign of internal activity or of any abnormal flow of heat, strengthening the view that these ridges may be of a different origin. Dr. Heezen thinks that these ridges may be elongated fragments of continents and calls them "microcontinental."

According to some other scientists, some of these features like the 90 Degree Ridge may be similar to the mid ocean ridges, but inactive as in the case of quite a few underwater volcanic mountain chains.

Another discovery of some scientific interest is that of a trench in the ocean bed east of the Chagos archipelago—an island group far south to the Laccadives Islands. The trench is said to be about six miles deep and at least 60 miles long. It has been named the Vema Trench after the Lamont observatory research ship.

Monsoon

Dr. Colon S. Ramage, weather expert of Hawaii University, who spent about 20 months in the Indian Ocean gathering data, said recently that the monsoon system which spawned over the Indian Ocean influenced weather conditions far beyond the borders of India and Pakistan. "The system injects vast amounts of energy into the atmosphere above India and Pakistan materially affecting temperature and air circulation throughout the area and probably the entire globe." According to him the whole monsoon phenomenon is so complex that accurate long-range weather forecasting for the subcontinent is beyond the means of present technology.

PEACE CORPS

“aid” as bait

Knowledgeable political circles in Colombo attach significance to two items of news which appeared in the local press recently. On May 20th, the *Observer* had on its front page the news that GOVT. SAYS ‘NO’ TO NEW PEACE CORPS BATCH.

The report read “American Peace Corps personnel will no longer work in Ceylon. The Government has declined to make a request for a fresh batch of the Peace Corps volunteers to work here. The first batch of Peace Corps personnel made up of 34 volunteers left Ceylon a few days ago after a three year tour of duty. An External Affairs Ministry spokesman told the *Observer* that although no request had been made for fresh batches of volunteers, the entire question of the Peace Corps working in Ceylon was still under consideration. The thirty four Peace Corps personnel who served here were teachers who were attached to government schools throughout the country. Some of them had even indicated that they would be ready to stay behind in Ceylon for a further period of duty if government approval was granted. A few Peace Corps officials are still at their headquarters at Bambalapitiya attending to urgent work before they finally close down”.

Bait

The second news item was also a frontpage lead in the *Observer* (June 1). The headline was that US READY TO RESUME AID? The report stated “that the United States is prepared to resume part of its aid programme to Ceylon. A decision as to whether Ceylon should accept such aid will be taken by the Government shortly on the basis of information reaching here from the State Department through Ceylon’s Embassy in Washington. The aid which the United States Government is ready to grant is restricted to the sphere of education and culture. According to what the State Department has told Ceylon’s Washington Embassy, America wants, in the first instance to resume its scholarships and exchange of scholars programme and also any other help it could give in the field of education and culture.....”

It is also known that when a few Ministers and officials had put up a major fight to retain the Peace Corps, the Cabinet had decided that for the present Corps should go and that the matter could be reviewed when the US ever resumed its aid. The question which is being

asked is whether the present US bait of a few scholarships and travel grants for culture is being dangled as a quid pro quo for entertaining another batch of Peace Corps volunteers in the country.

Moreover, the grant of educational and cultural scholarships and the exchange of scholars in the past has only increased the Washington patriots in our midst and strengthened US Lobby in the country. And if the “string” attached to the present offer is the Peace Corps, then it is clear that what he US is after is to increase and strengthen the US Fifth Column in this country during the coming period of international tension in Asia and the world.

What Ceylon wants is AID to develop her economy — not handouts to individuals for the US to increase its political lobby in Ceylon under the cover of “aid”. And the Peace Corps is the biggest danger of all.

Anniversary

Recently the so-called Peace Corps has celebrated its third Anniversary Official Washington has attached special significance to this event: the results of its activities have been summed up and humanity has been promised further expansion of its operations. The 6,656 so-called Peace Corps volunteers will be reinforced this summer by another 6,000 odd Corpsmen. The organisation’s budget, which is \$ 90 million, will be boosted up to \$ 115 million according to the Congress decision of March 4, 1964. This will make it possible to increase the number of volunteers up to 14,000 by September, 1965. A little more than a year will pass and the developing nations which already play host to Peace Corps volunteers, will have double the present number. Peace Corpsmen will probably be forced on other countries as well.

The idea of creating Peace Corps was put forward by the late President John F. Kennedy who above other things was concerned with bolstering up the prestige of the United States abroad, particularly due to the fact that before he entered the White House it had been badly

damaged—almost beyond repair—by the advocates of the Cold War Eisenhower, Nixon and John Foster Dulles.

The implementation of this idea had been entrusted to the people obsessed with the maniacal desire to place under the supervision of the State Department and indirectly, of the Pentagon. The connection with the latter showed that the Peace Corps would be involved in the execution of U.S. military and external political plans. The recruiting of the volunteers was done by the FBI, the fact that made the Peace Corps look like a police organisation. Sargent Shriver, for many years a staff member of the CIA, was made Peace Corps Director. This particular circumstance clearly signified that the Corps would be involved in large-scale espionage and intelligence activities carried out by the CIA abroad.

As the Peace Corps progressed in its work, it became apparent that out of 40 or 50 applicants only one could become a volunteer, to wit: he who will obey all orders of the Pentagon, the State Department and the CIA. Preference is given to those who served in the American army during the Korean War or who have been stationed abroad with the U.S. troops in South Vietnam and elsewhere.

Obligatory to Aid

Special instructions for the Peace Corps examinations have been elaborated. They entered into force in December, 1962. Under these instructions examinations are held secretly in New York at the following address: 641 Washington Street. The doors of the examination rooms bear the “No Entry” sign. It is an open secret now that the Peace Corps volunteers, who were supposed to serve noble and fine goals and and pursue peaceful occupations are trained at special camps in Puerto Rico, far from the inquisitive eyes of the fellow Americans. It is also known that their training include the coding and decoding craft, bilateral communication by means of radio transmitters, cryptography, etc.

At the present time the Peace Corps has penetrated 46 developing nations. Its volunteers have been forced as the obligatory terms on which American loans and technical assistance are given to the less developed countries. Peace Corps volunteers keep on arriving in these countries in ever increasing numbers. Usually they are stationed in the areas of great military and strategic significance or at the centres of increasing political, religious, chauvinistic and national controversies and conflicts.

What are the activities carried out by the Corpsmen? True, in some places they do teach the local population sports, games, in other areas they give instructions in the three R’s, the basic principles of agriculture, etc. But whatever they do, their operations are no more than a show and have no serious significance

a number of towns in Orissa have not been inspired by the American agents? It is common knowledge that they are active there too.

The political objective of the Peace Corps is quite clear. Ceylon will not lose anything or damage its national interests if the government rejects the services of the U.S. Peace Corps. Aid to develop our economy by all means—but let us not be victims of US subversion through the Peace Corps Trojan Horse.

BY

TRIBUNE Investigator

for the improvement of the living standards of the countries in which they are active. The American propaganda of the humane aims pursued by the Peace Corps is utterly false. Its actual aims are to serve the neocolonialist expansion of the United States, undermine the internal unity, economic prosperity and political development of backward nations. It is not accidental that the *New York Times* acknowledged in 1962 that the Peace Corps is one of the most secret projects of the Pentagon.

Opposition

The Mexican press had very good grounds apparently to the Peace Corps volunteers as the fifth column of American imperialism in Latin America. The Nigerian press described the Peace Corps back in 1962 as a branch of the U.S. Secret Service. The people of Ceylon demanded that the Peace Corpsmen leave their country since the people of Ceylon will never forget the hostile acts staged by American agents against the Sirimavo Bandaranaike Government. Shameful events have taken place in East Pakistan. And yet new contingents of the Peace Corps keep on arriving in Dacca, their number comprising several hundreds now. How can we be sure that the Corpsmen are not the secret instigators of the disgraceful occurrences in East Pakistan? And how can Prince Norodom Sihanouk, whose country is a target of continuous provocations organised from the bordering territory of Thailand, treat the volunteers of the Peace Corps except the way he does? And yet Thailand, like Pakistan has flung its doors wide open before the agents of the Peace Corps, having given them complete freedom of action. And, finally, how should we know that the recent bloody clashes in

Mirror of the Week’s Affairs

continued from page 2

Laird, a member of the House of Representatives Sub-Committee for Defence Appropriations that the United States preparing to strike at North Vietnam. He had told the interviewer on the Radio that preparations had been going on for several months. News from Cairo stated that the Permanent Secretariat of the Afro-Asian Solidarity Organisation overwhelmingly outvoted the Chinese demand that the Secretariat should continue to recognise the pro-Peking minority wing in Ceylon’s Solidarity Committee led by Mrs. Theja Gunawardena against Chinese objections. It was decided to send an observer to Colombo for an on-the-spot investigation.

CEYLON PETROLEUM CORPORATION TENDER FOR PRINTING 1965 CALENDARS

Sealed Tenders are invited for printing 1965 calendars in Colour. Specifications and Conditions of Tender could be obtained from the Public Relations Officer, Ceylon Petroleum Corporation up to 10 a. m. on 13th June, 1964 against a refundable deposit of Rs. 100/-. Tenders close at 10 a. m. on 19th June, 1964.

Public Relations Officer

113, Galle Road, Colombo 3. 3rd June, 1964.

*** AFTER
NEHRU**

COMMENT...

Press Exposed

Mahanayake Contradicts

By

James T. Rutnam

The Priest in the Palace has lost his cap

Some say this, and some say that

But I say Green Cap

Me Sir?

Not I, Sir!

Who then, Sir?

Red Cap!

This was the amusing parlour - game that was indulged in by our embarrassed monopoly press during the current week, following its spell of reckless and irresponsible journalism the previous week.

As described in the last issue of the TRIBUNE, the monopoly press ran berserk with explosive headlines and transparent misquotations announcing that the Mahanayake Thero of Malwatta was on its side, and that he was to fight OPENLY to protect the DHAMMA, the SANGHA and the RATA from, what we conclude, the wicked machin-

ations of the Government and its prospective associates, the progressive forces of the Left.

But this week the DAILY MIRROR, the TIMES, the DAILY NEWS and the OBSERVER, each in its own turn and time, after significant pauses, claimed that it had reported the Mahanayake correctly, and insinuated that if at all there was a miserable liar in their company it was the other fellow. We who are privileged to watch from outside this cut-throat exchange of compliments between the kettle and the pot, do not, of course, see any difference.

A facsimile of the Mahanayaka's letter to the Prime Minister dated 27th May is reproduced elsewhere in this issue. From it, we could only draw one conclusion. The Venerable Mahanayake Thero of Malwatta had NEVER (mark NEVER) made any 'announcements referring to the Coalition Government or about the dissolution of Parliament,' and also that "despite his requests to the Press to have these reports corrected," it was not done.

Who then is being fooled? Did not the SUNDAY OBSERVER (belonging to the "Lake House Group") shriek, like one possessed, on the first page of its issue of the 24th May, "Coalition won't do — Go the the Polls, says Prelate."? Did not the TIMES (belonging to the famous "Times Group" led by Ranaweera the UNP ex-member for Maskeliya) announce also in its first page of its issue of the 26th May that the Mahanayake was "categorically opposed to Coalition move."?

Coterie

Unless we are told that the monopoly press never reads its own newspapers, we cannot understand how, in the name of goodness, it can so unashamedly deny what it had published in cold print, but a few days before.

All of us are agreed that we should preserve the Freedom of the press. But when a small coterie of capitalists has a monopoly of the press, and uses the unbounded and unbridled power derived from such a monopoly not only to obstruct the inevitable march forward of the masses of the people, but also to mislead, misdirect, suppress and strangle public opinion, then such a monopoly becomes a national menace and a curse.

continued on page 16

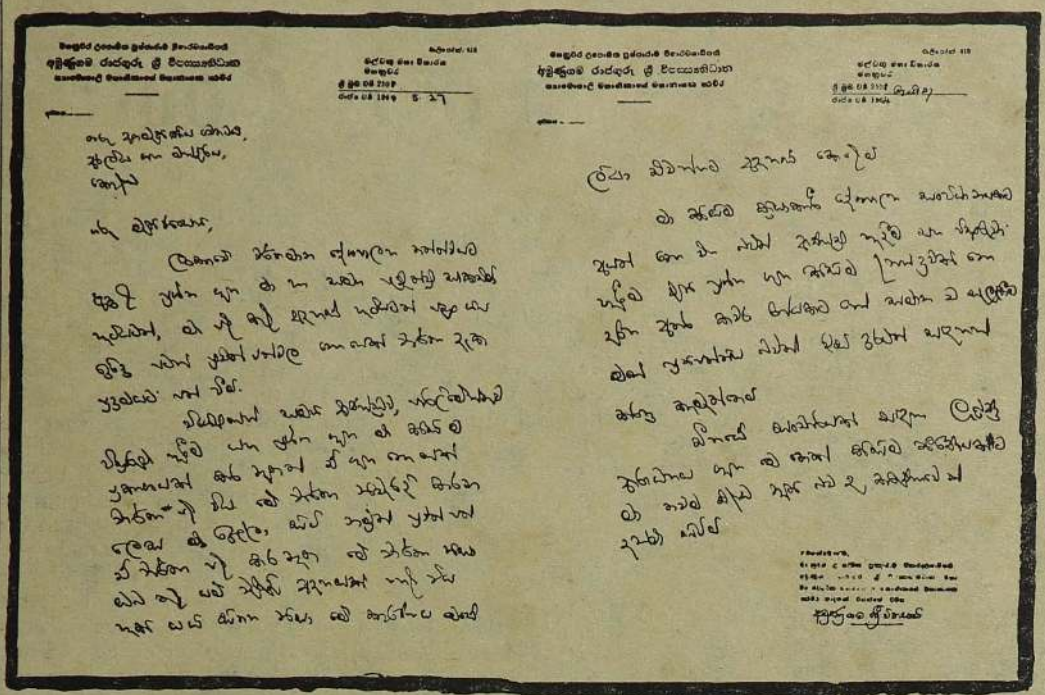
to mobilise to push the Kamaraj Plan grew stronger under the skill of the pragmatic realist, Kamaraj. Lal Bahadur Shastri was close to Kamaraj and the group round him. In this Centre and Left-of-Centre grouping as against the Right led by Morarji Desai, S.K. Patil and others (backed by Gujerat, Rajasathan and the UP), there were splinter groupings: for instance, T. T. Krishnamachari, Nanda and Indira Gandhi were said to be one such group with a great deal of support from the bureaucratic chiefs who wielded real power in New Delhi. How the Left-of-Centre-Nanda could form a bracket with the Right-of-Centre T. T. Krishnamachari can be understood only if one realised that the terms Right, Left and Centre have connotations in India which are totally different from Western European concepts based on Marxist or even Fabian ideology.

* POWER POLITICS. New Delhi has in recent times become, just like many capitals in S. E. Asia, a veritable jungle where power was based on a delicate and dangerous balance of political pressure groups. Nehru's death came a little too soon: given a little more time Kamaraj and the powerful grouping he had built up of Chief Ministers and Party bosses from different states would have been strong enough to secure the election of Shastri or any other nominee without any behind-the-scenes horse deals with men like Morarji Desai. The unanimity to elect Shastri was reportedly achieved by a promise that Desai and Patil would be back in the Cabinet. This has only put off the fight between the Centre and the Right in the Congress to a later date, unless of course, the Centre slides to the Right without Nehru and with the Left in tatters. It might have been better if the fight had been started straight away and Shastri elected after defeating Desai in a contest, but Kamaraj was probably handicapped by claims from the Scheduled Caste leader Jagjivan Ram, on the one hand, and Nanda, on the other. Desai and the Right knew that this was not the opportune moment to fight the currently strong Kamaraj-Shastri grouping with a powerful array of Chief Ministers and Party bosses behind them. What shape and form the struggle inside the Congress will now take it is difficult to forecast, but there is no doubt that the battle for power in New Delhi has assumed a sharper and more acute a form after Nehru. Uneasy lies the head that wears the Crown is a dictum true of those periods in history when the destiny of peoples and countries undergo a change, and this is true of India today. The change is not merely one which arises when a great leader like Nehru dies, but it is of greater and vaster magnitude. Not since the time of Buddha has India come into the ferment of sweeping change at all levels as at the present moment. The crisis of change has only just begun and Lal Bahadur Shastri has ascended what is virtually a throne at a time when New Delhi is caught in the whirlpool of power politics which usually precede a four-dimensional revolution in politics, economics, culture and ideology (including religion). For many years to come, any Prime Minister in New Delhi will necessarily have to be the nominee of the Chief Ministers and Party bosses of the different States—or to put it differently he must have the support of the largest number of these power politicians. On whether India under Shastri and Kamaraj will be able to attain the national integration which Nehru had wanted so much but failed to achieve, will depend the immediate future of India. The Right and the big monopolists want a kind of integration which will strengthen capitalism, but the integration necessary for a socialist India must be based on different principles. The world awaits with eager interest the developments in India. The earth tremor which shook New Delhi shortly before Nehru's funeral is perhaps only a portent of the many earthquakes to come before India can achieve the stability of a new and socialist civilization.

* SHASTRI. Lal Bahadur Shastri has been elected Nehru's successor by the Congress Parliamentary Party. The election was unanimous. The absence of open squabbling and acrimonious contests has been hailed as a sign of the maturity of the Congress Party and the validity of the parliamentary system in India. Whilst it is a good thing that India was able to find a successor to Nehru without any apparent warring at this stage, and while there is no doubt that Lal Bahadur Shastri is as good as any in the political hierarchy in New Delhi at the moment, it would be unwise to think that it would be the same after Nehru in so far as the maintenance of the equilibrium within the Congress and the country as a whole is concerned. The magic of Nehru's name owing to the tremendous prestige he acquired as the unchallenged leader of the anti-imperialist nationalist movement helped to sustain the unity of the Congress and the Central Government against the deep and dangerous fissures which had come down from the days of British colonialist rule. The question that cannot be answered immediately is whether Shastri can rise up to the occasion as the new leader to guide the country in a crucial period. Of course, unlike Nehru there is no magic in his name (as yet), no legendary prestige and no hero's halo to dazzle the public in order to contain ambitious and dangerous men in the India of today who seek power for selfish ends. One great advantage Shastri has, and that is that he is known to be a selfless man who has sacrificed much for the cause and as one who had spent several years in British gaols, but these alone are not enough by themselves to enable him to grip effectively the levers of power in New Delhi to take the nation forward to socialism which is the avowed objective of the Congress as well as the Government. Under the shadow of Nehru, neither Shastri nor anyone else was able to show whether they had that quality of leadership to shape the destiny of India in accordance with the socialist objectives of the Congress Party. It is yet too early to say whether Lal Bahadur Shastri has that touch of greatness which will make him a true successor of Jawaharlal Nehru, and a Prime Minister who will lead the country at a rapid pace eliminating the dangers which beset India today internally as well as externally. When J. F. Kennedy was elected President of the United States at the remarkably young age of 43, no one even guessed that he would rise to the heights of greatness he did within the short time he was in power. Up to now, Shastri has been the successful operator (and necessarily a manipulator) of the Party machine, and his greatest achievement in this field is that in addition to doing a reasonably good job of it he had made the minimum number of enemies. So far there has been no promise of an inherent touch of greatness which will enable him to rule successfully the second most populous nation in the world. Men of goodwill, however, all over the world wish him all the best in his efforts to take India to socialism through democratic processes whilst preserving the Nehruite policies of dynamic neutralism and non-alignment. He has a hard and difficult task ahead and the unanimity with which he had been elected is no guarantee that the task will be any the lighter.

* UNANIMITY? There is no doubt that the unanimous election of Shastri was the result of horse-deals behind the scenes which the consummate tactician, Kamaraj, the Congress President, was able to effect in order to secure Shastri's election. But the foundations for this had been laid sometime ago. Ever since Kamaraj came to lead the Indian National Congress he has been building up a powerful Lobby with which to ensure a smooth transition on the death of Nehru. In the real politik of India today effective power is in the hands of the Chief Ministers and the Party bosses in each State, and even during Nehru's time it had become apparent that the springs of power in New Delhi were oiled by the Chief Ministers and State party bosses. In the last days of Nehru, it is a fact that it was with some difficulty that he was able to keep the contending ambitions of the bosses of the different States, or groups of States under control. Often he had to succumb to them on one matter or another, but Nehru's prestige was so high that people did not discern the undercurrents at work. In addition to the power politics of the Chief Ministers, there are numerous pressure groups which stem from the big monopolists. The shattering of the Left and Communist forces after the Chinese invasion and Peking's splitting tactics, the Rightwing Lobby (based on an unholy alliance of the Swatantra, the Jan Sangh, the RSS, the Muslim League and the like) had grown immeasurably in strength — far in excess of the support in the country. And then, there are foreign intriguers the most powerful being the US Lobby. To offset the increasing power of Right within the Congress, as a result of the developing situation after the Chinese attack and the resulting setbacks to the Left, Nehru evolved the Kamaraj Plan to keep the nominees of the pro-Western monopolists like Morarj and S. K. Patil out of the seats of power in New Delhi. Kamaraj was able to do this because he had the backing of the four Southern States, and Nehru was able to get the support of men like Atuiya Ghose of Bengal, Patnaik of Orissa and Kairon of the Punjab. After the first stroke in January, this grouping which Nehru had been able

FACSIMILE OF LETTER TO PM



The translation of the Mahanayake Thero's letter dated 27.5.64 is as follows :

Madam,

I was surprised to read the various reports that appeared in the Newspapers since last Sunday, about opinions supposed to have been expressed by me at interviews over the present political situation of the country. Although I have never made any announcements referring to the Coalition government, or about the dissolution of Parliament; yet various reports were published. Despite my request to the Press to have those reports corrected, up to now my request has not been granted. Because I believe it is likely you may form an incorrect impression in consequence of these reports, I decided to write to you on this subject. I do not belong to any political organisation. While I do not evince any interest in the formation of a government or the dissolution of Parliament, I should like to mention that it is my policy to recognise whatever government is in office. I should also like to kindly remind you that up to now I have not arrived at a decision regarding the invitation extended to me to visit China.

Mahanuwara Upositha Pushparama Viharadwayadhipathi,
 Amunugama Rajaguru Sri Vipassiyabhidhana,
 Maha Viharavansika Siyamopali Maha Niyake,
 Maha Nayaka Thero Amunugama Vipassi.

REFINERY

continued from page 1

could carry out some improvements to the harbour intended for the clinker grinding plant at a cost of only Rs. 500,000.

Despite all these attempts at mathematical jugglery to make Boosa look cheaper, the simple fact is that Kolonnawa has turned out more economic even on the basis of Galle Harbour development costs being reduced to Rs. 500,000. However, there is room to suspect that the costs of Galle Harbour development have been deliberately lowered from the original Rs. 20 million estimate on the logic that if the Boosa site is chosen (even on false premises), the Government would be compelled to spend money on the Galle Harbour in order to make the refinery work.

It is also a great misfortune that nobody from a highly placed position is prepared to question the Chief Harbour Engineer's changing of estimates so rapidly. A competent

engineer of his calibre may make an estimate which might be, say, 15—20 per cent off target. But when such an estimate is altered by 100 per cent then there is reason to doubt the honesty and objectivity of such an approach.

Other Tricks

While nobody has questioned the Harbour Engineer's estimates on this matter simply because he is the sole authority in Ceylon, the Harbour Engineer has however gone to the extent of pruning the estimate given by the Superintendent of Telecommunication Traffic for the refinery at Galle from Rs. 2 million to Rs 500,000. This has been accepted, it is learnt, by the General Manager despite the fact that the Superintendent of Telecommunication Traffic has given the estimate to the Ceylon Petroleum Corporation of Rs. 2 million in writing. Is Mr. Kulasinghe a Telecommunication expert as well?

The General Manager has further attempted to support Boosa by stating that Kolonnawa will give rise to air pollution

problems, congestion and fire-risks. His authorities for these arguments comprise the Chief Harbour Engineer, the UNP-dominated Colombo Municipal Council's resolution and the Government Town Planner.

The Town Planner's role in the site selection has also, it is learnt, been somewhat incomprehensible. As far back as February 1963 the Town Planner rejected Ekala as a site (it is only 16 miles from Colombo) on the ground that it was too far from Colombo. But now he has nothing to say against Boosa despite the fact that Boosa is over 65 miles from Colombo. It is also learnt that at a Conference held recently in the Petroleum Corporation, the Town Planner welcomed the idea of locating the refinery at Kolonnawa stating that it would eventually lead to a development of the marshy areas of Kolonnawa. A few weeks later, however, he completely revised his opinions and objected to the Kolonnawa site in a letter to the General Manager.

Pipe Lines

During the last few days a suggestion has been made that

WHO'S WHO ? Yankee big talk !

The Sunday Observer, 31/5, carried the following Talking Point:

LOUD MOUTH

"Ceylonese including many top public officials are surprised by the manner in which the members of a certain large Western Embassy in Colombo discuss and canvass Ceylonese opinion about the impending coalition government.

"The Embassy represents a nation known for its 'loud mouth,' but the way in which these diplomats, including the Boss of the outfit, try to 'indoctrinate' Ceylonese about 'communist techniques of infiltration' etc. has stunned many who regard diplomacy as another word for tact, and are aware that 'meddling in internal affairs' is a serious diplomatic breach".

Who is this clumsy meddler? There are only three "large Western Embassies in Colombo", those of the United Kingdom, West Germany and the USA.

The United Kingdom, we can be sure, could be excluded. They are masters in the fine art of diplomacy, and if often they have failed, it was not for want of tact.

The West Germans, the most dangerous of them all, are jittery. They have had several rebuffs recently. Even an Auer would have thought twice before rushing in!

This leaves us with the USA. But who leaked the news to the Sunday Observer? Could it be an ungallant British spy? The Americans are as busy now fishing in these troubled waters as they were before the signing of the first Rubber-Rice Agreement with China in 1952, during the campaign preceding the General Elections in April 1956, in the period before the assassination of the late PM in 1959, during the two General Elections of 1960, and at even more crucial times after that.

COALITION

continued from page 1

willing to do so on an agreed programme decided to have a coalition excluding the MEP and the CP. If this condition is accepted by the LSSP, and the ULF stays in the background, then the existing Cabinet Ministers go out of the picture—as the actual composition of the Cabinet and the functions of each Minister is the sole prerogative of the Prime Minister.

The Right has become desperate as evidenced by the hysteria betrayed by the daily press particularly the Daily Mirror and the Times of Ceylon. But however much they may caterwaul the advance registered in the desire among common people to ensure progressive unity, whilst at the same time maintaining ULF unity, cannot be destroyed.

History does not usually proceed along a straight line derived from rational thinking and action. It always zigzags along in unexpected and unpredictable ways, but as long as the general direction is towards the correct destination, the meanderings around road-blocks will be of little consequence in the general flow of historical development.

justified. Will he take the initiative to see that the Corporation begins to function as it should?

3 WHISPERS

★ Jesuits ★ Observer
★ Times ★ Import Control

* REVEAL that the JESUITS in the Eastern Province have bought a 500 acre coconut estate in Kalkudah with a large sea frontage on Passukudah Bay. Investigations are now afoot to find out whether the estate has been bought in the name of the Jesuits or in the name of some nominees. A syndicate of citizens by descent had made a bid for the estate, but before they could negotiate on a firm basis, the estate had been snapped up by the Jesuits. The price they paid is also a secret. The question is being asked why the Jesuits want this estate. These Jesuits, it must be mentioned, are of American origin and connections. The headquarters of these Jesuits is in the USA, and when the Vatican divided Ceylon, the whole of the Eastern Province was handed over to the American Jesuits (as the Galle District went to the Spanish Jesuits and other areas to other Missions of the Catholic Church). Generations of young people in the Trincomalee and Batticaloa areas have been educated in the schools run by these Jesuits some of whom were such excellent human beings that they won the love and affection of many students and their parents. But, there is no doubt that the Jesuits are the most politically conscious and organised of the Catholics; and in the Eastern Province, as the Tribune has pointed out on so many occasions, the Jesuits have made their presence and impact felt on the political thinking of the people in many devious ways. They own a lot of property in the area, and they receive ample funds from the USA for their work. The question, as we stated earlier, that is being asked is why the Jesuits want this large estate with a big sea front. Has this purchase anything to do with the entry of the Seventh Fleet into the Indian Ocean and the anxiety shown by the US Oceanographic ship Pioneer to survey the submarine trench in the Trincomalee Harbour. Are the Americans planning to make the East coast of Ceylon a base for their Polaris submarines with nuclear warheads? Are these Jesuits making things easier for the Seventh Fleet?

* REVEAL that something went wrong in the Observer on the afternoon of Wednesday May 27th. The special (and late) edition announcing the death of the Prime Minister Jawaharlal Nehru stated that "the Finance Minister, Morarji Desai," had informed the Indian Parliament of the demise of the Prime Minister. The photograph of Desai was

used with the caption that he was the Finance Minister. This was a bloomer of the biggest magnitude which will go down to journalistic history in Ceylon. By this time, there can be no doubt that the mistake has been discovered, but for a newspaper of the standing and resources of the Observer to make a faux pas of this kind is unpardonable. Inspired evidence before the Press Commission had suggested that Lake House was one of the finest (if not the greatest) newspaper organisation in Asia, but it is a sad commentary on this mighty organisation that a special edition was put out stating that Morarji Desai was the Finance Minister of India. The Times, which is regarded a poor country cousin by the barons of Lake House, did not make this mistake, and correctly stated that the Finance Minister was T. T. Krishnamachari. After all the rumpus of the Kamaraj Plan, and the open and public sulking by the deposed Morarji Desai (who had been the chief nominee of the Rightwing and the Washington Lobby as success or to Nehru), it is surprising that the Observer should have blundered in this fashion. It may be a hang-over in the minds of the American Lobby which is well-entrenched in the Observer.

* REVEAL that many surprising things happen in the Times which is today the open and avowed political organ of Big Business, Black Reaction, Catholic Action and the UNP. For one thing, the new bosses of the Times group have adopted new methods of canvassing advertising through blackmail, by getting bureaucrats who can terrorise the advertisers to do the job for them through go getty nominees. This technique kills two birds with one stone (or is it three birds?). Anyway the bureaucrats are kept happy and the advertising comes rolling in. Of this racket more anon if it continues to be inflicted on the advertising world, but for the moment the spotlight is on the way that the Times is seeking to build up the image of Sir John Kotelawela. Nehru died at 2 p. m on Wednesday May 27. The news was flashed round the world after that, but the early edition of the Times of May 28 (out on the streets at 11 a. m. — print deadline being at least 2 hours before) had a sizable piece by Sir John Kotelawela on Nehru, who, he claimed to be a "friend". Inquiries reveal that journalists in the Times building had seen no telegram conveying this article from Sussex in U. K. where Sir John spends the hot months in Ceylon. How come

this article to be in the Times? All evidence points to the fact that it was the handiwork of a Sir John "boy" who now has a big say in the Times owing to the shares held by Sir John. What do the Sir John "admirers" in the Times hope to gain by such puerile tricks to build up the image of a man who will for ever be associated in the minds of the Ceylonese people with the Purple Brigade, the Barbecue and Hangers-on who sold citizenship and TRPs? Moreover, those who knew Sir John are aware that he did not regard Nehru as friend and that his opinion of Nehru was based on John Foster Dulles' view of the Indian leaders (who had done so much to win support for neutralism and non-alignment). At Bandung in 1955 when Nehru had lost his patience with the pro-American lobby-

ing of Sir John, it was the suave Chinese Premier Chou En-lai who had saved the situation by pouring the oil of flattery to soothe the troubled Washingtonised soul of Sir John. The US has now changed its tactics and wants to exploit the Nehru image for its own ends, and Sir John's chelas here seem to think that they can do no better than to use the same techniques to rehabilitate him in the eyes of the people. What for?

* REVEAL that though there is a great deal of hanky-panky only in the middle and lower levels of the Import Control, there have been occasions when the Outside Big Stick has been used with feminine sureness to get things done to help the corrupt. A Pettah racketeer is alleged to have obtained an

import license for about Rs. 80,000 worth of spares for motor vehicles. This had been secured, it is alleged, on a false declaration to the Controller. The authorities were tipped off and inquiries were instituted, where the racketeer had, it is said, stated that the original documents (about previous imports) on which he had claimed the higher import licence had been burnt in a fire. The Controller had very correctly cancelled the licence, including, it is said, the other licences which had been granted to this confidence trickster. But the Pettah shark was not to be outwitted. He knew how to win the sympathy of the female kind who can use the Big Stick. The latest Pettah gossip is that the licence is to be restored (if it has not already been).

CATHOLIC ACTION

Vatican & Nehru

by Panchisingho

While the entire world press, including the American and the British, which was often over-critical of him during his lifetime, paid glowing tributes to the Indian Prime Minister, the late Mr. Jawaharlal Nehru, the Portuguese Government and the Vatican controlled press indulged in one of the most virulent onslaughts on him for freeing Goa from the shackles of Catholic Portugal where Salazar, one of the most hated Catholic dictators reigns supreme, thanks to the benevolence of the Vatican.

The onslaught on Nehruji, whose political honesty was never in doubt, as even his most inveterate opponents will readily admit, not only reflects the depth of the hate of Portugal but also the attitude of the Vatican towards Imperialism, Colonialism and Exploitation, which today poses as the doughty champion, fighter and emancipator of subjugated nations which are struggling to free themselves from the domination of imperialistic nations one of which is Catholic Portugal.

Salazar

In Portugal held Angola dictator Salazar's armies with the blessings of the Vatican have butchered more than thirty thousand Angolans and incarcerated many more thousands for their struggle for national liberation. Yet the Vatican has not said a word against these brutal atrocities, let alone persuading Salazar to free Angola and grant it independence which is the cherished birthright of every country.

Goa, as everyone knows would have been a free country many years ago but for the prostitution of religion by the Vatican which raised the "Congress Peril" to the Roman Catholic Church. It is well to recall for the benefit of our readers that on the orders of the Vatican the Goan Catholic hierarchy held special expositions of the body of Saint Francis Xavier and special Novenas in his honour to make the threat appear real in order to stem the spontaneous urge of the Goans to free themselves from Portugal and join the Indian Union. But these tactics flopped when the Goans saw through the game of the Vatican and openly welcomed the liberation armies of the Indian Union.

The tactics of the Vatican and its attitude to imperialism, colonialism and exploitation reveal it in all its nakedness. The Vatican stops at nothing to stem the liberation struggles and the forward march of independent nations. The

Vatican is the acme of perfection in strategy and Machievellian tactics which are not easily discernible to the ordinary masses, and we see evidence of this in our own country where gullible Buddhists and even some members of the Sangha are swallowing them hook, line and sinker.

The Vatican through the political arm of Catholic Action is playing up the "Socialist Peril" to religions. It knows it only too well that if it plays up the Socialist Peril to Catholicism it will not go down well with people in this country where the Roman Church occupies a minority position. Tribune of May 23rd referred to the speech of the Auxiliary Bishop of Colombo, Mgr. Anthony de Saram, at the Kelaniya Raja Maha Vihare in which he referred to the "Marxist Peril" to religion. It was shown that in actual fact what Bishop de Saram was trying to promote was Catholicism which would crush Buddhism with an iron hand, as did the Portuguese invaders if they gained control of this country, through the forces of reaction over which the Catholic Action has very effective control.

LAOS

MOSCOW, May 28

Thousands of kilometres separate the Laotian Plain of Jars from the Soviet capital, but alarming reports from Laos attract the attention of Soviet commentators. At present, the aggravation of situation in any region of the world invariably tells on general international situation. Every "small war" is pregnant with a grave conflict. Why then was shooting resumed in Laos?

The New York Herald Tribune has a definite opinion on this score. The equilibrium on the political and military chessboard of the South East Asia has been disturbed by the communist forces, the newspaper declares. We do not use "sports" terms when the destinies of peoples are in question. However, it is not this what really matters. We cannot agree with the opinion of the newspaper, because everybody knows who distur-

ed "equilibrium" in Laos, who spares no effort to frustrate the Geneva agreements and resume a civil war there

There is quite a definite date which, in my opinion, is a starting point of a new crisis. I mean an attempt to effect a coup in the Laotian capital, undertaken by a group of Rightist generals on April 19th. The coup did not achieve the desired aim of establishing military dictatorship. The

United States could not support the rebel generals frankly and openly though its sympathies, undoubtedly, were with them. And not only sympathies, for that matter. The consensus of opinion is that the US Central Intelligence Agency had a hand in the coup.

It was not accidental that Prince Souphavong noted that though US direct participation was not registered, the coup was financed with dollars, not any other currency.

The abortive coup and its consequences have brought about grievous developments. The government formed on the basis of the Geneva agreements was reshuffled counter to the established practice of the unanimous solution of major state problems with the participation of all political groupings. The Geneva agreements were also violated in connection with the plans of uniting the Rightist and Neutralist forces. Firstly, this plan is clearly directed against the third party, the patriotic Pathet Lao forces. Secondly, if these plans materialized, the Rightist forces would immediately swallow up the Neutralist troops, outweighing the latter in strength and weapons, supplied by the US, also counter to the Geneva agreements.

The 36 hour blockade of the building of the Polish delegation to the International Control Commission was also a sign of the deteriorating situation in Laos.

I shall not speak here about the military-strategic situation in Laos. It is unstable and can change. I only wish that Laos receive a lasting peace and an opportunity to follow its Neutralist course.

Speaking for his government, French Minister of Information Peyrefite declared that the Great Powers should abstain from any interference into the Laotian domestic affairs. We can agree with his words, but with a reservation. The Great Powers who signed the Geneva agreements on Laos are responsible, morally and politically, for peace and neutrality of that country. As for the Soviet Union, the Soviet Foreign Minister Gromyko stressed in his letter to the Laotian Premier that the Soviet Union would continue to support efforts aimed at resuming negotiations with the neo-Lao Haksat Party, searching for ways of normalizing the activities of the coalition government.

Unfortunately, there is no evidence so far that the US actions serve to promote the peaceful development of Laos. The New York Herald Tribune does not exclude a possibility of unilateral US Military interference in Laos. We can achieve our aim by using our supreme naval and air might, it said, the US military circles gave advance notice about

ideas of holding SEATO exercises in the North-Eastern regions of Thailand, not concealing the aim of the exercises —the frightening of the patriotic forces of Laos.

Needless to say, that this policy may only result in an aggravation of the civil war and in case of direct US interference, in more serious consequences for peace in the whole on South-East Asia.

The grievous example of South Vietnam shows that foreign military intervention cannot solve the domestic problems of any country. The punctual and unconditional fulfilment of the Geneva agreements is the only way to normalize the situation in Laos. The Soviet people wish the Laotians the speediest restoration of peace, so necessary for happiness and progress.

Boris Novikov



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McNamara Plans Offensive

New York, April 25

An influential group in the government at Washington is pressing hard for bombing and raiding North Vietnam. Late May or early June is the target date for these reckless elements in the Pentagon, CIA and State Department.

This objective of an attack on North Vietnam was in a long dispatch April 13 from Washington by William Beecher, Wall Street Journal reporter.

Reporting that the Pentagon "is fast arming South Vietnam with a bomber force capable of devastating air attacks on industrial and military targets in North Vietnam," Beecher ad-

ded that "some Administration policy-makers are debating whether the hope of thus halting Hanoi's support for Red Gurrilla's below the border might conceivably outweigh the risk of escalating the Vietnam conflict into Korean-war dimensions."

Over 18,000

Sen. Wayne Morse (D-Ore), revealed last week in a Senate

speech that while "the figure 15,000 or 15,500 continues to be used" as the number of U.S. soldiers in South Vietnam, he had been advised "out of the Pentagon," by reporters, that "there are already 18,000 American boys over there."

"We know," said Morse, several days later, that if the war in South Vietnam "is escalated into North Vietnam the plan is to use nuclear weapons. It is not possible to put conventional troops into North Vietnam and win."

It appears that the Pentagon would like to make it appear that the vastly built-up air force and other military groupings that may be used in the attacks on North Vietnam will be manned by personnel from the army of the US puppet military dictatorship in Saigon.

The direct lie to such pretensions was given in letters from a U.S. flyer, who died in combat in South Vietnam last March 23. Capt. Edwin G. Shank, Jr., 27, wrote his wife in Winamac, Ind., last December.

Skill

"So far I have 55 kills credited to me and one 50 cal. gun. I am not proud of killing, but I am proud of my skill. It is necessary in this job."

Later Shank wrote:

"We asked if we could fly an American flag over here. The answer was no. They say the Viet Cong will get pictures of it and make bad propaganda. Let them know America is in it."

These letters from the dead U.S. flyer, which appeared in the Chicago Tribune, April 5, make clear the direct involvement of U.S. military forces and underscore the probability that it will be U.S. flyers, disguised or not, who would be used in any invasion of North Vietnam.

Mounting demands, however, for getting the U.S. out of Vietnam are flooding Congress and the newspapers. In most cases, the newspapers have suppressed the letters, but evidence of this widespread anger against involvement in South Vietnam was dramatically demonstrated in the March 29 issue of the Rochester, N.Y., Democrat and Chronicle, with a full-size page devoted to letters attacking the U.S. war against South Vietnam.

On March 30, Sen. Morse had denounced in the Senate, what he called "McNamara's War in South Vietnam." As an appendix to that speech, he inserted in the Congressional Record 26 pages, in fine print, of letters opposing U.S. involvement including those from U.S. soldiers now in Vietnam.

In the Senate April 3 Sen. Ernest Gruening (D-Alaska), declared:

"I said that all of South Vietnam was not worth the life of a single American boy. I have received hundreds of letters supporting my position to get our boys out of the firing line which is no place for them to be. Allegedly they are in South Vietnam as advisers, but they are actually in combat uniform and have been for some time. It is time the Pentagon stopped deceiving the American people."

McNamara

But the will of the people is being spurned by the government officials. The contracting perimeter of control in South Vietnam by the Pentagon's troops is making Washington war-spreaders more desperate.

They reveal their more fundamental objective by insisting in South Vietnam. Whether

on a victory in Vietnam to give a threatening example to any other country in Southeast Asia, which might seek to become independent. They claim that Cambodian Premier Sihanouk would not have dared declare his defiance of Washington if the U.S. were not now suffering defeat in Southeast Asia.

These officials argue that neither China nor the Soviet Union would come to aid of North Vietnam, although both these great powers have already made it clear they will do so.

While the final decision as to the invasion of North Vietnam will rest with President Johnson, undoubtedly the opinion of Secretary of Defence Robert McNamara will play an important role.

McNamara is expected to go back to South Vietnam again in the next month or so. So far he has backed the more aggressive elements on policy he will continue to do so will depend how well the desires of the people are made felt in Congress, the State Department and the White House.

From A Tribune Correspondent

Air Ceylon

continued from page 4

the employees. On 1st May 1958 a pension fund has been created more in the nature of an insurance scheme. The employees contribution and the company's contributions are utilised for the payment of the insurance premia and any balance goes to the pension fund. An employee is entitled to obtain loans from this pension fund as well as from the Insurance Company.

This is a most unsatisfactory arrangement whereby an employee is burdened with a insurance policy on his leaving his appointment while there would be little in the pension fund if any loans had been taken. Membership of this pension fund is optional. We do not consider that this is the type of fund envisaged in the Act but we find that no re-organisation is possible unless the employees agree. Even otherwise there is the question of their insurance premia payment which has to continue. It is very desirable that this question should be fully investigated and something done to help the employees.

The present financial position of Air Ceylon is as follows:—The latest audited accounts available are for the year 1961-2. According to these accounts the amount of the accumulated losses as at 31st March 1962 was Rs. 1,692,969. The 1962-63 accounts have just been prepared showing a net loss of Rs. 496,106 as against an originally estimated loss of Rs. 800,000. This loss increases the amount of the accumulated losses to Rs. 2,189,075 as at the end of March 1963. Air Ceylon Ltd., has estimated the loss for 1963-64 at Rs. 1,176,340. On this basis the amount of the accumulated losses as at 31st March 1964 would be Rs. 3,365,415 against a paid up capital of Rs. 3 million.

But this amount is likely to be less for the following reason. (1) Judged by the

estimates and the actual loss for 1962-63 the actual loss for 1963-64 may be less than the estimate which was prepared over an year ago. (2) As at 31st March 1963 the amount to the credit of the unavailed transportation account was Rs. 2,788,339. This amount included the value of unused tickets issued against Government holiday warrants over the last several years. Hence a substantial sum may be available to be appropriated in reduction of the accumulated losses.

Re-organisation Needed

We are convinced that the Accounts division needs a complete re-organisation and have sought the assistance of the Organisation and Methods Division of the Treasury through the Deputy Secretary to the Treasury regarding the possibility of obtaining the services of a C-Plan expert or an outstanding person with Engineering and Costing experience who would be able to reorganise the Accounts division and train the personnel concerned. Application forms received in this connection from the Controller Economic Division together with a copy of his letter No. ED-12 of 30th October 1963 were forwarded to you on 11th November 1963 with a request that this matter be pursued in consultation with the Board of Directors of Air Ceylon. It would be worthwhile if in respect of other matters of Airline business too much technical assistance is sought either from one of the C-Plan countries or from the United Nations Technical Assistance Board.

Air Ceylon is at present functioning without an Internal Audit—the services of M/s. Burah Hathy & Co., having been dispensed with during June 1961. The Organisation and Methods Division was expected to report on this aspect too. In our view it would be very desirable to set up an Internal Audit Unit in consultation with the Auditor-General.

GRUENING & U. A. R.

Senator Gruening of Alaska has long been a spokesman for the aggressive quarters which simply cannot stomach the idea of a free and independent United Arab Republic. On February 28, for instance, he demanded that Washington suspend aid to the U. A. R. because it supports the national-liberation struggle in Africa and Asia. "How long," the incensed Senator exclaimed, "will the United States continue to finance Colonel Nasser's trouble-making in the Middle East? How long will the U. S. continue to accept Colonel Nasser's protestations of neutrality?..." More illustrative still was Gruening's anti-Arab sally on March 13, when he accused the U. A. R. of interfering in the affairs of the Western Hemisphere and "actively opposing" U.S. policy in Panama. Here is his argument: the nationalization of the Suez Canal in 1956 was the real cause of popular demonstrations in Panama in January of this year.

Senator Gruening certainly has an original idea about the meaning of "interference." But it is on this "ground" that he demands severance of economic ties with the U. A. R. "One of the basic purposes of our economic aid programme is our own enlightened self interest," he proclaims. And since the U. A. R. is not working in Washington's interest, it should be punished. Month in and month out, Gruening harps on the same subject, reminding one of Roman Senator Cato by ending all his speeches with the refrain: "And yet Cairo must be destroyed!" Gruening is not alone in his hatred of the U. A. R. His attacks are supported by many other Senators and given wide publicity by the monopoly press. It looks as if Gruening says what influential American politicians think.

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SEN. MORSE condemns Vietnam war

WASHINGTON, April 24

"This afternoon I charge on the floor of the Senate that...plans are under consideration" for escalating the civil war in South Vietnam into North Vietnam, and that "the programing of such an escalation..... is in the making," Sen. Wayne Morse (D-Ore) told his colleagues on April 14.

Two days later, Richard Nixon called for such an extension of the war into North Vietnam and Laos. Nixon, in a speech to a N. Y. Chamber of Commerce luncheon on Thursday, urged that the U. S. disregard the opinion of the "neutralists." He described "neutrality" as "surrender on the instalment plan."

The military coup in Laos on Saturday was a logical follow-up of the program which Nixon has advanced. It would commit the U. S. to expansion of the war in Southeast Asia.

Morse declared, in his speech of April 14, as he had earlier,

that "the probabilities are greater than not that the war will be escalated into North Vietnam."

Morse repeated what he has declared in previous speeches, that there is no legal or moral basis for U. S. intervention in South Vietnam and that the "unilateral" U. S. action violates international law.

Booda

He quoted at length from an April 6 article in *Aviation Week*, by Larry Booda from Saigon, revealing the use by U. S. forces of napalm and white phosphorous. Booda dis-

closed that "with U. S. backing in aircraft, weapons and money, an estimated 50,000 elite South Vietnamese special forces are being trained to take the offensive in over-the-border strikes" into Laos, North Vietnam and Cambodia.

Booda cited the March 29 attack on a Cambodian village on the South Vietnam border which was hit by "large quantities of napalm and white phosphorous fire bombs and 50,000 pounds of other bombs." He revealed that some U. S. military operations are being carried on secretly through "Air America" a U. S. air transport firm. The "special forces" of South Vietnam, Booda wrote, "rely on Air America to air lift them to the site of operations, supply them and return them to their bases." "In its open operations Air America is a parent company of the Civil Air Transport (CAT) airline and operates contract air lift through its own names and that of Southern Air Transport. But in its covert operations, Air America uses numerous secret airstrips in South Vietnam and Thailand." Similar missions," Booda said, are being carried out by Byrd & Sons.

The "hub of Air America's activities in Southeast Asia — open and secret — is Don Muang airport at Bangkok, Thailand. Pilots of Air America are hired at a basic salary of \$ 12,000 per year with most living expenses furnished.....If they fulfill a two-year contract, they receive an \$ 8,000 bonus. Air America has been flying in Laos under charter to the U. S. Aid Mission in Vientiane", the capital, Booda said.

The Pathet Lao independence forces charged in March that Air America was carrying on military operations under cover of relief activities. As a result, Air America was eliminated from the so-called relief operation which was taken over by Seaboard World Services, a subsidiary of Seaboard World Airlines, which, Booda said, "will employ Air America personnel and manage its equipment."

U. S. Guerillas

"The historic debate in regard to South Vietnam will increase in tempo in the weeks and months immediately ahead, because we are not going to be silenced," Sen. Wayne Morse (D Ore), had told the Senate.

"The policy of the Johnson administration in regard to the

run the risk of having the U. S. condemned as an aggressor nation, because of that war, the Johnson administration must be repudiated; and I speak as a Democrat, but as a patriotic American first. I speak soberly, knowing the full import of the words I have uttered."

"No administration," he said, "either Democratic or Republican, can excuse the unjustifiable killing of American boys in South Vietnam."

The opposition to the South Vietnam war, Morse said, embraces "millions of Americans who take our position that this kind of unilateral action by the U. S. cannot be justified merely because it is being done by the U. S."

Condemns Raid

Morse condemned the participation of U. S. military forces in the recent raid on a Cambodian village with fire bombs. "That is hard to reconcile with the professions of U. S. that it is a humane country," he said.

He emphasized that the Vietcong guerrilla forces "are Vietnamese" and that the only foreign troops are from the U. S. "We cannot show that there are in South Vietnam any foreign troops from China, or any foreign troops from Russia, or any foreign troops from North Vietnam. The only foreign troops in South Vietnam are U. S. troops."

The South Vietnam government, Morse said, is a "military totalitarian government headed by a military leader, Nguyen Khanh. He said that McNamara had stressed that defeat in Southeast Vietnam would peril the other countries of Southeast Asia, especially the signatories to the Southeast Treaty Organization. He replied:

I am at a complete loss to understand how the South Vietnam war can be a threat to their security," Morse said, "and yet not one of them is interested in doing anything about it. "Not a single signatory to the SEATO treaty except the U. S. in South Vietnam....." "The government

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from
A TRIBUNE
Correspondent

unilateral war being conducted by the U. S. in South Vietnam must be stopped; and the only force that can stop it is American public opinion," he said.

U. S. actions in South Vietnam "can lead to a holocaust which would spread around the world", Morse warned.

Morse said he had been advised by "one of the leading newspaper correspondents", before making his speech, to be "on the lookout for a subtle move at the Pentagon directed toward getting into South Vietnam, by the use of American guerrilla fighters, by one pretext or another."

"I serve notice on the Pentagon" Morse said, "that I intend to watchdog the Pentagon day by day for a constant check on its maneuvers. "I warn the Pentagon that I would not advise it to engage in any secret maneuvers which would send American guerrilla forces into South Vietnam."

Morse attacked Secretary of Defence Robert McNamara for having proposed on TV "another Korean war effort with the possibility constantly held out of expanding the fighting into North Vietnam and even into China itself."

"Now is the time to speak up" he said, "and to make clear to the Johnson administration that if it is going to support a McNamara in South Vietnam, and if it is going to attempt to make it a U. S. war, and if it is also going to

Brazil-CIA 'victory'

The military coup in Brazil last week and the ousting of the progressive Goulart government, is another of those U.S. Central Intelligence Agency (CIA) "victories" for which that sinister agency has become notorious in Latin America, Asia and elsewhere. President Joao Goulart's government dedicated to policies of progress and advance for the sorely exploited people of Brazil, was increasingly becoming an obstacle to monopoly exploitation and corruption in Brazil, not only to U.S. monopoly but to its corrupted Brazilian landlords, militarists and parasitic hangers-on. Hence, the CIA-conspired coup, under the pretext of "saving" Brazilian "democracy" from the "pro-Communist" Goulart government. The job undertaken by the Goulart government was a titanic one; to teach an illiterate 60-million in a population of 75-million how to read and write. To extend the right of voting to 60 million instead of an exclusive 11-million; to restore Brazil's vast and rich natural resources (now almost completely owned or controlled by U.S. imperialism) to the Brazilian people. Hence, the CIA need to short-circuit the democratic struggle for the independence of Brazil. No sooner had this CIA-inspired military junta declared itself a "government" than Washington extended its official "recognition" and President Johnson his "congratulations" on this "victory for democracy." Even our own monopoly press found it difficult to explain away the indecent haste of this "recognition," a fact which underscores Washington's approval of the conspiracies of CIA in the internal affairs of other countries. Meantime, the Brazilian military coup and the ousting of a progressive government in Brazil contains another salutary lesson on why Canada should determinedly avoid membership or involvement in the Organization of American States (OAS). Functioning solely as the "colonial office" of U.S. imperialism in Latin America, any membership or other relationship with OAS would simply place Canada in the role of a U.S. apologist and stooge in Latin America. In the OAS we would already have been "obligated" to follow suit with similar "recognition" of a CIA coup against the government and people of Brazil. Without membership in OAS, that dishonour can at least be avoided.

—Canadian Tribune, 8.4.64

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CANCER

continued from page 3

In cancer of the rectum or the descending colon, as the part of the large intestine leading down to it is called, it is possible to remove these organs and the lymphatics and nodes into which they immediately drain. This cannot be done so completely for cancer of some other sites, such as the stomach or the breast, which drains into a number of small lymph nodes in the armpit which are hard to find. So, though most cases of breast cancer operated on early enough survive for five or more years, the risk of recurrence is greater than in rectal cancer, where only about one case in twenty of those operated early enough dies of the disease within five years of operation.

The only drawback to the operation is that one is left with what is called a colostomy, that is to say an artificial opening for the gut made in the front wall of the abdomen. I have to wear a belt over this, and it requires attention twice or more daily. There are said to be about a lakh of people with colostomies in England, and they are able to live normal lives, including bearing children and swimming. They have to be rather careful about their diets, but so far rice, dal, and dahi seem to suit me.

As I am 71 years old, it is highly probable that, even if some cancer cells migrated to another organ, and would kill me if I lived to 91, I shall die of something else before I die of cancer. Even if I get only three more years of active life the operation will have been well worthwhile. For the later stages of untreated cancer in this region are very painful, and somewhat disgusting both to the patient and his or her attendants.

A lot of effort and money is spent on cancer research at present. But only a few not very common types can yet be cured by anything but surgery: and in my opinion the most important research which is being done on cancer is concerned with better surgery on the one hand, and statistics on the other. Improved surgery depends on many things including better anaesthesia, and the study of migration routes of cancer cells. Statistical study has recently shown that cigarette smoking greatly increased the frequency of lung cancer, and that workers who absorb various chemical products are liable to bladder cancer. It is important for Indians to discover whether, as alleged, the chewing of pan increases the frequency of mouth cancers.

My main object in writing this article is to persuade readers to consult a competent physician if they have swelling, pain, or bleeding in any part of the body lasting for more than a fortnight. In

most cases the cause is not cancer, but if it is, they need not think they are bound to die of it. To take only one example, my friend and former colleague Professor D.M. S. Watson, FRS. continues to work on vertebrate palaeontology at the age of nearly eighty, though he had a piece of lung with a cancer removed twelve years ago.

Whatever the final outcome of my disease, it has been of some use to others in three ways. The Professor of Surgery at University College Hospital has accepted some notes of mine on the post-operative treatment of such cases, and passed them on to

the nursing staff. My comic verse, printed in the New Statesman and, I am told, circulated in the US without asking my permission, may have saved a few lives, and helped to diminish some people's irrational fear of cancer. So will a recorded interview with me on television, if it is ever shown. And one distinguished surgeon, who described my near-vegetarianism (for I eat milk products and eggs) as a symptom of "religious prejudice" may have learned that vegetarianism is no great handicap.

My vegetarianism is one of the Hindu practices which I have adopted without adopting

most other practices and tenets of that religion. Being a Darwinist, I think that animals are sufficiently like human beings to make me glad to stop eating them. Though I am glad that many Hindus agree with me, I think my prejudice could better be called scientific than religious.

Similarly I agree with most Hindus that one should neither fear death nor long for it, but accept it as part of the human life cycle, that the distinction between my consciousness and that of other living beings is at least in part illusory, and that the most important thing in life is one's work, not what one gets for it.

Many Hindus will say that such views are quite insufficient. And if one has not acted on them earlier, it is probably too late to begin at seventy. But if one has used them as a guide to action for some time, they helped to make one a good cancer patient from the point of view of the hospital staff, which I told I was. By the way, I refuse to answer letters from people who believe that they have cancer, or believe that they have been cured of it. Even a very bad doctor who can examine the patient is more reliable than a biologist like myself without full medical training who cannot do so.

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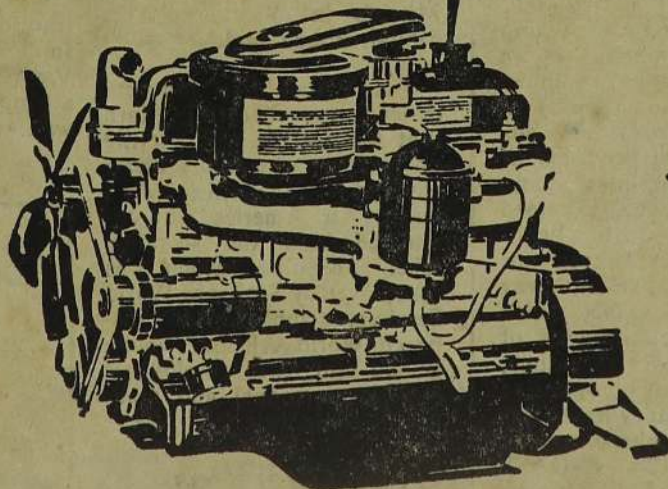
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NEW RELEASES



Lancaster plays "Bird Man" Robert Stroud, a Federal penitentiary inmate since 1909. Stroud was sentenced to death in 1916 for killing a Leavenworth guard. He appealed and was re-sentenced to life imprisonment. He appealed again, and once more was condemned to hang. In 1920 President Woodrow Wilson commuted Stroud's sentence to life imprisonment. Stroud spent 43 years in solitary confinement. He is still behind bars, although during his long ordeal he became an eminent ornithologist and scholar.

The film depicting his incredible story, one of the strangest prison cases ever revealed, also stars Karl Malden, Thelma Ritter, Betty

Field, Neville Brand and Edmond O'Brien. It was adapted by screenwriter Guy Trosper from Thomas E. Gaddis's book, and was directed by John Frankenheimer. Trosper and Stuart Millar produced the film for Harold Hecht.

*** A WONDERFUL STORY OF A BOY AND HIS DOLPHIN PAL** — There is a fight with a shark and plenty of thrills in Metro Goldwyn Mayer's unique and fascinating new picture "FLIPPER" due for release this week at the MAJESTIC THEATRE. The story by Bich Browning and Jack Cowden, is of the remarkable friendship between a boy and an almost human dolphin. The screenplay is by Arthur Weiss.

Starring Chuck Connors, Luke Halpin, with 'Flipper' the fabulous dolphin and Kathleen Maguire, the picture was filmed in Metrocolor in the Florida Keys, the Bahamas and the Virgin Islands with many of the sequences photographed below the surface of the ocean, with close-ups of the mysterious world beneath the seas, including a scene showing a battle to the death between Flipper, the dolphin, and a shark which has attacked its human pal. There is also a sequence showing the devastation caused by a Florida hurricane.

The movie is produced by Ivan Tobs and directed by James B. Clark.

*** "COLLEAGUES"** Sovexportfilm release which opens this week at the EMPIRE THEATRE, is a suspenseful movie about young Soviet specialists dedicated to their professions, and about men and women of high ideals. Three young doctors are ready to start life on their own. Among these three friends, only Sasha Zelenin seems to know his own mind. He is completely dedicated to his profession and wants to go where he is needed most, a distant construction site in the Taiga.

The other two Alyosha Maximov and Vladik Karpov remain in Leningrad. Alyosha dreams of distant voyages and exotic lands, and is bored by what he considers the dull work of a ship's doctor in the port, where there are no epidemics and excitement. Vladik Karpov, is not satisfied with his job.

Meanwhile, Sasha is engrossed in his work in the little hospital in the Taiga, where everyone is ready to help the young doctor. Here Sasha experiences his first setbacks and his first love.

Just before Sasha proceeds on a distant voyage, the two friends call over to see him, and their meeting is interrupted when Sasha is urgently called to attend on a patient. Half an hour later his friends learn that Sasha was stabbed by a bandit. Resolved to save his life, Alyosha and Vladik operate on him. The operation is successful, and for the first time in their lives, Alyosha and Vladik realise how important their profession is.

This Mosfilm production has in its cast Nina Shatskaya Tamara Syomina, Vasily Livanov, Vasily Lanovoi and Oleg Onofriev. The screenplay is by Vasily Aksyonov and Alexei Sakharov, who is also the director of the film.

*** MODERN THEATRES "YARUKKU SONDHAM"** due for release this week at the SELLAMAHAL, ROXY and four other centres in the Ceylon Theatres Limited circuit, tells the story of a couple, Bhupathi and his wife adopt an infant, Murali, and brings him up as their own son without telling him of his parentage. The boy grows up and his handsome looks charm the servant maid, Maragatham. Before she could reveal her heart to him, he leaves for Madras for higher studies.

In Madras, he stays with a mill-owner, Karunakaran, whose daughter, Mallika, also falls in love with him, but Murali loves Manjula, a school teacher. Before they could arrange a date for marriage, the youth learns of his parentage. Leaving his foster father, he rushes to see his own parents.

Meanwhile, Maragatham's father fixes her marriage with her uncle Muthu. Aware of the girl's love for Murali, Muthu beats him up. Murali is taken to the hospital, where his own poor parents cannot pay for treatment. Maragatham takes upon herself the task of finding money for his treatment. Manjula refuses to help her. Finally she goes to Muthu and agrees to marry him if he would foot the bill for Murali's treatment. This sacrifice of hers moves Murali and he rushes to release her from the clutches of her uncle. A scuffle ensues and the police rush to break them up. Muthu

now realises the true love of Maragatham for Murali and willingly gives her up.

M. Kalyan Kumar, Cnandrababu. S. V. Subbiah, T. S. Muthian, R. S. Manohar Thangaraj, S. K. Karikolraj, Master Sridhar, Devika, Pushpalata, Rajasree, Malathi B. S. Saroja, Manorama, Baby Usharani and Arunadevi are in the cast of this film, which has music by K. V. Mahadevan and it is directed by K. V. Srinivasan.



C. R. Vijakumari and S. S. Rajendran who received souvenirs for the best artistes in Murugau Brothers' "NANUM ORU PENN" which was awarded the President's Silver Medal for the best Tamil feature film produced in 1963. This picture which ran for over 125 days in South India, is now being screened at KINGSLEY,

Washington Newsletter

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of the U. S. has never asked for an extraordinary meeting of the foreign ministers of SEATO. I wonder why."

He pointed out that "South Vietnam itself is not even a member of SEATO." He stressed that the first recourse of the U. S. should be to existing international channels, in particular the U. N. He called for a UN trusteeship or "quasi-trusteeship" in South Vietnam. He declared the "neutral state" status of neighbouring Laos was a "failure." He referred, as he had in previous Senate speeches, to the dubious role of the CIA.

"When we can find out the operations of the CIA", Morse said, "I am satisfied that that page of American history will be disgraceful."

*** LANCASTER CHEATS GALLOWS TWICE IN 'ALCATRAZ' MOVIE** — A convict who dodged the gallows twice and became a famous bird scientist during 52 years in prison is portrayed by Bart Lancaster in "BIRD MAN OF ALCATRAZ" opening this week at the REGAL THEATRE through United Artists release.

Liberty
Robert Preston—Shirley Jones
in
Mercedith Willson's
THE MUSIC MAN
Technirama - T'colour

Central
3rd Week
Gemini Ganesh
in
EHLAI PANGALAN

3rd WEEK 1
KINGSLEY PLAZA NAVAH
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S. S. R. — Vijayakumari Radha—Pushpalatha in
NANUM ORU PENN

Thrills & Horrors!
GAMINI SAPPHIRE
WEMBLEY (Kandy)
Waheeda Rehman in
BEES SAALBAAD
(20 years back)

CAPITOL
Cinemas'
DHEEVERAYO
with Gamini & Sandhya Kumari

MYLAN
N. T. Ramarao in
VETRI VEERAN
(New print)

3rd WEEK 1
Air-Conditioned
SAVOY
Walt Disney's
ABSENT-MINDED PROFESSOR

2nd WEEK 1
CROWN
Dev Anand—Asha Parekh
JAB PYAR KISISE HOTA HAI

EMPIRE
Grand Film about
Russian doctors
COLLEAGUES

2nd WEEK 1
Air-Conditioned
MAJESTIC
Robert Taylor in M.G.M.'s
GUNS OF WYOMING

2nd WEEK 1
REGAL
Richard Widmark
in
The Secret Ways

4th Week 1
ELPHINSTONE & ROXY
Ceylon Studios'
SULALITHA SHOBANI

5th Week 1
GAIETY
Sivaji Ganeshan in
KUNKHUMUM

9th Week 1
SELLAMAHAL
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DHARMUM THALAIKAKUM

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PRESS EXPOSED

continued from page 8

We do not, like several others, complain that we have not been given publicity, that our letters to the editor have not been published, our photographs have not been displayed and our requests for interviews have not been accepted. We shall not protest even if our views are contemptuously and arrogantly ignored. We grant that the press has a right to pick and choose and advance its own political line and idiosyncracies with the maximum effort and effect.

But what we deplore is that our monopoly press is not conscious of the heavy responsibility that has devolved on it, for the very reason that it is a monopoly. Far from being conscious of this res-

ponsibility and thereby rendering the community a service by seeing to the due and full representation of all facets of public opinion in its columns, our monopoly press had degenerated into a tyranny.

It has become the sounding board of a caucus of temperamental, arrogant, unscrupulous, purse-proud, pompous, self-seekers. Even so, in the sacred cause of the freedom of the press one could forbear and suffer in silence. But the line must be drawn when such a press descends further into the abyss, by publishing deliberate falsehoods, by rousing elemental passions, by using the foulest means possible to secure its own unworthy ends.

The Mahanayake's letter, as published in these columns today has sufficiently and finally exposed the clumsy conspiracy to incite the people against the Government and its projected coalition move. With the publication of the Mahanayake's letter accusing the monopoly press, the bomb has burst prematurely in the very hands of the would-be assassins.

With the Mahanayake episode over, the monopoly press appears to be looking for some other stunt. The Daily Mirror, our little thunderer, is shouting itself hoarse. Poor Chelvanayakam was its target this week.

Chelvanayakam and the Federal Party have been wantonly abused by the Daily Mirror in its issues of the 2nd and 4th June. For what? Not because Chelvanayakam wants Federation for Ceylon. Not because it is imagined or contended that he wants to divide Ceylon. But because he is alleged to be flirting with the Government and "carrying on secret pow-wows for plums of office".

Lie

This is a dirty, damnable lie. This type of campaigning is an old UNP trick. It was tried at the last General Elections, and it failed miserably. Have we to remind the UNP and its stooge press that this very trick was tried with the aid of Collette and other lick-spittles in 1960?

Chelvanayakam, Naganathan, N. M. Perera and Mrs. Bandaranaike were grotesquely and obscenely caricatured round a table with a model of a cake representing Ceylon placed over it; with Chelvanayakam carving the cake into two, and Naganathan looking on with lips avidly drawn in!

This was the picture—the goondu—that the UNP and its stooge press exploited in 1960, bringing the Tamils into disrepute, and hoping to win the Elections by hoaxing the public. That trick failed. It will fail again, the lilliputian thunder of the Daily Mirror notwithstanding.

A tremendous effort is being made by the monopoly press to foil the attempt of the Prime Minister to regroup her Government so as to include all the progressive forces in the country. The Prime Minister should by now know who her friends are. They are certainly not from the ranks of the UNP, not the Times Group or Lake House Group of newspapers, not R.G. Senanayake, not K. M. P. Rajaratna.

The Prime Minister would do well to remember, and take heed that the notorious boycott of Ministers that brought about the Kurunegala crisis to her husband, projected Buddhakita and finally brought about Bandaranaike's doom. Let not such a crisis be allowed to occur again. God forbid.

On the Brink in Vietnam

PLAN SIX

The following was excerpted from an article by James Cameron, a veteran correspondent who has served in Southeast Asia, in the London Daily Herald of March 4.

The Pentagon talks more and more openly of the need to carry the war into North Vietnam itself. There is serious consideration of the bombing of Hanoi itself, if necessary with tactical nuclear bombs. As in the Cuba days, there is ominous talk of "hawks" and "doves." Now arises Walter W. Rostow and his "Plan Six". Mr. Rostow is the former professor of economic history who now plans policy at the State Department. Arguing that the U.S. should change the rules and escalate the war as an act of policy.

"Plan Six" provides initially for a naval blockade of Haiphong, the port of Hanoi. If Hanoi still refuses to call off its support for the guerrillas in the south, the northern ports should be bombarded from the sea, and finally Hanoi itself should be attacked by U.S. strategic bombers, if necessary flying the South Vietnam flag. In this calculated gamble, Mr. Rostow believes that the Russian-Chinese split would prevent serious retaliation from the Communists, and indeed might be widened. One is relieved to know that the "Plan Six" group is not yet running the State Department, let alone the White House, where such a grim decision would have to be made. Mr. Rostow's opponents claim that carrying the campaign over the 17th parallel would instantly bring 300,000 North Vietnamese soldiers into the war, and possibly drive Moscow and Peking back into each other's arms. But the possibility of great danger grows.

A powerful U.S. military machine is being pushed around the paddyfields by peasants, and the U.S. is wounded and angry. And when that comes about, as we saw in the days of General MacArthur, anything can happen. The man most committed of all is the Defence Secretary, Robert McNamara, on whom is focussed the major responsibility. He is to decide once and for all if there is any way left of avoiding the perils of "Plan Six." In a few days, we should know. There are now only two choices. One is to accept the impossibility of military victory over the guerrillas, to concede a stalemate and argue it out from there. But that would mean somehow recognizing President de Gaulle's plan for a "neutralized" Vietnam and since the dire days of Dulles, "neutralism" has been a dirty word in the U.S.

The other is "Plan Six". The apparent madness of "Plan Six" should not conceal that it is informed by serious reasoning. It is claimed that since the Russians did not intervene in Korea they would not intervene in Vietnam. If the Chinese intervened, that would merely confirm the U.S. belief that they are determined to conquer South-East Asia, and the showdown is better now than later. The grim thing about "Plan Six" thinking is that it has to end. If Hanoi must be bombed to stop North Vietnamese help to the guerrillas, must not Shanghai be bombed to stop Chinese help to North Vietnam? And — if Russia remembers her treaty obligations — must not Moscow be bombed to stop Soviet help to China?

Govt. Notice HEALTH DEPT.

N1043— Applications are invited from Medical Officers, Grade II of this Department for the 1964/65 Academic Sessions. Closing date 15th June, 1964. For further particulars, refer to the Government Gazette Part I, Section II of 5th June, 1964.

Land Acquisition Act. (Chapter 460) Revocation of Vesting Order under Section 9 (1)

N1087— Whereas by order No. 265 of 1961 dated 26th July 1961 made under Section 36 of Land Acquisition Act No. 9 of 1950 as amended by Land Acquisition (Amendment) Act No. 39 of 1954 and published in the Government Gazette No. 126.7 of 25th August, 1961 and the land more fully described in the Schedule hereto has vested in Her Majesty.

And whereas possession of the said land has not been taken for and on behalf of Her Majesty.

Now therefore I Charles Percival de Silva, Minister of Land Irrigation and Power, in the exercise of the powers conferred on me under Section 39 (1) of the Land Acquisition Act (Chapter 460) do hereby revoke the said order dated 26th July 1961 and published in the Government Gazette No. 12617 of 25th August 1961.

Sgd C. P. de Silva
Minister of Land, Irrigation
& Power

28th April, 1964
Office of the Minister of Land,
Irrigation & Power,
Colombo 1

SCHEDULE
Lots, 1, 3 and 5 in P.P. A987.