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Credit Squeeze Inevitable Under Capitalist Impetus: Profits, Squeeze Also Essential

Even the *Ceylon Daily News*, which constitutes the innermost heartland of the National Government of Mr. Dudley Senanayake, was constrained to protest editorially a few days ago against the recent *fiat* by the Central Bank squeezing the credit which the commercial banks could extend to their clients. Admittedly, the Central Bank only carried out a *diktat* by the IMF and the World Bank — that it was essential to curb all inflationary trends in the country if Ceylon was to improve its image in the capitalist world so that its creditworthiness was enhanced. **EVER SINCE** the National Government came to power and adopted policies to direct Ceylon's development along the road of private enterprise in collaboration with foreign capital (keeping the public sector strictly under control and denationalising enterprises wherever possible), the credit squeeze was applied with purposeful efficiency. That this policy would make the

rich capitalists richer (and more powerful) and the poorer capitalists bankrupt (and effete) was of no concern to the IMF or the World Bank which exists to apply capitalist logic with ruthless brutality. **The policy would also assist the foreign entrepreneur in Ceylon with greater credit facilities to make the best of the situation—whilst the relatively poorer Ceylonese counterpart was pushed to the wall. TODAY,** the newer and less opulent Ceylonese capitalist and entrepreneur has been badly hit by the credit squeeze, and it is this class which is howling and the *Ceylon Daily News* editorial is only a faint echo of the frustration-based grumbling in this class. As for the mass of the people, it matters little what kind of squeeze is on — because they are being squeezed all along the line. Development under capitalist impetus — with tax concessions and a free hand to the capitalists—has hit the common people hard. The prices of all consumer articles

and other essentials had shot up greatly and the scheme of imports under FEECs The only person who had been enabled to reap unconscionable profits were the new class of industrialists, and the middlemen who successfully corner the products of the heavily subsidised food drive of the Government. **THE** extensive credit so far extended for food production, and the development of local industries naturally brought in a certain measure of inflation which could have been greatly minimized if the Government had taken vigorous steps from the beginning to squeeze the profits made and channel them into government - controlled saving. It is not too late to bring in a profits' squeeze and bring some measure of relief to the hard-pressed smaller Ceylonese capitalist. Such a profit squeeze is well within the theory and practice of conservative capitalist thinking which prevails in the IMF and the World Bank and which Ceylon has to follow perforce.

Headlines Of The Week

THURSDAY, February 13 — The Government has abandoned its decision to distil arrack out of palmyra toddy, following protests from the Hindu clergy and organisations in the Northern and Eastern Provinces. Prof. E. O. E. Pereira has been appointed acting Vice-Chancellor of the University of Ceylon, Peradeniya, by the Minister of Education. Bombay was rapidly returning to normal after four days of riots. The African Nationalist leader, N. Sithole was yesterday sentenced to six years in jail on being found guilty of incitement to murder the Rhodesian Premier, Ian Smith. The Communist-dominated United Front won absolute majority in the West Bengal legislative elections.

FRIDAY, February 14 — The Government yesterday decided on the recommendations of the Minister of Public Works and Telecommunications to go ahead immediately with the Rs 54 million telecommunications development project and accepted the tender from the Mitsui Consortium of Japan. Ceylon will join the newly-formed Asian Coconut Community. In a statement the Chamber of Ceylonese Merchants by Descent states that the DMK will before long pose a serious threat to Ceylon with the election of Mr. M. Karunanidhi as the Chief Minister. The ECAFE has mooted the formation of a Southeast Asian Shipping Pool to break the dependence of the developing countries of this region on the powerful Conference lines. The Government has decided to insure all public servants engaged in duties involving risks to life and limb and all premia will be paid by the Government. The former Foreign Minister of Pakistan, Mr. Bhutto told the High Court that he has been detained by the Pakistan Government because of the fear that he might take the Tashkent affair to the people for the verdict. The stage has been set for West Germany's Presidential elections to be held in West Berlin in March five - despite demands by East Germany that it must be held elsewhere.

SATURDAY, February 15 — The FAO has warned Ceylon of a shift in the demand from tea to instant coffee in the United Kingdom. President Ayub Khan has decided to end the State of Emergency in Pakistan from next Monday. Egypt yesterday agreed to an offer by owners of ships trapped in the Suez Canal to survey the southern part of the waterway, and diplomatic sources described the decision as the most significant move by President Nasser on the canal issue.

SUNDAY February 16 — Police investigators are probing information that certain Excise Departmental employees have been paid a regular monthly fee of Rs. 500 each for spiriting away bottle stoppers and abels. Because of DMK subversion charges a public meeting, scheduled for today at Jaffna to mourn the

death of C. N. Annadurai has been cancelled. Sirhan has pleaded not guilty to the first degree murder of Senator Robert Kennedy.

MONDAY, February 17 — *Sun* reported that a top level FP delegation, led by its leader, Mr. S. J. V. Chelvanayakam, will confer with the Prime Minister Mr. Dudley Senanayake to ask him to concede its demands if he wishes to retain their conditional support. The Monetary Board of the Central Bank of Ceylon has requested that it should be given legislative power to probe transactions of firms abroad directly or indirectly controlled by residents of Ceylon. The Soviet Union warned West Germany that it would meet a resolute rebuff if it continued unlawful intrigues in West Berlin. Viet Cong gunners have shot down three American helicopters, killing five US soldiers and wounding eighteen.

TUESDAY, February 18 — The Minister of Nationalised Services has accepted the resignation of Mr. A. W. A. Abeygoonesekera as Chairman of the Port Cargo Corporation. Cultivators who had obtained large acreages of Crown land will be called upon to hand back to the Land Commissioner all uncultivated land, except ten acres which they can keep for themselves. West Germany warned that recent troop buildups in Eastern Europe had given Warsaw Pact countries a better chance of a surprise attack. Bloody clashes took place in Istanbul between leftwing and rightwing demonstrators in which at least two people died and 100 wounded. North Vietnamese troops stormed an American camp, despite a Tet holiday ceasefire called by the Viet Cong and South Vietnamese forces.

WEDNESDAY, February 19 — The *Sun* reported that the high-level committee appointed by the Government to probe alleged irregularities in the public service has found itself powerless to carry out investigations assigned to it independently. The *Daily Mirror* reported that leaders of the Opposition parties are opposed to a vote of condolence being moved in the House of Representatives on the death of the former Chief Minister of Tamilnadu, Mr. C. N. Annadurai. India has agreed to buy more copra, coconut oil, and rubber from Ceylon. The Central Bank has called for statistics from the commercial banks in regard to the extent of credit and overdraft facilities extended by them since the introduction of the FEEC scheme in May, last year. A dearth of quantity surveyors and cost accountants is threatening to hold up a number of big Government development projects scheduled to be completed between this year and mid-1970. President Ayub Khan's principal opponents, Ali Bhutto and Air Marshal Azghar Khan, have declined his invitation to attend today's scheduled talks to discuss the nation's turbulent problems. In Johannesburg a passenger train ran into a wall of fire killing thirteen people and injuring one hundred and eighty others.

Point Of View

Capitalism And Socialism—An Essay Into Political Philosophy

by Titus Handuna

THE POINT OF DEPARTURE for this essay is a headline which appeared on page 3 of the *Daily Mirror* in its issue of February 7—“Socialism, The Only Solution”. The body of the article begins: “**Only Socialism, nothing but socialism, could solve all the major problems of this country.** Even the ever recurring question of unemployment could be solved only through socialism”, and it attributes this declaration to a prominent political leader. Now, this is not a political article in that sense in which it could be said to favour one political party or another: it is, instead, an essay into political philosophy, if we may use that phrase, so as to see on what base, or legs, those edifices, that claim to be Capitalism and Socialism, rest.

As the picture is complicated by what some might claim to be a third edifice, that of Communism, it would be well to dispose of this issue before proceeding to a, perhaps, amateurish economic and social assessment of capitalism and socialism. We tackle this task somewhat confidently, because we believe that in some respect the amateur with a broad culture has a wider, and therefore more complete, view of the issues involved, than does the expert, competent in his own field, however educated he may be.

Communism would seem to an outsider, unused to the *cliches* in current use, and viewing facts without the theory which seem to envelope them, to be capitalism *par excellence*. As we have just said, we are not here thinking of the theory, but its practice. On the other hand, when we, with the same breath as it were, say that capitalism is falsely equated

with free enterprise, we shall not try to prove that here but rather leave it till later, when we deal with capitalism in its relation to socialism.

Suffice it to say that it seems to us that capitalism, stripped of its theory, even the theory, perhaps, that Communists and Socialists spin round it, is just this - entrenched power. Now this is just what Communism is. To prove this point, in the case of Communism, we have only to take two examples, Stalin and Mao Tse-tung. Svetlana, Stalin's daughter, has told us through the medium of the newspapers which have reproduced sections of her memoirs, that when one of her elderly relations used to visit Stalin - it was probably her grandmother - and complain that some item of the culinary art, necessary for cuisine, just could not be procured (it may have been vinegar), Stalin used to laugh and order it to be brought up immediately from his kitchen. We have also read that Chairman Mao's presence at a state banquet is always heralded by an arrangement of peppers round his place at table, to satisfy his somewhat fiery palate. Now, all this is quite all right, it does prove that Communist leaders do demand their pound of flesh just like the capitalists, and, what is more, they get it.

Now we grant that a Communist leader might be abstemious in his tastes, that he might dress simply, just as Stalin did and Mao does, but it matters little what they wear or eat when the whole of the state's assets are at their disposal. This is not the case in capitalist countries. There, the capitalist might be a miser, and live quietly in an unobtrusive unostentatious way, but there is a

limit to his assets, however great they be.

Next, about this business of capitalism being just a synonym for free enterprise. There was never such boloney than this equation. It is true that under the capitalist system a man may rise to the top of the financial ladder by his own luck and industry, but the whole of the capitalist system is geared to see that the majority of human beings, at least, do not. Capitalism thrives on business, and most business men are agreed that business is pretty cut-throat; or, at least, they say so when they are relaxed, with friends.

We have long come to the conclusion, that the only real justification for making money must be to give it away. Now, in the hierarchical structure, there are capitalists and capitalists—there are the very rich, whose assets can be reckoned in billions of dollars, and the not so very rich whose assets can be reckoned in millions or lakhs, all the way down in fact, to those who are worth a few thousand. The people we are concerned with here are not so much the middling capitalists, but the others. It is only by socialism that they can keep their wealth with a good conscience, and they do it by mulcting their fellow-capitalists further down the hierarchical ladder, and the mulcting is done with taxes, lawfully extracted by the State, to hold up the edifice of a Socialist system.

THERE ARE two chief facets of a Socialist state. One is the so-called nationalization of the means of production, distribution and exchange - or, at least, that is the pure Communist theory. In the Socialist State it is almost invariably the uneconomic infrastructural enterprises that are nationalized, those that either the State dares not allow to fizzle out, mostly for political reasons, or, which amounts to the same thing, only the State can afford to buy, because it alone is willing enough to find the money to buy at a price more consonant

with the enterprise's capital outlay than with its usefulness or profitability.

The other facet of the Socialist system is what is called the Welfare State, as if it were a state within a state. This state, within a state, takes care of all those who are unable for financial reasons, to take care of themselves. This "state within a state's" expenditure is taken care of by taxes, which however heavy they are, still leaves the very rich much richer than the poor, with, perhaps, those in the middle tax structure the hardest hit of all, in a manner of speaking. They are the hardest hit of all because they will always remain the richest of the poor or the poorest of the rich, whichever way you take it, with poverty always looking over their shoulder but never quite catching them up. On the other hand, the very rich are never in the same predicament, it would seem, and without the socialist state, they would either die of a bad conscience or be overthrown by a bloody revolution. It is the socialist state taking care of those who, for financial reasons, are unable to take care of themselves, which enables these multi-millionaires to retain their money while they live.

LET US NOW turn to capitalism. It might be asked, if capitalism is not free enterprise, what is it? The answer may, perhaps, be an odd one, for it would appear to lie just here, to be this, that capitalism is a device for retaining real wealth in a very few hands. Take bank-notes, for instance. We have heard that when a bank, in this case a central bank, like the Bank of England, receives its notes back, it destroys them. The robbers in the Great Train Robbery in England, a few years back, stole notes that were on their way to the incinerator. Now, nobody would ever destroy real wealth, and these bank-notes that we are talking about are only tokens of wealth.

Further, if the price of gold was kept very low and gold was mined in the most costly way possible, the immediate outcome of it all would be that gold-mining would become such an unprofitable enterprise that the mining of it would remain in a very few hands. This is the case today. If, furthermore, gold underpinned the currency transactions between countries, there would automatically, as it were, be a shortage of money for these transactions. In fact, there would be no trade at all, or not nearly so much as at present, if the system of international trade transactions was not underpinned by a device called, so far as we can remember, bills of trade, cashable in three months and underwritten by finance houses, such as merchant bankers, at a discount.

The trouble with the capitalist system would appear to be just this, that, because real wealth, such as gold and silver, is restricted in many ways, one*of these by their being grossly undervalued, the initiative is taken from people - that famed "free enterprise" - by their being continually in debt, and by their having to pay interest on this debt. Real wealth remains in comparatively few hands, and token wealth which represents it, however, "legal" has really no solid base.

Capitalism is the very antithesis of free enterprise, because it concentrates wealth in a few hands by usury, a seemingly necessary concomitant of a shortage of money.

If our theory is not clear, the facts are quite plain, quite evident to the eye. If we want to fight big money, the answer is, quite plainly, not socialism, still less communism. If we want to fight big business and restore free enterprise (which is quite evidently not to be found in socialism or communism), then we must use big business' own weapons, by casting away, so far as it is reasonably possible, money; for money means power, and the person

or institution with the most money will always call the tune. We must learn to practice free enterprise by using all the gifts we have, without placing a monetary value on them, and by mutual lateral co-operation among us without placing a money value on that either.

IF BIG BUSINESS or capitalism makes real money very scarce, then let us turn our backs on that money-let us, as much as possible, not accept tokens of it either. If big business or capitalism vaunts free enterprise, then let us indulge in that luxury, free enterprise, to the hilt, in every conceivable way, so long as we do not borrow money, and by every form of honest co-operation with fellow men. Let us be men and not indulge in a rat race for money. All this will not be achieved without a certain amount of asceticism at the outset, an asceticism which is only a means to an end, for an ascetic only practices what he does to be free, and he wants to be free to do things, things which will lead to his happiness.

No man is a more ardent socialist than the really big capitalist, for it helps to salve his conscience; and, on the other hand, socialism without an admixture of capitalism is plain communism. It is the small capitalist who dislikes socialism, because it hits him hard, for it prevents him from becoming a big "capitalist", which is every man's by right, at least those who have that talent.

Neither capitalism nor socialism has solved the present-day-proportions of unemployment. If communism appears to have done so, are we prepared to pay that price? No, there must be another way, that of free enterprise, but, first of all, youth must be trained to this, trained to exercise enterprise, or rather be given the *will* to do it. Instead of becoming mere servants of the state or of capitalism and its structures.

In Retrospect

● **Prohibition Gimmick**
 ● **Liquor & UNP Sessions**
 ● **Kassippu ● Tavern Raids**
 ● **Excise Commissioner**

AT THE tail-end of their rule all previous Governments in this country had restored to some gimmick or other to catch votes. That the National Government of Prime Minister Mr. Dudley Senanayake should resort to a gimmick like prohibition in the pre-election year is not in the least surprising. Whether it will win votes for it is, of course, a moot point.

What is particularly striking about the prohibition issue is that the High Command of the United National Party is itself not too sure in its own mind whether the rank and file of its membership is genuinely in favour of prohibition. This was evidenced from a boxed item in the *Sun* of 15/2 which drew attention to the handbook on the 18th annual sessions of the UNP to be held next weekend in Kuliya-pitiya. "Delegates are advised not to be under the influence of liquor at the conference. Bringing any kind of intoxicant into the conference hall is prohibited. Those found guilty of contravening this condition will be sent out of the conference hall and disciplinary action will also be taken against them".

Why it may be asked was this circular necessary? No tamasha, annual sessions of a political party or any important event in this country is complete without a booze. If during the UNP sessions any member had been found under the influence of liquor, it would have been first class fodder for the Opposition to prove to the masses and the Buddhists, in particular, that the UNP was not at all genuine and that prohibition was just another election gimmick to win votes.

Referring to prohibition columnist Chitra had this to say in the *Forward* which I quote without comment: "In the bad old days when Sir John Kotalawala was Prime Minister and leader of the UNP, Mr. Dudley Senanayake, then a political rouge elephant, came up with the demand for total prohibition. This demand scared Sir John so much that he immediately adopted it - and quietly strangled it to death. This did not bother Mr. Senanayake overmuch. For once he had returned to the leadership of the UNP no more was heard about prohibition from him. Now in the final year before the general election, Mr. Dudley Senanayake's Cabinet has, if the newspaper reports are correct, accepted a proposal of Home Minister Dahanayake (himself no chicken in these matters, and with all the fervour of the proverbial convert) to enforce prohibition from 1971. The All Ceylon Buddhist Congress, whom this decision was meant to impress, was obviously suspicious that this was an election stunt. For its President, Mr. H. W. Amarasuriya, has asked the Government not to wait until 1971 to introduce prohibition but to start now. No one can blame Mr. Amarasuriya, who has quite a large political experience, for doubting whether this Government will be in a position to implement anything in 1971, one year after the next general election. But the announcement has also produced its backlash. In Colombo's big clubs where the supporters and members of the UNP foregather, the talk is that all these clubs will have to close down if their liquor licences are withdrawn. And the rumbles of discontent now heard in the clubs have started to be heard in the UNP itself."

Opinion is certainly divided on the prohibition issue. Certainly not all Buddhist organisations are in favour of it because they see the grave dangers inherent in it. Speaking at a public meeting at Moratuwa last week Mr. Thomas Amarasuriya, President of the Sri Lanka Bauddha Samithiya, warned that the prohibition move of the Minister of Home Affairs, Dr. W. Dahanayake, would be an utter failure in Ceylon as prohibition enforced in all other countries too failed miserably. The day it was introduced by law that would be the day kassippu mudalalis would rejoice. On that day they would be crowned kassippu kings. He said that the best way would be to enlighten the Buddhists on the evils of liquor.

IN SPITE of the availability of arrack in the wet areas in the city of Colombo, kassippu is not only being manufactured in very large quantities, but also seems to have found its way into taverns. Last week, it was reported that police operatives from the Central Vice Squad had bust wide open a massive pot racket in Colombo when they netted a haul of nearly two hundred gallons of hooch during raids on two taverns at Jampettah Street and Galle Road. Not only that they found crown metal caps with machines to seal them to the arrack bottles and a large number of packets of Government arrack labels. The detection only serves to prove that prohibition, if introduced, will be a big flop.

Since this detection was made the *Observer* reported that police investigators were probing information that certain Excise Department employees had been paid a regular monthly fee of Rs. 500 each for spiriting away bottle stoppers and arrack labels from the Excise warehouses.

FOLLOWING the raids on these two taverns the Commissioner of Excise, Mr. M. B. Dissanayake, has issued a statement, extracts of which are worth quoting. He states, "I am very happy that the Police have acted as promptly



The Soviet parliamentarians paid a courtesy call on the Governor-General at Queen's House. Picture shows Mr. Georgadze and other members of the delegation with the Governor General.

Sinister Purpose

This Year Will Bring In Sino-American Accord: Strategy To Make Two Communist Giants Fight

by: R. K. Karanjia

New Delhi,

1969 is likely to bring about a dramatic new alignment in world power relations with a major Sino-American rapprochement:

When this sensational and most unexpected development was forecast by *Blitz* repeatedly since 1963, international pandits laughed it off as poppycock; but today, I have it on absolutely reliable authority that such a consummation is being sought, not only by the highest Chinese leadership but also by powerful American interests close to the new Presidency.

Dr. Henry Kissinger, President Nixon's aide in charge of National Security Affairs, is a convert to

this thesis. He is supported by a joint group of Republican and Democratic Senators. The State Department, the Pentagon and the CIA, also are said to be for an immediate Sino-American detente.

On November 26 last, a spokesman of the Press Department of the Chinese Foreign Ministry announced that Peking was ready to resume its secret dialogue with Washington at Warsaw. The date suggested by China was February 20, 1969 — significantly, a month after the inauguration of President Nixon.

THIS DIALOGUE at the level of the Chinese and American ambassadors, supported by powerful

delegations, had been going on for the past 13 years. The last meeting — 134th in the series — was held on January 8, 1968. After that there was a break due, possibly, to a Sino-American clash over Vietnam. The next conference — the 135th — will now take place on February 20, after a year's interval and within a month of the new President assuming charge.

The Peking announcement carried another surprise. It stated that China was willing to conclude an agreement with her erstwhile foe America, on the five principles of peaceful co-existence.

WHILE THE WORLD was still considering the far-reaching implications of this announcement, China provided a clue, with another announcement, to her intention to assert her military presence in distant Europe, with the establishment of a missile base in Albania.

This, more than anything else, indicates the new direction of Mao's

thoughts—that is, China's thinking. From all accounts, China desires a rapprochement with the West in her cold war against the Soviet Union which might blow hot any day.

Apart from the Warsaw meeting, scheduled for February 20, it is no secret that Sino-American contacts, at different levels of personal emissaries of Mao and Nixon, Senators and like representative and, of course, the CIA and the Pentagon, have been taking place at Warsaw, Paris, London and other capitals. From these, has emerged a comprehensive project which goes beyond Sino-American detente to Sino-American co-existence and co-operation in economic aid, even military fields.

There are indications that this is the main plank of an overall Chinese plan to make up with the Western powers and isolate the Soviet Union, which she regards as her World Enemy No. 1 in the process.

The Peking-Bonn axis provides an example of how far the Chinese will go to co-operate with Moscow's principal European opponent. West German trade with China has increased five-fold since 1963—from 200 to 1,000 million marks - and, today, the West Germans rank first among China's European suppliers. The Chinese nuclear plants and missile system could not have been perfected without West German assistance.

Simultaneously, China is fast escalating her economic co-operation with the Scandinavian countries, Britain, France and other European nations. The object, obviously, is to bring about a political and diplomatic rapprochement with these super-capitalist countries via trade and commerce, at the sacrifice of the Communist ideology.

AMERICAN THINKING on this crucial issue synchronises with the Chinese strategy. Like China, the United States, also, considers the Soviet Union her World Enemy No. 1. The likelihood of

a Washington-Moscow axis has turned into a short-lived honeymoon leaving behind bitter memories of dispute over Vietnam, East Germany, Czechoslovakia, the Mediterranean and, particularly, West Asia.

According to a briefing I got from a knowledgeable American authority here. Washington's response to the Chinese initiative has been positive. The American argument for a rapprochement runs as follows:

Within recent times, Chinese has shown a desire for stability and good fellowship with other countries. Mao Tse-tung appears to have reasserted his leadership over his rivals after three years of national chaos and self-destruction, cultural revolution; and he is now trying to turn China back to normalcy. **The United States has every reason to help this process in her own national self-interest.**

Communist China, in its present under-developed condition, provides American business with an unlimited market for exports. Now that American investments in Europe are drying up, and many developing nations of Asia and Africa, like India and the UAR, have established closer economic relations with the Soviet Union, and other European countries, **China, with her 780,000,000 population, becomes the obvious market for American business and investments.**

American has, therefore, a vast economic self-interest in building up China. The same interests that recommend Sino-American economic co-operation, also apply to the military field. **The Soviet Union being China's main enemy, America has everything to gain and nothing to lose from providing Peking with limited military help.**

This would not only help American armament producers find an enormous market, but also, ultimately, make China powerful enough to contain and, if necessary, destroy the Soviet Union. After all, if the American Policy is to liquidate

Communism, what better stratagem can there be than helping the two Communist giants of China and Russia fight and destroy each other.

This thesis has, apparently, found in Dr. Kissinger and, through him, in President Nixon himself, recent converts, but, it seems, powerful elements in both the Pentagon and the CIA have been thinking and planning on these lines for a long time.

THE WARSAW TALKS, themselves, had already succeeded in evolving a pattern of Sino-American co-existence before they broke down. Almost the entire anti-Johnson lobby in the United States, during the darkest period of the Vietnam war, had a pro Chinese bias, which emerged strongly during the Senate and Congress hearings.

Leaders of nations friendly to China, like West German Chancellor Kiesinger and President Ayub Khan of Pakistan, also have played the role of brokers to bring about a Sino-American understanding. In fact, the German Chancellor is held mainly responsible for converting his American namesake to the Chinese cause.

By the time Nixon took over the Presidency, the China lobby in the United States had become powerful enough openly to plead its cause in the name of American self-interest. The December 16 issue of the *U. S. News and World Report*, a powerful journal closely allied to the Republican leadership, advocated "*Frank talks with the Red Chinese*" in an editorial over the signature of David Lawrence, one of America's most reactionary editors said to be close to President Nixon, which bears quotation: "**The Peking Government recently notified the United States Government that ambassadorial conversations could be resumed in Warsaw on February 20. There have been many such meetings before with Red China's representatives, but little progress has been made. The selection of the date—a month after the inauguration of**

President-elect Richard Nixon—indicates to many observers that the Red Chinese Government feels there may be an opportunity now for mutual concessions.

“The American people have long been friends of the Chinese. It is unfortunate that the close relations, which extended over many decades, ever deteriorated. Meanwhile, a nation of 780,000,000 people has been, in effect, isolated. There are many things which the United States as well as other countries in the free world could do to make life better for the multitude of human beings on the mainland of China who today are deprived of the simple conveniences and useful facilities most nations enjoy.

“What Red China needs to do is to concentrate its efforts on domestic problems, and this would be possible if there were a co-operative relationship with the rest of the world.....A rehabilitated China could play a useful role in the family of nations.”

BLITZ

NUCLEI OF GALAXIES NEW CONCEPT

Academician Viktor Ambarsumian, the famous Soviet astronomer, has given an entirely new explanation for the nuclei of the galaxies. It used to be thought that the centre of a galaxy consisted of a conglomerate of stars. Academician Ambarsumian is of the opinion that it is not individual stars that are concentrated there, but a special extra-large formation, whose mass is hundred of millions and even billions of times greater than that of the Sun. Colossal explosions and eruption of matter take place in the external layers of such a super-dense body, which possibly constitute a decisive factor in the evolution of galaxies.

Nuclear Armament Drive

West German Rocket Industry Forges Ahead

by A Special Correspondent

Berlin,

During 1968, one of the most important fields of the West German armament economy, namely the rocket industry, experienced a remarkable concentration of capital. US and West German investments are, above all, to intensify the arming of the West German military forces with these modern offensive weapons and a number of smaller armies of other European NATO countries as well.

Early in 1968, the firm “Dynamit Nobel AG”, the AEG Telefunken - Konzern”, the US firm of “Honeywell” and the “Troisdorf” group, which produces explosives for the Flick trust, set up the “Gesellschaft fuer Flugkoerpersysteme” (Association for Missile Schemes) in Bonn. This reestablishment was carried out immediately after West German war minister Schroeder and Social Democrat Minister for Economics Schiller announced Bonn’s intensified rocket programme and after they had promised considerable taxation allowances as well as government credit assistance for its development.

In the course of the coming two years, some 2,000 million marks of government subsidies will flow into the development work and the investments for the production of rockets. The objective is the development of nuclear carrier rockets for medium and long distances in large batches.

For the last six years, another group of West German armament firms has been engaged in producing smaller combat rockets for tanks, aircraft and the navy. In this scheme, too, mammoth concerns are playing leading part which in the two World Wars had been already able to amass enormous profits. Thus the Daimler-Benz works, which are affiliated to the Flick-Concern and the Kloeckner-Humboldt-Deutz Concern, are constructing propulsion aggregates

for rockets, while the Siebel Concern and die Dornier Works are busy assembling aerial rockets and the Boelkow Works are producing tank rockets.

ON THIS SECTOR, the rocket production of the West German armament industry is already strong enough to meet the demands not only of the Bundeswehr, but of the other European NATO states as well. As a result of the upsurge of rocket production in West Germany, it was mainly the British armament industry which, according to an admission of the “Daily Telegraph” suffered considerable losses. The West German Armament industry managed to assume such a leading role because of its high research potential. At present, some 2,500 scientists, engineers and technicians are engaged, in large centres, in the field of rocketry. The participation of US concerns made further possible the employment of the latest techniques in rocket production. Thus, Greece, Norway and Holland are already obtaining from the West German armament industry great numbers of combat rockets for their armies, air forces and navies.

This arms racket and these arming efforts are, however, centred around the West German army whose nuclear carrier basis is to be decisively expanded by the intensified development of rocketry. According to a directive issued by the West German general staff, the number of nuclear carriers is to be stepped up from 800 to 2,000 by 1970. To this figure we must add a so-far unknown number of long-range rockets. The present concentration of capital in this sector therefore fits into Bonn’s nuclear armament drive which aims at producing in Germany itself nuclear weapons and carriers and finds expression in the “perpetual objections” against signing the Nuclear Non-proliferation Treaty.

Comment On Current Affairs

● PM's PROPOSED VISIT TO THE SOVIET UNION:

It has been reported in the daily newspapers that an invitation has been extended to Mr. Dudley Senanayake by the Soviet Government to pay a state visit to the USSR this year. There was also a hint in these reports that the Prime Minister was likely to accept the invitation and make a trip sometimes this year. This news item had provoked the Political Correspondent of the *Times Weekender*, 16/2/69, in his column *Behind the Scene* to make the following comment under the heading **WHAT'S BEHIND THE SOVIET 'INVITE' TO THE PM ?** The comment is worth quoting *in extenso*:

"The invitation sent to the Prime Minister to visit the Soviet Union is significant and his possible acceptance of it is naturally causing quite a deal of concern in the Opposition camp. Its significance is that it has come almost on the eve of a general election and the SLFP in particular must be worried about it. It could mean that the Soviet authorities assessing the present political situation have come to the conclusion that the UNP government will be back in the saddle again after the next polls. In this context it would appear that the Soviet Government is willing to do business with the UNP Government. It also means that the Soviet authorities prefer to do business with Mr. Dudley Senanayake's government rather than with a government of Mrs. Sirima Bandaranaike as she has in her fold quite a number of pro-Peking elements. If Mr. Senanayake does accept the invitation he will be the first UNP Prime Minister to visit Moscow, the capital of Communism. He will be doing so against the wishes of the conservative Buddhist section in this country who do not want Ceylon to have anything to do with the Soviet Union. He is probably the only Prime Minister of a developing Afro-Asian country whose government is so stable that it is able to contain Communism. Most other Afro-Asian countries with the exception of India, have banned local Communist and left organisations. Ceylon, compared to India, is in a favourable position so far as the Communists are concerned. In India, at least one state government is being run by the Communists, while in Ceylon the Communist Party as such runs a Village Committee or two."

Chitra in the *Forward*, the English weekly of the Communist Party, in its issue of 15/2/69, thought it necessary to make the following comment. This comment too is being quoted *in extenso*: "The announcement that Premier Dudley Senanayake may pay a visit to the Soviet Union this year only confirms the impression that many people have that in his

last year in office, Mr. Senanayake is anxious to cut a dash on the international scene and create an image of himself as an important and, if possible, a non-aligned statesman. Mr. Senanayake is only too keenly aware that Mrs. Bandaranaike is far better known and certainly far more respected abroad than himself. The recent supplement of the *London Times* on Ceylon which did not even mention the Prime Minister, despite his presence in London at the Commonwealth Premiers' Conference at the time, must have been particularly galling to him. That is why for well over a year Ceylon's ambassadors in certain foreign capitals and the officials of the External Affairs Ministry have been dropping heavy hints and spreading the word that the Prime Minister was very interested to know at first hand what was going on in those countries and to discuss things with their leaders. What is rather funny is the attempt of sections of the Lake House newspapers to suggest that the Opposition parties are chagrined at this development. These parties, which have always advocated the strengthening and development of friendly relations between Ceylon and USSR, can only be glad if a Prime Minister of Ceylon, irrespective of who holds the office, pays an official visit to the USSR. Similarly they are very pleased when representatives of the Soviet Union visit Ceylon, like the group of Soviet MP's who who are due to arrive on February 16 to spend a short time here as guests of the Ceylon Branch of the Inter-Parliamentary Association."

These two comments mark the two positions around which opinion in this country revolves on this matter. There are some UNPers who are suspicious and sceptical about the PM's proposed visit. There are other UNPers who feel happy about the invitation and are thrilled with the prospect that the "connection" between Ceylon and the USSR is not a sole monopoly of the Coalition. In the Coalition, it is true, there are elements who are disappointed that the Soviet Union should have invited a UNP Prime Minister in a pre-election year, but the majority of the politically conscious Coalitionists put a bold front and assert that any improvement in the relations between Ceylon and the Soviet Union will be for the ultimate good of the country as a whole. It is inevitable, in the circumstances, that such conflicting and contradictory views should be expressed about the PM's proposed visit to the Soviet Union, but the ordinary person in the island (and these constitute the vast majority of the people) are undoubtedly happy both about the invitation by the Soviet Union and the proposal to accept the invitation by the PM. **Whatever government is in power in Ceylon, or whoever is in power in the Soviet Union, it is in the interests of Ceylon to maintain the closest and friendliest relation with the second biggest power in the world. Any government in Ceylon should maintain close and friendly relations with all countries irrespective of ideologies or any contemporary cold war alignments,**

● SOVIET PARLIAMENTARY DELEGATION IN CEYLON:

In this context, the current visit of a top-level Soviet parliamentary delegation to Ceylon is of the greatest importance and significance. The invitation had been extended to them when our Speaker, Mr. Shirley Corea, had visited the Soviet Union last year. A Ceylon parliamentary delegation too had gone to the USSR last year and this return visit, under the auspices of the Parliamentary Union, constitutes one further step in the growing friendship between the two countries. Although some of the big daily papers have not given the publicity appropriate to such a visit the people of this country are well aware of the visit importance of this visit by the Soviet parliamentary delegation. The CBC has made up a little for the neglect by the daily press by spotlighting the visit on the radio, but as we said that even without the customary headline publicity, the visit of the Soviet parliamentarians has made a big impact not only on the politically conscious but also on the vast mass of ordinary peo-

ple who are deeply aware of the role the Soviet Union has played in the emancipation of man from exploitation of every kind.

The visit of the parliamentarians is a short one, but the programme that has been arranged for them by the IPU is an excellent one and there is no doubt that the members of the delegation will carry away happy memories of this country and the warm cordiality of our people. The parliamentarians are also being afforded opportunities to see not only the scenic and architectural beauties of this country but also some of the development projects that have been established in this country. **Technical and other assistance from countries like the Soviet Union immensely help the people of Ceylon and already three or four major projects have begun to yield excellent results. The iron and steel mill, the tyre factory and flour milling unit are among the items of assistance from the Soviet Union which have produced spectacular results and have left a lasting impression in the minds of the people regarding Soviet technical assistance.**

Historic Documentary

APOLLO—8 JOURNEY AROUND THE MOON

The United States Information Services exhibited the film *Apollo-8: Journey Around the Moon* at a special show for invitees at the Lionel Wendt Theatre on Tuesday, February 18. The show was under the patronage of the Minister of Information and Broadcasting, Mr. J. A. Amaratunga. Two films were shown, one a short one projecting in the manner in which the *Apollo* programme hoped to land a man or men on the moon. With animated diagrams and sketches and realistic reconstruction of moonscapes with man, the film held the audience spellbound.

The longer film was a documentary about the *Apollo-8* odyssey around the moon with three American astronauts. If there is any one single achievement that US science and technology can really place above all other of its achievements, it is this spectacular journey around the moon. One cannot do better than quote from the splendidly produced booklet which was distributed at the show: "...It was a journey without parallel. No other

voyage of discovery — no previous travel of any kind was comparable to the 147-hour journey of *Apollo-8*. None of the 17 previous U.S. manned spaceflights nor any of the Soviet Union's 10 manned spaceflights could vaguely be considered in the same class with *Apollo-8*. For, in all these, men remained in earth orbit (except in two suborbital flights early in US manned space program) and had remained relatively close to the earth's atmosphere.

"The journey of *Apollo-8* was the first in which men thrust themselves loose from the earth's gravitational field and headed towards another celestial body. It was the first time that men came under the direct influence of the gravitational sphere of another heavenly body.

"It was the first time that men saw with their own eyes the moon's surface at close range — from an altitude of about 70 miles (112 kilometers) — including the moon's backside, which never faces towards the earth, and it was the first time film was brought to earth with

exposures of the moon at such close range. All previous closeup moon photography had been by automated spacecraft which returned the pictures to earth by television.

"The *Apollo-8* astronauts reached by far the greatest distance men had ever been away from the surface of the earth — 233,000 miles (373 kilometers) while in orbit on the far side of the moon — and the greatest speeds travelled by man — 24,171 miles (38,674 kilometers) an hour at their break-away from earth orbit and injection into a 'translunar trajectory', and 24,629 miles (39,406 kilometers) an hour during re-entry in to the earth's atmosphere.

"It was a journey unequalled in complexity and sophistication. It was the first time that man navigated the chartless void of space and hit a target, the first time earth's tracking stations could compare their calculations of a spacecraft's position in lunar orbit with calculations made separately by men in that spacecraft, the first time men communicated with each other at celestial distance...."

This film, like the earlier "short", was produced by NASA and were technically of such high quality that one can only use superlatives

to describe the pictures and telecasts, including four which gave glimpses of the astronauts and the craft's interior. The "shots" of the moon and the earth in the vastness of space brought home the tiny littleness of man and the planet he occupied. Seeing a documentary like this tempts one to slide into metaphysical speculations about human life and the universe, but there is so much more that there is to be known before these speculations can come anywhere near truth and the real reality.

The three astronauts, Bormann, Lovell and Anders, will go down to history as among the most adventurous and daring of the human kind. Their journey was possible because of the advancement of science throughout the world by countless scientists, and the organisation of all that technical knowledge into technological reality by American industry and "sweat".

It was a wonderful show that took one away from the sordid realities and problems here on earth: war poverty, unemployment, and injustice. In the vastness of space, cruel absurdities of life on earth seemed to vanish. The *Apollo-8* journey to the moon was a dream but a dream that was really real.

S.P.A.

LONG LASTING DENTAL CROWN

Dental crowns made of gold and other metals wear away with time. Dentists have long sought for a way to strengthen their surface. Recently, Soviet engineers proposed the use of laser beams for this purpose. The laser is used to weld to the crown's cutting edge a layer of iridium of some other metal with a high degree of hardness. Since the laser flare is instantaneous, the teeth and the soft tissues in the oral cavity do not feel the high temperatures it generates, and the crown becomes practically everlasting.

Ceylon

As Seen By A Soviet Journalist

Legend about the emerald island of Ceylon used to stir ancient Greeks and Romans. And about half a millenium ago these legends caused a whole series of invasions on Ceylon. There were the Portuguese, the Dutch and the English coming in turn and fighting ferociously to establish their monopoly "right" to dominate the island, its industrious people and great wealth. The pearls and the precious stones, which had made Ceylon famous, proved to be mere "trifles" for the English colonialists who had entrenched themselves there and were thinking of the profits from the green tea leaf and from the milky juice coming from under the grey bark of the Hevea. This was a real bonanza for them. There was rapid and the almost imperceptible movement of fingers picking tea leaves from dawn till dusk. There was the sharp blow of the knife making cuts in the trees so that the juice would start oozing drop by drop to be turned subsequently into hundreds of different articles — from a car tyre to a school eraser. With every drop of the juice and every tea leaf picked the accounts of the banking firms in the London City bulged. Wealth was taken overseas, and the people of Ceylon was being driven to poverty.

THE COLONIALISTS were sure that they had come to the island to stay but history ruled otherwise. Since February 4, 1948, the people of Ceylon started a new era- the country had acquired political independence. However, the dependence of its economy on the will of the British banks, tea and rubber companies was felt even more acutely. It is not an easy job to get rid of the yoke of the former colonial bosses. And the country's progressive forces and all the people of Ceylon have to exert immense effort to unlink the chains of economic dependence and make possible the first steps towards the establishment of an independent na-

One of such steps was the establishment of friendly ties with the Soviet Union and other socialist countries, and the development with them of mutually profitable economic and technical co-operation based on equal rights. It is precisely this co-operation that made it possible to build Ceylon's first enterprise using such important local raw material as rubber which was formerly an item of export only. The Kelaniya Rubber Factory, built with Soviet economic and technical assistance, is operating successfully, and its produce, apart from enjoying great demand in the country, is beginning to be sent for export. This is quite indicative : a developing country has boldly invaded a sphere which seemed to be solidly blocked by the monopolies that always regarded Ceylon only as a supplier of raw rubber.

People of Ceylon often say that this is only the beginning. The country still has to resolutely invade the areas where foreign monopolies still hold sway. In its recent comments on the activities of the foreign companies on the island (and besides the British, quite a few American and West German companies have appeared there in the past few years), the *Ceylon Daily News* quite justly said that the imperialist powers were using any means to preserve in the developing countries such a standard of economic structure that was convenient to the imperialist powers. There is no denying that colonialists, both old and new, are sticking to their privileges as hard as they can. And yet, contrary to the resistance of the imperialist reaction and its allies inside the country, Ceylon is embarking on the road of reconstructing its economy and setting up its own national industry, heavy industry included. This is something you notice, for instance, you get acquainted with Colombo. The city's aspect is changing steadily. The city has spread beyond its old

limits, and gone deep into the country. It is coming close to its suburbs and it gradually assimilates them. Such was the case with Kelaniya where the Tyre Factory is functioning. The town is coming close to Oruvella where a metallurgical plant has been built.

At first the enterprise had the job of supplying section iron for construction purposes. And now the question is being considered introducing the complete metallurgical cycle at the plant. A substantial correction has been made in the description of the Port of Colombo in the sailing directions for the Indian Ocean — the towers of Ceylon's first Flour Milling combine are looming like beacons over the port. The combine built with Soviet assistance, has the latest machinery, and is designed for processing 70,000 tons of grain annually. Its commissioning has made it possible for

the country to save annually more than one million rupees in convertible currency. The opening of the combine was a significant event in the life of Ceylon's capital last year. The democratic public and the press in the island highly appreciate the Soviet Union's co-operation and assistance in the country's economic development, in strengthening its economic independence, and emphasise the vast opportunities of fruitful and mutually profitable contacts between the USSR and Ceylon. I recall a talk with a prominent political leader, "No matter what the changes of political weather in our country", he said, "there is a growing conviction among the Ceylonese today that the Soviet Union is a reliable support in strengthening national independence and sovereignty, in consolidation of world peace, in the struggle against imperialism." It is hard to get out of Colombo — for almost an hour we

had been trying to traverse the maze of congested streets. Finally we turned towards an almost empty road cutting through a grove of coconut palms. There was silence reigning over a small white Mausoleum crowned with an emblem of the globe. Deposited there was the body of one of the wonderful men of our times—Udakendawala Saranankara Thero. This Buddhist priest, participant of the struggle for the national liberation of the peoples of Ceylon and India, winner of the international Lenin Prize "for the promotion of peace among nations", remains in the memory of men as an incarnation of modesty and adamant will in the struggle for human happiness.

The first volume of his autobiography, published posthumously, shows chains being torn as under-an eloquent symbol of the determination of the people of Ceylon to do away with the heritage of colonialism.

Augurs Well For The Future

Soviet Parliamentarians Visit Ceylon

On the invitation of the Executive Committee of the Inter-Parliamentary Union (Ceylon Group) a delegation of members of the Supreme Soviet of the USSR headed by M. P. Georgadze arrived in Colombo on February 16, 1969. The delegation was met at the airport by the Hon. S. C. Corea, M.P., Speaker of the House of Representatives, Mr. P.B.G. Keuneman M.P., Member of the Executive Committee of the I.P.U. (Ceylon Group); Mr. George Rajapaksa, M.P., President of the Lanka-Soviet Friendship League; Mr. S. S. Wijesingha, Clerk of the House of Representatives, Hon. Secretary and Treasurer of the Inter-Parliamentary Union (Ceylon Group); and representatives of the Ministry of External Affairs. The delegation was also met by the Soviet Ambassador to Ceylon Mr. V. P. Stepanov and members of the USSR Embassy. The delegation of members of the Supreme Soviet also include Mr. V. S. Fyodorov, Engineer; Mrs. N.

K. Sklyarenko, Seamstress; Mrs. V. A. Uryupina, Physician; and Mr. N. M. Muradov, Economist.

MIKHALI PORFIRYEVICH GEORGADZE was born in 1912 in Georgia. In 1929 he graduated from a seven-year school and began to earn his own living, at first by working as a tractor-driver and later on as a tractor-drivers' team-leader on a state farm. In 1941 M. P. Georgadze graduated from the Moscow Institute of Mechanisation and Electrification of Agriculture. Between 1941 and 1947 M. P. Georgadze worked as an engineer and later on as Chief Engineer of a department at the USSR People's Commissariat of Agriculture, then as chief of a department of the USSR Ministry of Agriculture. Between 1951 and 1953 M.P. Georgadze held the post of Deputy Minister and Chief of the Machine and Tractor Department of the Ministry of Agriculture

of the Georgian republic. In September 1953 he was appointed Minister of Agriculture of the Georgian republic, and later on, First Vice-Chairman of the republic's Council of Ministers.

In February 1954 M. P. Georgadze was elected Secretary of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Georgia. In August 1956 he was again appointed First Vice-Chairman of the Georgian republic's Council of Ministers. M. P. Georgadze was Deputy to the USSR Supreme Soviet of the fourth, fifth and sixth convocations. In June 1966 he was elected Deputy to the Soviet Union of the USSR Supreme Soviet of the present seventh convocation. Since 1957 M. P. Georgadze has been holding the post of Secretary of the Presidium of the USSR Supreme Soviet. He is a member of the committee of the USSR's parliamentary group. M.P. Georgadze has been awarded several government decorations.

VIKTOR STEPANOVICH FYODOROV was born in 1912 into the family of a Russian

worker. He got a higher education after graduating from the Oil Institute in Grozny. For some time V. S. Fyodorov was head of a Chair at that institute, and later on was promoted to the post of its Director. Then he went to work in the oil industry. From 1948 V. S. Fyodorov was Deputy Minister and then First Deputy Minister of the USSR's oil industry. From 1958 V. S. Fyodorov held, consecutively, the posts of Chairman of the State Committee of the USSR Council of Ministers for Chemistry, First Vice-Chairman of the Committee for oil processing and petrol chemical industry under the USSR - State Planning Committee. Since 1965 he has been holding the post of the USSR's Minister of Oil-processing and Petrol Chemical Industry.

V. S. Fyodorov has the scientific degree of Master of Engineering. For his distinguished services before the state he was awarded the title of Hero of Socialist Labour and several times he was given state prizes. V. S. Fyodorov was elected Deputy to the Supreme Soviet of the USSR of the fifth and sixth convocations. In the Supreme

Soviet of the USSR of the present seventh convocation he is Deputy to the Soviet of Nationalities.

NURITDIN MURADOVICH MURADOV. of Uzbek nationality, was born in 1915. He graduated from Central Asian Institute of Economic Planning as an economist. For a long time he worked in various planning bodies of the Uzbek Soviet Socialist Republic. Later on N. M. Muradov went to do Party and Soviet work. In 1951 he was elected Secretary of the Namangan District of party Committee and later on was Chairman of Executive Committees of Namangan and Khorezm Regional Soviets of the Working People's Deputies. Since 1965 he has been a member of the Executive Committee of Surkhan-Darya Regional Soviet of the Working People's Deputies and Secretary of Surkhan-Darya Regional Committee of the Communist Party of Uzbekistan.

N. M. Muradov is Deputy of the Council of the Union of the Supreme Soviet of the USSR, a member of the Planning and Budget Committee of this chamber. For his distinguish-

ed services to the state N. M. Muradov was conferred the title of Hero of Socialist Labour.

VERA ALEKSEYEVNA URYUPINA. of Russian nationality was born in 1927. She got her higher education in Kuibyshev Medical Institute. At present she is working as a doctor at one of the sanatoriums of Sochi - a renowned spa on the Black Sea coast of the Caucasus. V. A. Uryupina is a deputy to the Soviet of the Union of the USSR Supreme Soviet, a member of the Commission of this chamber for public health and social maintenance.

NATALIA KONSTANTINOVNA SKLYARENKO of Ukrainian nationality, was born in 1938. After finishing the secondary school she became a seamstress, and today she is working as a seamstress at a garments factory in Artemovsk, the Ukrainian republic. N. K. Sklyarenko is Deputy of the Soviet of Nationalities of the USSR Supreme Soviet.

Arab Capitals Have No Illusions

Nixon And West Asia: A Bait For The Arabs

by Ayub Syed

PRESIDENT RICHARD NIXON appears to be deeply concerned about the explosive situation in West Asia. His anxiety, as he indicated in his first press conference, is to avert a nuclear confrontation in the region by a new initiative. What this new phase of American diplomacy is likely to be, only he and his very close associates know. His declaration that he would re-examine all the decisions taken by his predecessor, specially those pertaining to the Arab-Israel conflict, has again raised a flicker of hope in Arab political circles. It may not

be justified. Past American commitments to Israel are so comprehensive that he will find it extremely difficult to free himself of them.

Mr. Nixon, although a clever tactician in politics, has not been known for boldness and the will to strike out along new paths. His chief purpose in West Asia is to check what his aides call the growing Soviet influence in the area by dangling a bait before the Arabs. But in Israel he will find a more intractable ally than his predecessor found in Saigon. The Saigon regime

is a puppet while Israel is the tail that wags the dog. It is not simply a country but a movement controlled and financed by the world's most powerful and well-organized group of financiers. Their base is the United States itself.

It was only a few days ago that Arab hopes for a "more even-handed" American policy were raised by Mr. Nixon's special envoy to West Asia, Mr. William Scranton. But they were dashed by the 12-point US Note in reply to the Soviet peace proposals. It was naive on the part of well-meaning Arabs to have assumed that the Note was only a parting kick by the Zionist-dominated Johnson Administration. On such an important policy issue it could not have been delivered without the tacit approval of the Nixon caucus which includes two top West Asia experts - his National

Security Advisor Henry Kissinger and Ambassador at the UN Charles Yost. If there was any illusion among the Arabs of even a 'slight shift' in President Nixon's West Asia policy, which was reflected in some Beirut newspapers, the *New York Times* warned them against it. The Arab expectation of more favourable treatment from him, it said, is wishful thinking.

BUT WHY did some Arab leaders think of a 'shift'? The Johnson Administration was dominated and guided by such confirmed Zionists as the Rostow brothers and Mr. Arthur Goldberg. It depended heavily on the Jewish voters and financiers. Mr. Nixon was elected with insignificant support from the Zionists though he attempted to appear to them by urging Mr. Johnson to expedite the delivery of 50 Phantom jets to Tel Aviv. It was the inclusion of Mr. Kissinger and Mr. Yost in Mr. Nixon's Administration that led the Arab to think that a change in policy was likely.

Mr. Kissinger is known to have definite views on Soviet-US relations which are likely to have a bearing on White House moves. He seemed to be convinced that the US would not 'buy' a nuclear confrontation with the Soviet Union in an area where a direct threat to USA cannot arise. It was thought that with him as Chief Adviser the likelihood of escalating the risk in West Asia to the point of a direct conflict was remote. The essential feature of US policy in the region would be to concentrate on the 'basic interest' including the Mediterranean. The Arab-Israel conflict would also be judged from this angle.

Mr. Charles Yost's appointment did indeed create considerable apprehension in Zionist circles. A whisper campaign to paint him as a "dove" is already afoot. A former Ambassador to Syria and Morocco his "uninhibited views" on the Arab-Israeli conflict expressed in *"Foreign Affairs"* and the *"Atlantic"* magazine throw sufficient light on his thinking. Whether he will

hold on to his ideas is a matter of speculation but he has been more cogent in his reasoning than many Nixon aides. He has analysed American policy in terms of three objectives: to contain the Soviet Union, to protect Israel and cultivate the Arabs. The Israeli part, he said, has been more successful than the other two. He seemed convinced that the "intrusion" of one super-power into the region would necessarily provoke and aggravate a response from the other. In the *"Atlantic"* article he wrote: "On the other hand there will also be no peace in the Middle East until the Israelis recognize that the condition of their long-term survival as a nation is reconciliation with their much more numerous Arab neighbours, that survival cannot indefinitely be preserved by military force or territorial expansion, that display of inflexibility and arrogance are not effective modes of international intercourse, and that in particular there will be no security for Israel until, whatever the political or financial cost, the million or more Palestinian refugees have been compensated, resettled and restored to dignity".

MR. YOST'S INCLUSION in the new Administration has particularly increased, as the *"Jerusalem Post"* recently commented, the worries of Israel. He is well-known in Arab diplomatic circles. At the time of his appointment as Ambassador to UN, it was felt that Mr. Nixon would have known his views.

But it is not that simple. US policy towards Israel has never been independently formulated in the State Department or even at the White House. It has been susceptible to tremendous outside pressures, particularly from the Zionist lobby. The American financial system, industry, banking information media, science, technology and even the under-world is thoroughly Zionised. It is enough to point out that each aspirant for the presidency had found it necessary to visit Israel and pledge his unqualified support to its expansionist designs. No American

politician can easily ignore the fact that New York alone has five million Jewish voters - that is, twice the population of Israel.

Few American Jews have chosen to emigrate to Israel. The world Zionist movement, which spends millions of dollars to entice European Jews to emigrate to Israel, has as a matter of policy, not urged American Jews to emigrate. It seeks two things from them: to make massive financial contributions to sustain the Israeli economy and to continue to act as the most powerful pressure group within and outside the Establishment.

MR. NIXON'S three top advisers who give the impression of being more open-minded and more concerned about the total isolation of their country in the Arab world might try to influence him and persuade him to adopt a "more even-handed" policy to avoid a Big Power confrontation. But whether they will be able to withstand Zionist pressure is to be seen. The Israeli press has duly begun the anti-Yost campaign by indicating that "Israel cannot expect the same warm support that it had received from the outgoing regime...the new American administration will be motivated by its intense desire not to get involved as it was in Vietnam, and it will go out of its way to avoid a direct confrontation with the Soviet Union".

In the Arab capitals and specially in Cairo, policy-makers seem to be no more under any illusion. They cannot and should not attach undue hope to possible moves by the new occupant of the White House. Cairo's chief spokesman has pointed out that by agreeing to the 22 November, 1967 resolution of the Security Council the Arabs have made the maximum concessions to Israel. They will end the state of belligerency, recognize Israel as a sovereign state and open their waterways to Israeli ships provided, Tel Aviv withdraws from the territory occupied during the Six Day war and agrees to an amicable solution of the refugee problem. Thus far and no farther, they say.

Ninth Congress Of China's Communist Party

Chinese Foreign Policy Poised For A Big Change

by P. Unnikrishnan

FRAGMENTARY but meaningful pieces of evidence available from China suggest that the ninth Congress of the Communist Party of that country is "round the corner". The Cultural Revolution which is a peculiarly Chinese version of a coup d'état, has achieved its primary aim of altering the power structure in China wholly in favour of Mao Tse-tung. It ended with "capitalist roaders and scabs" like Lin Shao Chi, Teng Hsiao Ping and Peng Chen being driven into total oblivion. But its final fulfilment will be the convocation of a Congress which will proclaim the universality of Mao's thoughts.

From November reports have appeared indicating that the party was being reshaped from the ruins to which the Cultural Revolution had reduced it. Claims were made of emergence of a reorganized party in many provinces; and apparently the "re-organization" is now nearing completion, making it possible for the Chinese press to call confidently for leniency towards the "enemy".

In the nature of more compelling evidence indicating an early Congress are statements attributed to the leaders and the propaganda media. Along with reports of provincial congress in many areas, the Vice-Chairman of the Peking Revolutionary Committee, Wu Teh, was quoted recently as saying at a rally in the Chinese capital, "the Chinese people are taking concrete revolutionary actions...to greet the ninth National Congress of the Communist Party of China. All round victory in China's, great proletarian cultural revolution is not far off". The Honan Radio was heard claiming that the Congress was "imminent".

For the outside world, the date of the Congress is important because it will mark a decisive phase in China's domestic and foreign policies. It is now clear that the reason why the Chinese led the Indonesian Communist Party into committing 'hara kiri', alienated the Japanese Party, the Vietnamese and the Korean, betrayed the Huks and the Burmese and committed a host of other acts which defied reason was not any aberration in Chinese thinking. They were part of a deliberate scheme to make a mockery of all conventional norms and values and out of the chaos to achieve a Maoist usurpation of power and strengthen China's claim to be accepted as a Super Power without whose participation no design of world order is possible.

WITH THE END of the Cultural Revolution last September, denoting as it did the consolidation of Mao's power, trends were seen of China groping for new equations in world relations. It appeared that China wished to have for its foreign policy new flexibility based not on dogma but on a clearer understanding of world forces which it could utilize to achieve Super Power status. Simultaneously there was the obvious prospect of a deepening of the Sino-Soviet rift.

Thus, discussing the limits of detente, the US Kremlinologist, Robert Conquest, wrote in *Foreign Affairs* last July, "Although it may be true that, as President Kennedy said, what the Communists are quarrelling about is the best way to bury us, it does seem that for the Maoists the Soviet Union now appears as the most immediate threat. The whole area, in fact, is one in which the Soviet

leaders face special — and perhaps temporary — problems of great intricacy, which to some extent confuse the issue of confrontation with the West".

The demonstrative way that the Chinese have expressed their anxiety to continue the Warsaw dialogue and offered peaceful co-existence to the United States has only confirmed the belief that with Mr. Nixon in the White House, the United States would have what Hongkong's *Far Eastern Economic Review* called "a valuable alternative to Moscow". As was to be expected, the Americans were not slow in probing the possibilities, for, after first agreeing to negotiated settlement of Vietnam at Paris, they began to drag their feet.

It has dawned on the United States, as Mr. Lincoln P. Bloomfield, a US State Department Consultant, recently said in a study on Vietnam, that "attempts to achieve a settlement of Vietnam that might endure, while minimizing the chances for the US to become isolated in future similar unilateral operations, should surely seek to include in a package attempts at diplomatic stabilization of relations with China", (the US Journal, 'Current', October 1968).

The US was emboldened because in more ways than one the Chinese have indicated their willingness to make Vietnam a bargaining counter.

Mr. Bloomfield went on, "That China so far has avoided open conflict with the United States would seem reason enough to accept a *prima facie* case of non-aggressiveness, whatever the bluster, to justify altering the US policy towards Peking representation in the UN and, if enough advantages can be found, diplomatic recognition as well. The criterion for US policy — the only criterion — must be self-interest".

THE AMERICAN case for seeking accommodation with China is clear

enough; it is to create a new dimension in the cold war to the advantage of the West. This has to be kept in view in any Indian study of the possible changes in China's attitude and their impact. India is not seeking accommodation for the same reasons as the United States. A clear demarcation of Indian motives from the position of the United States is called for lest there should be misunderstanding arising from the timing of the Indian Government's talk of "flexibility" in relation to China and the exuberant support it has evoked in the wrong quarters in the country.

China has nothing to gain from talking to India unless it is able to wean it away from the Soviet Union and it feels assured that India is no position to challenge Chinese supremacy in Asia. Chinese interest is not in strengthening Indian independence or in giving it new foreign policy options. This must be clear from why the Chinese made Soviet neutrality in the early stages of the Sino-Indian dispute a major point of discord with Moscow. China's friendship for Pakistan is also motivated by the desire to "contain" India. There is nothing in common between China and Pakistan except hatred for India. Lately, the Chinese have shown concern over Soviet overtures to Pakistan and the decision to make token arms sales. Mao Tse-tung conveyed his displeasure over it personally to the Pakistani Army Chief while he went to Peking last year. Prime Minister Chou En-lai is bound to persevere in the efforts to wean Pakistan away from Moscow if he goes to Pakistan that month as reported.

To sum up, Chinese policy is now poised for a big change. There may be argument on whether the change will mean return to the flexibility of the fifties or a search for new equations. In any case, the United States has hopes of gain from seeking accommodation with China. India has to be on guard against its vital interest in the peace and stability of the region being

affected by this change. Peace and friendship with neighbours is a desirable goal but Indian policy must be based on internal strength as well as continued loyalty to tested principles and friends.

PATRIOT

North Vietnam

Hanoi Confident Of Victory

Hanoi,

THE people of Hanoi are turning over the last pages of the old lunar calendar. The Tet celebrations, as the Vietnamese call new year, are always a great event. Here, on the war scorched land, one has a special feeling of the ties between the past and the future. People without any apprehensions walk along the streets where bombs and missiles only recently exploded. Children calmly play under the palm trees. The respite won from the enemy in this fierce struggle is as yet not the end of the war. Here everyone is aware of this, both the young and the old. The appeal of the working people's party of Vietnam to preserve vigilance, to wage the struggle against the aggressor until complete victory is gained, is the sacred duty for every citizen of the DRV. The country is on guard. During these days the Hanoi press publishes numerous reports on the labour achievements in the Republic. Already by last December 25 the country's textile mills produced more than 10 million metres of fabrics designated for the South Vietnam patriots over and above the

plan. The *Nhan Dan* describes the successful completion of the annual plan by miners, transport workers, workers in the lumber industry and in other branches of the national economy. The paper calls upon the working people to achieve even higher rates in labour from the first days of the new year in order to strengthen the country's economy.

SEVERAL days ago I visited an engineering plant in the capital. Foundry workers and smiths, engineers and laboratory workers readily described their living conditions. Behind the modest simplicity of their words, one could feel the exceedingly grim days of the past year of war. Despite the bombing the shortage of manpower and raw materials, this enterprise continued to build lathes, milling machines, planers and grinding machines. The States continues its provocation against the DRV. On the eve of the new year a jet reconnaissance plane flew low over Hanoi. In South Vietnam the United States is stepping military operations. The American side is to blame for no progress being made, just as in the past, at the four-sided talks in Paris. All this, local political quarters point out, is the result of the intrigues of the most aggressive bellicose forces in Washington which encourage the Saigon puppets. The heroic people of Vietnam, however, are not to be intimidated and their resolution to continue the struggle till full victory is not to be shaken." There is no doubt", President Ho Chi Minh pointed out on the eve of the new year, "that the American aggressors will suffer complete defeat. Inspired by successes our armed forces and the people of the entire country will undoubtedly score complete victory." Hanoi, this city — warrior, this city-toiler, confidently looks into the future.

V. Karpov

Statement In Parliament By

Israeli Prime Minister On The Hanging Of Jews In Baghdad

BEYOND ANY DOUBT there is more than merely humane aspect to this murder. Here is further evidence, if such evidence was needed, to the essence of regimes in Arab countries, and to the fate they have ordained for Jewish people, and for each of its individuals, if they could not do as they pleased. These regimes are incapable of solving problems besetting their own nations, and try hard to disclaim responsibility, unburdening it on others. Thus they strive to blunt the sting of their nation's despair, redirecting it at helpless hostages whom they have imprisoned within their boundaries. Similarity between these regimes and movements and those which threatened the entire world until defeated in the Second World War, is manifest to all.

Criminal plot of Baghdad hangings and that of the demands of what goes by name of "Liberation of Palestine", is part of self-same design. Unless the halt is put to it from outside, it will not cease on its own. Between design of genocide and its perpetration, stands the State of Israel alone - Israel and its strength.

World's elite must understand this reality. As in May 1967, is not a matter of demands and counter-demands, between which compromise must be sought. Conflict is one between furor of destruction and nation defending itself from its would be assassins.

Baghdad hangings have illumined the fate of remnants of Babylonian Jewry with nightmarish light. The land of Iraq has become one great prison for its Jewish remnant. Our brethren are prey to terror at the hands of villains.

Iraq has become gallows to its Jewish citizens. For 2,500 years

the Jews have helped to build up Babylon—Iraq with all their hearts and soul. When Israel attained statehood we welcomed those driven out from there.

Now persecutions have culminated in hanging of nine Jews, whilst Iraq's leaders promise that is not the end. The sole and only crime of these nine martyrs consists in their Jewishness. We know full well, and I do declare that Iraqi Government also know, all accusations levelled at these Jews were entirely baseless. Not for nothing their trial took place behind locked doors.

Oppression of Jews in the Arab countries has been going on incessantly for years - yet world's conscience has not been stirred. Thus we have come to this pass - hangings in Baghdad.

AS SOON AS we learnt of death sentences, we appealed to everybody nicely, perhaps to take action in order to rescue these people in Iraq. Many, including states, personalities, religious leaders, as well as the U.N. Secretary-General, have appealed to Baghdad rulers - to be fobbed off with denials and deliberate misleading. These lies were meant to cover up for murderous death sentences already passed, inspite of statements of the contrary. Once ground had thus been prepared, murder was carried out. I cannot help reach the sorry conclusion, that world and all its institutions have failed to muster the necessary determination in this matter - and in the matter of Jews in Arab lands in general. Last minute appeals and making do with hypocritical replies will not relieve from awesome responsibility and turning a blind eye to hate the Jews in Arab countries.

From this rostrum, I demand that the entire world should act, each one to the best of his capacity, in order to avert further acts of murder, save families, and protect Jewish remnant. If there is a conscience in this world, let its voice be heard now. Let it awaken to immediate need to rescue the remnant of Jewish communities in Arab countries.

ELECTRON MICROSCOPE DEVELOPMENT

A unique combination of the electron microscope and television camera, which will make possible broader uses of the electron microscope is now in its final stages of development at the Rehovot Weizmann Institute of Science. A prototype system was demonstrated last September at the annual meeting of the Electron Microscopic Society of America. The Rehovot system has a number of advantages over similar device attempted by other scientists. It enables research workers to see pictures more clearly and more conveniently on a television screen. A special high sensitivity television tube is used. This enables a clear picture to be observed on the monitor even in the presence of bright room light and with the unaided eye. In addition, it makes possible examination of specimens previously excluded due to their thickness. With this new combination, it is also possible to reduce the flux of the electrons where too many electrons would damage the specimen. A way has been opened for the integration of the electron microscope and the electronic computer. Automatic data processing of microscope picture may now be contemplated.

Modelled After NATO

WHAT IS PATO?

—Another Synonym For The Aggressive Imperialist Policy

THUS, it is PATO this time. It is another synonym for the aggressive imperialist policy. The role of "sponsors" of this military bloc "for areas of the Pacific and Asia" is entrusted by US military circles to the Seoul clique. According to the South Korean *Haptong Tongshin* agency, it is precisely Seoul where the "experimental plan" for the creation of this new aggressive grouping "modelled after NATO" is being worked out at present.

PATO and NATO not only sound alike. PATO is to be run by the US imperialists who will reportedly "fully take upon themselves the burden of building naval and air forces and the nuclear might", as well as the financing of PATO armed forces. As to the aims of this "treaty

organization" which is being knocked together, its aggressive nature is pre-determined by the very composition of its participants. Almost all of them are accomplices of American imperialism in the dirty war in Vietnam, they are the very same Chiang Kai-shek men, the Saigon regime, Thailand, Australia and others.

It is no accident that the United States has chosen the Seoul clique to help it knock together this aggressive alliance. This bloc is regarded by Washington also as an additional support for the Park Chung-hee anti-popular regime, and as another means of stepping up the militarisation of South Korea and suppressing growing resistance to the venal policy of the puppet authorities.

ATTEMPTS to aggravate the situation on the Korean peninsula are a sinister prelude to the setting up of PATO. The first weeks of this year saw increased provocations on the part of the American military and their Seoul allies. After the failure of the "Pueblo's" spy mission, the military fever was fanned up with particular zeal and all kinds of irresponsible appeals and threats began to emanate from there. The voices of representatives of the Seoul leaders are particularly loud in this provocative chorus — the whipping up of war hysteria helps to get dollar donations out of their overseas bosses.

The machinations of the foes of peace cannot but alert the peace-loving peoples. Whether or not the American military leaders will be able to carry out their PATO project, its very idea, as well as the current actions of the US military circles in the area of the Korean Peninsula, cause growing concern.

PRAVDA



The Soviet parliamentarians headed by Mr. M. P. Georgadze were met at the Katunayake airport by Mr. Shirley

Corea, Speaker of the House of Representatives.

In Malaysia

Parliamentarians Resent Washington's Interference In Its Internal Affairs

THE USA'S attempt to prevent Great Britain and France from selling supersonic jet fighters to Malaysia has aroused a sharp anti-American response on the part of deputies of the Malaysian Parliament. Washington's steps in Kuala Lumpur are regarded as the USA's gross interference in Malaysia's domestic affairs. At the same time, the USA government has agreed to sell to Israel 50 supersonic jet planes, though this act was further aggravating the situation in the Middle East which is tense. In connection with the question of Malaysia's purchase of planes there have cropped up serious contradictions existing not only between certain Pacific countries, but between such imperialist powers as the USA and Great Britain. Tense relations between two Pacific countries — Malaysia and the Philippines — have existed for quite a long time, since the Malaysian federation was established in 1963 the Philippines have been refusing to recognise it on the grounds that the Malaysian Federation incorporated Sabah (Northern Borneo) claimed by the Philippines.

In the past few months the conflict between the two countries has become sharper. There has arisen a threat of hostilities between them. The conflict has become more aggravated because the Philippines are backed by the USA which is not against taking advantage of England's weakened position and having the Philippine people seize Sabah for it, which is rich in mineral resources, including oil, coal and iron. Malaysia's tendency to strengthen its air force was regarded by agents from Washington as an obstacle hindering the implementation of American plans. The USA must have suffered a fiasco

in attempting to exert that pressure. On February 4 Malaysian Prime Minister Abdul Rahman said that Malaysia was continuing its talks with France on purchasing jet planes. So far no agreement has been reached concerning their price and terms of delivery. For her part Great Britain stated that she was ready to deliver to Malaysia re-converted Hunter jet planes as well as Lightnings and Harriers with a vertical take-off. True, Great Britain stated that Harriers were not going to be delivered till 1971.

QUITE noteworthy is another statement made by Malaysian Prime Minister to the effect that he had Great Britain's assurances that she was going to take Malaysia's side in case of the latter's being attacked by the Philippines which have a claim on the Malaysian state Sabah on Borneo island. The Parliament has likewise rebuffed the USA's attempt to draw Malaysia — a member of ASEAN bloc — into the Vietnamese adventure. In that scheme American aggressors acted through figure heads, namely, Thailand's Minister of Foreign Affairs Thanat Khoman who suggested that all ASEAN member countries should send what he called "forces for maintenance of peace" to South Vietnam. Speaking on this question, Deputy from the ruling Union Party Ramli Bin Omar urged the government to be vigilant in view of what he called a possible role of American intelligence in the ASEAN organisation." The Vietnamese problem", he emphasized, "should be solved not by ASEAN but by America itself. It was the USA that made the broth, now let it sup it."

The speeches of Malaysian MPs are quite indicative, they show that it

it is the imperialists, unwilling to leave alone their former colonies, who are to blame for the anxiety and tension in Asian and Pacific countries. The contradictions and conflicts occurring between individual countries of this area conceal deep contradictions existing between imperialist countries. American imperialists are most aggressive, trying in every way to press Great Britain and establish their own domination over her former colonial possessions.

CIA AND CULTURE

Simultaneous with the outbreak of the Korean war in June 1950, the CIA brought into being the Congress for Cultural Freedom by convening a group of anti-Communist intellectuals in Berlin to discuss problems of the U.S. world image. The Americans included many disillusioned leftists, such as Sidney Hook, James Burnham, James T. Farrell, Whittaker Chambers, Max Eastman, John Henry Chamberlain and John Dos Passos, who had become allies of Joe McCarthy. Until two years ago, the CCF served its masters in the CIA well, celebrating American capitalism and rationalizing its deficiencies by pointing with alarm to the Communist threat. Today it calls itself the International Association for Cultural Freedom and says that its CIA funding has been taken over by the Ford Foundation (a fact insured by its hiring of a Ford official, Shepard Stone, as executive director). Stone brought together about 70 leading intellectuals to discuss the problems of 18 years ago at Princeton, N.J., recently. Although many of them were with the organization in the CIA days, a few like Charles Hamilton and Elizabeth Hardwick — were not.

*Reality of the Arab-Israeli War***PALESTINIAN COMMANDOES SAY
ARMED STRUGGLE INDISPENSABLE***Amman,*

All want peace here and the only topic of discussion is the danger from war. This is the cruel reality with which this world is faced after the six-day war of June 1967, when Israel won a quick victory and the Arabs did not reconcile themselves with their defeat.

A million and a half Arabs live in the enlarged region controlled by the Israeli Government as against only 300,000 before June. The altered relationship in the composition of the population increased resistance of the Arabs and the commando movement gained in significance. In their actions in the Sinai Peninsula, the commandoes use missiles. In addition to this, they plant mines in Tel Aviv and other towns, attack various Army projects and bases. Nearly two million Palestinian refugees in the Arab countries have accepted the commando movement. Training centres have been opened in addition to bases from which penetrations across the demarcation line are organized. A large-scale political activity is also developed. A modern guerilla has been born and a new factor has been introduced in the solving of the complex Near Eastern problems.

Numerous groups exist for years now which are trying to organize Palestinian refugees. This has never produced major results, not even when some of these groups have acted under the auspices of the Arab League or some Arab countries. Significant changes took place after the June war. A unification process was opened and the forming of a Council which would co-ordinate all actions of the Palestinian population was announced these days.

THE POLICY pursued by Al Fateh (Liberation Movement of Palestine) has considerably contributed to such a development. Though the struggle which reminds one of the movement of gears, this

movement wanted unification with the Palestinian masses. The inevitable need for an armed struggle is stressed in its programme which also says that it is essential for the Palestinians at the moment how and how much one is struggling. Political denomination and what a man has been doing till yesterday is less important and it is necessary for every fighter sincerely to join the revolution which is identified with the struggle for the return to the fatherland.

According to one of the leading personalities in the Al Fateh movement, the Palestinians were not in a position for twenty years to say "yes" or "no" about their fate and they could no longer reconcile themselves with such a state of affairs. Apart from this, it is held that the armed struggle is the only way of solving the complicated Palestinian question. Owing to this, the question of Palestinian refugees enjoys less and less and that of the liberation movement more and more prominence.

The Palestinian commandoes bring Israel and the Arab countries into a new position. It is certain that their action in Israel cause a feeling of uncertainty and instability; immigration of Jews has been reduced and many actions of the Government are evaluated as a reflection of nervousness, although the Israeli army reacts with very shaper counteractions. Iraqi units stationed in the north of Jordan were bombed in the last two weeks of December, shock units were transported by helicopters to the Amman-Aqaba railway line where they destroyed bridges. Apart from this, a piratic attack was made on the Beirut international airport. The Arab Governments pointed out on several occasions that they could not prevent the activity of Palestinian commandoes and assessed Israeli measures of repercussion as a pretext for an ever more aggressive policy of Tel Aviv.

It is rather easy to meet commandoes in Amman. It has been interesting to hear what they think about the newly-created situation. One of them has said: "We are soldiers at war and we cannot lay down our arms before we liberate our invaded fatherland. Another one has added: for two decades we were deprived of all rights, and they now want to deprive us from the right to fight them. This is impossible for we see the only way out is in such a struggle...."

I have met a young boy who has taken part in a series of actions and won great repute among his comrades. He has reasoned quietly: "there has not been much choice for us, all is on the other side of the demarcation line, and the only way to achieve and satisfy our rights is armed struggle...." They have said with pride that dead commandoes are not mourned over but that oaths are laid over their dead bodies. The brother taken over the gun of the fallen commando and a mother has said: "My heart is mourning over two fallen sons, but there are no tears in my eyes; my third son is now struggling and I am getting my grand sons to struggle, too, should the need arise for me to do so".

IT IS OBVIOUS that relations in the Near East are deteriorating. The activity of Palestinian commandoes is becoming a factor which is playing an ever more significant role and which has a bearing on the establishment of a definite climate. It should be added to their statements that there is no way back, that they are struggling for a Palestinian state in which as they emphasize, all citizens — Jews, Moslems and Christians would enjoy equal rights. If the attitude of the other side - Israel - is taken into account, which is not willing to agree with the forming of the Palestinian state, one finds himself in a vicious circle from which he can hardly find a way out.

MIRKO AKSENTIJEVIC*Tanjung*

In Mozambique

EDUARDO MONDLANE

Murdered By The Portuguese

Secret Police

THE telegraph has brought us tragic news about Eduardo Mondlane, President of the Liberation Front of Mozambique (FRELIMO) and outstanding fighter against Portuguese colonialists, has been murdered in Dar Es Salaam by paid assassins of the Portuguese secret police. He was a courageous and staunch champion of the Mozambique people's freedom. Mondlane was among the organizers of the Liberation Front of Mozambique founded in 1962. Professor of Anthropology and one of his country's best educated men, Eduardo Mondlane was elected to the Front's presidency at the very outset of its establishment and invested all his efforts and energy into organizing an armed liberation struggle against the colonial regime of Portuguese oppressors. Blows at the enemy were gaining strength from day to day, the patriots were establishing their control over new territories. Local government bodies, hospitals and schools were being set up on the liberated lands of Niassa, Cabo-delgado and other provinces, and Eduardo Mondlane contributed his efforts and organizational talent to all that.

The second FRELIMO congress which gave a new impact to the armed struggle of the people of Mozambique took place last July on the liberated territory. Patriots, who had liberated by that time a territory equal in size to two Portugals opened another front in the north-west of the country. Quite recently, Eduardo Mondlane made a speech at the Conference of Solidarity with the struggle of the peoples of Portuguese colonies and the South of Africa, which was held in Khartoum.

He spoke of the plans of the FRELIMO for the future, thanked the African friends, the socialist countries and, first and foremost, the Soviet Union for their selfless support and assistance to the liberation struggle of his people. He was certain of the ultimate victory of his people over the rotten colonialist regime.

Portuguese colonialists feel the soil heaving under their feet. The successors of the Salazar course are making desperate attempts at recovering their lost positions. Only a day before the beastly assassina-

tion of Eduardo Mondlane, General Rebelo, the Portuguese Defence Minister, arrived in Mozambique. A week before that Lisbon had replaced the commander of Portuguese armed forces in Mozambique. It is the Lisbon colonialists who counted on breaking the Mozambique people's will to resistance and on perpetuating the colonial slavery that are fully responsible for the murder of Eduardo Mondlane. But the banner raised by Mondlane will never fall. It will be flying high in the hands of hundreds and thousands of other courageous fighters for the righteous cause and be carried on to victory.

Eduardo Mondlane's name will serve as a symbol of struggle. He will be remembered in Mozambique, in all Africa, and in our country which has always been supporting the cause of the liberation of the Mozambique people, the cause which Eduardo Mondlane has given up his life for.

JOHNSON'S CENTRE OF ECONOMIC POWER

Washington and Wall Street insiders are creating a modest boom in the stock of a relatively obscure bank down in Texas. Last month, \$88 would buy a share in Austin's Capital National Bank. But if Lyndon Johnson takes over its control publicly after Jan. 20, purchasers stand to profit handsomely. LBJ already owns a controlling \$4 million interest in the bank through a series of fronts. These include: his personal law firm in Austin with a total of 26,137 shares; his Johnson City Foundation with 2,325; his Brazos-10th Street Company (*Guardian, Sept. 28*) with 9,509; his TV stations with 4,641, and three old friends, William Deason, Walt Jenkins and J.C. Kellam who own another 3,000 shares. In addition to the bank, LBJ also owns about 15,000 acres of Texas land (including choice lots in downtown Austin and subdivisions along the shore of Lake Lyndon B. Johnson) worth at least \$5.5 million, and the Texas Broadcasting Co., which controls the only TV station in Austin (KTBC) and five other TV stations in Texas, Oklahoma and Louisiana—all worth another \$10 million. From these bases, LBJ has constructed an important centre of economic power that some Washington notables have named the "SMIC" (Southwestern Military-Industrial Complex). To trace all of its constituent parts would take months of digging. For now, the following leads will have to suffice: LBJ's Capital National Bank has interlocking board membership with the Texas Capital Corporation of Georgetown, Tex, which in turn has close financial ties with 40 regional financial institutions including Murchison Bros. Investments. And his Brazos-10th Street holding company, through important holdings of Greatamerica Corp; is directly concerned with the fortunes of Texas insurance companies, Braniff Airlines, and with the huge war profiteer, Ling-Temco-Vought.

FILM PAGE

● **MEHRBAN**, AVM's Eastman-color Hindi movie now at the **CROWN** is the story of a happy, prosperous and perfectly united family, offering love and respect even to those who are not relatives, but opted by the head of the family Shanti Swaroop (ASHOK KUMAR) as his proteges. When adversity strikes the family, some of the members lose their sense of proportion and rent their wrath upon their parents and their proteges, a young couple, Kanhaiya (SUNIL DUTT) and Lakshmi (NUTAN), who are rejected from the family and sent out into a cold, cruel world. These two undergo heavy odds piled up against them, helping each other along, comforting one another in their moments of pain and sorrow. The entire family gradually disintegrates, and Shanti Swaroop who lived long enough to see its fragmentation, does not live long enough to see its reunion brought by the young couple, Kanhaiya and Lakshmi.

The laugh raisers in the movie are Mehmood, B. B. Bhalla and Padma, who presents many comical facets in this family entertainer. The musical score is provided by Ravi, and the film is produced by A. V. Meiyappan and directed by A. Bhim Singh.

● **THE SECRET FILE OF SOL MARDID** now showing at the **MAJESTIC** is an explosive modern drama of an undercover narcotics agent who comes close to losing his file in his attempt to crack the powerful Mafia and the increasingly vicious smuggling of drugs across the United States—Mexican border. MGM assembled a powerful cast for this gripping film, headed by David McCallum, Stella Stevens, Telly Savalas and Rip Torn, with co-starring played by Pat Hingle, Paul Lukas and Richardo Montalban.

McCallum plays the title role as the narcotics agent, Sol Madrid, Stella Stevens appears as Stacey, ex-mistress of Mafia leader Villanova (RIP TORN), who has turn away to Acapulco, Mexico, only to be caught and faced with a terrible vengeance on the part of the racketeer she has fled from. It is Stacey who gives Sol Madrid the lead by which he begins his fight in Mexico on the Mafia and the hired killers. Here he deals with the big-time buyers and suppliers of herein, including the dangerous Emil Dietrich (TELLY SAVALAS), and others who are in the racket. One tense adventure follows another, with Sol Madrid facing double dealings, double-murders and excitement before, aided by the Mexican Federal Judicial Police, he is able to forret out the nefarious leaders of the Mafia underworld kingdom aimed scenes which include the spectacular bearding and sinking of a yacht on which Stacey is held prisoner, and a spiningtling shooting raid on a poppy field, source of the sinister drug.

Based on Robert Wilder's best-selling novel, "Fruit of the Poppy" the picture was filmed in Panavision and Metrocolor on extensive loca-

tions in and around Acapulco, with scenes photographed on the beaches, the Bay and its overlooking hills, in nearby tropical jungles and villages, and in the picturesque streets and market places of the famous Mexican resort.

3rd Week
**KINGSLEY
 PLAZA
 MYLAN**
 10 a. m. 2, 6 & 9.30 p.m.
 Sivaji — K. R. Vijaya
 Nagesh
 in
**OOTYVARAI
 URAVU**
 (Eastman Colour)

Now Showing At
GAMINI
 10 a.m. 2, 6 & 9.30 p.m.
 CINEMAS'
SUJATHA
 Brand New Print

7th Week
LIDO
 10.30 a.m. 2.30, 6 & 9.30 p.m
 President's Gold Medal
 Winner
CHEMMEEN
 (Eastmancolor)
 Music:- Salil Chowdhury

2nd Week At
CAPITOL
 2, 6 & 9.30 P.M
 Ranjan — Anjalidevi
 Veerappa in
**NEELAMALAI
 THIRUDAN**
 Brand New Print

Air Conditioned
LIBERTY
 From Thurs 27
 Frank Sinatra In
**"The Naked
 Runner"**
 Technicolor

CENTRAL
 From 27
 GEMINI—SAROJA DEVI
 in
 Gopalakrishnan's
**"PANAMA
 PASAMA"**



Vijaya Lalitha as Geetha in ALS Productions Tamil movie **NILAGIRI EXPRESS**, now showing at the **CENTRAL** and other centres.

The movie a Gershwin-Kastner production for MGM in association with Hall Bartlett Pictures, Inc. was produced by Hall Bartlett and directed by Brian Hutton, from a screenplay by David Karp, and Lalo Schiffrin wrote the effective musical score.

AGENT FOR H. A. R. M Universal Pictures release, colour suspense film, now at the **NEW OLYMPIA**. features Mark Richman, as an agent for an undercover organisation, and two filmland beauties, Barbara Bouchet and Donna Michelle. This exciting spy thriller centres around the exploits of a secret agent, who battles the evil forces that stop at nothing to achieve their insane power-hungry ambition to control the entire world. The movie is produced by Joseph F. Robertson and directed by Gerd Oswald.

Professor Janos Steffanic (Carl Esmond), a scientist escaped from behind the Iron Curtain, is doing secret research in the United States. Adam Chance (Mark Richman) is assigned by Jin Graff (Wendell Corey), chief of security of H. A. R. M. (Human Actiological Relations Machine) to investigate the murder of the Professor's assistant. At Steffanic's Malibu home, Chance is greeted by Ava Vestok (Barbara Bouchet), the Professor's niece. Chance forces Steffanic to tell him

of his work, study of a spore from outer space, already in the hands of Iron Curtain leaders, that turns human beings into fungus. He is on the verge of perfecting an antidote. Malke (Martin Kosleck), Steffanic's former boss behind the Iron Curtain, tells him he must turn over the formula or Ava will be killed. Steffanic agrees knowing full well of Malke's plan to infect all US foodstuffs with the spore. Chance follows the Red agents who pick up the formula, learns it is a trap and reports the location of the Mexican hideout to Graff. Malke's henchmen kidnap the Professor, who has given a phony formula, and attempt to abduct Ava but this is foiled by Chance, who follows to hideout. Chance then finds Malke has been warned and his contact killed, he must save the Professor alone. In the ensuing fight he kills three henchmen and Malke, but the Professor is covered with the deadly spore. Steffanic tells Chance he has taken the antidote but Chance must get his notes on the effects. Stealing a motorcycle, he returns to Malibu and is greeted by Graff, who has arrived from Washington. The Professor's life-less body is flown in but it is too late, the antidote slowed the spore but did not stop it. Chance then tells Ava he has checked her story and knows she is not the Professor's niece but a Red agent who has been informing on the Professor and arrests her.



A scene from Libra Films **SAMAJE SATHURO**

EMPIRE Air-Conditioned

Exciting spy thriller from Japan

SECRET AGENT 101

in GrandScope & Colour

MAJESTIC Air-Conditioned

David McCallum - Stella Stevens in MGM's

The Secret File Of Sol Madrid

in PanaVision & Colour - Adults Only

2nd Week

REGAL Air-Conditioned

Rita Tushingham—Oliver Reed in

THE TRAP

in Panavision & Colour

Last 4 Days

ELPHINSTONE—ROXY
LIBRA FILM™

Samaje Sathuro

From Thurs:

Gamini Fonseka,

Vijitha Mallika

Anula Karunatilaka

in Venus Films'

Oba Nathi Nam

5th Week

SELLAMAHAL

M. G. Ramachandran in

Kudiyuntha Koil

in Colour

2nd week

CROWN

Sunil Dutt — Nutan in *AVM's*

MEHRBAN

Colour

2nd Week

SAVOY Air-Conditioned

James Stewart—Peter Finch in

The Flight Of The Phoenix

in Colour

(Continued from page 5)

in this matter, particularly as the detection of excise offences outside licensed premises within urban areas is their responsibility." "I may mention that Mr. Wijekoon, Assistant Commissioner of Excise, had received information about these malpractices just before the Police raid and had planned raids on these places on February 15, a public holiday, in the belief that the seizure would be bigger on such a day. Further, my department which does not have a special flying squad or even a tenth of the manpower and transport facilities of the Police, cannot act as soon as it wishes. My requests during the past three years for men and vehicles to form a special raid squad which can be rushed anywhere at a moment's notice have not been acceded to as yet. I do not have a single jeep or landrover in Colombo. The closest vehicles I can try to get in an emergency are at Panadura and Negombo. They could be obtained only if the officers at these two stations are not using them."

Mr. Dissanayake goes on to state "The audit and our superintendents check the supplies and issues of all stoppers and labels in our warehouses. If any stoppers or labels are not accounted for in any of my warehouses, I shall not hesitate to interdict the officer-in-charge. The report sent to me by Mr. Wijekoon indicates that almost all the stoppers found at the New Chetty Street premises were used ones - that is they had been collected from consumers and were to be put on to old bottles which still had the lower metallic ring and serewed in such an effective way as to prevent anyone other than a keen observer from finding this out. The labels on such bottles could be the old ones. I learn that there were indications that some labels had been printed fraudulently at a press having connections with the offenders. However, I am most perturbed about this matter and will look into the laxity of

supervision on the part of my own officers and give them what they deserve. I will also take the most drastic action against the renters if the Police investigations connect them or their employees."

From the extracts of the statement of Mr. Dissanayake it would appear even to the most vehement critic of the Department of Excise that it is badly handicapped from performing its duties efficiently because the department is badly understaffed and does not have an adequacy of vehicles to carry out surprise raids on hooch manufacturers. It is a matter for regret that inspite of the kasippu menace, the Government had not heeded the request

of the Excise Department for more vehicles.

Ministerial interference seems to have been the direct cause for the resignation of Mr. A. W. A. Abeygoonesekera, Chairman of the Port Cargo Corporation. In his letter to the Minister of Nationalised Services he states that he was at the end of the tether after ministerial interference, but he held out because of his concern for the Prime Minister. He has alleged that the present board of directors of the Corporation was illegally constituted after the appointment of a certain director.

KAUTILIYA



The Soviet parliamentarians visited the Steel Factory built with the assistance of the Soviet Union. Here they are seen in the company of the officials of the Factory.