



MRA

INFORMATION SERVICE

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JAPAN—PIVOT OF ASIA (1)
A TRUE REVOLUTIONARY
NEWS IN BRIEF

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Britain and America have common task

DESPITE MR. ACHESON, America and Britain need each other, not for reasons of self-interest, not just for defence, but because they have a common purpose and destiny in a world poised between dictatorship, destruction—and renaissance.

Beneath the issues of nuclear deterrent and conventional forces, of 'Skybolt politics' and the strength or weakness of Britain's voice in military strategy, lies the fundamental question: which road do we want the world to take? What idea is to govern the future?

Mr. Krushchev once described the advance of Communism as being due as much to the weaknesses, divisions and lack of ideology in the West as to the strength of the Communist ideology. Russia and China may have their disagreements over strategy. Their objective remains clear. What is ours?

Speaking for this nation in his Glasgow speech, Lord Hailsham warned that 'if we lost our sense of purpose', if we 'abandoned our integrity and our feelings of compassion for the sufferings of humanity', not just Europe, Asia and Africa but America too would crumble with us.

As Mr. Macmillan and President Kennedy prepared for their crucial Nassau talks, significant moves were made with two ideological weapons which can give to America and Britain the unity of heart and purpose needed to unite humanity. *Music at Midnight* ended its 219th performance at the Westminster Theatre and prepared to go to America. This play, in which a harassed Western prime minister, seemingly forced to choose between nuclear war or appeasement, finds a superior source of wisdom and a solution for East and West, will speak to America with the voice of a new Britain.

At the same time *Space is so Startling*, Peter and Anthony Howard's modern musical fantasy on our world in the space age, opened at the Westminster Theatre. Eight million in Japan saw it on TV before it left for London. 'It shows,' said the Japanese press, 'the way humanity should choose'—a way above the lethargy of the democracies and the disciplined passion of the Communists. It is the way of a God-led renaissance.

Mr. John Sayre, United States Olympic gold medal

oarsman, who arrived with the cast of *Space is so Startling*, speaking to an audience of 600 in London last week-end, talked of the 'ridiculous division some of our leaders are trying to cause between our two nations'. He said he was committed to build 'an indivisible unity between Britain and America, whereby we clean up our own nations from bottom to top and then together take to the world the revolutionary idea that will capture the hearts and minds of every man, woman and child. I think we can do that in the next five years.'

When Mariner II, from 36,000,000 miles out in space, sent back its music-like radio messages to a Washington press conference, one jubilant scientist said it sounded like 'Christmas on Venus'.

Britain and America, committed together to build a world governed by men governed by God, can make the message of Christmas a reality and an answer for the hate-filled, hungry and hopeless millions on both sides of the Iron Curtain—here on earth.

'We go to America at the right time'—MISS NORA SWINBURNE

MISS NORA SWINBURNE and the cast of *Music at Midnight* were given a standing ovation after the 219th and final London performance in the Westminster Theatre last Saturday. 'House Full' notices were out an hour before the performance.

Speaking to the audience, Miss Swinburne said, 'This could be a very sad evening, but it is not our last night. We have been asked to go to America. We leave on 4 January for Hollywood, where Irene Dunne and George Murphy are giving a reception, and then we go on to San Francisco, Santa Barbara and through to Washington. I think we are going at just the right time.' Miss Swinburne, referring to a letter she had had from a friend in America, said, 'Many of us do not realise what a desperate time they had in America during the crisis, and I think this play will come at a time when it is needed very badly.'

'Peace—if this idea triumphs'

THE ITALIAN COMMUNIST PARTY, long claimed as the largest outside Russia and the one most likely to attain power democratically in Europe, was assigned a significant rôle last week. Its Rome congress was chosen to detonate in full public view the explosive conflict between the Russian and Chinese camps. It was Signor Togliatti himself, the head of the Italian Party, who led the charge on the Chinese 'ultra-revolutionaries', closely followed by the Russian, Spanish, Polish and French ideologues.

Meanwhile, in Portici, the industrial suburb of Naples whose mayor last year was secretary to Togliatti, another ideology was demonstrating its power to change and unite men of the most diverse conviction—including Communists. Despite bitter rivalries between Communist and non-Communist unions, Communist trade union secretaries and left-wing Nenni-Socialists sat side by side with Free Trade Unionists watching the Latin American MRA film, *Men of Brazil*, in the Free Trade Union headquarters.

In the Cirio canning factory, where the Communists exercise tight control and no other union can set foot, a copy of the newspaper full pages *To Every Communist* and *To Every Non-Communist* went into the pay packets of the workers. This is happening in all the Cirio industries across the country, which employ 48,000 men. At the same time, through a change in attitude in manage-

ment, a scheme is being developed to provide additional employment by extending the factories' operations beyond the present six months in the year.

Scores of meetings were held in the area. In Bosco Reale a Latin American, Alberto Kowarick, challenged the Italians 'not to bring "la dolce vita" of a decadent society to the world, not to bring a hate-filled revolution, but the revolutionary rebirth of a God-inspired society.'

In Nola, the ancient city founded in 700 B.C. where Caesar Augustus died, hundreds of people rushed from their shops, houses and courtyards and crowded on their balconies to watch the MRA international force marching through the town, led by the Chief of Police and the Vice-Mayor. One councillor wept as he saw them go by. 'This is the great international idea my heart has always longed for,' he said. The procession marched out of the municipio through the square, where rival blocks of Communists and anti-Communists were both cheering. Men from extreme left and extreme right have been distributing leaflets inviting the people to the play, *El Condor*.

Nola's audiences are known, the Mayor said, as a formidable test for plays destined for Rome and Milan, and they raised the roof for *El Condor*. 'If this idea triumphs,' the Mayor told the audience, 'the destiny of man will be changed. Peace will reign, better human conditions will prevail, and a new epoch will be ushered in.'

'Putting Brazil on the right road'

IT IS ONE THING to seal off Cuba or any Latin American country from nuclear missiles. Another to enlist the whole hemisphere in an answer which will satisfy Moscow, Peking, Washington—and Rio de Janeiro.

A European traveller in Brazil talked the other day with a group of peasants. One of them said, 'My family and I do not get enough to eat—but we don't want Communism.' Nor, he went on, did they want the materialism of the West. They wanted an idea which they heard was sweeping through the whole of Latin America and would end poverty, exploitation and war—Moral Re-Armament.

A further step in bringing that idea to the millions of Brazil was taken last week when the great colour film, *The Crowning Experience*, was launched by a committee headed by a former President of the country.

Forty generals and admirals, together with ambassadors and members of parliament, were in the première audience which filled every last seat in Rio de Janeiro's Palace Theatre. Four army searchlights illumined the theatre façade as the distinguished guests thrust their way through the huge crowd gathered on the pavement. Press photographers, television cameramen and radio commentators covered the whole event minute by minute. One newspaperman had flown 1,750 miles

to be at the première. The national radio transmitted direct from the theatre to the whole country.

The ceremony began when General Muniz read a telegram from European generals and admirals, headed by General Marcel Carpentier of France and Admiral Friedrich Ruge of Germany. General Muniz said, 'This film started a train of events which changed my whole life. I returned to confession and communion after 35 years of absence from the sacraments.'

The Crowning Experience, which is being distributed by Latin America's largest film distributors, Luiz Severiano Ribeiro, now begins a run that will take it in four years to 1,200 cinemas throughout Brazil, which has an area the size of Europe. In some remote villages in the Amazon Basin the film will travel part of its journey by canoe and take two weeks to reach its destination.

Field Marshal Enrico Gaspar Dutra, former President of Brazil, heads the committee launching the film throughout the country. Marshal Teixeira Lott, who has been three times War Minister, and General Guedes Muniz, the senior serving officer of the Brazilian Air Force, issued the following statement on behalf of the committee, of which they are both members: 'In our opinion and that of the national leaders present this film will certainly put Brazil on the right road.'

JAPAN—PIVOT OF ASIA (I)

The first of two articles by our Tokyo correspondent on Japan's changing rôle in Asia and the men who are equipping her for new leadership.

WHAT STALIN FEARED and Trotsky prophesied is coming true. Russia is losing control of her world revolution and Asia, not Europe, is becoming the decisive battleground. China's drive into India marks the beginning of an era on this continent.

Yesterday's slogans of 'peaceful co-existence' and 'neutrality' have proved a mirage. A 20,000-word article of 27 October in *Jenmin Jih Pao*, organ of the Chinese Communist Party, sets Peking solidly against Nehru and accuses India of establishing a sphere of influence in Asia that 'would far surpass that of the colonial system formerly set up by the British Empire'. China no longer intends to let India, slowly but surely, succeed in providing for her masses through democratic socialism while her own Communist experimenting is torn by failure.

Whether goaded by her race for supremacy with Russia within the Communist bloc or pressed by the need to provide a fresh focus for her weary masses, China's timetable for expansion has been greatly advanced. In the face of her determined aims, the rest of Asia is divided and uncertain. Remove Western military commitments to this area, and China would carry all before her.

Free Asia looks for leadership

Yet American and British guns are but a stop-gap. Economic aid, though necessary, has proved its inability to alter the trend of events. The urgency of the hour demands an ideological leadership to provide free Asia with a unity of action and purpose. A decisive statesmanship is needed to overcome division within and between the nations on China's fringe.

Japan could remain preoccupied with her own prosperity and her own internal divisions. For the last seventeen years she has been loth to involve herself too deeply in Asian affairs. The advanced state of her industrial development has made relations with Europe and America far more natural and profitable. Also, for years she accepted the verdict of her former enemies that as a nation she was prone to the abuse of leadership and therefore must remain quiet, a third or fourth-rate power.

But beneath the hectic pace of Japanese life is growing a reluctant awareness that she is being forced by events to take initiative once again in Asia, in a new way. If she does not give the right leadership, China will force the continent into conflict and chaos. Even the neutralists, a major political force who in the past have advocated a purely passive rôle for Japan, have been deeply shaken by recent events. Some men must steer the country through its own problems and equip it for leadership.

Men whose influence bears heavily on the decisions of government and industry are taking action to provide

this leadership. Their aim is two-fold: (1) to awaken the nation to the rôle it must play and every man to his part; (2) to see that the daily issues confronting the country are decided not by sectional interest but by what is best for Japan and Asia.

A task for every Japanese

They plan to put into the hands of every Japanese a booklet entitled *The Road to a New World*, outlining these two tasks. This, backed by a Japanese MRA force moving through the country with a new play, *Over the Garden Wall*, will lead to a second World Assembly next April in Odawara. Such action is aimed at preparing Japan ideologically, as she is now prepared economically, for her rightful responsibilities in Asia and the world.

The Asian Centre at Odawara was the vision and achievement of these men. To it in recent weeks have come the men central to the major national issues—the crisis in industry (particularly coal) and the negotiations with Korea. Said leaders from both sides of the coal industry: 'It is unbelievable that we should be here together. In all our years of association we have never talked so frankly.' They left united, determined to make their industry a pattern for the country.

Colonel Kim Chong Pil, second man in the Korean Government, told the Japanese press that a 'turning-point' was reached at talks immediately following his visit to the Odawara Assembly, where Prime Minister Ikeda was present. Negotiations moved forward a major step with the visit this month of the Vice-President of the Government party of Japan to Seoul, a visit which had not been scheduled until next March.

Uniquely placed to unite the world

Opening a special session of the Diet on 10 December Prime Minister Ikeda said that the Indian border conflict had 'proved how unrealistic are empty pacifist aspirations and neutralist theories'. For Japan to be equipped to fulfil the rôle events had created for her, said Mr. Ikeda, he 'keenly realised the urgent need to build character and to establish a high sense of public morality and a new love of country'.

Japan becomes increasingly the trusted confidant of Western nations. Moscow respects her energy and wants her trade. Even Peking listens to the voice of her experience and seeks her help in her own economic problems. She is uniquely placed to bring to bear on the world's divided capitals the force of a uniting ideology.

It could be a paradox of history that the nation which first felt the blast of the atomic age leads the world decisively into the paths of peace.

A true revolutionary

I AM the Secretary-General of the Communist Party in this city and I would like a front seat, please.' That was how we met Pasquale—a young, dynamic militant typical of the up - and - coming Communist leadership in Italy of the 1960's. With his thick white sweater and black curly hair he could have been just another of the thousands of Italian youth who have been crowding in to see the MRA films and plays.

'I've come,' he said, 'because I read that full page you put into *Il Mattino* last week entitled "To Every Communist". What you are fighting for is right.'

As we walked down the aisle to the front row, a wave of comment went through the crowd. Obviously our friend was a well-known figure among the townspeople. 'When I read that page,' elaborated Pasquale, 'I thought to myself, "What these people say is exactly what I want to do for the world."' I'm a correspondent for *L'Unita*, the national Communist paper, and I was amazed that my paper didn't carry that page as well.'

There was an empty seat in the front row which Pasquale took. Three seats down was the Catholic chaplain of the Christian Trade Union and another priest. In the row behind sat a Duchess, a former lady-in-waiting to the Queen of Italy.

Afterwards, Pasquale was the last to leave. He took us next door for a *capuccino*, a delicious cup of coffee made from steam-heated milk with a large, fluffy head on it.

'I've always been for honesty,' he said. 'In fact, that's why I lost my job in the shipping company. I felt I had to fight under the banner of Communism because of the corruption in society. I know that Communism and Socialism are not the final aim. They are only an intermediary step. The final aim is, well, something like we've just seen on the screen in that film, *Men of Brazil*.'

Somehow Pasquale discovered that

the young man running the 35 mm. film projector was Ton Philips, son of the President of Philips Electric which employs 240,000 workers around the world. Pasquale could not stop talking about it. 'Imagine,' he would say, 'that fellow working with his hands when he could either be a great success in industry or a heck of a wild playboy. And he doesn't even get any salary for doing it.'

As we said good-night, Pasquale declared, 'I represent the opposition in this town. We must have a parade. I'll march in it with you so that everyone will know that there is no opposition to Moral Re-Armament in this city.'

From that day on Pasquale became a familiar sight at every function in which we took part. Though his salary is only 500 lire a day (just under seven shillings) he and his wife put up a young couple from Brazil in their flat. And the couple were from a capitalist background.

One day we met him coming out of the post office. He said, 'I've just sent off an article to *L'Unita* recommending that the Communist Party, like me, accepts a real clean-up, that is, adopts a policy of Moral Re-Armament. It's the only right course for us to take. And, brother, if they don't print it, they're not going to be seeing me around any more. I'm never going to be aligned with the reactionary forces in the world.'

Cyprus—A special showing of the Congolese film on ideological training for the armed forces was given at the request of General Pantelides, Commander-in-Chief of the Cyprus Army, for himself, his General Staff and 100 officers of the Cyprus Army at the Army Headquarters. At the end the Deputy Commander said, 'Moral Re-Armament is the first global attempt to bring people together in the world. We must have these films in the army training centre.'

NEWS IN BRIEF

China—The first instalment of *Frank Buchman's Secret* in serialised form was being read last week in Peking. It is appearing in *Observation Post*, leading Chinese magazine with subscribers in Peking, Taipei and throughout South-East Asia. It is also being sent personally to the leaders of Communist China by men who know them, together with a copy of the full page entitled *To Every Communist*. Peter Howard's book, which presents the challenge of a superior ideology to Communist and non-Communist alike, is translated by the magazine's publisher, General S. K. Yee.

Iran—Radio Teheran reported in news broadcasts all through one day on the interview accorded by His Imperial Majesty the Shah to an MRA international delegation. Commenting on the frustration and lack of ideological understanding in East and West alike, as evidenced in the Sino-Indian and Cuban conflicts, the Shah said he followed with the closest attention and with great satisfaction the advance of MRA across the world and the way it is solving problems. He was grateful for the moves towards a new unity in South-East Asia and referred to MRA's part in creating a new dimension in the ideological sphere, where problems were being lifted out of the present stalemate.

Switzerland—Eight hundred people attended the first commercial showings of the Rio dockers' film, *Men of Brazil*, in the city of Bulle, heart of the well-known Gruyère valley in the canton of Fribourg. The populace had come to know about the film through leaflets distributed at the factory gates and sent to every home. Earlier, leaders from education, Church, politics and industry attended a preview. The Speaker of the Cantonal Parliament wrote in *Le Fribourgeois* that the film brings 'a message of hope to all those who are reaching for the truth, to all men of goodwill.'