



NEW ROAD FOR SOUTH AFRICA

ADENAUER, ERHARD AND THE GERMAN ARMY
—BY DR. MORRIS MARTIN

TOP THEATRE MEN PRAISE MRA PLAY

'A NATION'S MAIN LINE OF DEFENCE'

MRA INFORMATION SERVICE

VOL. 12 NO. 296

FOUR HAYS MEWS, BERKELEY SQUARE, LONDON, W.1

SATURDAY, 22 JUNE, 1963

Citizens' Call to rearm Britain's morality

THE TIMES on the day of the Profumo debate reported among the speeches on its political news page:

'Every newspaper office in Fleet Street last night received a copy of a letter signed by more than 750 people in all parts of Britain calling on the Prime Minister, the Government, Parliament, and the press to "rearm the spirit and morality of our country". Moral Rearmament, who produced the letter, said that 545 more signatures had been added. The letter stated:—

"The nation is entitled to expect purity, honesty and dignity in high places. It is entitled to expect a judgment in its leadership sound enough to refrain from promoting men of doubtful character and dangerous friendships to positions of power.

"The indifference and cynicism towards moral standards must end. We call on the Government to concentrate as much on faith as on flesh in private and public matters. The nation's spirit is as important as its stomach.

"We thank God for a free press. If the press had been muzzled, the present scandal might never have come to light. We believe it wrong that pressmen should be imprisoned for refusing to gainsay their true conscience,

but we also believe that unless the press begins to give fresh moral emphasis to news, to report objectively the advance and views of Moral Rearmament, instead of passing over them in silence, we risk a growing moral chaos that will end freedom of press and people.

"This nation needs a clean-up. From top to bottom Britain needs moral rearmament. It is time both Government and press recognized the need and sustained the answer. We need a country governed by men governed by God."

In the same issue of *The Times* patriotic citizens had inserted a full page statement, 'Crisis in Character—to all who love Britain,' which is enclosed as a special supplement with this Information Service.

The Guardian, Daily Telegraph, Daily Herald, Daily Express, Daily Mail (northern edition) and *Scotsman* also carried reports on the Citizens' Call.

By the time this Information Service went to press 1,681 people had signed the petition. On Wednesday, 19 June, it was presented to the Prime Minister.

The signatories included city councillors, trade union leaders and rank and file, businessmen, housewives, farmers, students—a true cross-section of Britain.

'World's peoples must choose third way'

CHANCELLOR ADENAUER paid tribute on 11 June to 'the great success' which Moral Re-Armament with its ideological play, *Space Is So Startling*, has had 'in many cities in Germany and other countries of the free world as well as in performances for large contingents of the German Army.'

Dr. Adenauer was writing to the international cast of the play which had its Bonn première last week.

The Chancellor declared: 'I welcome every contribution which demonstrates to the people of our country and of the whole free world that only with clear thinking and determination, with unity of mind and action, can the free nations preserve their freedom.'

Only when Prince Richard of Hesse stepped on to the stage to read this message from Dr. Adenauer and one from Chancellor-elect Erhard could the tumultuous

applause for the play in the large Beethovenhalle be halted.

Prince Richard said: 'If the world's peoples want to avoid atomic war and dictatorship, they must choose the third way shown by *Space Is So Startling*.'

The play is reportedly the talk of Bonn. Ambassadors from 21 nations were present at a diplomatic reception to meet the Prince and members of the cast.

On their desks 15,000 government officials and office staff found invitations, distributed through the ministerial information system.

The Government press office reported another half page article in the Moscow Press on MRA's world offensive. *Tass* released a summary of this article which appeared on 6 June in *Komsomolskaya Pravda*, central organ of the Soviet youth of the U.S.S.R.

NEW ROAD FOR SOUTH AFRICA

by MANASSEH MOERANE

Former President of the Teachers' Federation of South Africa

IN the light of the racial unrest in the United States, a unique strategy developing from South Africa itself has particular significance.

It must be seen against the background of the recent African Summit conference at Addis Ababa.

The political leaders of independent Africa are endeavouring to evolve a working machinery and strategy to tackle the big problems facing the continent. The most vehement strictures have been levelled against South Africa and the other white-controlled states in the South. This opposition to Southern white policies was a unifying factor at the Addis conference.

Spearhead of a new way of tackling South African problems is a force of South African patriots with the play, *The Dictator's Slippers*. The cast consists of men of revolutionary backgrounds.

From rival groups

There are men from the now-banned African National Congress. For fifty years this national movement battled for freedom and equal rights. There are men from the rival, also banned Pan-African Congress (P.A.C.) background. The P.A.C. split from the A.N.C. and staged the historic Sharpeville demonstration. With the cast, which also includes a white industrialist, travels a force of black and white from rival backgrounds. Among them are students from the militant, white University of Stellenbosch.

This force resulted from strategy and hard work. A few months ago several men, black and white in Johannesburg, accepted the challenge of Moral Re-Armament—to live their lives to put right what is wrong in the world. They chose as their weapon a colour film, *The Crowning Experience*.

Their strategy included house-to-house distribution of invitations to 17,000 homes and an intensive programme of showing the film in the different townships around Johannesburg, where over 600,000 Africans live. As this action progressed, a force of men emerged who decided to take on the mobilization of the nation. The weapon chosen was Peter Howard's play *The Dictator's Slippers*.

Historic Assembly

It was launched at an Easter Assembly of Moral Re-Armament this year at a time when acts of sabotage and racial clashes by two organizations called 'The Spear of the Nation' and 'Poqo' had given rise to more drastic measures of control, arrest and detention.

This Easter Assembly was an unusual spectacle, held as it was in the heart of the African Townships outside Johannesburg. Many white people came into such an area for the first time in their lives. They came from all over the country. The climax was the première of *The Dictator's Slippers*. That audience of a thousand,

evenly divided in number between white and black—a cross-section of responsible citizens of South Africa—created history.

'All my people must see this,' said a leading pastor from the Dutch Reformed Church. 'This must reach my people,' said an African medical doctor—a father of his community.

On 1 May *The Dictator's Slippers* was launched at Pretoria, the administrative capital of the Republic. Pretoria is also the seat of the largest Afrikaans university.

As the audience, which included government officials, professors and students from the university, streamed out of the theatre, one man said to the cast, 'You have proclaimed a united purpose for the whole nation.'

Should set pace

The Mayor of Johannesburg, Councillor J. F. Oberholzer, introduced the play in the Alexander Theatre on 3 May. 'I hope this play will go all over the continent,' said the Mayor. A packed audience of the leadership of Johannesburg on this day, as on the next, responded enthusiastically to the challenge of the cast who said, 'We are fighting here for the survival and the triumph of democracy itself.'

Bremer Hofmeyr, of the well-known Afrikaans political family, speaking after the performance, said, 'We white people have in our hands the economic and political power of the country. By that token we should be the ones to set the pace in change, in sacrifice and in intelligent planning to reach all Africa with an answer that really works.'

The Dictator's Slippers next played in the town hall in Stellenbosch, another university city. From this university have come five of the six Prime Ministers of the Republic. The African revolutionaries from the cast were kept busy addressing eager groups of students.

Testing session

In Cape Town Parliament was in session. A heavy programme of legislation had just gone through. It had been a session which tested the statesmanship of the nation and led to a protest resignation by a front-bench Opposition parliamentarian.

The Dictator's Slippers came like a breath of fresh air. Here Senators, M.P.'s from Government and Opposition, black, brown and white, together enthusiastically applauded the performance and the convictions of the cast as they gave evidence which many said was the most hopeful sign in a difficult situation.

The Africans received invitations to address Members of Parliament.

Men of different colours and backgrounds are united in a commitment to meet men's needs and shape the world to God's design. Here is the road to the new Africa.

ADENAUER, ERHARD AND THE GERMAN ARMY

By DR. MORRIS MARTIN

*who was the youngest Doctor of Philosophy of his generation
at Oxford and worked closely with Dr. Buchman for 25 years*

I HAVE just come back from being with the German Army and with the Socialists in Frankfurt. The play, *Space Is So Startling*, is now in Germany and it is absolutely tailor-made for Germany today.

We were welcomed in the great City Hall of Frankfurt. The Socialist Lord Mayor had invited the play there, and the Socialists said, 'We are proud that we are responsible for this play coming to Frankfurt.' They said to us, 'The next man who will be received in this hall will be President Kennedy.'

At that reception Prince Richard of Hesse spoke. He is a great European and a great-grandson of Queen Victoria. He is a man with burning conviction for what needs to happen in his country, Germany. He said a very striking thing: 'Some of us have the feeling in Germany that the atmosphere of the 1930s is coming back again. Young people are seeking for something solid to build their lives on. Unless we find a great purpose for our nation and all Europe now, we shall be to blame if another 1933 comes around.'

Under Army orders

The German Army is just taking in new recruits who were born at the end of the war or even after the end of the war. They are eighteen years old.

I sat in an auditorium with 1,200 soldiers and 200 more standing, who had come under orders of the German Army to see *Space Is So Startling*. I sat behind a captain who had brought 300 men from a camp near the Iron Curtain.

At the end of that play he turned around to me and said, 'I had an idea that these men would not get this play. I was dead wrong.' He said, 'Just listen to them.' They were stamping, they were cheering, they were shouting at the end of that play.

Then we walked out together. He said to me, 'You have come at the most serious moment. This is a new generation in Germany. They have been cut off from their past. They have been told that to be a soldier is to be a traitor. They have lost their patriotism. They have nothing to believe in. They are wide open for any idea now. It is not a generation that says, "We won't have anything to do with anything." That generation is going. These men want something. The danger is that we have not had the right thing to give them. You have come absolutely at the right moment.'

Defending what?

This officer continued, 'These men ask me, "What are we meant to defend?"' We were standing across the river from a city called Regensburg on the Danube, a marvellous city with 2,000 years of history and tra-

dition. He pointed to the skyline. 'Look at that city. There's a Roman wall, a great old cathedral. That's tradition. That's history. That's worth defending. But,' he added, 'it isn't enough.'

'There's got to be the right idea to live for and to die for if you are going to be in the army,' he said. As we were standing there, some of his men were marching by, very trim. They were singing an old song. He caught the words and said, 'That's interesting. That's something happening to those men already, that they should be singing that song.' It was an old one called 'The Homeland', 'Der Heimatland'. He said, 'These men are searching for something to build their lives on.'

Could demand character

My wife was with me, and he turned to her and said, 'But we cannot do it without the girls. The girls have made themselves cheap, and we will never get the type of men we need if the girls make themselves cheap. They could demand the manliness, the character and the strength from men that would make a real man. That's what we need in Germany. We've got men who want to give, but they don't know what to give for.'

It was a very great experience to sit through that play with those soldiers. I thought back to the 1930s, and I thought of what idea took over Germany then and why. Nothing came out of Britain at that time that captured the young Germans. There was nothing in our national life that before Hitler took power said to Germany, 'We want to work with you to rebuild.' Now we are facing that again.

These German soldiers represent the next generation in Germany. The officer commanding in that area reported to the authorities in Bonn, 'This force with the play have strengthened the patriotism and power of resistance of my men.'

Not a personal issue

That report was given to one of the top men in the Ministry of Defence in Bonn. He said, 'Our nation has no idea of the seriousness of the situation in Europe today. Our national anthem has become,' and he quoted an old song, 'Enjoy life while you can.'

You read in the papers about Chancellor Adenauer and Professor Erhard, and often we think of it as an old man who doesn't want to see a younger man take his place or some personal thing between two men. Actually, the heart of the struggle for Europe lies in that issue. Adenauer is not against Erhard as a man at all. He's for him. He has said so. But he is concerned that Erhard may put the god of prosperity first and that the future of Europe as a whole will be sacrificed to that; and the

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Top theatre men praise MRA play

REMIGIO PAONE, one of Europe's best known impresarios, and Eligio Possenti, Italy's foremost drama critic, spoke out for *El Condor*, the play by revolutionary South American students, when it opened in Milan this month.

'*El Condor* is an absolutely new type of theatre—new in its technique and in its ideological aim,' Commendatore Paone, President of the Theatre Owners' Association of Italy, and owner of the Teatro Nuovo where the play has been staged the last fortnight, told a press conference. 'You have presented a perfect play that is necessary for Italy now,' he said to the cast later. 'It was a glorious success.'

Paone was for many years secretary to Pietro Nenni, leader of the Left wing Socialist Party. At his request *El Condor* was held over for another week at the Teatro

Nuovo and he reduced the rent as his contribution.

Every Milan newspaper from Communist *Unità* to Catholic *L'Italia* made *El Condor* the main feature of their review page. The national radio broadcast a programme on the play in its theatre round-up.

Possenti, writing in *Corriere della Sera*, Italy's largest and most influential daily, said, 'It is a drama full of conviction. . . The most praiseworthy thing in this great initiative is the concept of the importance of the theatre as a way to speak to men's consciences. This is something which for quite a while the Leftist currents have understood. The theatre is a force and the men who govern us must understand this. The play was acted with great vitality. . . In each actor was a vibrant conviction.'

The Mayor of Milan spoke before the première, giving his official welcome to this city of two million.

'A nation's main line of defence'

A NEW ideological weapon was launched last week in Tokyo. It is a full length musical, called *Beyond Communism to Revolution*, written and acted by fifty Japanese students. Many of them took part in the play, *The Tiger*, whose historic world tour was said by Brazilian leaders to have averted civil war in that country.

The play unfolds, with song and dance, before a breath-taking backdrop of Mount Fuji. It describes dramatically the danger of subversion in the free world and challenges the Japanese to clean up their nation, launch a revolution beyond Communism and give an answer to both East and West.

Japanese leaders were quick to seize the possibilities of the play. General Wada, Commander-in-Chief for the Western Region of Japan, said that he had arranged for the entire force under his command 'to work with you to give it to the entire nation, because I knew this is the most important work in Japan today.'

In every camp where the new play went soldiers gave substantial sums from their pay to the ideological offensive in Kyushu, Japan's central island.

In Kutamoto City, headquarters of Western Defence, 4,000 officers and men saw *Beyond Communism to Revolution* in three performances. The Army Education Board and the city's daily paper sponsored one showing.

In Kyushu's southern-most city a whole camp ate box meals for two days to convert the mess hall into a theatre, such was their keenness to see the play. The education officer commented that it was 'worth hundreds of hours of training.'

General Sugita, till recently Chief of Staff of Japan's Ground Forces, summed up his view of the importance of this offensive: 'In modern war the Moral Re-Armament of a nation is its main line of defence. Many people think men, money and material make an army, but what we need also is morale and MRA.'

ADENAUER, ERHARD. . .—(Continued)

future of Europe, as Adenauer sees it, is ideological, that is to say, ultimately dependent on what idea controls and unites Europe.

Away from non-essentials

But Erhard sent a message to the play, *Space Is So Startling*, when it was shown in his own constituency, in Ulm. It said that 'what is especially needed in our times is to take people away from non-essentials to the great questions of our age.'

A French newspaper printed an article on this. It made this point, 'When Professor Erhard becomes Chancellor of Germany, what idea will he give to his country and to Europe? Will it be the message of the economic

miracle or will it be what he said in his message to *Space Is So Startling* in Ulm? If he gives this message, France will be on his side.'

Europe has got to find the idea on which it unites. That is the crux of our European problem today. As they look to Britain what they want to see is this: a Britain that takes the offensive instead of bemoaning her fate, that deals with the decadence in the country instead of being known, as we are getting to be known all over the world, as a nation of perverts and of security risks.

Europe and America, Asia and Africa want to see a Britain that takes on a genuine revolution for everybody which will sweep Communists and non-Communists ahead to a new phase in history.