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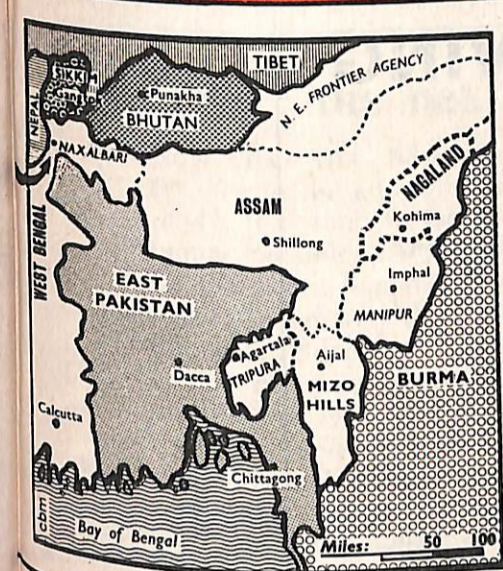
# HIMMAT

WEEKLY 25p.

VOL 3 NO 37

ASIA'S NEW VOICE

FRIDAY JULY 14 1967



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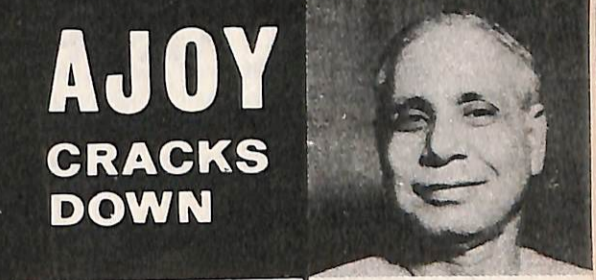
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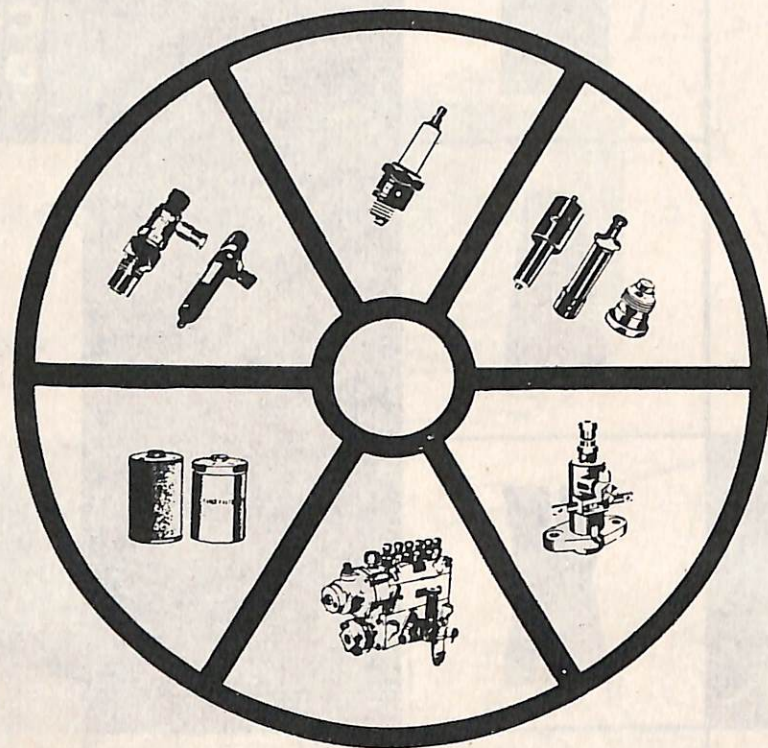
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Page 17

**FOR THE  
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Page 7**

**PRIVY PURSES 4 CHIEF MINISTERS WARN INDIRA**



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# HIMMAT

Asia's new voice

WEEKLY

BOMBAY FRIDAY JULY 14 1967

## Bihar: the next step

NOW THAT THE Bihar famine is "under control" (thanks to the efforts of thousands in India and abroad), it is time to tackle the causes that made the famine possible. Although the rains may have failed for many years more. As Mr Jayaprakash Narayan noted last week, Bihar is in the fertile Indo-Gangetic Plain. It has perennial snow-fed rivers and subterranean waters "just two to six feet below the ground" which could be used for irrigation. There was no reason then why it should face famine, said J. P.

All praise to Relief Kitchens that have saved so many lives, but unless the deeper work of changing the outlook and the spirit of Bihar's millions is undertaken, come October and many will still expect to go to the Relief Kitchens. There is a real danger that lakhs in Bihar will become completely dependent on the kitchens and on dole.

A water diviner recently returned from Bihar reported that even at Rs 3 per day he found it difficult to get a person in a drought-affected district to dig holes for him. Somewhere, someone has to light a spark in Bihar, to plant a passion in her sons that never again shall Bihar suffer such a famine-rain or no rain.

Certainly wheat, seeds and fertilisers have their part but whether Bihar stands or falls will depend on the spirit of politicians, civil servants and the rest of her people.

Gandhiji managed to tap the hidden wealth in Bihar's character. Bihar was the first State to rally behind him. Jayaprakash, a distinguished son of Bihar and of India, has done yeoman service and but for his efforts many today would not be on their feet. His next great battle may be to give one unifying idea that will regenerate Bihar. With it, Bihar's empty hands will be filled with work, empty stomachs with food and empty hearts with an idea that really satisfies.

## Hong Kong

DOES MAO want to take over Hong Kong? It is worth more to him in British hands than it would be in his own, for China's trade with Hong Kong fetches her \$400 million a year of foreign exchange which helps her buy the wheat she imports.

It is a part of Mao's strategy to keep the pot boiling and the revolution fermenting. But in a territory of 4 million people Mao has to hire Chinese to create trouble and make his presence felt, as admitted by many arrested by Hong Kong's police.

We should be grateful that the Hong Kong authorities are making a stand there. It will encourage other nations of Asia. It is now for the people of Hong Kong, who by and large want Hong Kong to remain free, to organise civic resistance against the tactics of these hirelings of Peking as the people of Naxalbari are doing under the leadership of its non-Communist political parties.

The people of Hong Kong have as much a right to remain free as we in India have, and just because 99 per cent are Chinese it does not mean that they are for Mao's ways.

## 1984 and all that

IT HAS BEEN REPORTED from (usually) reliable sources that the Steering Committee of the AICP (All-India Chamber of Princes) meeting in Atulya Bhavan has unanimously passed a resolution abrogating the agreement made in 1968 to pay privy purses and afford other facilities to defeated Congress Party bosses.

It is recalled that this arrangement was made by way of compensation to some 554 Congress bosses who were divested of their spheres of influence during the change-over in 1967. Many of the Party big-shots (21 guns and over) were left, as a result, very comfortably off—even more so than during their period of office. Some even stayed on in their large Delhi bungalows normally reserved only for sitting Members and Ministers of the Union.

Instead of privy purses some of the more dignified Party veterans were given governorships, ambassadorships and other positions of pomp and pageantry.

But there is a growing move to end this drain on the exchequer, which, as far back as 1967, the then Finance Minister predicted would not be debt free until the year 2017.

Many retired Congressmen are now asking how they will live. Some plan to go into business where they say they have excellent contacts dating back 20 years. Others, worried at the prospect of hard work on the land, fear that the land ceilings their own government enacted 30 years ago make profitable farming difficult.

Some even plan to challenge this move in the Supreme Court if it is carried out. They feel that further amendments to the Constitution, which would be required, are no longer justified. Quite enough were made during the first 20 years of independence.



# Briefly speaking...

## A matter of principle

MONEY-LENDING must be one of the world's oldest professions. India seems to be in the grip of money-lenders. Our foreign debt is Rs 4797.77 crores and we have to pay this year Rs 167.49 crores in principal and Rs 141.47 crores in interest. A time may soon be reached when the interest due from us per year will be higher than the principal.

That reminds *Birbal* of the school-boy who said he was not against going to school but was against the principal of it all.

## Judgement

A RATHER DEFLATED Mr Chagla returned from the United Nations. The non-aligned resolution on which he had worked was slung out. *The*

*Times of India* reports that "Israel's influence on some of the Asian and East African states also came as a revelation to New Delhi."

The paper also says that the Russians "misjudged the mood of the Assembly" but "India was among the minority to vote for every clause in the Soviet resolution, including the preamble which accused Israel of premeditated aggression."

Even after all this Mr Chagla tells the Congress Parliamentary Party that the stand taken by India had "proved to be correct".

Whom is Mr Chagla fooling?

## Pathetic

WORDS may not cost Mr Chagla anything, but his encouragement has cost the Egyptians dear. A Cairo paper has called on all Egyptian couples to contribute their golden wedding rings (12 million estimated) to help Egypt to make up for 300 million dollars lost to Egypt by the Suez Canal remaining closed, possibly for a year. Fifty tons of melted gold would fetch 280 million dollars.

Had Mr Chagla been a true friend of Egypt he would have restrained, not cheered her on to a military defeat. One can, however, say that he has proved a true friend of the USSR.

## The real America

AN AMERICAN READER has kindly sent the full text of President Johnson's "count your blessings" speech delivered to the Jaycees recently. The President catalogues the staggering achievements of America. "We own," he says, "almost a third of the world's railroad tracks. We own almost two-thirds of the world's automobiles and we don't have to wait three years to get one." (Probably he had India in mind!)

"With 6 per cent of the population in the world, we have half of its wealth."

I am not an American but as a friend of that country I feel sad that in all these material achievements, there is not a word by the President about the *real* wealth of America,

All mankind is divided into three classes: those that are immovable, those that are movable, and those that move.

BENJAMIN FRANKLIN, 1706-1790

its warm-hearted dynamic people and her rich heritage of a Walt Whitman, Henry Thoreau (who inspired Gandhi) and Lincoln.

One can well ask: Is America losing her finer values in the dazzling glitter of her materialism?

## Habit of noting

MADRAS CHIEF MINISTER, C. N. Annadurai, is a most refreshing and candid speaker. *Birbal* has received the text of his speech when he released the book "The Big Change" by K. S. Ramanujam, *Hindustan Times* correspondent of Madras. In a candid admission he says that we as a nation are not well versed in the art of chronicling events or noting them daily. "The day I became the Chief Minister I thought I should give up this bad practice and take to keeping diaries. I asked my secretary to get half a dozen diaries, thinking that in one diary I shall record only the engagements, in another my thoughts, in a third I shall record all whom I met; but the ingrained habit of our nation is such that I have to say that I have not only not copied, not only not jotted down in the diary, but most of the diaries are missing!"

## A warm-hearted friend

CIVIC LEADER, Legislator, Parliamentarian, Naushir C. Bharucha who died suddenly last Sunday had a remarkable zest for life. He was always interesting because he was interested in everything that happened around him. He was a warm-hearted, faithful and cheerful friend. His wife shared many of his interests.

*Birbal* remembers visiting him in Delhi when he proudly showed his files of press clippings which he, an MP, himself clipped and arranged. He was thorough in his research and pungent in his speeches. He was sincere and honest about his views. He came from that vintage of politicians of whom there are few nowadays but whose qualities will inspire those who follow.

*Birbal*



## from the Capital

# 4 Chief Ministers Warn Indira

by **ANTENNA**

NEW DELHI Scarcely had Mrs Indira Gandhi appeared to have got a firm grip on the Government and on the Congress Parliamentary Party than members of her own organisation executed a move which, in the opinion of

political observers here, might end in the downfall of her regime. The snap decision of the All-India Congress Committee a fortnight ago to abolish princely privy purses at the instance of a member of the Rajya Sabha from Maharashtra, Mr Mohan Dharia, has riven the Government and the Party and, if pursued to its logical end, will further weaken and divide the already greatly enfeebled Congress.

Mr Dharia's ostensible objective was two-fold: to burnish in the eyes of the people the blurred socialist image of the Party and, more important, to deprive the princes of the financial resources which some of them used in the last general election to aid some opposition parties, to the detriment of the Congress.

The AICC enthusiastically approved, in the absence of Mrs Gandhi and Deputy Prime Minister Morarji Desai, Mr Dharia's amendment to the official resolution to remove the legal and other privileges of the princes without weighing the consequences, but the process of furious rethinking that has followed in the last two weeks has led top party leaders to the painful realisation that by abolishing these purses the Congress will be pulling the rug from under its own feet, politically speaking.

## Cooking her goose

In three states and one Union territory at least, the Congress goose will be cooked if Mrs Gandhi makes a serious bid to implement the AICC decision, for which some of her Cabinet colleagues voted. The states are Gujarat, Madhya Pradesh and Rajasthan, and their Chief Ministers have already warned the Centre of their Ministries' fate if abolition is pushed through.

Dr Y. S. Parmar, Chief Minister of Himachal Pradesh, whose Government is tottering because of the threatened defection of a sizable number of Congress dissidents in the territory's Legislative Assembly, will most certainly have little chance of survival if the princes of Himachal throw their weight behind the oppo-

sition to him. Thus, should these three states and one territory go out of the control of the Congress, the Party will be left with only Jammu and Kashmir in the whole of northern India. And observers here are not very optimistic about the future of Mr G. M. Sadiq, Kashmir's Chief Minister and a staunch supporter of

Mrs Gandhi, if Sheikh Abdullah is released from detention and permitted to return to Srinagar.

Chief Minister D. P. Mishra of Madhya Pradesh, whose continuance in office hinges on the goodwill of the Maharaja of Rewa, is believed to have strongly advised Mrs Gandhi in talks with her here this weekend not to press the abolition of privy purses. In public, he has advised a "cautious" approach to the issue. He argues that the Congress would be guilty of a "breach of trust" to the princes if it brushes aside the constitutional guarantees in this connection, and at the same time points out that only five per cent of the princes

continued on next page

## On your toes

### MR SHAH'S OPPORTUNITY

FEW POSTS offer more scope than the Information & Broadcasting portfolio, yet it tends to become a hand-out to politicians needing a job.

Will the incumbent Mr. K. K. Shah change this dreary trend? While he has made a show of new innovations, from radio advertising to wall newspapers, there is no indication yet that new talent is likely to resurrect this anaemic ministry.

Many newspapers feel that commercial broadcasting on All-India Radio, due next month, will take away clients. The likelihood of this is doubtful however, until advertisers have some evidence that AIR has a wide listening public.

AIR has no hope of becoming a popular national service until it is run by a corporation free from the direction of Government sycophants. Present day news bulletins are as loaded and dull as any from Moscow or Peking. Two inevitable features are a distorted or fading transmission, and glowing accounts (unfounded and unconvincing) of Government's performance in foreign affairs and domestic production.

Mr Shah is now preparing double-page newspapers to be spread on village walls. An excellent idea, already doomed by its author's avowed intention: to give the "other side" of Government efforts which he feels is not being published by the press. The people do not want "one side" or the "other side". They want facts and hope. Propaganda prepared by men beholden to Government viewpoints will be read by few and believed by less.

If Mr Shah really wishes to inform the nation let him encourage the free press (a remarkable phenomenon still in a nation so bound by controls in other directions) by: (i) Releasing sufficient duty-free newsprint (ii) Rescinding the proposed 150 per cent rise in registered newspaper postage which, in HIMMAT's case, will steal a further 13 per cent from every subscription, (iii) Giving more DAVP advertising at scheduled rates and paying for it on time.

Many more recommendations have been made by the various Government committees inquiring into newspapers. Mr Shah frequently professes his friendship for the press. Now let it be practical.

*Freebooter*

**CHALTA HAI...**

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**BIG SHOT**



# VERDICT!

## This week HIMMAT...

**SNORTS** at the report that Government publicity media have been ordered to emphasize past achievements rather than future programmes, and **WARNS** that not all the glory of Asoka and Nehru yesterday will produce a grain of rice tomorrow unless our people decide to.

**FEELS** sour about the Maharashtra cooperative sugar factories withholding sugar from Bombay's ration shops until they get the price increase they demand.

**QUESTIONS** the wisdom of relating the price of ration rice to the recipient's income, a proposal Kerala Food Minister Mrs. Gouri Thomas is examining—and **PREDICTS** that such a scheme would only increase corruption without alleviating anyone's hunger.

**COMPLIMENTS** the Government on giving a licence in eight days to an Indian firm opened by President Husain on his recent visit to Canada, and **HOPES** the Government will keep up this pace even without the stimulus of a Presidential visit.

**IS HEARTENED** that some of us may still be alive in 2017 when, states Finance Minister Morarji Desai, India will complete repayment of her Rs 4797 crores foreign debts.

**SUPPORTS** the Catholic Bishops' warning, on measures proposed to control population, that "short cuts may produce speedy results, but they can only do so by being morally-suicidal."

**IS CHEERED** by the Government's statement that it is likely to spend Rs 92 lakhs this year on economic and technical aid to other Asian and African countries—despite India's own economic difficulties.

**WELCOMES** Indian Cricket Board President Z. R. Irani's saying that he would like to see cricket tours between India and Pakistan re-started by the end of next year.

## INDIRA WARNED—from page 5

dabble in politics, and that half of this percentage are pro-Congress. About 70 per cent of them, he says, depend solely on their purses for a livelihood, and the loss of this source of income will place them in a similar predicament as the goldsmiths after the promulgation of gold control.

With dissident Congress in Madhya Pradesh already busying themselves to oust Mr Mishra, the withdrawal of Rewa's support would be the final blow, and observers in the capital predict his fall will be followed by a non-Congress regime headed perhaps by the Rajmata of Gwalior, the most formidable opponent of the Congress in the state.

If the worst fears of the political pundits are fulfilled, the Congress will finally be left with control of only three states—Andhra Pradesh, Mysore and Maharashtra—and this will make the continuance of the Congress administration in New Delhi untenable.

## Congress hawks

Meanwhile, the hawks or "progressives" or what have you in the Congress Parliamentary Party are doing their utmost to goad the Government into prompt action on the AICC decision. Finding most of their party colleagues lukewarm, they are appealing to the Left and Right Communists and the Samyukta Socialists to back them to obtain the required majority to amend the constitution to permit the abolition of purses. Heading the abolitionists is Mr. K. D. Malavia. Among his able lieutenants are Diwan Chaman Lall, and ex-cardholding Communists and some fellow travellers who now grace both Houses of Parliament as Congressmen. Other Congressmen in the forefront of the "struggle" to abolish the purses are Mr Arjun Arora, Mr Amrit Nahata, Mr Chandrajit Yadav, Mr Chintamani Panigrahi, Mr K. R. Ganesh, Mr Shashi Bhushan Bajpai and Mr R. K. Sinha and Mr A. M. Tariq from Kashmir.

Observers feel that before things go too far the Government will find a way of wriggling out of its difficulties. This may be done by getting some "friendly" prince to challenge the validity of abolition in the Supreme Court. If the Court rules that

purses are a fundamental right of the princes, then, in keeping with the Court's recent ruling that Parliament cannot legislate such rights out of existence, no legal action is permissible.

What baffles many observers is why, in the absence of Mrs Gandhi and Mr Desai when the AICC was debating the subject, Mr Chavan played a silent role, although at the time of voting he did not support Mr Dharia's amendment. The question of privy purses is a matter of direct concern to Mr Chavan's Ministry, Home, and moreover its political significance to the Congress and the Government should have impelled him to restrain his impetuous follower from his home state of Maharashtra.

Mr Dharia, incidentally, is a "progressive" and refused a deputy ministership at the time Mrs Gandhi was forming her new Government in April on the ground, it is said, that he thought he deserved a higher ministerial rank.

## Cabinet rift?

What was the reason for Mr Chavan's silence? One veteran observer believes the compelling factor was to hit at Mr Mishra, and Commerce Minister Dinesh Singh, both powerful rivals of the Home Minister for the position of Mrs Gandhi's closest confidant and adviser. Mr Chavan, one learns, is resentful of the growing influence of the princelings whom Mr Dinesh Singh is bringing into the inner circle of Mrs Gandhi's friends. If this reading is correct, it indicates that a rift is developing between the Prime Minister and the Home Minister, hitherto regarded as her most loyal supporter in the Cabinet. The political significance of such a rift is immense.

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## Perspective on Naxalbari

### — an Indian Yen-an ?

**A LITTLE OVER** twenty years ago, a helpless and downtrodden peasantry in parts of the Telangana region of feudal Hyderabad suddenly discovered their strength in their unity and determination to resist the landlords.

Their resistance grew almost out of necessity as paid gangs of landlords, in collusion with a corrupt police, unleashed a regime of violence in reply to the legitimate organisation of the peasantry against iniquitous practices like forced labour. The violence of the peasants was reaction to that of the landlords. Initially, it was spontaneous. But as it grew on the fertile soil of years of pent-up bitterness, the leaders of the peasants who belonged to the Communist Party realised its potential and organised it.

The growth of peasant violence coincided with increasing unrest against the Nizam's rule. The violence against landlords merged in the larger cause of the political struggle against his regime.

Internationally, the war-time alliance between the Soviet Union, Britain and USA had given place to a cold war. Moscow, engaged at that time in a shift to the left, found it

## SAY THAT AGAIN...

*You don't want my grandson fighting yours and I don't want you shooting at him.*

PRESIDENT JOHNSON (to Premier Kosygin)

*One upon a time if you lost a war you suffered the consequences. Now the small fighters call in big friends to try and regain by talk what they have lost with bullets.*

RONALD PAYNE  
"Sunday Telegraph", London.

*Socialism minus democracy plus violence is equal to Communism.*

H. V. KAMATH, PSP leader

*A set of mentally-retarded children seem to be leading India.*

FRANK MORAES

convenient to encourage a militant policy everywhere. Telangana came in handy as a rallying cry for militant uprisings all over South-East Asia. The moderate leadership of the Communist Party of India under P. C. Joshi was replaced by that of extremists to the cry of "Telangana way is our way".

What followed is familiar history. Under B. T. Ranadive's leadership, a genuine peasant and anti-feudal movement was transformed into senseless terrorism, unleashed not only in areas of Communist strength but everywhere. The trade union movement led by the Party degenerated into acid-bulb and bomb-throwing incidents all over the country.

Even Communist prisoners in jail were advised to provoke incidents that would lead to violence and shooting. Mr Ranadive and the Communist Party at that time really imagined that they were promoting insurrection in the classic pattern of Revolutionary Russia as a prelude to the "working class seizure of power".

## Chinese example

The victory of the Communists in China appeared—to some sections at any rate—to lend a *raison d'être* to the adventurist and terroristic violence of Indian Communism, which it had never had following the initial phase of the agrarian troubles in 1946-1947. The study of Chinese Communist history, while establishing the futility of the Ranadive-sponsored violence of the cities, revealed the potentialities of agrarian uprisings as a means of securing power.

Indian Communists—some of them anyway—began to dream of the day when areas of agrarian unrest, especially in inaccessible terrain suitable to guerrilla struggle, preferably situated in a border area contiguous with neighbouring countries, could become bases for the future Indian Communist state such as Yen-an was for Communist China.

It is hard to say what percentage of Indian Communists have worked actively for the realisation of such a strategy. But the potentialities of border areas, as well as situations such as in Nagaland and Mizo Hills,

## Under the Lens

by R. VAITHESWARAN



for the ultimate establishment of an Indian Yen-an must have been obvious to all of them. The dangers of a Vietnam-type of situation in the North East have been seriously pointed out by many to the Government of India, which in its usual style, has remained slow and lethargic in resolving the problems that cause discontent among the hill tribes of the border areas.

## Communist conflicts

It would seem that a considerable number of the Communists of Andhra, Kerala and West Bengal who organised the violence of the Ranadive period, never really put much faith in the policies of a collaborationist Communist Party and hoped that events would demonstrate their conviction for an armed struggle in India. There were many who idealised the spartan simplicity and spirit of dedication of the "struggle period" and contrasted it with what they considered to be "the degeneration" brought about by Parliamentarism.

A considerable section of those who broke away from the official Communist Party three years ago were believers in the inevitability of armed struggle, though there was also a parliamentary wing amongst the break-away group who wanted uncompromising opposition to the Congress without necessarily envisaging armed struggle. A conflict between these two groups among the left Communists was inevitable at one stage or another.

The formation of United Front Governments in Kerala and West Bengal, in which left Communists were the most important constituent, was a catalyst that brought left and right wings to work together.

The apparent helplessness of the left Communist leadership in the West Bengal Government may be an indication not only of understandable caution in acting against their own comrades but of fundamental ideological differences in the top leadership of the Party.

The root cause of the trouble, as in Telangana, lies in the land system, tragically left untackled by 20 years of the Congress regime. The eager-

continued on page 19



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**FROM THE WORLD'S CAPITALS**



**The ILO weathers the storm**

FROM PIERRE SPOERRI

**GENEVA** Of all the three-lettered creations of the last decades, the ILO (International Labour Organisation) is perhaps the oldest and the least known. It was created in 1919 with a membership of 44 states of which only seven were from Asia and Africa—and has grown since to a huge outfit with a membership of 119 nations. The number of delegates and advisers participating in the 51st session of the ILO starting on June 7 was over 1200.

Two issues underlay all the deliberations of the conference. One was the question of peace, the other the question of the real transformation of society needed if the growing gap between the industrialised and developing nations was to be bridged.

On both these issues, one could see roughly four blocs emerging amongst the nations present, with four different opinions. There were the representatives of the Soviet bloc, who took every opportunity to point out that you could not separate the question of economic development from the question of aggression.

The United States delegates, of course, denounced the attitude of the Soviet bloc delegates and accused them of introducing subjects into the discussion which were, according to them, outside the scope of the ILO.

The third bloc, the Western European powers, were even more determined to keep the ILO ship from getting into troubled waters. Obviously, their first interest was to get the conventions and recommendations ready and adopted without getting into what they considered unnecessary arguments. They gave sometimes half-hearted support to the Americans when they were unjustly attacked, but one did not see in their speeches and attitudes any greater interest than in preserving their present prosperity.

**Developing countries**

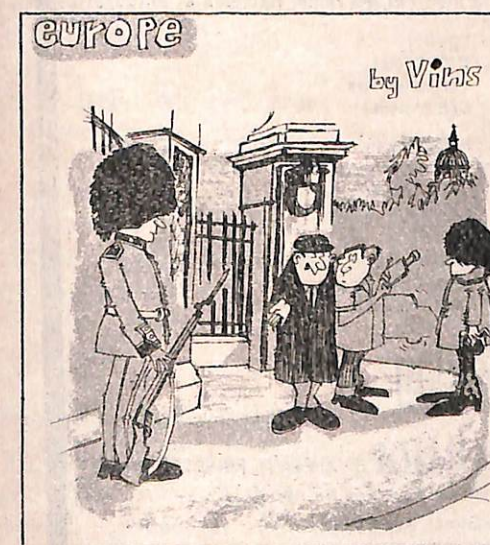
The fourth bloc, finally, was the great number of countries of Asia, Africa and Latin America. For these countries, the question of development was uppermost on their minds. The workers' delegate from India, Shri Abid Ali, summed up what most of these delegates felt when he said:

"The developing countries of Asia, Africa and Latin America possess two-thirds of the world's population, but their inhabitants share only one-sixth of the world's income. There seems today to be little realisation of this danger and less inclination to use the prosperity of one region to eliminate poverty in the other..."

One felt in this "world social parliament" the growing impatience and frustration in many developing countries of the world. And when it came to discuss the budget of the ILO, the gap between the rich and the developing nations became even more obvious. On the suggestion of some of the smaller nations, the conference adopted, against the votes of

continued on next page

**Vins in Europe**



"Lucky for their uniform! Otherwise we wouldn't know the difference."

**The week in ASIA**

**PEKING**—The thoughts of Mao have become an international best seller, says the New China News Agency. Between October 1966 and May this year, Chinese printers shipped over 800,000 copies of "Quotations from Chairman Mao" to 177 countries.

**ADEN**—The entire Indian population will leave soon for India, their spokesman in the Crater area said. The district was sealed off by the British after extremists gunned down 22 troops. Later, British troops re-occupied the area.

**DJAKARTA**—The East Java military authority ordered Government offices to remove pictures of ex-President Sukarno from public places. They are to be replaced by the national coat of arms, "Unity in Diversity".

**SAIGON**—US marines fighting with bombs and tanks smashed an attempt by 2500 North Vietnamese troops to invade the South.

**TAIPEH**—Russia has drawn a new map of China in retaliation against China's remapping of the Sino-Soviet borders. The regions shown as autonomous are: Tibet, Sinkiang, Inner Mongolia and Hwei district of Ningsi bordering Outer Mongolia.

**MANILA**—In Cotabato town, a band of robbers took shelter from the rain in a house where a family of six lived and later killed them. The family had given them food and blankets.

**COLOMBO**—Post and telegraph workers went on a flash strike ignoring a government ultimatum ordering them back to work. The immediate cause: 475 sorters at the general post office demanded bigger pay packets.

**KUALA LUMPUR**—Malaysia is planting a "miracle rice" evolved by the International Rice Research Institute of the Philippines. According to Vice-President Fernando Lopez of the Philippines, his country itself could solve its rice shortage by 1969 through the use of the "miracle rice".

**SYDNEY**—Reuter reports: A man phoned the Balmain police station, frantically reporting a stabbing at 368, Darling Road, Balmain. Police rushed an ambulance and detectives in a squad car until someone realised that 368, Darling Road was the Balmain police station.



the United States and the USSR, a recommendation to adapt the contributions asked by members to the UN-scale, which demands much more from the big industrialised nations than they have had to pay in the ILO so far. On this issue, the gap between the "haves" and the "have-nots"—be they Communist or non-Communist—became obvious for everyone to see.

But it was only out of the words of a few of the delegates and then especially out of the final remarks of the Director General, Mr David Morse, that a deeper and more fundamental approach to the problems of the Organisation and of the world could be deducted. The workers' delegate of Indonesia, Mr Darius Marpaung, said:

"Along with the demand for improvement of productivity, there must also be a demand for improvement of morality. To this end the ILO should stress the basic need for

moral and spiritual rearmament, inside or outside the undertaking, which should be the responsibility of governments and employers and workers' organisations."

And with the following words, Mr Morse, the Director General, won universal prolonged applause during a packed plenary session: "While the material system is essential in

helping to establish a base for man's full development, the job of full development still remains to be tackled. What is still lacking is proper emphasis on the spiritual and moral side of the picture, an emphasis not specifically covered by any of our organisations... We must try for this essential balance in development."

## Ceylon 'phone report: Ministers involved

FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT

**COLOMBO** The report of the one-man Telephone Tapping Commission, which has now been tabled in the House of Representatives by the Minister of Posts and Telecommunications, makes it clear that unlawful telephone tapping had been going on on a large scale under the previous administration.

The report implicates a number of senior government officers including Mr N. Q. Dias, the then Permanent Secretary to the Ministry of Defence and External Affairs, who is censured for failing to report the matter to the Prime Minister, Mrs Bandaranaike. On the other hand it is said that the Prime Minister was shown the contents of the illegally intercepted telephone messages, as were other ministers, none of whom

took any action in the matter, although Mrs Bandaranaike is known to have regarded telephone tapping as a "fearful menace".

Ceylon's law allows telephone tapping when national security is endangered. Many voices are now being raised in the press and outside to rescind this law and to punish the offenders against it who are named in the report of the Telephone Tapping Commission.

## Indonesia counts her dollars

FROM A SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT

**THE HAGUE** It is unlikely Indonesia will succeed this year in earning the 475 million dollars foreign exchange she needs. This sum is required in addition to aid promised by donor countries if she is to avoid international insolvency.

It is generally accepted that the answer to dwindling exports, resulting in scarcity of dollars, may at least partly lie in international economic co-operation. There seem to be two trends. The pure pragmatists urge that Indonesia seek association with Western Europe's Common Market. The fact that Indonesia is about to send an ambassador accredited to this organisation is said to be an indication that this trend is prevailing.

The second trend consists of people who dislike the idea of linking Indonesia so much to a club of former imperialists. They are thinking more in terms of a regional association. Two similar concepts have already foundered on the rocks of nationalism and conflicting ideas. The Association of South Asia (ASA), conceived in 1962, was meant to be a sort of Colombo Plan without

Western participation. Sukarno's Maphilindo concept, linking Malaya, the Philippines and Indonesia, was built more on a political basis. Now there is a new concept, called South East Asian Regional Co-operation (SEARC) which would be a common market on a purely economic basis.

But it is almost impossible to separate political and economic considerations. Such an Asian common market would not work without Japan and Australia. Those who advocate this idea have some hesitation concerning the acceptability of these two nations. Japan, being a fully industrialised nation, is in such a strong position that she could easily dictate her terms on any point. And Australia, though geographically an Asian country, is considered to be politically a Western nation by many Asians.

## The week in INDIA

**CALCUTTA**—Two thousand armed policemen moved into Naxalbari to put down the Communist-led peasant uprising. Meanwhile, in Delhi the Government of India sent a strong protest note to China accusing Peking of inciting the people of India to revolt.

**TRIVANDRUM**—Chief Minister Nambudiripad defended in the Assembly the appointment of outsiders to the personal staff of Ministers. Congress benches had criticised the Ministers for making such appointments to swell party funds.

**MADRAS**—In at least one of the series of "mystery" fires that swept the city, cashewnuts, left to roast in a hut, played a destructive role. The nuts had been in the fire some time when one of them popped out, hit a thatch and set it ablaze.

**BOMBAY**—Music is to cost the already overtaxed citizen more. Gramophone record dealers in Bombay have put up the prices of records by 10 to 20 per cent.

**MOTIHARI**—A thousand students held up the Muzaffarpur-bound passenger train and rescued from the police 3 students and 17 others who had been convicted for ticketless travel.

**ASANSOL**—Workers took out a procession with the body of Wali Mohammed, a fitter in the loco shed who died in an accident, and buried it in the compound of the Railway Divisional Superintendent's office. They erected a brick and cement structure over the grave despite a court order for the removal of the body.

**RANCHI**—Recession has hit the huge Heavy Engineering Corporation complex, now nearing completion, according to the "Economic Times". Insufficient orders and a number of idle workers are plaguing the plant.

**IMPHAL**—Sten guns, rifles and two-inch mortars bearings Pakistani markings have been found with tribesmen at Kangpokpi, 22 miles from Imphal. The hostile Nagas and Mizos are trying to intensify their activities through these people, according to Chief Minister Koireng Singh.

**PATNA**—About 350,000 people in Bihar are suffering from leprosy, according to a survey by the World Health Organisation.

## The week elsewhere

### CONGO INVASION

**KINSHASA** — The Congo Government claimed European mercenaries and rebellious Katangese troops were battling loyal forces in eastern Congo. Fighting was reported at Bukavu and Kisangani, capital of Katanga Province, where mercenaries were said to have landed from the air. The Government closed all frontiers and ordered the mobilisation of men and women aged 20-25. President Mobutu said the mercenaries were connected with former Congo Premier Moise Tshombe. The Government later said the invaders had been driven out.

### RUSSIAN PRICE-RISE

**MOSCOW** — Russia announced economic reforms sharply increasing wholesale prices of many industrial goods and fuel. Coal rose 78 per cent; oil 60 per cent. The new prices aimed at making Soviet factories

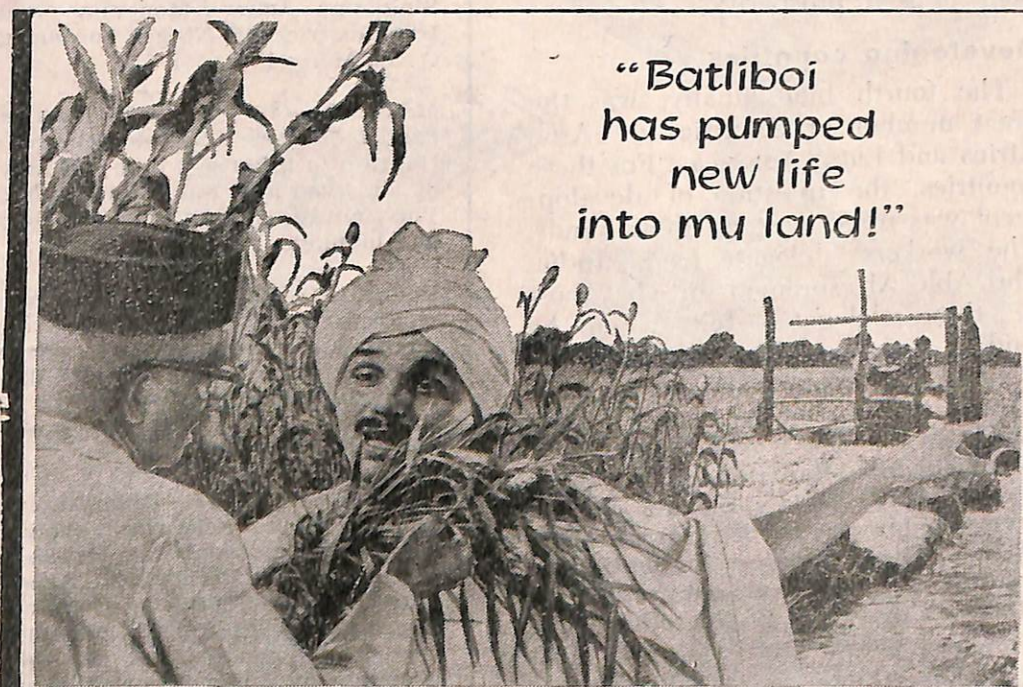
more efficient by selling goods at economic rates.

### MISSILES MOVE EAST?

**BERLIN** — Russia is moving 60 per cent of its medium range ballistic missiles from the west to the Chinese frontier, according to Communist diplomats here. They said Russia was also establishing an early warning system and missile bases in Outer Mongolia.

### OIL COSTS ECM MORE

**BRUSSELS** — European Common Market countries will suffer an "enormous increase" in oil costs because of the West Asian crisis, reported *Indian Express*. Oil provides over half the ECM's energy resources and nearly one third of this comes from West Asia. Due to closure of the Suez Canal this must now be carried round South Africa, greatly increasing freight costs.



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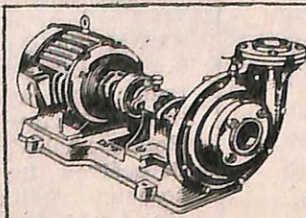
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## Bombay's ebullient Mayor specialises in clearing hurdles

HAVING FUN and playing mischief were the main interests of J. Leon D'Souza when he was in college. Now that he is Mayor of Bombay there is still a mischievous twinkle in his eye but his main interest is to relieve the problems of one of the world's most populous cities.

Sportsman, shikari, athlete, Leon D'Souza used to compete in the Inter-College 440 yard hurdles. He didn't know that his biggest one was to come 20 years later.

### Challenging job

How can you run the services of a city of 5.5 million, where 120,000 new mouths are added every year and 70,000 enter the city from outside? How can the water supply, the city transport, the municipal schools, dispensaries keep up with the situation?

Bright, vigorous and modern, Dr Leon D'Souza (he is a practising doctor) arrives early to work every morning in that impressive looking structure, the Municipal Corporation. I met him there disposing of his papers before people queued up to see him.

Do you think Bombay can still be called the "First City of India" which is its motto?

He warmed up at that and said that the Bombay Corporation was probably the "largest in the world" with its five million people and a

yearly budget of Rs 65 crores. Its Municipal schools, with half a million children, give them free milk daily and will soon arrange a special protein diet for all of them.

"What does give me great satisfaction is when a man comes to me with his problems and I can cut the red tape and do something for him. On occasions when I can't help him at least I can give him a patient hearing and when he leaves this room and I see a smile on his face I know that is reward enough."

True to his word he recently went to a municipal colony in North Bombay. "I found the place was like a concentration camp. There was not even a single telephone in the whole area. I advanced them Rs 4 lakhs without interest to be paid back in instalments."

People are fed up with Municipal Corporators who discuss Vietnam and waste the tax-payers' money. Can it not be stopped?

"Under the Constitution of the Corporation I can't prevent a member from ventilating his views."

Can't the Constitution be amended?

He nodded his head and said, "There is a High Court ruling which ties a Mayor's hands."

How do you manage to control the restive Corporators?

"I have a good arrangement with them. I see to it they get their uninterrupted 10 minutes but in return, when I rise, I don't tolerate interruption either. What a Corporator says is his business and I will stand for his right to say it, but the conduct of the meeting is my concern."

### No more powers

Dr D'Souza is not keen that the Mayor's office be vested with more powers than it has and feels the powers should be vested in the Municipal Commissioner, who is a distinguished civil servant. The Mayor's pride—Bombay's large population—is also his main trouble. He is particularly worked up about the influx of about 5500 people every month in Bombay. "Unless we restrict that, no problem can be solved. Most of

## ON THE Spot



Mayor D'Souza, who has been invited to London by the Lord Mayor, and to Yokahama, to inaugurate a sister-city relationship.

it comes from contractors who bring cheap labour from outside the State, like Andhra, and when the job is completed they stay on, build their hutments, and slums spring up all the time. Some sort of work permit should be introduced for those coming in to Bombay for work, and, for example, the contractor should be liable to send the outside workers home when the job is completed."

The Mayor is interested in slum clearance. He says that one estimate is that it will cost Rs 1000 crores, (one-third of the total annual budget of the Union Government) to demolish Bombay's slums and erect buildings. "But what guarantee is there that they won't spring up again?" Meanwhile, he has got plans to give certain facilities like water and sanitation to make some of the present slums more habitable.

I asked him as I left how, as a Congress Mayor, he didn't wear Khaddar which Congressmen are supposed to. He replied, "The garb makes no difference. I don't believe a man should sacrifice his individuality to belong to a Party. My dress is my business and I have told my Party people so."

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# viewpoint

## Is India's policy in West Asia wise or otherwise?

### A policy we will always be ashamed of

First prize to Miss Kushal Choudhri, Sacred Heart College, Dalhousie

THE SPEED with which we have "out-Nassered Nasser" in our support of the Arab cause makes us wonder whether we really did believe in the principles that we have been preaching to the world all along. Has justice come to mean so little to us that we are ready to condemn a nation which fought for mere self-preservation?

Ever since the birth of Israel, Arab nations have been wanting its destruction. They have tried their best to make the existence of Israel impossible. How long can a country be expected to remain quiet under continuous tension, without hitting back? No doubt Israel fired the first shot but that does not necessarily make it the aggressor. No one can deny that the provocation was entirely on the side of the Arabs. The latter themselves described this war as "a phase of a war which had never been stopped", and they do not hesitate to admit that the destruction of Israel is their aim.

On what grounds, then, can we brand Israel as the aggressor? Just two years ago we were at pains to explain to the world that at times offence is the best form of defence. Are we not self-contradictory today?

Had the pro-Arab policy which we

have been following all along reaped some advantages perhaps one would be able to excuse or at least understand the immoral stand taken by India on the West Asian crisis. But what have we gained by our friendship for the Arab world? Gaining Arab support on the Kashmir issue had been one of the main reasons for our pro-Arab policy. But has not our conflict with China and Pakistan shown as clearly that some of these Arab countries are even positively hostile towards us?

Israel on the other hand has supported us on every possible occasion, in spite of the fact that we have never lost an opportunity to rebuff her. What can we have gained by

estranging a country which has tried to be our friend in a world where friends are so rare?

Foreign policies are meant to be based upon two considerations—national interest and morality. Our West Asian policy does not conform to either. But the worst feature of this policy is that it has shown how shallow has been our faith in justice and peace. Our West Asian policy has not only condemned Israel but also a nation's right to protect itself.

The legacy which the present Government will leave behind will not be a very impressive one; but one of its worst aspects, at least in the field of foreign policy, will be its policy towards Israel—especially its latest phase. It is a policy which we—the future generation of India—will always be ashamed of.

### An unjustified partisan attitude

By R. S. Mani, Madras 33

THOUGH OUR GOVERNMENT'S pro-Arab and anti-Israel policy is an established fact, the haste and vengeance with which we rushed madly to support each and every Arab action, irrespective of merits, has baffled the public and annoyed even Congressmen.

Nobody wants our Government to support Israel against the Arabs; but by remaining neutral, we would have served the cause of peace far better, particularly while holding Security Council membership. But by taking sides and apportioning blame, we have forfeited our right in peace-making.

Does our Government mean that only firing the first shot constitutes aggression? Then what about pushing out the well-established UN Gaza Forces, the closing of the Gulf of Aqaba, the very lifeline of Israel, the growing menace of commando raids from Syria and Jordan (we have ourselves called the 1965 Pakistan infiltration into Kashmir an act of aggression), the cry of the Arab countries to wipe out Israel and the hasty conclusion of mutual defence treaties? Under these con-

ditions could Israel wait for the Arabs to actually cross her frontier? In such circumstances, attack becomes not only the best, but the only effective form of defence. We must not also forget that the Arabs can survive defeat, but to Israel, defeat would mean extermination.

Our action was probably mooted by our desire to assist fellow Socialist countries (in this case comprising none other than a group of feudal kings and military dictators) against imperialism (?). The only other plausible cause for our partisan attitude seems to be winning over the eye-catching array of some 17 UN Arab votes against solitary Israel. The Arabs have never reciprocated our friendly gesture.

But, notorious as we are in licking the boot that kicks, we have taken this unjustified partisan attitude.

The great majority of entrants for this week's Viewpoint thought India's West Asian policy unwise. Percentages were:

Unwise	—	86 per cent
Wise	—	14 per cent

### VIEWPOINT COMPETITION

\* Use of the Suez Canal in peacetime should be guaranteed for all nations.

Closing date: July 21

\*\* Should Sheikh Abdullah now be released?

Closing date: August 4

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Send entries of not more than 500 words to Viewpoint, HIMMAT, First Floor, 294, Bazargate St., Bombay-1.

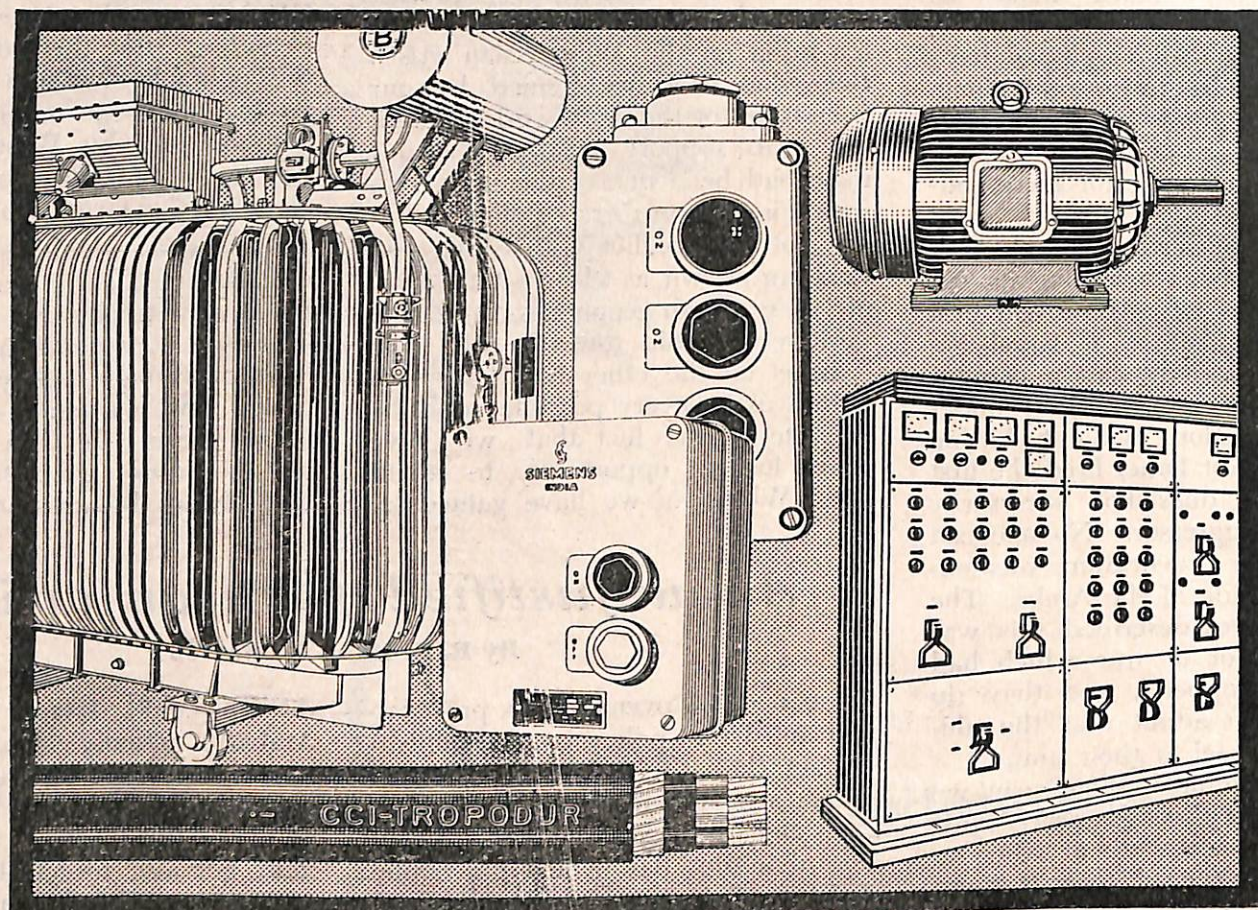
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# I was in Naxalbari

BY TULSI BODA

IN EARLY June my train passed through Naxalbari on its way to Siliguri. The desire to know more about the facts and the background became more dominant than the urge to see the snowbound Himalayan peaks from the heights of Darjeeling. It made me talk to the people I met in the train and elsewhere about the happenings in Naxalbari. I spoke to the garden labourer, the landless peasant, the refugee who was rehabilitated from East Pakistan.

I was told about the exploitation of the tea garden labour and of the big landlords—the jotedars. The people I met were no friends of the plantation owners or the jotedars. They had their complaints that nothing had been done during the Congress regime to reduce inequality and the exploitation. With this complaint was also an anxiety about what the Left Communists were indeed up to. One could notice a feeling of uneasiness caused perhaps by an unconscious forewarning of the difficult situation ahead.

### Antagonism to United Front

I met my Party comrades from Siliguri, Jalpaiguri and Naxalbari. They complained against the Left Communist Party propaganda about Mao's thoughts and the need for revolutionary actions. They informed me about groups of Left Communist-led workers looting paddy and property. They informed me about the growing antagonism displayed by the Left Communists against the members of the constituents of the United Front. I was also briefed about the criticisms levelled by the Left Communists against the revisionism of their own party leaders.

I made further enquiries about the situation in the Darjeeling and Jalpaiguri districts. Naxalbari has strategic importance because one can cross over to Nepal on the west and East Pakistan on the east from this narrow strip of land which connects Assam, NEFA, Manipur with the rest of India. The advance of the Chinese armies into NEFA in 1962 had caused great anxiety to the nation because of this specific link which Naxalbari and Siliguri area provides between Assam on the one

Mr Tulsi Boda is Joint-Secretary of the Samyukta Socialist Party and a prominent trade unionist. Recently in Naxalbari, he was invited by HIMMAT to give his first hand impressions. —Ed.

hand and the rest of India on the other.

People in this backward area were never drawn into the movement for independence but the Communist workers in Assam and North Bengal had seized the opportunity of their friendly relations with the British regime (during World War II) and acquired training in the use of arms and guerrilla warfare, while the rest of our people were fighting for freedom from the British rule.

The Samyukta Socialist Party was built up in this area particularly after the Chinese aggression in 1962. A large number of Congressmen resigned from the Congress which had in practice been supporting the exploitation of the big landowners and the planters. They were convinced that the defence of the country against foreign invasion in future could be best guaranteed by befriending the tribals and the poor people in the area. They have in recent times led quite a few struggles against exploitation and many

of the party leaders and workers have gone to jail for their cause.

Shri Abhijit Roy Choudhary, Joint Secretary of the West Bengal unit of the SSP says: "In the name of occupying and distributing the vested and illegally occupied land by the jotedars Left Communists are occupying the land of all those who are not under their banner. They have not taken any action against the big jotedars. On the other hand they have occupied the land of a good number of share-croppers and small peasants and distributed the land to their own partymen. They have looted a number of houses belonging to SSP members who are themselves very poor. Their only targets are the active opponents of their party and we (the SSP) are their main enemy. Now they are defying instructions of their district as well as the State party. They have openly pasted posters on the walls and distributed appeals calling upon the people to collect rifles etc. to fight for liberation. In their opinion the working class should now revolt, with arms."

Shri Deven Sarkar, Member, State Executive, West Bengal SSP informed me: "First they began forcibly occupying the land of others irrespective of their being sharecroppers, small or big jotedars and tea garden owners. But now there is no Kisan Movement. What is happening in this area is gun-running, dacoity, looting and forceful recruitment of the people to the CPI (Marxist)."

One Sri Nagen Roy Choudhary was abducted and sentenced to death

continued on next page



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by the Left Communist cell court and beheaded on the June 12, the very day of the arrival of the first Cabinet Mission from Calcutta. Police went to the spot of the murder on the third day after the incident and his headless body was brought to Siliguri on the June 14. One trade

union worker of Gangaram Tea Estate was also murdered by the Left Communists. Due to absolute inaction of police local people are now organising "Peoples' resistance". The pattern of the course of action being followed by the Left Communists in Naxalbari is being extended elsewhere in West Bengal, in a bit subtler and milder form.

One hundred and fifty-one incidents have been reported to me as having occurred between March 3 and June 19. Here are two of them.

(1) On 9.5.67 afternoon about 250 CPI (Marxist) members armed with arrows, bows etc. under the leadership of local Communists threatened the police party camping at the house of one Harketu Singh of Dhulia Jote and tried to beat the constables also.

(ii) On 19.5.67, 50 Left Communist followers armed with arrows, bows, lathis etc. surrounded the house of Dhir Singh and Mukun Singh (SSP members); tied Dhir Singh with ropes, assaulted the inmates of the house and looted paddy, rice, cash etc.

**Chinese designs**

While the leaders of the constituent parties of the United Front were wondering what was to be done at the State level, the SSP workers of the disturbed area mobilised the followers of the Bangla Congress, the Forward Bloc and the Gurkha League to build up the morale of the people and expose the real intentions of the Left Communists. The visit of the officers from the Chinese Embassy to Naxalbari area and the propaganda and the activities of the extremist wing of the Communists brought into the people an awareness of the Chinese designs in the entire episode. Even the official leadership of the Left Communist Party was forced to expel members (32 of them) who had gone out of control.

**Fight back ideologically**

The rebels have well entrenched themselves in the area. The hilly terrain, where the monsoon is very severe, is reducing effectiveness of the Government to deal with these rebels. Let not the people and the country have a false sense of security. One has to fight back ideologically and organisationally for a very long time. The problems of the landless peasants and the Adivasis need to be solved immediately and the base of the anti-national, pro-Peking Communists knocked out so that the area and the people living therein would be able to enjoy the fruits of freedom. Only then can one enjoy the very pleasant trip to Darjeeling and the evergreen Jalpaiguri District.

**UNDER THE LENS—from page 7**

ness of the mass of people of the area to see it changed by the new Government has played into the hands of the "armed strugglers".

There is no doubt that in the minds of the local leaders, they are initiating the first stage in a liberation struggle which will ultimately engulf the whole country. They look upon Naxalbari as the beginning of an Indian Vietnam. The similarity with Telangana lies in the fact that the grievances, on the basis of which violence is advocated, are as genuine. But the danger is far greater because Naxalbari is in a much more real sense a Yenan. Apart from its situation near the borders of Nepal, Pakistan and Tibet, the terrain is more suitable for a guerrilla type of struggle.

The most hopeful factor in the situation, strangely enough, is that a non-Congress Government is in power in West Bengal. The left Communist predominance in the West Bengal Cabinet has compelled them to take a position against the local leadership, which is thus politically isolated in its own Party.

The United Front Government, moreover, is also likely to ensure, far more speedily than the Congress, that the genuine grievances of the Naxalbari peasantry are met. For only

such a speedy solution of the land problem can isolate the local leadership from their base in the area.

President's rule in West Bengal at this stage cannot achieve what it failed to secure in Kerala, despite the fact that public opinion in the latter State genuinely welcomed it at the beginning. Nor can police action alone—necessary as it is—produce successes that months and years of punitive measures in areas such as Nagaland and Mizo Hills have failed to bring about.

Police action by a Governor's regime, on the other hand, would be opposed by a solid phalanx of a united opposition and the likelihood would be that the left Communists as

a whole would lend support to the uprising in the name of the grievances of the peasantry. So it may be a good thing that the left Communists in government are themselves compelled to deal with their recalcitrant, over-eager or extremist comrades.

The Government of India has so far been wise in allowing the West Bengal Government to deal with the situation. It would be tragic to allow impatience with the hesitancy of Chief Minister Ajoy Mukherjee and the vacillations of the left Communist leadership to dictate a course of action that would, instead of isolating the extremists of Naxalbari, inflame the whole of West Bengal into a Naxalbari.

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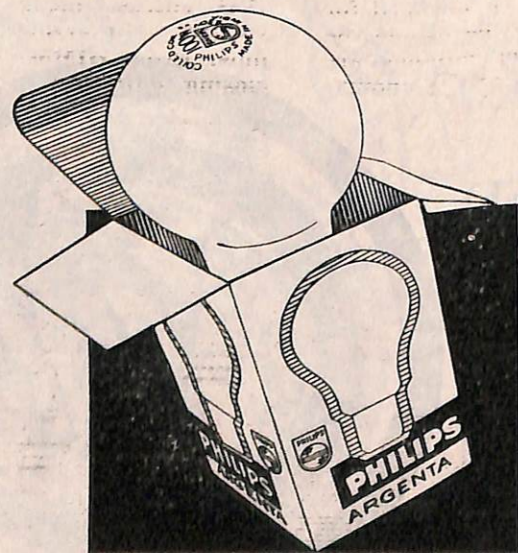
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## This was a Life

### UMAR IBN AL KHATTAB Khalif 634-644

UMAR IBN AL KHATTAB was the second Khalif, or ruler, of the Arabs after the death of the Prophet Mohammed. During his ten years' rule the Arabs overthrew the Roman and Persian empires and established their own. Achieved by desert tribesmen against the world's strongest military powers, this is one of the most astounding exploits in history.

Umar, a native of Mecca, at first opposed Mohammed. A man of violent temper, he struck his sister when he found her reading the Koran. But seeing her bleed, he relented and was converted. Umar became one of the Prophet's closest companions, sharing his flight from Mecca and eventual victorious return.

On his deathbed, Mohammed's successor, Abu Bekr, nominated Umar as next Khalif. Only Arabia was at that time under Muslim control. In 636 one Arab army annihilated the Roman forces at the River Yarmouk, in modern Jordan. In 637 another Arab army overwhelmed the Persians at Quadasiya near the Euphrates.

What are now called Palestine, Syria, Lebanon, Jordan and Iraq came under Arab rule. By 643 they had also taken Egypt, Libya and most of modern Persia.

These operations were directed by Khalif Umar from his mud-walled hut next to the mosque in Medina. His authority was unquestioned: when his commanders became too successful, he dismissed them; too rich and he made them surrender half their wealth.

Although a fifth of all the enormous booty was sent to Medina, Umar continued to live extremely simply. When chests of jewels taken from the Persian Emperor were given him, he at once had them sold and the proceeds distributed among his troops. He wore a patched cloak, walked through the streets unguarded, and was accessible to anyone.

In 644, as Umar was leading morning prayers, a disgruntled Persian convert stabbed him. He asked to be buried next to Mohammed, and died with Prophet's name on his lips.

A. De. L. F.

## Letters

### HOLLYBUSH SUMMIT

R. M. LALA'S article on "Johnson-Kosygin Summit" entitled "What did they hatch at Hollybush?" is excellent and interesting. It was not to be expected that a meeting between President Johnson and Premier Kosygin could overnight bring about peace; the world's tempers are too complex and deep for any such facile solution. Nevertheless, considering that they met immediately after the Arab-Israeli war, during which they had taken up bitterly antagonistic positions—Mr Kosygin has not resiled from his stand that Israel should withdraw from Arab territory any more than Mr Johnson has renounced his policy on Vietnam, so far as is known. What the two statesmen were primarily concerned with was that while recognising their differences, nothing should be done to resuscitate the cold war and jeopardise the US-Soviet detente.

T. S. PRASAD, Mysore

### THE TRUE SOCIALISM?

ON THE VARIOUS comments in HIMMAT concerning the widespread suffering and distress that prevails in Bihar and other parts of the world, might I be permitted through the medium of your paper to point out that the problems of war, insecurity, and poverty exist throughout the world because all goods are produced for one purpose only; profit—not to satisfy people's needs. We live in a condition of society where wealth can be produced in such abundance that there should be no need for any of the human race to be denied the necessities of life. Yet millions are doomed to suffer because of the anoma-

lies which exist: poverty and distress amidst a world of plenty.

It is time this anarchistic state of affairs was ended, and this can only be possible when the world's people, irrespective of race, colour, or sex, understand and desire a World Commonwealth, that is, "The establishment of a system of society based upon the common ownership and democratic control of the means and instruments for producing and distributing wealth by and in the interest of the whole community."

The Socialist Party of Great Britain and its companion parties are the only organisations which have this as their sole objective.

DICK JACOBS, Westcliff on Sea, Essex, UK

The Party referred to by reader Jacobs is not to be confused with the ruling British Labour Party—Ed.

### FIND THE BALL

PLEASE clarify whether you do not wish to reward any competitor who has already won the "Find the Ball" Competition. I personally feel that at least on three occasions I would have won the second place in this competition. But lo! Editor's decision is final.

G. KRISHNAMOORTHY, Bombay 1

There is no limit to the number of times a competitor can win prizes in the Competition. Every entry is carefully checked to within 0.5 mm by the panel of judges. But competitors are asked to read carefully the panel "HOW TO PLAY" and note specially that entries must be marked with a CROSS (not arrow, dot or circle) and must reach HIMMAT by noon on the closing date—Ed.







# Britain's blacks & browns

by Rajmohan Gandhi

London

OF BRITAIN'S POPULATION of nearly 55 million, 1.4 million are immigrants—West Indians, Indians, Pakistanis, Nigerians and others. They work as bus drivers, railmen, doctors, nurses, factory workers, postmen, street cleaners, shop owners and itinerant peddlers. Many are students.

They make news daily in the press and are a subject of private and public comment. Every Sunday morning the BBC has a television programme in Hindustani for Indians and Pakistanis, "Apna Hi Ghar Samajhiye".

**Will Britain's blacks and browns produce fuel for hate and violence? Or will they take the British forward in their development? Will they together with Britain's whites show all communities, including Americans and Russians, how different races can live in comradeship?**

I have met and talked with a number of immigrants who have come to see "India Arise".

B. E. is a Sikh, 36. When he was 22 he left India after a quarrel with his father who he says was a drunken tyrant. He was so poor he thought of travelling to Britain on a bicycle. He worked as a dishwasher, fitter and turner, and now has a senior engineering job, earning more than Rs. 3000 a month. He has an English wife and two children.

### Unprintable

"You can become rich here if you are prepared to work hard. You cannot do that in India," he says. But he does not love the British. "When India's poverty is shown on television. I throw my wife out of the room. I get mad when she asks questions about starvation or things like that in India. I think I get angry because what the British say about India is true."

His feelings for the Indian Government are unprintable. He is furious that official Indian spokesmen do not talk straightforwardly about our famine and poverty.

Seeing "India Arise" has changed B.E. He liked the way the reality of India's pain was presented. Watching Indians laughing at themselves almost thrilled him.

And he was proud to hear members of the cast when they honestly said that their lives would be used to clean up India. The new idea that he could help the British to change where they needed to and similarly help men in the Indian Government startled him.

Then there was an able journalist from North India. K. is making a study of the British view of India and Indians, past and the present. From our conversation I concluded that he thought the British people have for centuries been involved in a conspiracy to belittle, divide and destroy India. Yet he expressed his surprised admiration for the respect with which he felt the British heard one another's views.

Miss T. is an Arab student. During the recent war she felt that her friends overnight regarded her as an enemy. "They cut me off," she said. When she asked me what "India Arise" was doing in Britain, I said, "We are in a conspiracy to change the British."

"A very difficult job," she replied but added, "Can I help you?"

She was bitter at the way Arab radio stations were predicting imminent victory even when everyone knew their battles were lost. "We Arabs just don't accept the facts," she said. "If we had captured Palestine there would be terrible fights among the Arabs over who should control it. But I cannot speak thus to all Arabs."

R. is an Indian by race, Malaysian by nationality. "When we come to Britain we have not the slightest idea that it will be difficult to find a room. We discover it is not easy and, rightly or wrongly, we think it is because of the colour bar. One incident is remembered throughout our stay and our behaviour to every Englishman is affected by it."

V. is a 28-year-old Sikh. He says, to begin with Indians were trusted by the British but now neither immigration nor tax authorities accept their word. "So many Indians have told lies about having dependents at home to get tax reduction that every Indian is now suspect," he says.

T. is a Punjabi medical student. He saw "India Arise" in Geneva

and again in Britain. It has stirred him and made him want to use his life for changing India. "I have seen British children raising money for India by polishing shoes and skipping meals, and have felt ashamed about the indifference of people like me," he said. His decision is to believe in God, to change himself and to mobilise others.

There is fierce hate, envy and grudging admiration in the minds and hearts of immigrants towards the British. Can this be replaced by a revolutionary partnership in which everyone is completely responsible?

### Astonished friends

"India Arise" has awakened in almost every Indian who has seen the show here a desire to do something for their country. Some want to move from desire to decision, and plan to return to live and work in India. A doctor in Perth, Scotland, says he receives letters regularly from relatives in Bombay urging him to stay on as long as he can in the West and warning him that there are no prospects for him in India. "But I now want to return," he says.

An Indian restaurant owner who provided food for the "India Arise" cast has changed in a way that has astonished his friends. He has given over Rs 10,000 for the expenses of the cast in Britain. "I want to do my best for India, from here or by returning," he says.

You cannot help a man, race or nation you hate. Also, you cannot hate the man, race or nation you decide to help. The immigrants in Britain may be missing the chance they have of restoring greatness to Britain.

They often think they are not wanted. What they need to realise is that they may be able to do for Britain what the British people themselves may not be able to do. They can help Britain understand that the answer to imperialism is not withdrawal into bystanding but a deeper, costlier and more unselfish commitment to the progress of other nations.

More important than how Britain treats her immigrants may be what the immigrants do to change Britain.

## FIND THE BALL Competition No: 28



2nd Prize:  
**Heet** PEN & BALL  
PEN SET  
in presentation box

Nearest entry wins Rs. 25  
On the ball wins Jackpot\*

\*Each week half the prize of Rs. 50 will be awarded to the nearest entry. The other half will be carried forward to a "Jackpot" to be won by the first competitor who marks the ball EXACTLY. This Jackpot will accumulate Rs. 25 per week until it is won.

### HOW TO PLAY

The ball in this cricket action picture has been painted out. All you have to do is to mark a cross where you think the ball is. Then cut out the picture and send it to "Find the Ball", c/o HIMMAT, 294 Bazargate Street, Bombay 1, by noon Monday July 24. The winner will be published in July 28 issue.

There is no limit to the number of entries you can make, but only one cross may be marked on any one picture. The Editor's decision is final.

Name \_\_\_\_\_  
Address \_\_\_\_\_  
I agree to the rules of the competition as outlined above.

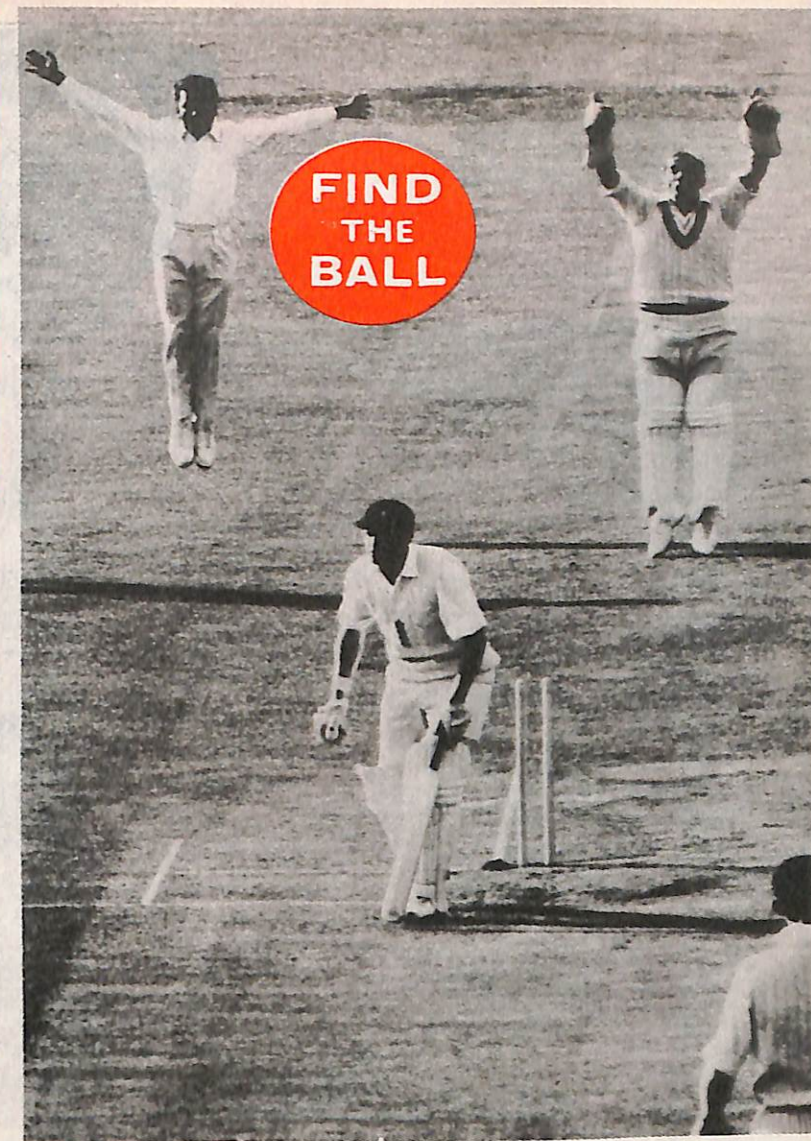


## EXPLANATION

As the photograph selected for Competition No. 26 (reprinted at left) was subsequently published by a popular weekly sports magazine revealing the exact position of the ball, the judges have felt compelled to cancel Competition No. 26. The entire prize money will be added to next week's prize making the jackpot Rs. 125.

We regret that in the interest of fair play this has been necessary.

Jackpot Next Week: Rs. 125



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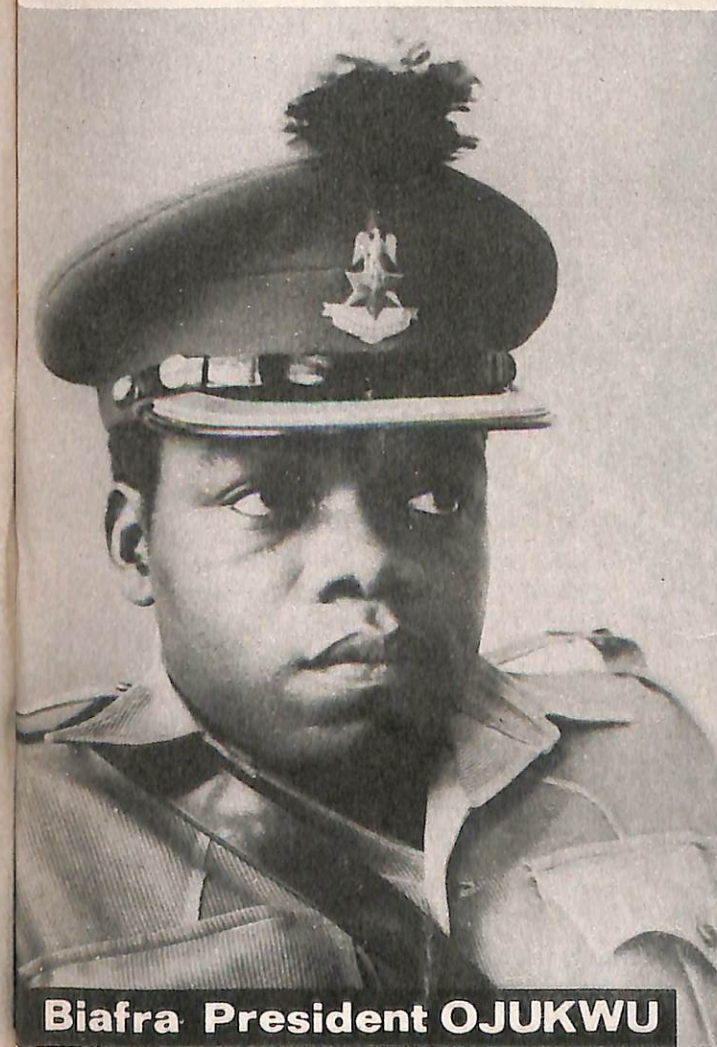
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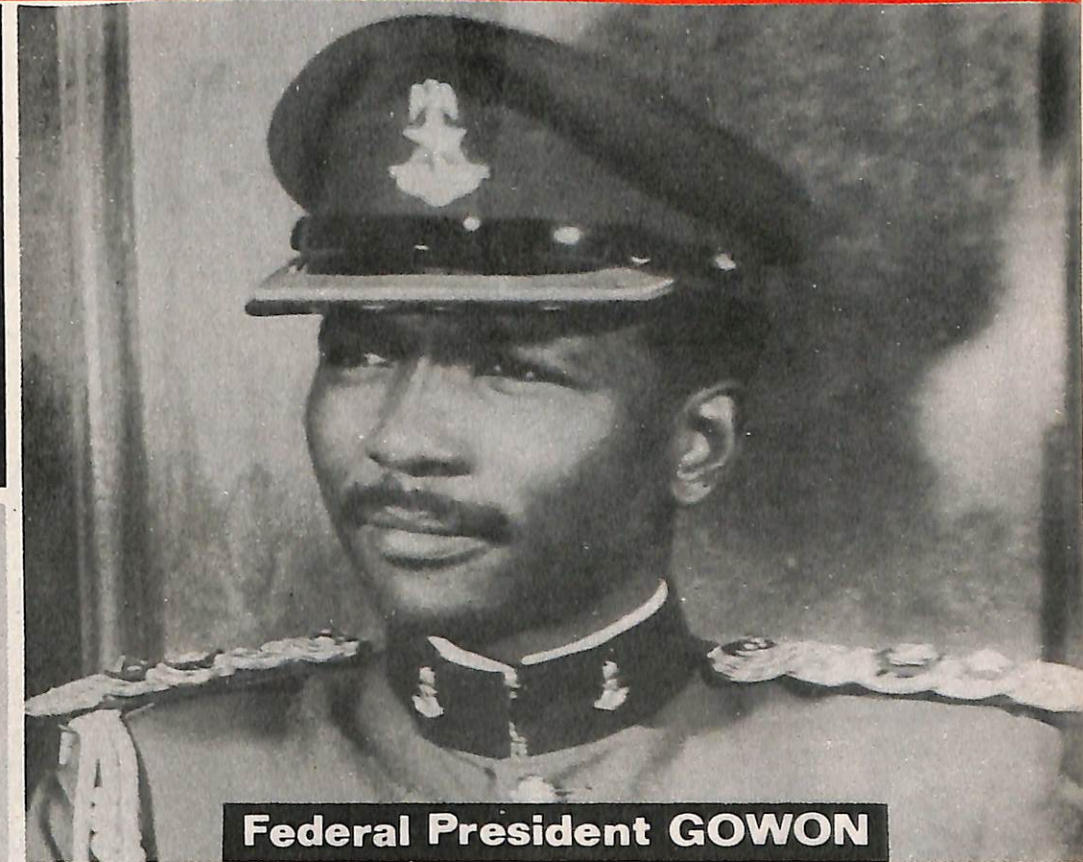
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## Civil war in NIGERIA

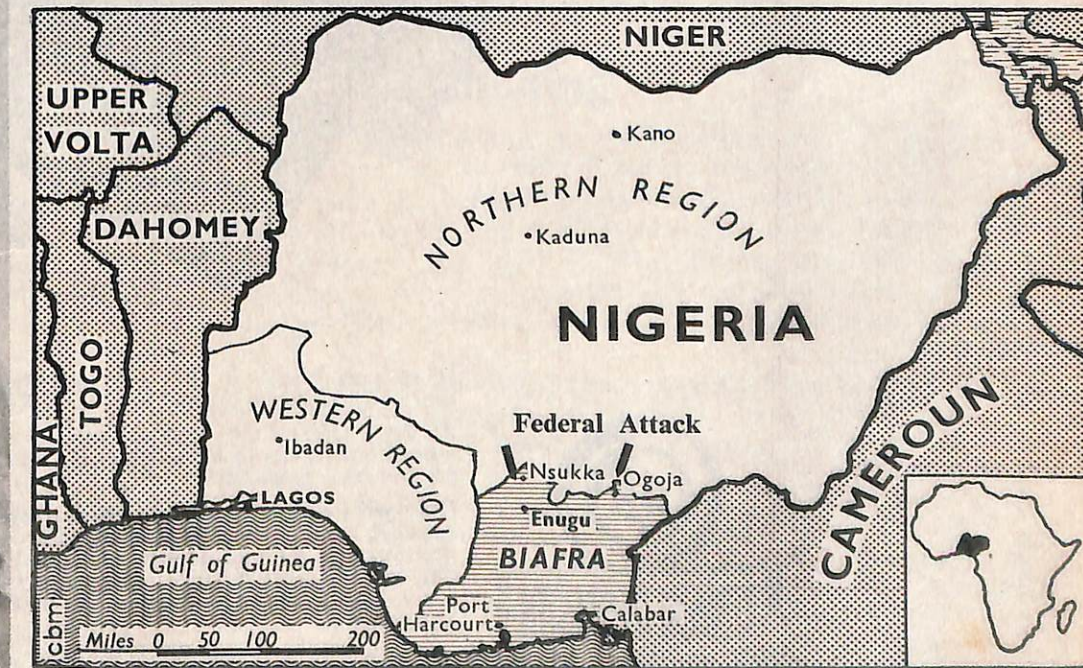
Pages 3, 8



Biafra President OJUKWU



Federal President GOWON



## DECLINE OF THE PLANNING COMMISSION