

NO JOINT AIR EXERCISES



CPI Central Secretariat Statement

The Central Secretariat of the Communist Party of India adopted the following resolution at its meeting in Delhi from July 15-18, 1963:

THE Central Secretariat of the Communist Party of India expresses its grave concern at the plans now being finalised for so-called joint air exercises, in which the Indian Air Force would participate with "a rotation of US, British, Australian and Canadian jet fighter squadrons."

The "joint exercises" are being presented as mere "training manoeuvres", as steps which are necessary for the installation of radar equipment on Indian soil and training of Indian personnel in its use. If training of our personnel were all that was wanted, this training could easily be given in the countries from which the equipment is being delivered to India.

The fact, however, is that the "joint air exercises" are a part of a "joint air defence" plan which is nothing more than the old discredited and rejected "air umbrella" scheme, with a new cover meant to deceive the Indian people into accepting what they had decisively turned down before.

U. S. spokesmen have been at pains to explain that the new offer avoids "a formal military arrangement". This explanation has been further amplified to make it known that "no commitment" is made in the "new" air de-

fence plan of Western air support for India in case of an emergency!

All these arguments are utterly hollow and cannot succeed in making the real face of the "umbrella" and the virtual military agreement, which the joint air exercises constitute.

U. S. and other foreign armed personnel with their aircraft are to operate on our territory and in the air above it during these exercises, which are expected to be spread over an indefinite period. The experience of all such arrangements with the impe-

rialist powers is the same: the surrendering of national in-

dependence and the increasing domination of the "superior" powers over the country recipient of such military "aid".

The Communist Party considers that this plan for "joint air defence" is in flagrant contravention of our policy of nonalignment, of opposition to military pacts and of building up our own defence potential.

It is clear that the imperialists, while refusing to give us super-sonic aircraft under our own ownership and command, are prepared to base their squadrons on our soil, and inveigle us into a virtual

THE Communist Group in Parliament has tabled a censure motion against the government for its agreement with Voice of America, plan of joint air exercises with USA, UK, Australia and Canada, failure to prevent rise in prices, taxation policy and compulsory deposit scheme, failure to nationalise banks, oil companies etc., and sugar policy.

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No Voice Of America On Indian Soil

The Central Secretariat of the Communist Party of India at its meeting in New Delhi on July 17 discussed the serious implications of the recent arrangements made by the Government of India to relay VOICE OF AMERICA broadcasts from Calcutta station of All-India Radio and adopted the following statement:

Union and the socialist countries.

And yet it is strange that the Government of India, which wants to retain relations of friendship with the Soviet Union, with the Afro-Asian and Latin American countries should give a base on Indian soil for the American imperialist propaganda.

Country after country in South-East Asia has refused to be drawn into the US cold-war propaganda network by giving facilities for Voice of America broadcasts. No other nonaligned government in South-East Asia is today giving the US imperialists these facilities. Even governments which are tied with military pacts to the imperialist powers, are reported to have rejected suggestions for transmission of Voice of America broadcasts from their countries.

ALL patriotic Indians are aghast at the blatant violation of our basic policies involved in the agreement entered into by the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting for the purchase of a high power transmitter in return for daily three hour broadcasting facilities for the Voice of America.

The Indian government has never permitted its broadcasting facilities to be used by any foreign power: it has never even agreed to the repeated suggestions made to commercialise part of the AIR service.

The plea made that India has not the resources to pay for the powerful transmitter which is needed and that, therefore, the sale of time to the Voice of America is necessary, is an utterly false plea. The grant of broadcasting facilities to the Voice of America, is a political act and is by no means a commercial transaction in any sense of the term.

Instrument Of CIA

The Voice of America is an arm of the Government of USA controlled by their notorious Central Intelligence Agency (CIA). In the days of the nationalisation of the Suez Canal and the Anglo-French invasion of Egypt, the Voice of America denounced President Nasser and the national freedom movement of the Arab world. The Voice of America is an avowed supporter of the Portuguese and Spanish fascists. It campaigns against the socialist Cuban government. Its hostility to the Afro-Asian anti-imperialist movements is well-known. The Voice of America is directed against the Soviet

Nonalignment : Serious Breach

The Communist Party of India regards the present contract with the Voice of America as a serious breach of the nonalignment policy — an act which will sully India's image abroad among our best friends in Asia and Africa and in the Socialist world and among progressive people in all continents. The Communist Party strongly urges the Government of India to cancel this disastrous deal.

The Central Secretariat of the Communist Party of India calls on all Party members and sympathisers, on all Indians who value this country's independence and support our basic policy of nonalignment, to join in protesting against the outrageous agreement entered into with the Voice of America.

Meetings and demonstrations should be organised to make the voice of the Indian people known to the Government of India and the friendly peoples of the world. The Voice of America on Indian soil must be silenced.

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DETENTION UNDER D.I.R. HELD VOID

Allahabad High Court Judgment

The Allahabad High Court judgment delivered on July 11 by Justice Jagdish Sahai, will remain forever a landmark in the Indian people's struggle for fundamental rights, for civil liberties and for the rule of law.

THE judgment given by the Division Bench consisting of Justice Sahai and Justice Mahesh Chandra declared that Rule 30 of the Defence of India Rules and Section 3

of the Defence of India Act under which these Rules have been made were ultra vires of the Constitution of India.

Their lordships stated in course of their judgment:

"A perusal of the Defence of India Act and the DIR... clearly reveals that the provisions of the same are violative of clause (4), (5) and (7) of Article 22 of the Constitution".

They further pronounced that "the impugned laws are also violative of Article 14 of the Constitution."

The issue arose out of a petition under section 491 Cr. P.C. by four Communist Party members detained by the U.P. government under the D. I. Rules. The petitioners' case was argued by N. C. Chatterjee. It will be recalled that N. C. Chatterjee was one of the six eminent jurists who had sometime back drawn the country's attention to the illegality of the DIR.

Their Lordships gave the finding that contrary to what is laid down in Article 22:

● "There is no provision in the impugned laws for an advisory board or for the furnishing of grounds to a detenu so that he may know why he is detained and make a representation against the order of detention.

● "Preventive detention for more than three months has been provided for without

DANGE'S STATEMENT

Following the judgment of the Allahabad High Court holding detentions under the DIR void, S. A. Dange, Chairman of the Communist Party of India issued the following statement to press on July 12.

THE judgment of the Allahabad High Court, holding the detention clause of the Defence of India Rules ultra vires of the Constitution and the fundamental rights of the people fully vindicates the stand taken by the top-most jurists of India, including M. C. Setalvad, former Attorney-General of India. The Bar Association of India in its seminar held at Bangalore recently also came to the unanimous conclusion that the detention clause of the DIR was ultra vires of the Constitution.

The Communist Party of India has been demanding the release of all detenus and has repeatedly pointed out that their detention was a clear proof of the misuse of emergency powers

against the progressive forces.

Government refusal to accede to the demand of the Communist Party of India and their refusal to act on legal consideration in view of the considered opinion of the best lawyers in the country only betrays their anxiety to use the emergency against the common man.

Now that a High Court has given its verdict, the Communist Party of India once again demands the immediate release of all detenus. Their release will strengthen the progressive and democratic sections in the country in mobilising the people to fight the forces of Right reaction and to defend the vital interests of the working people.

SIGN THE GREAT PETITION

PUNJAB : TARGET 12 LAKHS

★ From PREM SINGH

The Punjab State Executive Committee of the Communist Party of India in a two day session at Jullundur took important decisions to mobilize vast popular support for the Great Petition and the March to Delhi. The impressive targets are—signatures 12 lakhs, mass meetings 2000.

THOUSANDS will participate in the March. They will include 2000 cyclists. The Marchers will proceed to Delhi on various routes. They will go on foot, by buses and trains. There is every indication that the campaign will assume unprecedented sweep.

It will not be just collecting signatures. Party Workers and others will explain to the people the historic significance of this critical juncture of the demands set forth in the Petition. This will be done not only through the large public meetings and small jalsas, "corner and "baithak" meetings but also through the signature collecting squads which are already on the move.

lead this contingent over a distance of 150 miles between the two capitals. The jathas will popularise the demands and enlist support of the masses. They will be received at many places and public meetings will be held. The Punjab Communists shall leave no stone unturned in mobilising the support of all democratic forces of the state. The experience of recent work has shown that a good number of patriotic people including congressmen is sympathetic to the campaign and many of them have already affixed their signatures to the Petition and have lent their support in many other ways.

Sangrur city Party branch has collected 2000 signatures. Communist Municipal Commissioner and a member of the State Executive of the CPI, Vimla Dang told your correspondent that Congressmen including those who opposed her in the Municipal election have signed the Petition. She said she collected 500 signatures in Chbehetra in no time.

BIHAR

KARANPURA FULFILLS QUOTA

KARANPURA: The local Party committee of Karanpura (Hazaribagh, Bihar) had called upon Party members and sympathisers to fulfil a quota of three thousand signatures on the Great Petition. Within one week more than three thousand signatures were collected.

THIS is an example of how the people have responded to the Great Petition campaign in the mining district of Hazaribagh. Two squads are moving from colliery to colliery under the leadership of T. C. Josh, secretary, Karanpura local committee of the CPI and Mahendra Bharati of the Coal Workers Union, Bhurkunda. Under the leadership of Josh, who is also the secretary of Karanpura area committee of the Coal Workers Union, another group is moving from door to door collecting signatures.

Among those who have signed the Great Petition are a few Assistant Engineers, several supervisory staff of the NCDC collieries, small traders and businessmen and intellectuals. On Sundays and market days, meetings are held and the purpose of the campaign explained. Also several "dhoura" and mohalla meetings are being organised to popularise the Petition and encourage more people to join the campaign against taxes and rising prices.

STATEWIDE PROTEST AGAINST BUSFARE INCREASE

★ From S. Sharma

TRIVANDRUM: A Citizens meeting held on 11 July at the V. J. T. Hall in the State capital has appealed to all political parties and individuals to express their protest against the bus fare increase by holding meetings and rallies on 21 July throughout the state.

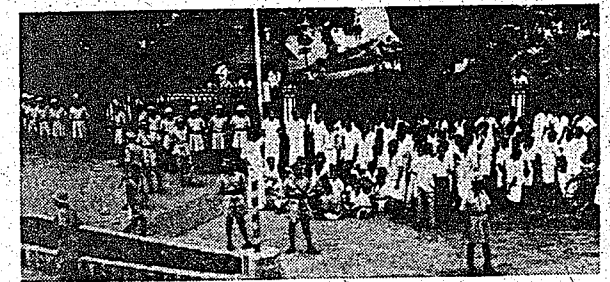
THE meeting was presided over by Ponnara G. Sreedhar M.L.A. of the PSP. C. Narayana Pillai who was to have addressed the meeting, sent a message expressing inability to attend owing to ill health but wishing the conference success. C. Achutha Menon M.L.A. and Secretary of the Kerala State Committee of the CPI, Hassan Ghani, M.L.A. of the Muslim League and K. Panikajashan of the RSP addressed the meeting.

continuing throughout the state with ever increasing mass support. In response to the joint call of three student organisations in Trivandrum, the Students Federation, the Independent Student Organisation and the Student Union, there was a strike of students in the important colleges and high schools in Trivandrum to protest against the refusal of the State Government to consider sympathetically their demands for

Second Week Of Satyagraha

The second week of the peaceful protest satyagraha before bus stands organised by the Communist party drew greater attention as jathas led by important district leaders of the Party offered Satyagraha. In Alleppey Susheela Gopalan led the satyagraha while in Trivandrum Sada-sioan, Sreedhar, O. J. Joseph and T. A. Majeed are scheduled to lead jathas from taking centres to the Capital for offering satyagraha. In Kottayam, Palghat, Cannanore and Kozhikode also the satyagraha continues with greater intensity.

P. Balachandra Menon, general secretary of the Kerala State Trade Union Council, has in a statement warned the state government that unless it bows to the public demand for a reduction in transport fares, the working class will be compelled to go into protest action in active support of the just agitation. The fare increases had hit the working population most and the statement appealed to all trade unions to actively support the agitation.



Student demonstration in front of the government secretariat on July 9.

reduction in fee increase, text book prices and bus fares. The students went round in a procession and staged a demonstration in front of the Secretariat. A delegation of five student leaders was permitted to meet the Chief Minister and present a memorandum detailing the demands. The Chief Minister is reported to have advised the students to be prepared to sacrifice for the sake of the country in a period of emergency. Later, in the evening, the Joint Council of Action of the

KERALA : QUOTAS IN LAKHS

★ From S. Sharma

TRIVANDRUM, July 11: Following the decisions of the Kerala State Council of the Communist Party regarding the campaign for the Great Petition to Parliament, all the district committees of the Party in the state have worked out details of the campaign in their respective areas.

WHILE the increase in bus fares is the burning issue on which local interest and action are concentrated at present, popularisation of the issues raised in the Great Petition has also been taken up earnestly by Party units in all the districts. In Quilon district, five jathas led by V. Bhargavan, M.L.A. P. Radhadrin, M.L.A. Eroor Narayana Pillai, P. O. Spencer and C. Karthikeyan have been touring the district intensively, holding meetings, selling pamphlets and collecting signatures on the Petition. The experience of these jathas has been inspiring in every way. One jatha sold 2,000 copies of the pamphlet on tax burdens and collected Rs. 200 in three days while another had 57 receptions and nine big meetings in five days. All these jathas are to converge in Quilon on July 14 in a mass rally. The Kottayam district unit of

the Party has taken a quota of 150,000 signatures on the Great Petition, and 10 delegates for the March to Delhi. The district has been divided into five zones and five jathas are to cover these zones taking the campaign to the people and collecting their signatures on the Petition. This is fixed for the first week of August. The Trichur District Council of the Party has decided to inaugurate the signature campaign at a mass rally on July 21 and to collect 1,25,000 signatures from the district. They will send six delegates to Delhi for the March. In the meantime, the satyagraha of goldsmiths continues in all taluk centres in the district.

KARNATAK : 60,000 SIGNATURES IN ONE DISTRICT

★ From Our Correspondent

MANGALORE: At a meeting convened by the committee of the Communist Party of India on July 4, it was decided to collect 60,000 signatures on the Great Petition and organise 2,000 volunteers for this work.

A formed at the meeting for a broad-based committee was the successful organisation of the campaign initiated by the Communist Party against rising prices and taxes. The meeting was attended by representatives of various trade union and kisan organisations, youth clubs, cultural organisations as also by several municipal councillors, Taluk Board members, Panchayat chairmen and other prominent citizens.

K. Monappa Shetty, general secretary of the District T. U. Council welcomed the gathering and P. Ramachandra Rao presided. M. H. Krishnappa, secretary of the District Council of the CPI explained the Party resolution about the Great Petition to Parliament and suggested the formation of a broad-based committee for conducting a united campaign in the district in this connection.

A committee with A. Krishna Shetty M.L.A. as chairman, Dr. M. S. Shastri and A. Shantharam Pai as vice-chairmen, M. H. Krishnappa as secretary, P. Ramachandra Rao and U. N. Srinivas Bhat as assistant secretaries and K. Monappa Shetty as treasurer, with 45 members was formed. The Committee was authorised to co-opt members if found necessary, and to appoint taluk committees in the various taluks for the purpose of organising the campaign throughout the district. The meeting appealed to the public to contribute generously to the campaign fund—so as to be able to send at least 20 representatives of the district to Delhi for participating in the Demonstration. The president in his speech exhorted all who had gathered to work hard and make the campaign a success. A. Shantharam Pai, President of the S.K.T.U.C. moved a vote of thanks.

and six delegates; Alleppey 1½ lakh signatures and ten delegates; Quilon 1½ lakh signatures and ten delegates; Tricoandrum one lakh signatures and five delegates. The Cannanore district executive of the Party decided to inaugurate signature collection squads throughout the district on July 14 and to complete the work of collecting 1½ lakh signatures in a month's time. In Karivallur village, a stronghold of the Party and Kisan movement, the local branch general body of the Party decided to collect 2,500 signatures from the village and formed 12 squads for this purpose. The Nilleshwar Mandal Committee of the Party has decided to collect 10,000 signatures. They hope to finish the work by the end of this month. Nilleshwar comrades are anxious to send at least one person for the March.



S. G. Patkar addressing a rally of Bombay workers on July 7. — PHOTO: SHARAD PAWAR

BOMBAY WORKERS' MAMMOTH PROTEST

Signature Campaign In Full Swing

★ From Our Correspondent

BOMBAY, July 14: The campaign against rising prices, increased taxation and the Compulsory Deposit Scheme is getting into stride in Maharashtra. As usual, the campaign is spearheaded by the industrial workers of Bombay.

FOLLOWING the anti-CDS conference held at the end of May under the auspices of the Action Committee formed by the AITUC Unions, innumerable mill-gate and area meetings were held in June calling on the workers to sign the Great Petition to

reports of work at the village and mandal levels are being received here from all parts of the state. In Mattancherry near Cochin, the Palluruthy Mandal Committee of the Party has decided to collect 15,000 signatures. More such

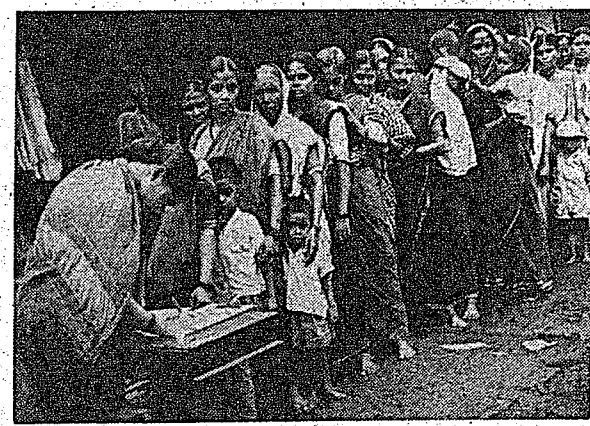
reports of work at the village and mandal levels are being received here from all parts of the state. The Daily Maratha has welcomed the CPI call for all-out unity for reducing tax burdens on the common people and for tapping alternative financial resources. Through public meetings, processions, cycle-phanties, etc., the signature campaign has got going in Poonam, Ahmadnagar Sangli, Satara and a number of other districts. Full figures from the districts are not available, but the number of signatures already collected in the districts is, in no case, less than a lac and a half. The campaign is gathering momentum as also volume. There is every hope that the CPI will also secure more allies for the campaign in the coming month. Negotiations for forging a broader front are proceeding.

HYDERABAD

GOOD RESPONSE FOR PETITION MOVEMENT

Response beyond the most optimistic expectations marked the first week of the Great Petition campaign in the twin cities of Hyderabad and Secunderabad. Well over 7,000 signatures have already been collected. The target of 25,000 signatures will have to be revised drastically upwards. Enthusiastic campaigners claim that the goal of a lakh of signatures can be reached.

THE trade unions and their activists are now determined not only to collect signatures from their members but also to go out to the bustees and localities where they or their friends live. Students belonging to the Hyderabad Students' Union are going round the colleges and hostels for the next three weeks on an individual basis. Later they will form squads and go out to the different localities. The Hyderabad city executive committee reviewed the progress of the campaign, and decided on steps for its further stepping-up. General body meetings of trade union activists will be held, followed by one of all Party members. Localities have to be divided up and concentration placed on those of them where the party is likely to contest the Municipal elections scheduled for early 1964. The experience gained so far overwhelmingly proves that there is no opposition to the signature campaign. All that is required is the ability of the Party and its friends to reach out to the people.



Women workers stand in a queue to sign the Great Petition in Bombay.

Parliament in lakhs and also to refuse to accept for one day the reduced wage due on July 10. Despite pouring rain a mass rally of workers was held on July 7 for issuing last minute instructions in order to make the call effective. Meanwhile, the Mill Owners' Association, the Rashtriya Mill Kamaagar Sangh (INTUC), and the monopoly press of Bombay had staked all their strength and prestige to frustrate the call of the Party and the trade Unions. The INTUC workers openly assailed, in a series of handbills, the patriotic motives of the campaign, stigmatising it as a sinister conspiracy to weaken national defence in the face of continuing danger from China. The owners threatened to withhold wages for a week and more in case workers declined to accept them on the appointed date. The managerial and supervisory staff resorted to the

to canvass among their customers and friends. The workers, employees, editorial staff and editor of the leading Urdu daily Sitara have signed the petition unanimously. DR. N. M. JAISOORYA, respected medical practitioner and eminent political leader (the son of SAROJINI NAIDU), has not only signed but issued a fervent call to the citizens to do so in their lakhs. The Hyderabad city executive committee reviewed the progress of the campaign, and decided on steps for its further stepping-up. General body meetings of trade union activists will be held, followed by one of all Party members. Localities have to be divided up and concentration placed on those of them where the party is likely to contest the Municipal elections scheduled for early 1964. The experience gained so far overwhelmingly proves that there is no opposition to the signature campaign. All that is required is the ability of the Party and its friends to reach out to the people.

JOIN THE MARCH TO DELHI

JULY 22: NATIONAL DAY OF POLAND

★ BY A SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT

On July 22 the Polish nation celebrates the 19th anniversary of its National Liberation Day, commemorating the proclamation that day in 1944, in Lublin, of the Manifesto of the Committee of National Liberation, an event which marked the beginning of a new era in the history of Poland—the era of building a system of social justice.

IN 1944, as a consequence of the Nazi war and occupation, Poland presented the spectacle of the most painfully afflicted country in the world both from the points of view of human and material losses. The staggering losses suffered in the Second World War earned her the sympathy of all nations. 220 of every 1000 inhabitants were either killed or dead as a result of the war and occupation and 38 per cent of all the national wealth was either destroyed or plundered. As a whole Poland's losses in World War II, both actual and estimated can be set at a total of about 51,600 million dollars.

PROGRESS IN POST-WAR YEARS

However, the post-war years of uninterrupted progress has not only made good the losses suffered, but also placed Poland on the map of leading industrial nations of the world. Since 1945 Polish industry has reached a level of production which in many fields places it among the first ten countries in the world.

A pointer to the fast industrial development of the country is its foreign trade. Poland maintains today regular commercial relations with 150 countries. Polish goods are finding their way into more and more markets in Africa, Latin America and the Far East. Of late, India has emerged as a major partner in Poland's foreign trade.

The total area under cultivation in Poland amounts to more than 20 million hectares. The main crops are rye, wheat, oats, barley, potatoes and industrial crops. Under the agrarian reform of 1944-45 peasants received some six million hectares of land. About one million peasant families, i.e. one third of the total number, received land. Polish agriculture is predominantly individually owned (some 17.7 million hectares).

The changing face of Poland had also its natural impact on the standard of living of the vast sections of the population. Rapid increase in the number of dwelling houses has resulted in reducing congestion in cities.

In the fields of health service and social welfare, the citizens of the Polish People's Republic have the right to free medical care and to assistance in case of disability. Half of the total population of Poland is subject to one

and all other organisations connected with the United Nations are effective instruments of international cooperation in the political, economic, social, humanitarian, scientific, technological and cultural fields.

A country which suffered from Hitlerite invasion with unparalleled severity, Poland supports the proposals for universal and complete disarmament, in the solution of which lies the hope of all mankind.

A partial step towards the goal of disarmament is definitely the Polish plan for the creation of the Atom-Free Zone in Central Europe, otherwise known as the Rapacki Plan.

The Polish nation is gratified to note that India is among many countries, practically in all the continents, that have voiced support to the Rapacki Plan.

or another form of social insurance. All manual workers have to be insured. The same applies to apprentices and the members of producer cooperatives. The families of the insured have also the right to social services, e.g. to medical care, to assistance for young mothers, to pensions, etc. Thanks to the development of health service, as well as to the ever wider use of the latest medical methods the general state of health of the population has greatly improved. Mortality rate has declined from 13.9 per 1,000 inhabitants in 1939 to 7 in 1962. Infant mortality has been considerably reduced.

In the educational sphere radical changes have taken place within the past nineteen years. Illiteracy has been completely wiped out and education made free and compulsory. In 1962 more than 527,000 young people left the primary schools, a 12 per cent increase over 1961. The number of students per 1000 inhabitants is 57 today, which is substantially higher than in many economically advanced countries like Belgium, Sweden or Italy.

HIGH INDEX OF LITERACY

Enormous increase in the circulation of literature in various kinds, newspapers and magazines, the spread of libraries in the rural areas, radio and television network, all bear testimony to the cultural advance of the Polish people.

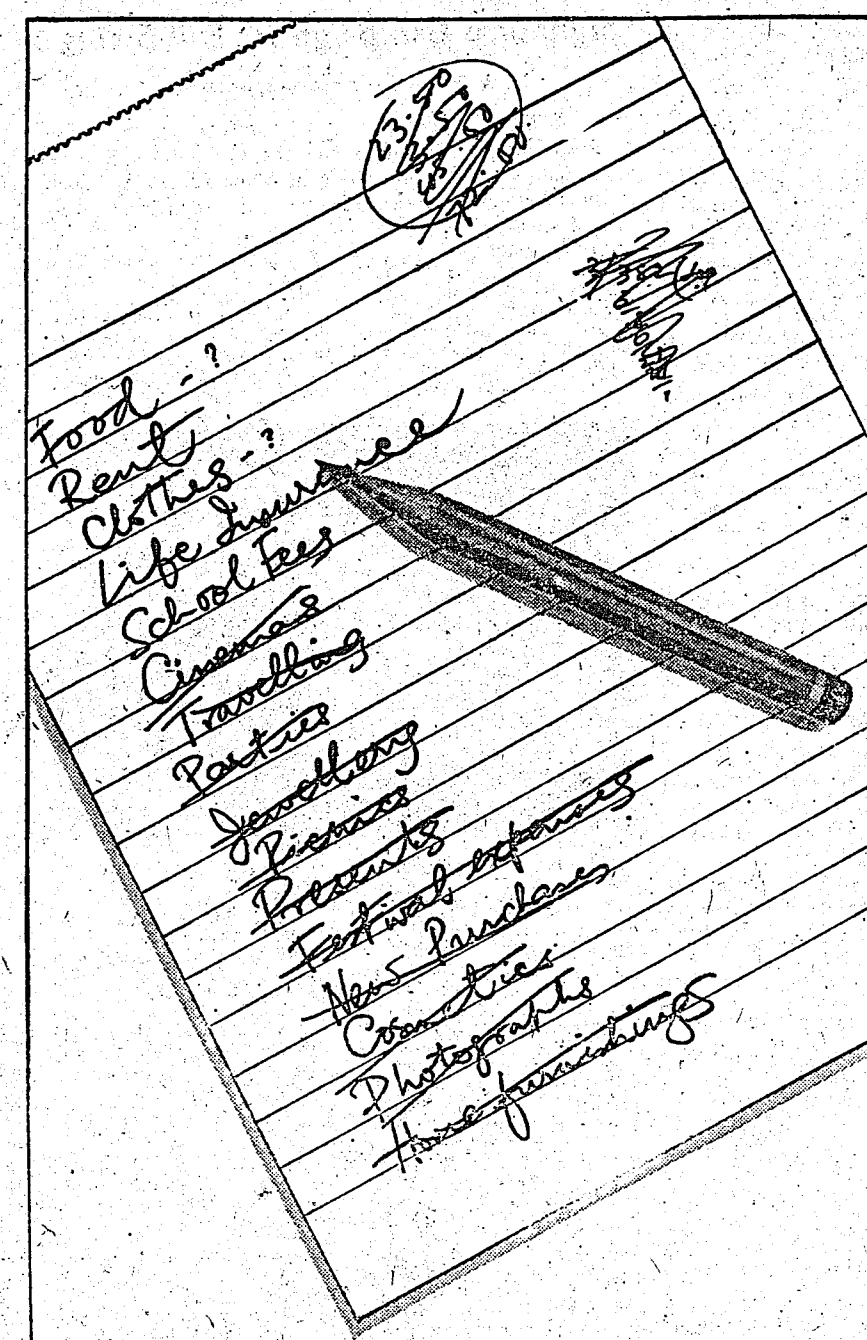
A new era was ushered in Poland's foreign policy with the birth of People's Poland. She rejected the interwar policies, which culminated in the September 1939 tragedy. Poland today is a nation surrounded on all sides by friends and allies.

Poland's participation in international organisations is one of the forms of realisation of her foreign policy. Poland believes that international organisations are the best example how the principle of co-existence and cooperation of states with different social and economic systems can and should work in practice.

As a founder-member of the United Nations, Poland is always loyal to the principles of the United Nations Charter. In her activity as a UNO member, Poland consistently endeavours to ensure that the United Nations



Adam Rapacki with Prime Minister Nehru during the former's visit to India. Polish Ambassador in the centre.



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ASSAM'S CAMPAIGN FOR GREAT PETITION

THE State Council of Communist Party of Assam has launched a campaign to collect 75,000 signatures and to send at least 38 persons to take part in the March to Delhi, has been made.

GOVT. EMPLOYEES OPPOSE CDS

★ From Madhusudan Bhattacharya

SHILLONG: Middle class employees in Assam have been voicing their protest against mounting prices of all essential commodities and the government's failure to hold the price line, against the Compulsory Deposit Scheme and the heavy burden of taxation, both direct and indirect. During the last few days several meetings of these employees, both in state sector and in private sector, were held in different parts of the state.

ALL the Central Government Employees' Associations here held a joint meeting to protest against price rise and CDS, a few days back. Several speakers, representing different participating associations, were very critical of the government handling of the food market.

E. X. JOSEPH, organising secretary, Coordination Committee, Central Government Employees' Associations, deplored the attitude of the government towards their employees and their interference in the legitimate trade union activities of the employees.

PROF. G. G. SWELL MP who presided over the meeting criticised government's failure to hold the price line which,

he pointed out, hit the low and middle income groups. He appealed to the employees to fight unitedly against the mounting prices and exhorted the people at large to make common cause with this struggle of the employees.

The meeting in a resolution urged upon the government to take immediate steps to bring down and hold the price line. Another resolution urged upon the government to withdraw the CDS in favour of the low and middle income groups and secure money for national defence and developments by nationalising banks, oil industries etc. Among other resolutions of the meeting was one urging upon the government to restore the recognition of the Civil Accounts Associations.

Congress MLA's Fast Against PCC Action

★ FROM H. K. VYAS

JAIPUR, July 12: Factional quarrels, bickerings and sometimes mudslinging are all part of the game as far as Congress internal quarrels are concerned. But what happened during the last few days is something far more startling.

ONE Congress MLA Jagan Singh commenced a fast unto death in the office of the PCC. The cause of his fast was the refusal of the PCC president to enquire into the allegations of grave irregularities that he had levelled in respect of the Congress elections in Sikar District.

For more than a week his hunger strike continued. The PCC President Hardeo Joshi publicly threatened him that by his action he was undermining the prestige of the Congress and making himself liable to disciplinary action. Jagan Singh stuck to his guns.

Police And A Sweet Letter

Chief Minister Mohanlal Sukhadia sent police and a sweet letter suggesting that these matters of the organisation should be taken up in the organisation. Jagan Singh politely replied but continued his fast. He raised the issue of democracy in the Congress organisation and said if we cannot fight and restore the traditions of democracy in the

Congress, then democracy in the country will disappear.

Finally came the Provincial Returning Officer. He dismissed the District Returning Officer of Sikar and appointed another person in his place. In one case where mandal election was stayed without reason it was ordered to be held immediately.

In case of three mandals where there were allegations of such grave nature that nomination papers were refused to be accepted and persons were declared elected even without a poll, in respect of those mandals the secretary of the Congress Assembly Party Jwala Prasad has been asked to hold an enquiry. These decisions were conveyed to Jagan Singh through the president of the Sikar DCC in writing. On this he broke his fast.

The Jagan Singh fast episode has in a way brought to light a number of things.

It has in the first instance revealed the depth to which the Congress organisation has sunk. Elections of the Congress — the mandal and the DCC and the

PCC elections, are now being held or managed through manipulations and rigging of these bodies. The Congress is thus becoming more and more the strategic machine for control over the administration.

It, however, also reveals that the rank and file in the Congress, many who have had traditions of anti feudal and anti imperialist fight, are unable to put up with such things and sometimes when hard hit or badly stung, they do rise and take up issues.

This stirring that is visible, though in a very elementary form, in the Rajasthan Congress is something quite significant. The Congress in this feudal state had always been a rather weak organisation. Democratic traditions in the Congress have been comparatively less developed in this state than at other places.

Significance

The inner Congress quarrels have always tended to get round some personalities. In this background, the fact that some consciousness of policies, and issues and the efforts of Congressmen to take a stand on these policies and issues has started taking place in the Rajasthan Congress is something that should be taken note of.

One such thing happened at the time of the last budget. Congress legislators took up the whole policy of taxation and resources and hauled the Finance Minister over coals; they asserted their right to frame policies; even the threat of resignation by the Chief Minister could not quell this "rebellion"; not till significant concessions were given in the taxation measures; specially the tax proposed to be levied on the peasantry.

Jagan Singh's hunger strike is yet another such instance. Not that Jagan Singh is any influential leader in the Congress organisation. But the sympathy that his step evoked from all over against high-handedness of the bosses of the Congress, for the simple democratic practices inside the organisation, is yet another pointer.

Some indication is also available in the manner in which the organisation of the Congress Socialist Forum is gathering momentum. In Alwar about 100 Congress workers on the initiative of Ramjil Agrawal met together and decided to organise such a forum. Another meeting took place in Jodhpur where some leading Congress workers known for their radical views gathered together and formed the forum.

NEW AGE—NEXT ISSUE
SPECIAL 20-PAGE
CAMPAIGN AND CENSURE
NUMBER

Special articles by S. A. DANGE, YOGINDRA SHARMA, P. C. JOSHI, ROMESH CHANDRA etc., on the issues of the Great Petition and the Censure Motion before Parliament. Make Sure of Your Copy. Order immediately.

WHISPERING GALLERY

WHOSE SHAME IS IT?

IN a house of orthodoxy, you can imagine the embarrassment if a maiden gives birth to a child. If you visit the Secretariat these days, you get the same feeling over the birth of a radio station in Calcutta.

Over a period of time especially after the emergency, there has been a great deal of intimacy between our bureaucrats and the gallant Yankees. The agreement with the Voice of America to instal a 1000 kw transmitter is primarily due to this liaison.

The Cabinet does not seem to have been consulted before they pulled off this dishonourable deal. Possibly at an early stage of the talks which were all conducted in a great hush-hush, someone's tentative sanction from the Cabinet may have been obtained.

These are all conjectures still. Because nobody who has actually negotiated the deal is available for comment. Pressmen have been running about to get a copy of the agreement without any success. Not even a photograph showing the signing ceremony has been released.

Although we would very much like to see the handsome face of Nawab Singh,

Secretary of the I. & B. Ministry, looking out of our paper, we have been denied that pleasure. We don't know the reason why. Or is he feeling ashamed of being seen by the side of U. S. Counsellor William Weathersby?

Foreign Secretary M. J. Desai is having a hell of a time explaining or explaining away the notorious gang-up with the Jim Crow Voice to the visiting diplomats from the non-aligned countries. Perhaps he would not mind it.

It has been whispered into Vijayan's ears in a musty corner of the South Block corridor by someone whom he would call very responsible that good old M. J. is an enthusiast for the Voice.

If I am not mistaken, he seems to have gone the length of telling some of the diplomats that if the Soviet Union asks for transmission facilities on equally favourable terms, say in Bombay, his Government would certainly give sympathetic consideration.

This is certainly no answer. But it only shows in what a tight corner our over-enthusiastic civilians have been placed.

TALKING about the AIR agreement I am tempted to dilate on the air umbrella. Of course, the umbrella has been sold now, as no holder.

I mean I read in the big business press lately, that the Yankees and Tommies who are bringing the umbrella, the latest version, are not committed to defend India if and when a second Chinese invasion eventuates. But I will be a damn fool if I believe all the rubbish that appears in their sheets.

Don't I know that most of these "stories" are inspired within the precincts of Western Embassies or the residences of the inspirers over whisky and soda?

In between the sips, of course, the gentlemen of the Jute Estate (Vijayan is tired of using the term Fourth Estate) discuss how and in what American college could their dear little sons and daughters be fixed up for free education. Or how could the diplomats help in renting out on favourable terms flats in the houses some of the journalists have built. How they built them, Vijayan does not know.

But while reading through all that has been appearing, Vijayan has a feeling that the Times of India has truly entangled dear old TTK into this umbrella business. The report implies that the umbrella was

first sold to him while he was sojourning in the wonderland of the mighty dollar, for a trial and he found it works.

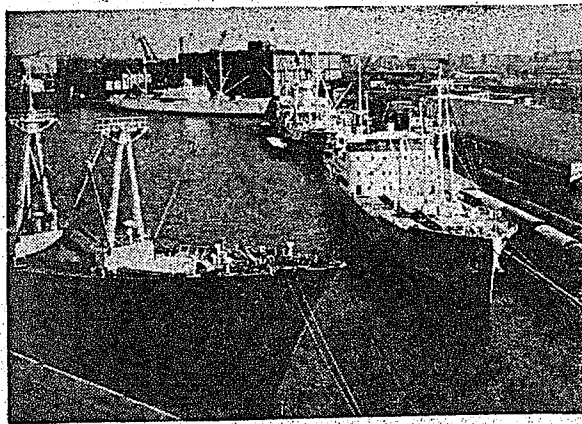
And the report goes on further to imply that he was canvassing for its purchase when he returned home. Canvassing has been TTK's forte. Wasn't he a salesman of toilet soaps to start with before he entered the Constituent Assembly as an Independent?

THE Bird & Co. affair seems to have all been hushed up. The only man who still seems to be worrying is Industries Minister Nityanand Kanungo whose son is an executive in this foreign firm.

But lately he has been deriving much comfort from the knowledge that sons of more influential minister or ministers have also been involved.

Who these other ministers are is an open secret. But one thing is sure. Keshav Dev Malaviya's son is not in the Bird & Co. If he were there, surely l'Affaire Bird would have taken a different and sensational turn. So readers will have to participate in a bit of a guessing game.

It is also rather strange that the Special Branch is keeping out of this business. It is still being handled by the Customs. Don't ask me why.



Gdansk harbour in Poland—one of the biggest in Europe.

CPSU OPEN LETTER

Soviet People's Complete Support

★ From Masood Ali Khan

MOSCOW, July 15: The Open Letter of the CPSU Central Committee to the Party organisations, to all Communists of the Soviet Union which was published on full four pages of Pravda on Sunday has become the only topic of conversation and discussion in Moscow.

THE paper was sold out soon afterwards and because of the holiday people had enough time to carefully read through the whole document along with the Chinese letter of June 14.

The radio, television and the papers have received thousands of letters and comments already expressing satisfaction over the fact that the CPSU stands on its course of peace, international co-operation, disarmament and peaceful co-existence charted out by the 20th, 21st and 22nd Congresses.

"With pain in the heart", people say, they read the

Chinese slanderous attack on the CPSU. "Black ingratitude", was another comment.

Efforts to Avoid Polemics

The Soviet side's patience and efforts to see that relations are not aggravated before and during the talks being held in Moscow had prompted the decision not to continue the polemics in the press and not to publish the Chinese attack and a reply. But, as Pravda said, this was interpreted by Peking as a

sign of weakness on the part of the CPSU and an effort to hide from the Soviet Communists the point of view of Chinese leaders. Now the full Chinese letter has been published and millions have read it here.

If the Chinese leadership expected that its publication would gain them supporters in the Soviet Union, they have been grossly mistaken. The reaction has been just the opposite: shock, disappointment, pain, dismay and disgust.

The differences have also been thoroughly discussed at the Plenums of the Central Committees of the Party of the Union Republics and at meetings of Party activists all over the country. Everywhere there has been condemnation of the Chinese slander and splitting tactics to weaken the world movement in front of the danger

of war and world imperialism. The peace policy of the Soviet Union is rooted in the people and their experience and has their full support. No amount of Chinese propaganda can divert them from this policy.

Secondly, this is the very wrong place they have chosen to defend Stalin's cult and methods. Here thousands suffered imprisonment and lost their lives due to the injustices and terror of the Stalin era. Here no amount of trickery with quotations would ever convince people that the 20th Congress and the steps taken afterwards to put an end for ever to those misdeeds were moves in the wrong direction.

World Peace Movement

Today Pravda published a long article signed by Nikolai Tikhonov, Alexander Kornelchuk and Yuri Zhukov on the tasks of the world peace movement. It traces the recent history of the movement and shows the harm done to it by Chinese tactics of duplicity. It says that in spite of the bourgeois agency on one side and mistakes of the

sectarians on the other the peace movement will continue to grow as a result of the united struggle of the peoples.

Izvestia Article

A later message says:

Izvestia on July 16 published an article under the heading "Socialism, Imperialism, and Afro-Asian Solidarity" in which the CPC is criticised for trying to counterpose the movement of Afro-Asian and Latin American countries against the rest of the anti-imperialist movement and using bourgeois nationalist and colour and racial prejudice and geographical divisions against the working class of the white nations.

The article accuses the Chinese of exploiting the legitimate hatred of the oppressed people against the imperialists for the purpose of splitting anti-imperialist struggle and playing down the progressive role of the proletariat of the West by identifying them with the exploiting classes of the white race. This means substituting proletarian logic by bourgeois nationalist logic, the article says.

Detenus' Release Ordered

★ FROM FRONT PAGE

the Act having prescribed the circumstances under which, and the class or classes of cases in which the Act was to apply and the maximum period for which detenus of any class or classes could be detained.

"No procedure for consulting an Advisory Body is provided. It is true that rule 30(a) provides for review. Those provisions, however, are of no relevancy in this connection. They do not touch the merits of the order of detention already made but simply provide a machinery by which an order already made can be reviewed by same or higher authorities at a later stage."

No Safeguard

Pointing out to the violation of Article 14 by the impugned laws their lordships drew attention to the Preventive Detention Act, 1950, which has already been on the Indian statute book for several years. Their Lordships pointed out in the course of their judgment:

The Preventive Detention Act, 1950, authorises the detention of persons and also incorporates certain safeguards provided in Article 22 of the Constitution against abuse, misuse or arbitrary use of power of preventive detention.

All such safeguards have been meticulously omitted from the impugned laws. Under these laws the executive can proceed avoiding the Preventive Detention Act and thus depriving the detainee of the benefit of the safeguards provided for by the Preventive Detention Act, 1950. Admittedly the provisions of the impugned laws are more onerous and definitely more prejudicial

to a detenu than the provisions of the Preventive Detention Act, 1950.

There is no enunciation of any legislative policy in the impugned laws on the basis of which persons detained under those laws could be differentiated from those detained under the Preventive Detention Act, 1950.

The result, therefore, is that there are on the Indian statute book two preventive detention laws under which persons may be detained leaving it to the sweet will of the executive, unguided by any parliamentary indications, to decide as to which particular persons or class of persons they would apply the comparatively generous provisions of the Preventive Detention Act, 1950, and to which they would apply the stringent and the onerous provisions of the impugned laws.

In our judgment, therefore, the impugned provisions are hit by Article 14 of the Constitution also.

Are Courts Precluded?

Dealing with the question whether in view of Article 359 of the Constitution and the President's order of November, 3, 1962 under it suspending for the duration of the Emergency the right of a citizen to move a court of law for enforcement of fundamental rights conferred by Articles 14, 21, and 22, their lordships pointed out:

"If we take it that the court is precluded from going into the question of the void nature of the impugned laws and that even if the state makes such laws, they cannot be prevented from being administered, the result would be that for all practical purposes the State would be in position to make laws and take executive

actions even by violating the provisions relating to other fundamental rights."

They stated further: "...it would appear that it could not be the intention of the Constitution makers that there could be no bar against Parliament passing laws like the impugned ones, and the executive taking action in derogation of the fundamental rights. Inasmuch as the Constitution created a mandatory prohibition against the State making laws like the impugned ones, and directly prohibited them from doing so, it cannot be said that it left the way open for them to do so indirectly. There is good authority for the proposition that what cannot be done directly cannot be done indirectly.

"As we see Article 359 and the President's order thereunder, all that they provide for is to postpone action against the executive for infringing Articles 14, 21 and 22, but that would not make the impugned laws administrable nor would it confer on the executive the power to detain an Indian citizen under the sanction of those void laws."

Illegal Law

The hon'ble judges held that the petition was not one for enforcement of fundamental rights. It was simply against the operation of an illegal law.

"Before the Constitution was framed, there were no fundamental rights in this country, yet the right, not to be detained except under the authority of a valid law, always existed in favour of an Indian subject. To deny this right to the individual would be to create an absolute despotism."

Hence those who were detained under the DIR which

was found by their lordships to be void and a nullity in face of the provisions of the Constitution, had every right to seek remedy under the ordinary laws of the land which were there to provide relief even under an alien government. Section 491 Cr. P.C., their lordships held, was the appropriate provision of law under which relief could be sought and the court was duty-bound to grant it; and there was no bar on it doing so.

"Once a case under Section 491 Cr. P.C. is made out

it becomes the duty of this court to give relief to the petitioners."

Accepting the petition their lordships came to the conclusion that the detenus in question were being detained "without the authority of the law and the court had jurisdiction to direct their release". Ordering that they be set at liberty forthwith the judges said:

"No case has been brought to our notice where, during an emergency or a war, a person can be detained without the authority of law."

No Air Umbrella in Any Form

★ FROM FRONT PAGE

military alliance, having a free run of our country and its air, right along the border—with all the resultant perils to our sovereignty and independence.

The U. S. Air Force is notorious for the manner in which it has used bases on foreign soil for espionage and other provocative activities against other countries. The U-2 plane shot down in the Soviet Union flew from its base in Peshawar. What is the guarantee that the same U. S. Air Force will not use bases in Leh or Calcutta for similar acts against countries, whose friendship India values?

The use of our soil by imperialist air forces would thus endanger India's friendship with the Soviet Union and other nearby countries.

All friendly Afro-Asian and socialist governments, all friendly peoples in the whole world will view with extreme alarm the proposed air manoeuvres and will see in them nothing but the dangerous air umbrella with a face-lift.

The joint air exercises will serve only to strengthen the

Chinese propaganda, which seeks to paint our country before our friends all over the world, as one which has already abandoned non-alignment, except in name.

The Communist Party demands that the Government of India immediately repudiate the plan which amounts to renunciation of our basic policies and is in complete contradiction to India's best interests. Last year the Prime Minister assured the nation that in no circumstances would the government have anything to do with the air umbrella proposals. An agreement to bring the US-Commonwealth air squadrons into India and station them on our soil, even temporarily, in the name of joint exercises, would be a gross violation of this solemn undertaking.

The Central Secretariat earnestly appeals to all patriotic Indians to join in strengthening the demand for the rejection of the joint air defence exercises and thus save India from this latest conspiracy of the imperialists and halt the dangerous shift in government policies.