

YANKEE TALBOT

GO HOME!

KASHMIR SHALL NEVER BE YOURS

NEW AGE
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25 nP.

MAKE NO MISTAKE ABOUT IT, U.S. ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF STATE MR. PHILLIPS TALBOT! YOU ARE NOT WELCOME IN INDIA, AND THE SOONER YOU PACK YOUR BAGS AND QUIT, THE BETTER FOR YOU AND THE IMPERIALISM YOU REPRESENT. INDIA KNOWS WELL WHAT YOUR BAGS CONTAIN. THE PRE-PUBLICITY YOU HAVE SOUGHT HAS BEEN ENOUGH TO WARN EVERY PATRIOTIC CITIZEN OF INDIA THAT YOUR VISIT, MR. TALBOT, IS THE VISIT OF AN ENEMY VAMPIRE, SEEKING THE BLOOD OF OUR MOTHERLAND.

We are reminded today of the visit to India some years ago of the late unlamented John Foster Dulles. Then too patriotic India reverberated with the international slogan—**YANKEE, GO HOME.**

But today we raise the slogan with new fervour and new intensity. The Washington correspondents of the Indian monopoly press have already told us of your mission to blackmail and pressure India into a sell-out on Kashmir via the old corpse of the "autonomous Kashmir Valley" plan.

THE TIMES OF INDIA's Washington correspondent (who won notoriety again recently by his pro-imperialist reports on the Security Council debate on Kashmir) has cabled that the plan in your bag is to create "an independent Kashmir" composed of "Azad" Kashmir and the Kashmir valley—with "Hindu Jammu and Buddhist Ladakh" (sic!) remaining with India, while Hunza and Gilgit (which are already being used for US military and air bases) remain under Pakistan's domination (THE TIMES OF INDIA, March 2).

THE HINDUSTAN TIMES (March 2) confirms the same story, Mr. Talbot.

The two correspondents, true to their salt, have sought to sell your proposal as one which will be all to India's advantage and one which will be resisted by Pakistan! (It is not strange that similar pro-imperialist correspondents of Pakistan papers have sought to sell the Talbot plan in exactly opposite terms).

How naively they argue. Says one:

"It is presumed that New Delhi may find it easier to accept this particular version of the autonomous Kashmir solution, because it makes no concession to the communal two-nation theory on which Pakistan bases its claims" (THE HINDUSTAN TIMES). If it were not so tragic, one

would like to laugh out aloud. We are asked to surrender our territory and the surrender is painted up as a victory for us over the "two-nation theory"! The imperialists take the substance—we win the shadow of the "theory"!

Again, the same correspondent adds:

"Another reason is that it envisages India retaining Jammu and Ladakh whereas Pakistan will be obliged to give up the entire territory it now holds".

The little thief has stolen our land, but is being asked to hand it over to the master thief, so that he can grab the rest of our land, which the little thief failed to steal!

What is of even greater

concern is the following ominous sentence in this despatch: "It is felt here that the Srinagar disturbances may have helped to convince New Delhi of the latent popularity of the autonomous Kashmir movement..."

The threat is implied: more "disturbances" if we do not agree.

THE TIMES OF INDIA despatch sings more hymns to the "merits" of the Talbot plan for an "autonomous" Kashmir: "Plebiscite is being given up in recognition of the Indian argument".

Does your government, Mr. Talbot, think the Indian people a bunch of feeble-minded

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ONE LAKH PEASANTS OFFER SATYAGRAHA

From MOHIT SEN

HYDERABAD: By the time NEW AGE is in the hands of the readers this week one lakh would have joined the battle in Andhra for the abolition of the additional land levy and speedy distribution of banjar lands.

ON March 3 the satyagraha movement was one month old. Up to March 1 the figure of those who participated in the Satyagraha came to 68,000. In the fourth week 6,000 people were offering satyagraha daily at 140 centres all over the state. So far 8000 have been arrested.

The All-Parties Action Committee met on March 1 to review the struggle with Tennetti Viswanatham presiding.

Y. V. Krishna Rao, convener, stated that the movement has assumed huge proportions and become a mass movement the like of which Andhra had not seen for a decade. As the government was obstinate, the movement had to be further expanded and intensified, he said.

The committee condemned the use of Defence of India Rules against the satyagrahis. Telephone and telegraph messages are being interfered with by the government on a large scale. Letters are being stopped, including despatches to NEW AGE and VISA-LAANDHRA.

The committee appealed to the Union Home Minister not to allow the state government to trample freedom of the press and communication.

Appreciation was expressed by the committee of the stand of Nagi Reddy in refusing bail. It directed all the satyagrahis not to offer bail or security when arrested.

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UNITED BATTLE AGAINST TTK'S BUDGET

Editorial

IT WAS A CONGRESS MP who described TTK's budget in the Lok Sabha general discussion as "the funeral of socialism". He said that the slogan was being carried to the cremation ground wrapped in silk!

The fact is that despite all TTK's efforts at camouflage, the budget cannot hide its real face—the face of a darling of the imperialists and monopolists. And democrats, irrespective of party affiliations, are voicing their opposition to it in no uncertain terms. It is significant that Congress MPs have been among the most forthright critics not only inside the party, but even on the floor of Parliament. The anger among the Congress rank-and-file is beginning to grow.

The Bhubaneswar session of the Congress voiced, through the great majority of speeches, a deep desire for a shift to the Left in the government's economic policies. The Congress leadership suppressed this urge and compelled the delegates to vote for its own resolution.

It thus proclaimed its determination to see that on no account would there be any shift to the Left.

TTK's budget proposals, as several Congressmen themselves have pointed out, amount to a shift to the Right of even existing economic policies.

It is good that democratic Congressmen, whose re-

presentatives were bullied into acquiescence at Bhubaneswar by promises of the shape of things to come, are beginning to speak up.

As the full meaning of TTK's "concessions" to foreign capital and to the monopolists is understood by more and more sections of our people, so shall the tempo of the battle against the budget rise.

This is not the time to allow political differences on other issues to stand in the way of a united battle against the policies behind this anti-people budget. This is not the time to seek to make a party issue of the struggle for the reversal of TTK's tycoon-tuned measures.

Unity of all who stand for the independent economic development of this country must be forged to fight the policy of "open door" to neo-colonialism.

Unity of all who seek to take immediate measures to end the monopolists' death-grip over our economy must be forged to fight the hoax of anti-monopoly demagoguery combined with pro-monopoly practice.

The dangerous character of the budget proposals must not be underestimated. To remain silent is to allow the steamroller of the imperialists and monopolists to open up an assault, which will mean disaster for the nation and ever-growing burdens on the working people.

(March 4)



ANDHRA PEASANTS ASTIR

By P. PATTABHI RAMA RAO

A Communist show, said Sanjiva Reddy, the then Chief Minister, when the Andhra kisan satyagraha was launched on February 3. The government is ready to "meet the situation", declared an official announcement. "Unjustified", cried the government advertisement in the newspapers.

None of these has been able to deter the Andhra kisans from joining in their thousands the satyagraha for the abolition of the additional land levy and distribution of banjar lands.

The movement which started at 18 centres in nine districts spread to 47 centres in 14 districts in a week. By the end of the fortnight all the 20 districts of Andhra were in the struggle. Today, a record number of 3000 volunteers offer satyagraha daily. The total number of volunteers who have participated comes to 30,000.

Political barriers have cracked and fallen asunder. In the All-Parties Action Committee are represented the Communist Party, the Praja Party and other groups and independents. As the movement gathered momentum Congressmen also joined in large numbers. Even Swatantra and Jan Sangh followers began to take part in the satyagraha so much so that these parties are now considering of launching a separate agitation of their own with the same demands.

It is true, the Communists are in the forefront of the struggle. That aspect has now become a challenge to the other parties. The peasants are asking those who still hold back, "While the Communists are fighting for our demands, what are you doing? If you want to claim to be people's representatives, join the struggle."

What is the nature of this struggle which has spread like wild fire all over Andhra? Who are participating in it? Why do they come to picket the taluq offices risking police atrocities and arrest?

The magnitude of the movement has not resulted in any disorder; nor is it the

result of an emotional upheaval. So orderly has been the satyagraha movement that it has by now settled into a definite pattern.

Lists of volunteers are prepared in advance. In some districts lists are ready for the whole of March. Taluq offices are intimated a day in advance the number of volunteers who would offer satyagraha on a particular day. Their names are also supplied.

The satyagrahis are given a traditional send off in the village from which they hail. Women perform 'arati' and the volunteers are taken round the village with drums, shehnai and 'dappu valdyam'. Above the drum beats rise the slogans "Repeal the Additional Land Levy Act", "Distribute banjar lands".

After the meeting, the satyagrahis start their trek with 'chaddimittai' (cooked food parcels) tied to the sticks held across their shoulders, on the taluq headquarters. On the way, before each house they are stopped and garlanded.

The same process is repeated in every village through which the satyagrahis pass. The batch arrives by night in the headquarters town and takes rest at the sibiram (satyagraha camp). In the morning they go round the main streets of the town shouting slogans and then start the peaceful picketing of the taluq or district offices.

Sometimes whole villages come to the town accompanying the volunteers. And then it becomes a mass satyagraha before the revenue office. So many are such instances that today one cannot even count the occasions. The whole of the Andhra countryside is astir with innumerable processions, slogans and meetings.

The heroic Telengana peasants are in the forefront of this struggle. Long oppressed under the Nizam regime, with scant irrigation facilities, they have to pay the additional levy today by starving—not even by borrowing because

that avenue is already exhausted.

That the Telengana peasant has taken the lead is to be seen from the way in which the kisans moved to the tahasil office at Devarakonda. On February 3 when the first batch offered satyagraha under the leadership of Y. Peddayya M.L.A. and taluq kisan leader Mallappa, the whole village including all the Congress families participated in the send-off procession. Not even a single per-

son was left in any of the houses.

Many of the villagers did not rest content with that. They trekked eight miles to the town with the volunteers and there was a thousand strong demonstration before the satyagraha. The village contributed Rs. 300 to the satyagraha fund.

Behind the 400 strong batch which offered satyagraha in Devarakonda on February 5 was another inspir-

ing story. The batch had come from the village Kandukur. Each house in the village sent one volunteer—and hand over all the grain to the moneylender of the village. For the second crop, he has to buy the seedgrain.

At Chintalapudi in West Godavary district, an 80 year old peasant, Bhadrappa, told the tahasildar that he had never come to a government office before. He has now come prepared to sacrifice his life because with the levy on, he was condemned to starve and die.

Another aged peasant, Morampudi Sitaramayya, pointed at the garland round his neck and said, "This garland is not of flowery fragrance, but the blood of the

grieving peasant". So saying he offered the garland to the tahsildar who walked away with his head bowed and eyes downcast.

If this is the picture of the agitation, the government is trying to meet it with a pack of lies. Calling the satyagraha "ill-timed, ill-conceived and unpatriotic", the state Revenue Minister, N. Ramachandra Reddy has given some "facts" to show how the agitation is unjustified.

The all-Parties Action Committee has countered the Minister's contentions point by point. The Revenue Minister has stated that the income from the additional land levy is only Rs. 480.85 lakhs, but according to the 1982-84 public accounts it is Rs. 764 lakhs.

The Revenue Minister said that 70 per cent of the population engaged in agriculture was contributing only 19 per cent of the state while a smaller percent of the population paying sales tax is contributing more than 29 per cent of the revenue. The fact is that the revenue from agricultural sores forms 30 per cent of the total revenue. The total sales tax receipts in Andhra including the Centre's share is Rs. 15 crores only, and the main burden of even this is borne by the village population.

Yet another distortion of fact which the Minister made was regarding the extent of banjar lands available for distribution. He said out of 21 lakh acres of banjar lands, 14 lakhs have been distributed. But the state government's Bureau of Economics and Statistics has said that the total acreage of banjar lands is 46 lakhs.

The allegation that the movement is a "Communist show" is not heard nowadays, probably because of the fast changing complexion of the satyagraha. How even Congressmen are drawn into the mainstream of this mass movement is shown by the instance of the Patasuryapeta village in Nalgonda district.

The whole village of Patasuryapeta gathered together and asked the Congressmen to join the agitation. Left with no alternative, the Congressmen moved. Next day a batch of five Congressmen with their own tricolour went to offer satyagraha along with the Communist volunteers.

And thus it happened at the tahasil office in Vijayawada on February 6 morning that tricolours were



flying side by side with Red flags.

The taluq Congress committee had issued a statement calling those who joined the agitation "bogus Congressmen". Ramachandra Reddy, leader of the Congress batch, termed the statement-wallahs "blackmarket Congressmen" and continued to support the kisan movement.

On February 10 Pachamatla Gandhi Raju led an all-Congress batch of volunteers to offer satyagraha before the Tadepalligudem taluq office in West Godavary district.

On the same day, J. C. Baligh, taluq Congress secretary, led a batch of Congressmen to offer satyagraha at Uravakonda in Anantpur district.

At Jangaon and Parakala in Warangal district prominent Congressmen including municipal councillors offered satyagraha on February 14.

The story of Bhimavaram was slightly different. There, Congress leader Bhupatiraju Vijayakumar Raju led the entire village to the revenue office to offer satyagraha.

This inspired two other predominantly Congress-minded villages also to join the movement. A thousand volunteers from each village marched to the revenue office to offer satyagraha.

Still more wider became the movement in Ellore in West Godavary district. Under the leadership of kisan leader Anne Venkateswara Rao, Communist, Congress and Swatantra volunteers offered satyagraha there one day, each group with its own flag.

Thus surges forward the movement of the Andhra kisan against the unjust levy. As a statement of the Nalgonda lawyers said, this agitation is reminiscent in its sweep and depth such great kisan struggle led by Mahatma Gandhi as the Bardoli and Champaran satyagrahas.

The sooner the state government takes note of this and repeals the additional land levy the better for it. The peasants are determined and will sacrifice everything for realisation of their demands.



WOMEN ARE NOT LAGGING BEHIND

Women are taking an active part in the Andhra kisan agitation for abolition of the additional land levy and distribution of banjar lands.

last week of February.

★ Among the satyagrahis in Jangaon and Anantpur districts are the tribal Lambadi women.

★ In West Godavari district in certain areas custom does not permit women to come out of their homes. But this has not deterred them now from taking part in the satyagraha. At Bhimavaram so far 150 have participated in it.

★ At Avanigadda in Krishna district 34 women have participated in the satyagraha.

★ At Elluru, on one day 60 women participated in the satyagraha, among

them an old Congress-woman. She was furious with the government, shouting at the collector, "either abolish the levy or kill us".

Like that in many other places more—Jahirabad, Manukota, Narsapur, Sangavaddi, Ellendu, Hyderabad, Narayanapeta, Purvalasu Tadepalligudem...

Leading some of these women's batches were deputy leader of opposition A. KAMALA DEVI, VIMALA DEVI MP, ANASUYA, municipal councillor SHEESHAMMA, panchayat board president JAGADAMMA. Eighty-year-old VANGARAMMA was also a volunteer and so was seventy-year-old NAGARATNAMMA.

If women have not

lagged behind in the agitation, so have not the police in dealing with them. Many of the women volunteers were arrested like the batch of 52 led by Vimala Devi at Elluru.

On February 19 the all-women volunteer batch at Gaunevaram was lathi-charged. Not satisfied with this, the police kicked at the women in an effort to scare them away. But the heroic women did not move an inch from where they sat.

Thus march the peasant women of Andhra, leaders and the led, young and the old, shoulder to shoulder with their menfolk to demand abolition of the unjust levy and distribution of the idle banjar lands.



TTK IN THE DOCK

Congress MPs Join Opposition To Attack Budget

By OUR PARLIAMENTARY CORRESPONDENT

Agitated Congress MPs scanning T. T. KRISHNAMACHARI's budget seemed to have almost espied a burglar in their attic and raised such an alarm that the Opposition when it came to criticising the Finance Minister's proposals in Parliament this week found it had a much lighter task to perform.

THE post-Bhubaneswar budget of the Central government had so dismayed a section in the ruling party that their cry of 'socialism in danger' was the more pathetic and posed the key question in a dialogue over policies of Administration which TTK himself had provoked by his budget speech before Parliament.

Some of the criticisms voiced in the Lak Sabha from the Congress benches as well as backstage comments and discussions in the Congress Parliamentary Party would amount in substance to an accusation of subversion by the Finance Minister of the accepted policies of the Party and the government.

With much more force and

ANDHRA SATYAGRAHA ISSUE RAISED IN PARLIAMENT

Criticism of Govt. Policy

Communist members in both Houses of Parliament raised during the week the subject of statewide satyagraha in Andhra organised by the All Parties Action Committee for abolition of additional land levy and distribution of banjar lands and sought the Central government's intervention to concede the demands.

DURING the debate on the mid-term appraisal of the Third Plan in the Rajya Sabha on February 27 P. K. KUMARAN questioned B. R. BHAGAT, Minister of Planning, on whether the Planning Commission or the Central government had advised or instructed the Andhra government to stop the distribution of banjar lands.

He recalled that in 1962 the state Assembly had passed a resolution unanimously to distribute these lands to the landless poor, but now the state government had stopped the distribution on the plea that it is to be given to people who have joined military service when they come back.

Kumaran referred to the satyagraha movement in which thousands had participated and courted arrest and he said that the Swatantra, Jan Sangh and Republican parties also have expressed their willingness to join the satyagraha from March 5. On the question of land levy, he pointed out that it had been raised from 100 to 400 per cent in certain areas and the peasants are restive about this.

No Central Directive

Bhagat in his reply admitted that the government's policy "is that all cultivable waste or banjar lands should be brought under cultivation." He added:

"I do not know specifically, —this is a matter of detail— but I do not conceive of any circular being issued from here that this distribution should not take place. But I will look into this question."

He further said that the Andhra government had raised the surcharge on land revenue and it varied from 60 per cent of the existing land revenue to 100 per cent in the case of wet lands; it was 60 per cent in the case of dry lands and 75 per cent in the case of partially wet lands.

But there is a great deal of feeling and agitation going on. The hon. Member knows about

it probably and we all know that there is a big agitation going on against this. But the state government, I was told, has removed the surcharge on lands which produce cash crops. As for other things, I think the state government is competent to deal with this."

The Minister also assured that he will bring the matter to the attention of the committee under the chairmanship of the Home Minister which consisted of a number of Chief Ministers also and which has been appointed to study the progress of land reforms.

Lok Sabha Reference

In the Lok Sabha, VIMALA DEVI, in her speech during the food debate on Monday referred to the current satyagraha movement in Andhra and said that till now over 50,000 had offered satyagraha. Thousands of women were participating in the movement. The state government, she alleged, had first tried to ignore the satyagraha and afterwards were trying to crush it.

The entire police force in the state had been mobilised to deal with the satyagraha. Lathi charges and tear gas were used against satyagrahis in districts like Nalgonda, Sitapuram and Krishna. At Gannavaram women were beaten with lathis. She also referred to the all parties participation and mass character of the satyagraha.

Vimala Devi urged the Union Food Minister to go to Andhra and intervene in this situation. She said that the distribution of waste lands and question of additional levies imposed on the peasants should be taken together in the context of the need to provide more incentive to the peasantry to increase agricultural production. She cited a Reserve Bank survey which showed that more than 62 per cent of the ryots are burdened with indebtedness and it was growing.

thrust the Communist opposition condemned the budget as a complete negation of all socialist professions of the government and an ingenious attempt to build monopolies and also to mortgage the country to foreign economic domination.

Both A. K. GOPALAN and HOMI DAJI categorically declared that the budget and TTK's direction of policies would lead not to economic independence but to economic dependence. In the light of past experience of commissions and enquiries which led to no action whatever, they questioned the purpose and sincerity of the Finance Minister's offer to appoint a Monopoly Commission.

Against this, rallying to the support of the TTK philosophy of economic growth with more incentives for Indian and foreign private capital were M. R. MASANI of the Swatantra and the Rightwing section of Congress MPs. The

dialogue had once again revealed the alignments bringing together the Swatantra and the Rightwing of the Congress.

Gopalan who initiated the debate said it was "a clever budget and a very dangerous budget". "Tremendous capacity to manoeuvre has been displayed to create an illusion in the minds of the people", he remarked.

Complexity Of Proposals

References to the cleverness of TTK's budget and his "subtle" methods came from other speakers as well. The complexity of his budget proposals was one thing which attracted attention from various sides and to that extent his critics also were more suspicious about his proposals.

In a general comment on the budget proposals, Gopalan said:

"Gates are opened wide for the foreign investor. The common man is where

he is. He is disillusioned and all hopes of a substantial reduction in indirect taxation has been thrown to the winds. There is no prospect of lowering of prices or lowering of the burden of taxation".

Gopalan declared that the budget would help to disillusion the people about the socialist professions of the ruling party. The budget had dealt a hard blow to their illusions and he considered it a good thing.

He demanded the withdrawal of excise and customs duties on kerosene, cheaper varieties of cloth and other items, state trading in food grains, nationalisation of banks, foreign trade and foreign capital and the scrapping of prohibition to raise resources.

Homi Daji in a scathing attack on the policies of TTK said that the budget was a budget of despair and of failure. It abdicated the responsibilities of the government in

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CONSORTING WITH U.S. MUNDHRAS

Whispering Gallery

THE hero of the Mundhra drama has returned to his traditional calling. Incidentally, he has re-entered the Finance Ministry, more or less at the same time as his friend HARIDAS MUNDHRA left the Alipore jail.

But this time he would not stoop that low to patronise such small fry. T. T. KRISHNAMACHARI has come a long way from selling soap, Cadbury chocolate and gripe water and later parcelling out LIC money to crooks and upstarts.

There are reports that even RAMNATH GOENKA, who need not ring the call bell to enter TTK's house at York Place, is somewhat downgraded. Of course, Ramnathji is still being propped up as chairman of the Punjab National Bank.

During the present tenure of office, first as Coordination and now as Finance Minister, TTK is playing for high stakes. Not soaps and sundry things but aircraft, petrochemicals and similar big things.

Last month he summoned a team of Lockheed salesmen to discuss things over. It's no secret that he does not like the look of Migs. He is in love with the Lockheed, the author of the U-2 spy planes.

But unfortunately for him, former Defence Minister KRISHNA MENON had arranged for the manufacture of Migs. He devised a way out of this commitment.

He appointed Swatantra-loving J.R.D. TATA at the head of a committee in March 1963 to review the

requirements of aircraft and suggest steps to meet them. As pre-arranged, JRD did an excellent job of it. His conclusions were:

No. 1: "If the Soviet government are unable or unwilling to improve the Mig 21 as required or offer another aircraft... the provision in the contract for the manufacture of Mig 21 and its engine under licence should be kept in suspense, but the implementation of that part of the agreement which covers the construction and equipment of the two factories should be proceeded with."

Mark the last part of the recommendation. Let the damn Reds sweat over building the factories. After completion we will see what plane will be manufactured in those factories. Why not F-104 or Mirage? Maturity, sir. Indian capitalists and their agents like the one-time soap seller are not a bunch of duds any more.

Conclusion No. 2: "The committee also recommends that, if necessary, in order to avoid possible difficulties with Rolls Royce on the Dart engine agreement, the Avro 748 agreement be formally terminated and the position fully explained to the Hawker Siddeley group." So, scrap Mig; scrap Avro. TTK as Coordination Minister did his damned best to get the Tata report, an essay in downright treachery, accepted by the government. But he failed then.

But the Iyengar would not give up. Since he went to

the United States last year he has been consorting with the Lockheed, the Koppers, the Gulf Oil and a host of American Mundhras.

It is in this background that we should understand the latest report that Lockheed is going to set up an aircraft manufacturing unit. TTK and his minions in the Finance Ministry like L. K. JHA and BOOTHALINGAM are also having tete-a-tete with the Koppers who are inching into the Bokaro project.

Koppers' representative, one VINCENT BRANDT, has been making the rounds in the Finance Ministry. The idea is to hound out the Indian consultants at Bokaro, Dasturco, and bring in Koppers.

Another American giant is sought to be smuggled into our nascent petrochemicals industry in Gujarat. And that is Gulf Oil.

One can go on in this vein about TTK. But there is no need to labour the obvious. His line can be described in two words: SELL OUT.

He has brazenly denied any assurance to the World Bank with regard to majority participation of foreign equity capital even in the public sector enterprises. We will soon know who is lying.

In the beginning I referred to TTK's traditional calling—selling. He would not scruple over selling anything we in India cherish. Because he had had nothing to do with the making of a free India in whose government he has managed to sneak in by the courtesy of KAMARAJ for a second time.

—INSIDER