

HUMANITY'S HOLIDAY

nov. 7 in moscow

From MASOOD ALI KHAN

In the colourfully decorated streets and squares of Moscow today a grand holiday of human happiness is in full swing. The first land of Socialism celebrates its forty-fourth birthday. There is music in every heart and a song on every lip as young and old rejoice.

THERE is a new patriotic upsurge, a new uplift and a fresh feeling of elation as the Soviet Land and its heroic citizens set out on their 20-year march to the culmination of the human ideals.

The New Programme and the 22nd Congress have given new mighty wings to this advance, which is to be the greatest organised effort of human beings for human happiness since the beginning of time.

At 10 o'clock this morning began the traditional parade and demonstration on the Red Square, the centre of the vast Soviet Union where on top of the Lenin Mausoleum, Khrushchov and other Soviet leaders and foreign guests took the salute of the marching millions.

Here in 1919 Lenin had taken the salute of the young Red Army at parade. From here in 1941 the Soviet soldiers marched straight to the front to defend their socialist motherland and tore the guts out of Hitler's hordes.

But the Soviet Army, which displayed its might in the Soviet capital, today is a hundred times more powerful and a hundred times better equipped—an invincible, awe-inspiring and unique force in the world, a dependable guarantee for the defence of the Socialist camp and world peace with weapons that send a chill down the spines of all warmongers, big and small.

TREMENDOUS MIGHT

The tanks, heavy artillery, rockets of short, medium and long range striking power, the anti-aircraft, slender and silvery weapons that made the flights of U-2 impossible, the mighty guns and cannons that rumbled and thundered past over the ancient stones of the Red Square a few hours ago, warmed the heart of every peace-lover who watched this breath-taking review of the peace forces that guard the whole world.

The rockets became bigger and bigger and bigger and all of them were numbered in six digits for all the arms rattlers and revenge seekers of the dark world of human depravity and degradation to see. 395379 I read and on another giant the number glittered on clear paint, 676668.

These are the weapons, the Soviet people would never like to use but they are there till the forces of peace finally win all over the world.

The military parade was over by 10.45 a.m. as the thousand strong military band smartly marched past the tribune.

Then began a colourful sports demonstration in which

young men and women on motorcycles and sports cars, carrying small flags and flowers took part.

Then from both ends of the Square marched in seven thousand healthy sportsmen and women and intermingled in beautiful patterns, mobile in their breath-taking beauty.

The number 22 appeared formed by hundreds of living-beings and then the word Lenin which lit up as fireworks in every hand became thousands of dancing points of light.

Then came the working people from the nine regions of Moscow with flags and flowers (some of them flown on air-liners, from warm Georgia and Azerbaijan) with banners and working models of machines and aeroplanes, moving conveyers and rockets, cars and locomotives, with children on their shoulders and gaiety in their eyes they came to report their successes to the Party and Government and to one another, for the glorious future that is tomorrow begins for them today.

"Not our children or grand-children but we are going to live in Communist society," the banners proudly declared. "We need peace" they said and the word was writ large in all languages of the world. "The Party is our strength, the Party is our glory, the Party is our honour," they proclaimed. "True to the behest of Lenin forward to the victory of Communism," they said. And again countless placards over the unending human flood filling the Red Square declared: "Peace to the World".

KHRUSHCHOV SPEAKS

Today's demonstration in Moscow celebrating 44 years of the Great Revolution was an unforgettable spectacle of unity, power and elegance and, above all, of the nobility of the human soul.

Later in the afternoon a grand reception was held in the New Kremlin Palace to mark the entry of the USSR into its 45th year of glorious existence.

Making a speech in front of the two thousand guests Khrushchov appealed to "all States and peoples to pursue a policy of peace and friendship".

Referring to the atomic tests he said that the Soviet Union was aware they were harmful to health but the

weapons were a million times more dangerous if used in war. The way out was complete disarmament and the abolition of atomic arms together.

The way to stop tests is to stop threats against the Soviet Union, sign a German peace treaty, clear the atmosphere of inflammatory material and sign an agreement

for complete disarmament under international control. He concluded by proposing a toast to friendship among peoples.

Later, talking to correspondents, Khrushchov said that Berlin was a difficult question. The most important thing was that it should be settled reasonably "we still have patience but we shall not wait indefinitely". The date of signing the treaty was not the most important thing, he said.

The Soviet Union will continue atomic tests if the West did, he said. Asked if there will be more 50-megaton tests, he shook his head in the negative.

Khrushchov said that no rocket was launched at the time of the Party Congress "because the Congress itself

was a rocket and we did not want to distract attention from it". There was never a hundred per cent guarantee that everything will be alright and it would not be proper to go to funerals at the time of the Congress. The cosmic research will be resumed when considered necessary.

Asked about Molotov and others of the anti-Party group, Khrushchov said their expulsion had not been discussed and was not of practical importance. It was a matter for the local Party organisation and the Control Committee of the Party, he said.

A gala concert was given at the reception and outside in the streets of Moscow gay crowds thronged lit-up streets and danced in squares.



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P. M. In U. S.

Prime Minister Nehru's visit to the USA is more than half way through, as we go to press. The joint communique is not yet out. However, there is enough in the press to indicate a change in the atmosphere that greeted the Indian leader.

THE Washington Correspondent of the Times of India, November 7, wrote that the august Indian visitor will taste a "mixed fare of respect, hope, and annoyance during his stay". There has, however, been a big shift from the earlier hostile and unprincipled howling to fulsome hypocritical flattery.

The Indian Prime Minister, on arrival was accorded the red-carpet welcome, complete with a 21-gun salute and military honours, reserved for the heads of States alone.

President Kennedy greeted the Indian Prime Minister as "a world leader of the stature of Abraham Lincoln and Franklin D. Roosevelt". Without going that far Pandit Nehru returned the compliment and wished Kennedy "all success in your efforts to maintain peace and freedom".

According to the American sources, the talks got off to a "flying start". After the second round Pandit Nehru told the reporters that they had "very good talks". President Kennedy confirmed that their conference was "a very fine meeting".

One has to wait for the final official communique to see where and how far they two agreed or disagreed.

Pandit Nehru's first television interview and subsequent press reports do indicate the points he stressed, and the

U. S. reaction to most of them.

The first inevitable question was about the speeches of the Indian U. N. representative, Krishna Menon. The Prime Minister politely but firmly reiterated that his own impression and estimate of the Indian representative's speeches was different from that of the U. S. pressmen and statesmen.

Pandit Nehru, however, was more critical of Soviet

And the Soviet Union had to resort to tests, with pain and regret, out of sheer necessity for its own security and in the interests of world peace.

To equate the U. S. that has talked of peace only to hide its hectic and aggressive war preparations with the USSR which was born with peace on its State banner and has long made innumerable selfless sacrifices in the cause of peace, is neither true history nor does it lead to principled diplomacy.

Pandit Nehru, it needs noting, did not accept the U. S. viewpoint on the tests. He reiterated his firm belief against nuclear tests by any power and thus warned the USA against its planned tests. He also suggested that the U. S. did not really require more tests for its security and that there were other methods of ensuring it.

Again to the typically American imperialist query, whether "Khrushchov really believes eventually there will be a major war", Pandit Nehru answered "I am sure, I have been sure for some time, that Mr. Khrushchov does not want war".

On West Berlin and Germany, Kennedy demanded support for the Western de-

by P. C. JOSHI

tests than before. It does not enhance Indian self-respect when India's Prime Minister makes new and more critical statements about the Soviet Union on U. S. soil.

Pandit Nehru may claim to be formally right but he knows it as well as anybody else that if the whole chain of events is objectively considered, the real culprits are the rulers of the U. S.

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THE POET WITH HIS PEOPLE

From AJOY DASGUPTA

The Gurudev's big heart had place for everybody, so has the Mela organised by the Tagore Centenary Peace Festival, All India Committee, at the Park Circus Maidan from November 5. The Mela, preparations for which were going on for the last eighteen months, was inaugurated by Mira Devi, youngest daughter and only living child of Tagore. Over 30,000 people were present.

THE huge dais, is decorated with pith works in traditional Bengali style and flanked by two huge wings containing the Poet's message:

Thou hast brought
the distant near
and made a brother
of the stranger.

The message being in his own handwriting was really a true expression of the spirit of the Mela.

On the platform was 90-years old Sangeet Nayak Gopiswar Bandopadhyaya, doyen of Bengal's musicians, who had been connected with Rabindranath for many years. There were Dr. Suniti Kumar Chatterjee, Dr. Mulk Raj Anand, and representatives from different States of India.

With them were representatives of foreign countries—Vera Novikova and S. Balasanyan of USSR, Dr. Dusan Zbavitel of Czechoslovakia, Prof. Clovis Maksoud of the League of Arab States, Mohammad Isa' of Indonesia, representing the Permanent Secretariat of the Afro-Asian Solidarity Movement, Reverend Wipulansa Thero of Ceylon, Rial El Etr of Egypt, Prof. Tanaka of Japan, Mr. Erendo of Mongolia and Nguen Van Sao of Viet Nam and many more.

TAGORE'S VOICE

A recording of Tagore's own voice calling humanity to congregate together (Bharattirtha) was listened to in hushed respect. Mira Devi opened the Festival by lighting the hundredth candle placed in front of a life-size portrait of Tagore.

INTO BATTLE!

AS news comes in of the start of the election campaign of our Party in different States, New Age makes further preparations and greater effort to play its due role.

We have started and will maintain our Exposures and Questions and Answers features. The comrades writing these features have asked us to make a particular appeal to all our readers—please rush in questions and all the exposures you can. The questions and the suggestions already received have only whetted their appetites.

The PSP Election Manifesto you will find shown up for what it is, on page 15 of this issue. We are doing our best to present next week an analysis of the Swatantra Party's essay in the same direction.

M. N. Govindan Nair,

"The poet of the world one day carried his golden message of peace and friendship from one end of the earth to the other. If this peace festival of ours can bring assurance in this scared world, then this festival will have done its part", Mira Devi said in her message. She said that today the forces of violence and evil are rearing their heads again and it is necessary to defeat these forces.

It was moving to hear the Bengali speeches of Dr. Dusan Zbavitel (Czechoslovakia) and Novikova (USSR) on Tagore's significance for world peace.

TAGORE IN PICTURES

Dr. Suniti Chattopadhyaya said that this Mela has given us Tagore in his all-sidedness and proved that the Poet belongs particularly to Bengal and at the same time to the world.

With Vedic hymns sung by Amiya Tagore and Suchitra Mitra's Tagore song the inaugural session, both serene and joyous at the same time, set the tone of the Mela.

The exhibition on the life and labours of Rabindranath is one of the main features of the Mela and occupies the centre of the huge arena. As in all other items of the Mela, the theme of this exhibition is also Tagore's message of nationalism, internationalism and the grand union of humanity.

The multitudinous events of Tagore's eventful life are presented chronologically, mainly through 100 big size photographs. There

are 32 other portraits revealing the intimate moods of the Poet.

Santiniketan was the Poet's abode for almost half his life and it was here that he built up the 'Visva-Bharati'. A section of the exhibition entitled "Tagore and Santiniketan" has been organised by the famous photographer Sambhu Saha, who has perhaps taken the largest number of photographs of Tagore during different phases of his life.

TAGORE'S MANUSCRIPTS

There is another section exhibiting manuscripts and first editions of the Poet's publications and letters written by him. Along with it are shown Tagore-books published in 14 Indian and 32 foreign languages. There are altogether 150 books in this section.

Tagore's paintings also form another section. The West Bengal branch of the National Women's Federation has arranged a poster exhibition on "Tagore and Women", drawn mostly by women artists. "Tagore and Science"—a new angle on the poet—is exhibited in a neat manner.

Paintings by famous artists from India and abroad on the basis of the Poet's writings on the themes of nationalism, internationalism and peace constitute another attractive feature of the exhibition.

Apart from this central exhibition, exhibits from the Soviet Union, Czechoslovakia, the German Democratic Republic, Democratic Republic of Vietnam, USA, League of Arab States, Indonesia, Gha-

na, Poland and many other countries are being exhibited in other pavilions.

A very beautiful and fascinating pavilion is one where Nilima Barua's collection of handicrafts, dolls of earth and pith, hand woven fabrics, ornaments of pith, bamboo sticks and reeds are exhibited. All these are mostly the handiwork of the tribal peoples of Assam and West Bengal.

Cultural functions are taking place simultaneously on two stages and in a cinema. There is a third platform where Patul Nach (puppet show) has been already shown, which, too, will be utilised mainly for folk forms of culture.

Song and dance troupes from 11 States of India have already come to this Mela as also the Ceylonese dancers.

The Suk trio of Czechoslovakia and Cuban ballet dancers are expected any day. Calcutta's best artists and troupes are there. It is a veritable feast, one is apt to be at a loss at what to praise more.

TAGORE'S INSPIRATION

But of the items already staged, the jatra deserves special mention. This traditional form of folk entertainment is still, perhaps, the biggest draw. There was a special whole night show of jatra, where a professional jatra troupe, the Natta Company Jatra Party and IPTA staged two plays. Though a separate entrance fee was charged, the audience became so huge that

that simultaneous shows by two troupes from two stages had to be organised.

And despite the discomfort of sitting in the open in the cold and the delay in arranging a non-scheduled show, people sat through the whole night up to 7 a.m. The same batch of people ran from one auditorium to the other, to see the same play, staged for the second time in the same night.

TAGORE'S VERSATILITY

And all glory to the IPTA, Prakit branch, who performed twice in a night, without taking a single minute's rest, to satisfy the people.

And it is not that people are coming only for entertainment. Seminars on Tagore's philosophy of life, and his views on educational problems also drew huge audiences. The crowds sat for hours listening to Dr. Radhakamal Mukherjee, Provat Mukherjee, Prof. Clovis Maksoud and Atran Sanyal, Principal Amiya Bhusan Chakravarty, Meera Dutta Gupta, Nalini Das, Amiya Sen and others.

In the science pavilion also large numbers of people listen with rapt attention to discussions on Tagore and the mind of man, initiated by Dr. Dhiren Ganguly.

So three days of the Mela have already achieved a great measure of success in presenting Rabindranath, not in a sectional way or to a select audience, but in presenting his all-sidedness to all people. Thousands upon thousands of visitors to the Mela have already proved that Rabindranath lives in the hearts of millions of men in his own country and abroad.

Nehru In Washington

* FROM FRONT PAGE

mand that free access to West Berlin must be fully guaranteed. Pandit Nehru on the basis of his talks with Khrushchov assured that there were no objections from the Soviet side but the details and manner in which access rights were guaranteed, were matters of negotiation between the East and the West.

The U. S. pressmen tried to trip Prime Minister Nehru with the suggestion that India observed double standards while advocating the principle of self-determination. It supported the liberation movements in Angola and in Algeria but denied self-determination to the Germans.

Pandit Nehru pointed out the obvious, that the struggle of countries held in colonial subjection could not be equated with German problem, which was a legacy of World War II and concerned a non-colonial territory.

The situation in West Berlin and around is at present less critical than in South Vietnam and Laos, where the U. S. is threatening the peace.

All the press reports tend to confirm that Prime Minister Nehru gave a clear warning to President Kennedy against surrendering to the Pentagon demand to send U. S. troops to South Vietnam. The U. S. puppet Diem can hold on no more against the

revolt of his own people.

Pandit Nehru is reported to have told the Americans that the Vietnamese were not friendless and had a common border with China, and that if the Americans sent in their armed forces a Korea, on a worse scale for the Americans, might be enacted in Vietnam.

The U. S. military aide to the President, Gen. Maxwell D. Taylor has inadvertently reinforced Nehru's warning with his opinion that sending the U. S. troops to remote South Vietnam was a strategic stupidity, and could be at best a political gesture.

On next door Laos the Indian Prime Minister is understood to have tried to persuade the U. S. President to accept the wisdom of supporting the neutralist Prince Souvanna Phouma even against the pro-American Prince Boun Oum on the ground that the pro-Western elements within Laos had no popular support.

As against the above, the Washington Correspondent of the Statesman, November 9, reports, "The USA wants Mr. Nehru to order India's representatives on the International Control Commissions in Laos and South Vietnam to exercise the authority of the Commissions to the limit in blocking the Communist subversion, particularly in South Vietnam."

It is not yet clear what was the final outcome of the talks

in the special session devoted to S. E. Asia.

As regards China the Prime Minister made the usual critical remarks about India's border dispute and the like but stood firm in advocating China's admission to the U.N., which the Americans are out to shelve for a year more at least.

It is only after the joint communique is out and more press and official commentaries are available that an objective estimate of the results of the Nehru-Kennedy meeting can be fruitfully attempted.

From the news available so far, it is clear enough that the Indian Prime Minister has made some concessions to U. S. prejudices and demands, while politely explaining the Indian standpoint, holding firmly by the Indian national policy of peace and non-alignment, seeking constructive practical solutions to the various explosive problems facing the world.

It is premature and still more difficult to forecast what dents in official U. S. understanding the Indian Prime Minister has been able to make in the interests of peace, for adopting the method of honest and serious negotiation by the USA, instead of sabre-rattling, blackmailing, and the like.

The coming days and weeks will reveal how successful Nehru has been.