

ROUND THE WORLD IN 80 MINUTES

OUT OF THIS WORLD STAGE BY SPECTATOR

The Ace of Space



Major Yuri Gagarin, the 27-year-old pilot of the 4½ ton Russian spaceship Vostok (the East) that circled the earth in 89 minutes last week.

Soviet Triumph Is Triumph For All Mankind

THE "BACKWARD" PEOPLE SOAR AHEAD

THE first man in history to make a journey into space—this is the achievement of Yuri Gagarin, the Soviet spaceman. This venture was rightly described by Sir Bernard Lovell, head of the Jodrell Bank Observatory in England, as "THE GREATEST SCIENTIFIC ACHIEVEMENT IN THE HISTORY OF MAN."

EARLY on the morning of Wednesday, April 12, Yuri clad in his space-suit climbed into the rocket Vostok (East) to begin his historic journey. One can imagine his feelings as he saw the faces of his friends for the last time before the door of the spaceship was sealed. Then at 8.7 a.m. (S.A. time) the rocket took off with a roar and headed into space. Alone in space Gagarin looked down at the earth and saw rivers, mountains, cities and the huge fields of the Soviet collective farms. The sky looked black and the sun shone many times more brightly than on earth. The earth was bluish and the horizon was tinged with orange. The whole scene was one of incredible beauty. While in space nothing has any weight. Objects floated around in the cabin and the chair in which

he was sitting was suspended in mid-air. During this time Yuri ate food in a normal manner and recorded his observations. He passed over oceans and continents as he raced through space and after circling right round the earth he arrived again over the Soviet Union. Then braking rockets slowed his progress and the spaceship sank back towards the earth to land in a previously chosen spot.

THIS is how a correspondent described his home-coming: "The phone rings. A voice full of emotion says: 'Yuri is with us.' Then the news was flashed to the people of the Soviet Union and to the whole world. When the Soviet people heard of the successful return of their cosmonaut they were filled with the deepest joy. The biggest crowds ever known since the end of the second World War thronged Moscow's Red Square. All traffic stopped in the streets when loud-speakers announced further details of the flight. All one old-woman could say was to repeat over and over again, 'I'm so glad. I'm so glad...'"

THE Soviet people had every right to rejoice in their great triumph and the peoples of the world rejoiced too with them at this newest symbol of man's triumph over nature. New Frontier President Kennedy of the USA sent a congratulatory message... and then asked of his advisers: why was America not able to do the same thing?

As the news flashed around the world many people must have wondered why Russia has led the world in the conquest of space. It is not that the Russians are cleverer than other peoples. We know that people of all nations have equal ability in science as in all other fields of human activity. Moreover, who would have guessed in 1917, when Russia was a backward country under the tyranny of the Czar, that she would be the first to put a man into space?

The secret of Russia's success is simple according to the beaming Soviet Premier Mr. Khrushchov. Any country can follow it. In fact it is no secret at all; the Soviet Union tells the world how she did it. Mr. Khrushchov declares that the space flight was a triumph of socialism. All nations, even the most backward, have the capacity to achieve scientific wonders but it is only under socialism that these potentialities can develop to their fullest extent, says Khrushchov.

It is true that America may soon follow Russia by putting a man into space; she certainly has the

industrial capacity. But what chances have the countries of Africa got of conquering space under the present set-up?

Yet there is no reason why in future times African spacemen should not circle the earth and even travel to distant planets.

Dr. Libby, a member of the U.S. Atomic Energy Commission, in an interview with the U.S. News & World Report as far back as August 1957 acknowledged the superiority of the USSR in training scientific and technical personnel. He also admitted that scientists in the USSR receive better remuneration and enjoy greater respect than their American colleagues. But this is not the whole story. The English paper Reynolds News put the matter succinctly when it said that one of the main reasons for the Russian success with sputniks is that their scientific development is not dominated to the same extent as in the West by the question: is this profitable, i.e. is this profitable for some huge company or corporation? The Russians have eliminated the nightmare of self interest which is the bugbear of the West.

Another reason was given by the leading conservative Negro newspaper published in New York, the Amsterdam News, which wrote on October 12, 1957, "Whenever officials of our Government can find time to look up from the problem of Little Rock they glance at the sky and say, 'Wonder how those Russians are able to get ahead of us to the horizon of the new world?'"

to begin with, the Russian Government apparently does not have the albatross of racial segregation and discrimination hanging around its neck as our Government does... Could this be one reason why we lag behind in the world that's a-coming? We think it is...

Russia's proud claim is that everyone has an equal chance to go

S.A. Congratulations To Khrushchov

JOHANNESBURG. SOUTH African congratulations on the achievement of the first Soviet man's journey into space were cabled to Premier Khrushchov by the S.A. Society for Peace and Friendship with the Soviet Union.

The cable read: "The South African Society for Peace and Friendship with the Soviet Union sends heartiest congratulations to your government and people magnificent achievement sending man into space. We feel sure that this success is in best interests of all desiring peace. We in South Africa shall continue to strive for establishment of closer bonds of friendship and understanding between peoples of our two countries. We are greatly inspired in this task by your success, Rev. D. C. Thompson Chairman."

University and reach the top in the world of science. The Russian scientists are drawn from the whole population, not just a section of it. All education in Russia is free and at University students are even paid an allowance by the government. Thus Russia turns out more scientists and engineers

than any other country. The Russians feel that co-operation is better than competition and that this pays dividends not only in the field of science. Their economy is rapidly overtaking that of

America and we can expect that in the future Russia will take the lead in more and more fields. IN THE WORDS OF THE SOVIET SONG, THEY WILL BE "FLYING HIGHER, AND HIGHER, AND HIGHER."



Kenya African leader JOMO KENYATTA broke an eight year silence when he received members of the press at Maralal, 160 miles from Nairobi. He said "I hope I shall soon be able to meet you as a free man". . . In reply to questions he said "I am not an enemy of Europeans". . . Picture shows JOMO KENYATTA and his wife on the balcony of his detention home at Maralal when he spoke to members of the press recently.

MOSCOW — LONDON — NEW YORK BY ROCKET

THE dogs Chernushka (Blacky) and Zvezdochka (Little Star) have just made trips on Soviet rocket ships from the Soviet Union to space and back.

The next stage is space flight by man.

But rockets can also make freight and passenger trips round the earth, taking people in a matter of minutes from one continent to another, from the South to the North Pole.

Fuel

Passenger rockets have not yet been built. The main difficulty is loading the rocket with sufficient fuel at the start for its flight, and also for braking on landing.

No doubt this problem will be solved in time. For a rocket to reach any part of the world, its range must obviously be half the earth's circumference.

But if we look at the map of the Northern hemisphere, it will be seen that, starting from Europe, half that range will be quite sufficient for most flights.

The range of the Soviet rockets launched to the Pacific was in fact more than half.

Suppose we are travelling non-stop from Moscow to New York by six-stage rocket. The first stage

A passenger rocket could, for instance, travel from Moscow to New York in 1½ hours, and, if required, stop at London on the way, which would only add 15 minutes to the travelling time.

Let us imagine how such an intercontinental flight would be made. The path followed by the rocket would form an ellipse. The greater the distance between the point of departure and the destination, the longer the ellipse.

Rockets would leave the cosmodrome vertically, regardless of the direction or distance of their destination. This is mainly in order to pass through the denser layers of the atmosphere as quickly as possible. The rocket would turn on its course at quite a low altitude.

Rocket Train

The most suitable rocket for long-range flights is the multi-stage rocket or, as Konstantin Tsiolkovsky called it, the rocket-train, consisting of two or more smaller rocket units.

At a height of just over 300 miles it is travelling at 13,500 m.p.h., and at twice that altitude

Prof. A. STERNFELD the well-known Soviet space scientist, looks at the possibilities of intercontinental passenger and freight traffic by rocket.

This article was written just before Yuri Gagarin was launched into space.

gives the rocket a speed of 4,500 m.p.h. and takes it to a height where air resistance is insignificant. Nineteen miles up, the first stage is dropped and the second, then third-stage rockets come into action to give the necessary speed of 15,000 m.p.h.

One hundred and seventy miles up, the motors are switched off and the rocket continues its flight by inertia, like the shell fired from a gun. Its speed gradually diminishes.

Calculations show it will appear to travel in the other direction at

at 12,000 m.p.h. Finally, at the "ceiling" of 775 miles, the rocket speed is at its lowest—11,000 m.p.h.

The travellers will have a magnificent view of the earth. As the rocket climbs they will see increasing areas of the earth's surface not only on the side of their destination, but on the other side from Moscow.

When the rocket is one-third of the way to New York the outlines of the Ural range will be visible with binoculars.

It will be a different scene as the rocket flies over London. At that point of the journey all areas of the earth for 840 miles around will be visible, and the horizon will be bounded by the Urals foothills, the Black Sea, the Mediterranean, part of the North African Coast, the Atlantic Ocean and Iceland.

Passengers watching the heavens from a west-bound rocket will observe the sun halt and then start to move at great speed from west to east!

Calculations show it will appear to travel in the other direction at

nearly 14 times its usual speed. When the rocket has passed its "ceiling," it will again start to gain speed, reaching a speed of 15,000 m.p.h. at a height of 170 miles.

That is when braking will begin, with the help of the rocket motors. The remaining three stages will now be used in braking—a process which will last three minutes, as long as take-off—before the rocket gently lands.

Non-stop flight from Moscow to New York will take 30 minutes three seconds.

The time difference between the two cities is considerable—seven hours 28 minutes eight seconds.

So, if we leave Moscow in the daytime we shall enjoy a day longer by six hours 58 minutes.

Shorter

A traveller arriving in Moscow at night will spend a night shorter by seven hours 58 minutes and, if he left New York on New Year's Eve he would be able to see the New Year twice—on both continents.

The high-speed flights I have described will differ from cosmic travel only in the short duration of the rockets' time in the heavens.

★ ★ We hope we shall see the day when the papers announce that "an intercontinental ballistic rocketliner from Moscow landed today at the New York cosmodrome."



POPULAR REVOLT IN ANGOLA

JOAO Cabral, London representative of the Angola people's movement, said recently that what had begun as a spontaneous demonstration of the Angolese against Portuguese repression had now turned into a continuous mass resistance which could easily become a war of independence.

Mr. Cabral was commenting of the armed struggle of the Angola people now being waged against the Portuguese in that territory.

Referring to the cause of the armed struggle, he pointed out that the Africans were incensed by the arbitrary arrests of three Africans by the Portuguese colonialist authorities and the bombing by aircraft of the African quarter of Luanda, the capital of Angola.

REFUTES "ATROCITIES"

Refuting the allegation by the colonialist authorities concerning Angola people's "killing of settlers," he said that the "atrocities" being put out by the authorities of Angola were intended as a cover for their own emergency military programme.

The building of air strips was now being pressed forward by night as well as day, and a battalion of nearly nine-hundred men had moved to Carmona, whereas pre-

viously no troops had been stationed in this area.

Cabral also refuted the Portuguese allegation that the events in north Angola were the work of "foreigners or invading terrorists". "This is a local popular revolt... but of course they (the Portuguese colonialists) dare not admit it", he said.

In the meantime the police force in Angola will be increased by

1,000 men as an initial move apart from the contemplated increase in the effectiveness of the "State Security Police" and "Customs guards."

This was announced recently by the Portuguese Overseas Minister Lopes Alves in Luanda. He was reportedly invested with special powers to carry out large-scale suppression there.

He disclosed that the Salazar government intended to give an external loan of 15 million pounds to meet the expenses for suppressing the uprisings of the Angola people and to maintain colonial rule there.

Cuba Invaded: "We Will Win" Says Castro

LAST week-end bombers made sudden attacks on Cuban cities causing several casualties. At least one crashed into the sea and the others made off towards Florida, USA. This unprovoked attack, which could obviously not have taken place without American aid and encouragement, was the cause of an emergency meeting at UN.

The air attack was followed the next day by a full-scale rebel invasion of Cuba. The US-backed invaders landed at several places along the Cuban coast.

Cuban patriots reacted quickly to this new threat to their hard-won independence. The militia were mobilised and moved to cut off the invaders.

AT THE TIME OF GOING TO PRESS FIGHTING IS STILL GOING ON BUT THE CUBAN PEOPLE ARE FIRM IN THEIR RESOLVE NOT TO ALLOW AMERICAN IMPERIALISM TO REGAIN A FOOT-HOLD ON THEIR ISLAND AND ARE CONFIDENT THAT THEY WILL REPEL THE AGGRESSORS.



President Nasser.

A LETTER TO NASSER

By Cecil Williams

Your Excellency,

Many South Africans admire you for the magnificent part you have played in the liberation of your country from the oppression of colonialism. In addition, we continue to be profoundly grateful for the vigorous action you have taken against the tyranny of apartheid in South Africa.

We believe that your actions on our behalf arise from the conviction that race discrimination is anti-democratic: that it diminishes the power of democratic principle and practice in the world: that it is your concern for the expansion of democracy in the world which has called forth your

contribution to the struggle against apartheid.

We are nonplussed and saddened, therefore, to learn that in your own country you permit the most abhorrent anti-democratic practices, namely the persecution and torture of political non-conformists. (See New Age March 23, 1961.)

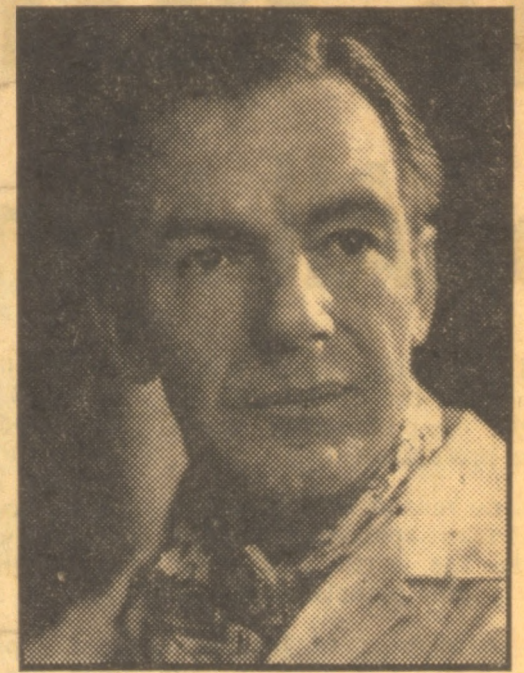
I appeal to you, Sir, to strengthen the forces of democracy in the world by widening the practices of democracy in Egypt. This, I believe, you can achieve by:—

1. Ordering the immediate cessation of harsh, cruel treatment of political

prisoners.

2. Bringing all political prisoners to your courts of law to answer specific charges OR **RELEASING THEM.**
3. Extending the fundamental civil liberties of freedom of speech, movement, association and organisation to all the peoples of Egypt.

I make this appeal not only in the interests of the Egyptians who are suffering in your prisons and camps, but also in the conviction that **with a wider democratic basis your country will be able even more strenuously to assist us in South Africa to progress to a fully democratic state.**



Cecil Williams

WERE PONDO LEADERS KIDNAPPED?

Minister's Reply To Court Application

DURBAN.

AN application has been made to the Eastern Province Division of the Supreme Court demanding the immediate release of four Pondo leaders who were taken into custody by the police when they were released from Maritzburg jail recently.

The Pondo leaders—Mbambeni Mdikizela, Theophilus Tshagela, Mpini Ndela and Mavennie Ntshangase—were released from Maritzburg jail on March 15 after winning their appeal against a conviction for addressing an illegal meeting in

Pondoland last August.

A fifth Pondo leader who was convicted with them was not released at the same time as he was serving a sentence on another charge.

ADVOCATE'S AFFIDAVIT

In support of the application to court demanding their release, Mr. R. I. Arenstein submitted an affidavit from Advocate A. S. K. Pitman who was with the men at Maritzburg when they were taken into custody again.

Mr. Pitman said that two plain-clothed members of the police were present outside the prison when he arrived with a warrant of release. One of the police, Sgt. Sweetman, informed him that he was going to take the Pondo leaders to Bizana jail as soon as they were released.

"I asked him why . . . and he informed me that he was going to detain them under the emergency regulations relating to Pondoland. I replied that that was surely not legal as the regulations he had referred to applied only to five districts . . . in Pondoland and did not include Pietermaritzburg.

OFFENCES ALLEGED

" . . . Detective Sweetman said that he would then arrest them for offences committed in Pondoland."

Stating that he then asked the detective if he had warrants for their arrest, his affidavit continues: "He informed me that he had not, but that warrants were not necessary. I replied that he would then have to inform the prisoners that he suspected them of having committed offences other than the one with which they had been charged and found not guilty and that as their legal representative I would like to be present when these allegations were made to them."

Advocate Pitman's affidavit goes on to state that after Detective Sweetman consulted the Officer Commanding the Transkei Police by telephone, he informed him that the four leaders were being detained under the Emergency Regulations and that legal representatives were not allowed to speak to prisoners under those Regulations.

MAKING SURE

Stating that he wanted to make sure what Detective Sweetman was going to do, Advocate Pitman asked the detective whether he was arresting the leaders because he had reason to believe they had committed an offence or whether he was

merely detaining them under the Emergency Regulations.

"I asked him to tell me which it was as I would like to write down his answer in his presence," adds the affidavit.

"Detective Sergeant Sweetman said, 'I am arresting the four accused on grounds of reasonable suspicion that they addressed unlawful meetings.'

"When I had written down what he had said I asked him, 'Is this correct? I will read it to you.' He interrupted me and said, 'I am giving you no information whatsoever.'"

MINISTER'S AFFIDAVIT

In a replying affidavit the Minister of Justice, Mr. Erasmus, stated: "I aver that it would be highly inconvenient and also expensive, and might well result in a disturbance of the peace, to produce applicants (the four leaders) in Court merely to be present at a legal argument.

"For these reasons . . . I resist the application for the production of the applicants in Court for the purpose of this application; I resist the application for the release of the applicants and the alternative claim that applicants be allowed access to legal representation at this stage," he stated.

ILLEGAL MEETINGS

An affidavit by the officer in charge of investigations in Pondoland, Major van den Berg, stated that he found that all the trouble started "at a multitude of illegal meetings and gatherings at various locations in the Bizana district, which were attended by thousands of Pondos and addressed by agitators."

Pondos from Flagstaff, Lusikiski and other areas attended the meetings and spread the movement. They encouraged resistance to tribal authority, taxation and "other reforms of Government control and authority."

After hearing argument the Court postponed the application sine die.

In the meantime, whilst the four leaders languish in jail, they have no recourse to their lawyers and do not know what charges they will have to face.

UNEMPLOYED

There are about 300 Africans unemployed in Grahamstown. Many people are facing ejection from their homes for non-payment of rent.

TRIBUNAL ON P.E. BUS DISPUTE

PORT ELIZABETH.

The tribunal to enquire into the dispute between the Bay Passenger Transport Company and its African staff of 200 bus drivers, conductors and other categories of employees opened its enquiry on Monday last week.

The tribunal was set up in terms of an agreement arrived at between the workers and the employers to end the 40-day bus boycott two months ago.

The workers are demanding an increase in wages for drivers and conductors from R14 to R20.25 per week, and a 33% increase for all the other categories.

They also demand improved conditions of work, that opportunities for promotion to the position of inspector and clerks should be thrown open to the workers on certain routes, and that the Company should grant facilities to enable the employees to carry on legitimate trade union work.

The tribunal's umpire is Mr. A. van de Sandt Centlivres, former Chief Justice of the Union. The workers' representative was to have been Mr. Govan Mbeki, but as he was not available when the tribunal began its sittings, Miss Ray Alexander took his place. Mr. O. P. F. Horwood, of Natal University, is the bosses' representative.

Mr. Joe Slovo is appearing before the tribunal on behalf of the workers, and Mr. Harry Snitcher Q.C. for the company.

... And A Letter To New Age

Sir,—In sending you a copy of the letter I have addressed to President Nasser on the question of the detention and torture of political prisoners in Egypt, I would like to pass on to your readers what the Turkish patriot, Nazim Hikmet, said to me a few years ago.

He said we democrats must never tire of sending off letters of protest against victimisation and persecution of political prisoners in other parts of the world. (He assumed, of course, that we would be protesting like mad against such persecution in our own country.)

And then this great man recalled how his own release from goal AFTER SEVENTEEN YEARS IN TURKISH PRISONS was brought about by the immensity of world protests to the Turkish government coupled with the demonstrations in Turkey itself. The largest procession in Istanbul was led by his aged, blind mother, carrying a placard, 'Release my son'.

I hope the words of Nazim Hikmet will encourage your readers to respond to every appeal for protest made in your paper.

CECIL WILLIAMS.

UP MY ALLEY

SO you want to be a spaceman, huh? . . . Well, boetie, you'll have to become a Springbok first . . . According to "an Afrikaner's" description of Yuri Gagarin, reported in Die Burger, he looked as handsome as a Springbok centre! . . . **That's about the highest you can rise in the estimation of Afrikanerdom!** . . . So that—if we had only beaten the Russians to it—the launching of our own spaceman would have been broadcast to the world something like this . . .

WE are now taking you over to Ellis Park for the launching into space of South Africa's first cosmonaut, Springbok centre Japie van der Gargarle . . . The referee has just come on to the field and the crowd is going wild . . . And here comes our hero, walking across from the dressing rooms . . . He is wearing a new green and yellow jersey, the famous Springbok colours, and waving to the crowd . . . The whistle goes for a scrum, van der Gargarle is just outside the 25 yard line, it looks as if he's going to score a try . . . The crowd is cheering their heads off . . . Yes, ladies and gentlemen, history is being made today . . . There's two minutes to go before the final whistle, and the referee is starting the count-down . . . And there he goes . . . **A bottle flung from the Malay stand has just struck van der Gargarle's noodle and he is really seeing stars . . .**

hurry up when it comes to sending one of da boys overseas . . . **But then, he's a black boy.**

AY, mon, said a canny Scot the other day. If meesterr Mac-Tshombe be thinking o' turning hee-lander 'tis the stone of Scone he'll get agin the head.

Apartheid Paper For Africans

JOHANNESBURG.

A new weekly newspaper "to give the Bantu political leadership in accordance with the South African tradition and to promote the Protestant religion" is to make its appearance this year.

The newspaper is to be published by a newly-formed company called Sabikor Ltd. (S.A. Bantu Industrial Corporation), which also aims at establishing companies for starting border industries. The nominal capital of the company is £100,000.

The paper, which will be published in Xhosa, Zulu and Sotho, will be edited by Dr. A. M. Dekker, founder of the Christian Literature Fund.

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