

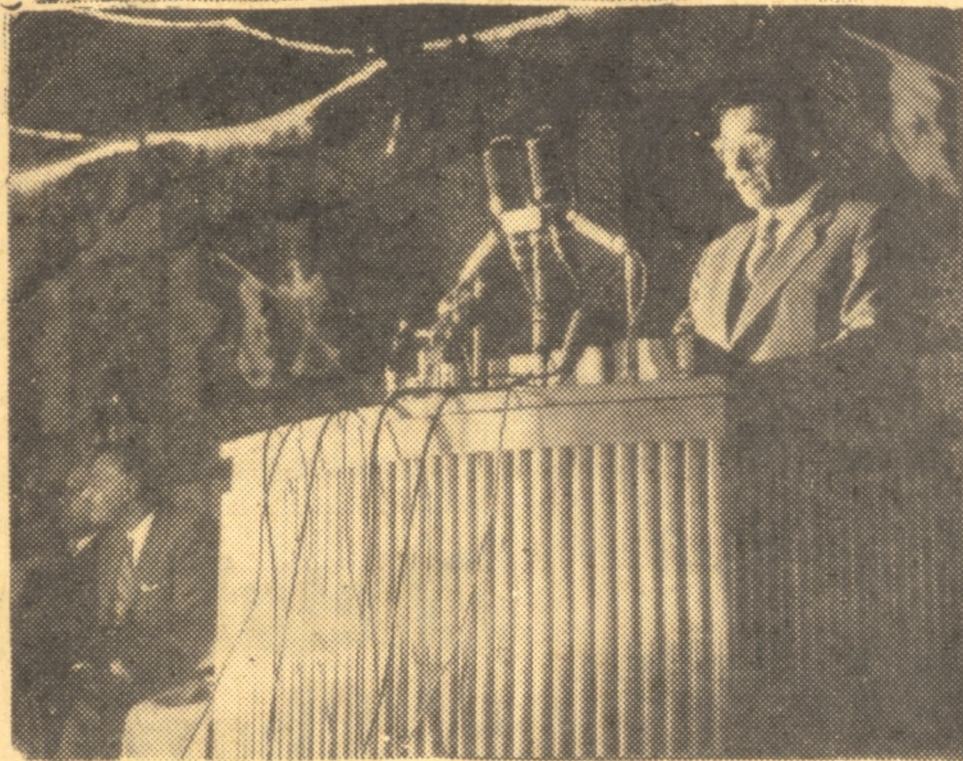
**AFRICA**

**WORK STARTS ON ASWAN HIGH DAM SITE**

**T**HE Egyptian town of Aswan, which until recently attracted only archaeologists and tourists by its ancient monuments, has now entered a new phase in its life. More and more people are arriving there every day to work on the biggest hydro-engineering project on the African continent—the Aswan High Dam.

Since the ceremony of breaking the ground on January 9, the final preparations have been completed—spurs and a road have been laid and equipment brought up and installed.

Excavation and earth-removal work began on the lower course of the future diversion canal on Febru-



**A GREAT DAY:** The starting of work on the Aswan Dam was a milestone in the history of the people of Egypt and all Africa. The pictures here show local peasants (above) come to watch the giant excavators at work, and (below) singing and dancing to mark the momentous occasion. Minister of Soviet Power Station Construction, Ignati Novikov, is seen (centre) making a speech at the inauguration.

ary 2. The job of removing the first blast rock fell to Ahmed Nizyamov, a well-known Soviet excavator operator. He brought into service the first Voronezh diesel excavator with a 44 cubic foot bucket.

The second diesel excavator, operated by Grigory Duzik, has started working on the building site of a siding in the approaches to the head section of the canal which will abut on to the dam itself and which was originally planned to be built as part of the second stage of the project.

Some 35,000,000 cubic feet of rock will be brought from the lowland course of the canal and placed into the body of the dam. Work on the diversion canal and principal dam will be conducted simultaneously.

The Soviet government's agreement to the request of the government of the United Arab Republic to take part in the construction of the second section of the dam will thus cut the time of construction and yield a substantial economy in funds.

**SOVIET-ARAB CO-OPERATION**

Various items of Soviet equipment continue arriving in Aswan by rail and water from Alexandria. The components of deep drilling machines have already come in, while lorries of the Gorky Motor Works, a second batch of 25-ton Minsk lorries and a great deal of other equipment are on their way to Aswan. Huge electric power shovels with 141 cubic feet buckets will be arriving shortly.

An important task facing the Soviet specialists and mechanics consists in training their Arab colleagues in the operation and efficient use of Soviet machines and equipment.

Arab specialists say that the Aswan project will be a good training ground for them and for Arab machine operators. Disinterested Soviet assistance has produced its results within a short space of time and Arab machine operators have already learned to work Soviet machines, including the powerful Soviet 25-ton tip lorry.

**WEAR BLACK**

(Continued from page 1) day May 29. The theme of this conference is to be "Our view of fifty years of Union and our joint will for a just multi-racial society." The slogan of this conference is suggested as "A new constitution and a new South Africa."

Other Congress plans for the Festival period are not to be announced at present.

Chief Lutuli's statement is brief and to the point. "The Union Festival is a festival of racialism, of the triumph of White supremacy government over the rights of the majority of South Africans. The fifty years of Union have taken away our land and our rights, have tightened the screw of the pass laws when we asked for freedom, given us Bantu Education and tribal colleges when we proved our equality."

"And now the Nationalist Government asks us to sing and feast, eat meat and drink beer to rejoice over the fifty years of Union. We have nothing to rejoice over. To us the Festival period must be one of mourning. We cannot make merry or celebrate the loss of our rights."

"Stay away from the official Festival celebrations," urges the Congress. "Those are no place for the victims of fifty years of White supremacy rule. Join in the freedom fight instead."

**ASIA**

**Soviet Aid to Indonesia Shakes Rightwingers**

**T**HE announcement that the Soviet Union is to grant Indonesia long-term credit of £89 million for the construction of Indonesian industry, has come as a great blow to those circles in the West who were hoping that under the control of anti-Communist Army leader, General Nasution, the Indonesian Government would renounce its policy of positive neutralism and friendship with the Soviet Union.

Despite elaborate "security" measures by the Indonesian Army reminiscent of the treatment meted out to Mr. K. on the first half of his U.S. trip, millions of Indonesian people turned out to greet the Soviet Prime Minister during his recently ended tour of the country.

On his arrival in Djakarta more than a million people were reported to have lined the route from the airport to the centre of the city in order to welcome him.

The main themes of Khrushchov's addresses to the Indonesian people were:

- The fight for independence must be continued. "Just as the tiger does not eat grass, so colonialists will never voluntarily leave countries they have once colonised." (Foreign capital still has a strong hold on the Indonesian economy, and the territory of West Irian is still under Dutch control.)

- The Soviet proposals for disarmament if realised would release enormous funds for aiding underdeveloped countries;

- The Soviet Union in the

meantime is prepared not only to grant moral support to the countries recently liberated from colonial rule, but also to make available to them practical aid.

It was this latter "threat" that particularly alarmed right-wing elements in Indonesia.

"Worried anti-Communist leaders here," reported Dennis Bloodworth from Bandung in a recent issue of the London Observer "feel daily more convinced that the Republic's 'rich uncle' is going to announce a new and spectacular Soviet aid programme for the country which may draw it once more towards the Communist bloc."

Bloodworth makes it clear that the Soviet offer of aid will have an important bearing on internal Indonesian politics.

He points out that General Nasution, with support from other political parties and anti-Communists in the Administration, has succeeded in "limiting severely" the activities of the powerful Indonesian Communist Party.

To balance the Army's rising power, President Sukarno has listened to the advice of left-wing counsellors and has appointed left-wingers to the Administration, adds Bloodworth. But Sukarno is more and more being blamed for the country's deteriorating economic situation.

"Not only may Mr. Khrushchov's visit provide a psychological shot in the arm for the left-wing but an offer of massive economic aid will go far towards redressing the balance for President Sukarno."

Now the aid has been forthcoming.

**CHOU TO VISIT NEHRU**

**T**HE prospects of a major improvement of India-China relations, which were severely strained over their border dispute last year, have been considerably enhanced by the announcement that Chinese Premier Chou En-lai will visit New Delhi in April for talks on the frontier question with Indian Prime Minister Nehru.

In accepting the invitation to come to India, Chou En-lai declared that the two countries "must not waver in their common desire for a peaceful settlement of the issue on account of temporary differences of opinion, and certain unfortunate and unexpected incidents."

**PEKING WANTS TALKS ON CHINESE IN INDONESIA**

**CHINA HAS PROPOSED TO INDONESIA IMMEDIATE TALKS TO SAFEGUARD FRIENDLY RELATIONS AND TO SETTLE THE QUESTION OF CHINESE RESIDENTS BY CONSULTATION ON THE BASIS OF THE BANDUNG CONFERENCE PRINCIPLES.**

**Indonesia, by a Presidential regulation last November, prohibited all aliens in places other than capitals of first and second-class autonomous districts from running small businesses or engaging in retail trade.**

**S**INCE the promulgation of this regulation, local wartime administrators in many parts of Indonesia have intensified discriminatory measures against Chinese residents.

Not only have the Chinese been banned from trading but in many cases have also been

forced to abandon their homes and property in the villages and move to specified areas.

Ninety per cent of the overseas Chinese in Indonesia are labouring people who actively support the aims of the Indonesian revolution and whose industriousness contributes to the development of Indonesia's national economy.

The small traders against whom the discriminatory measures are directed play a vital role in promoting commodity exchange between rural and urban areas.

Attempts are made to justify the discrimination against Chinese nationals on grounds of "security" and "prohibition of foreign capital."

It is of significance that the Indonesian Government, while taking such drastic measures against small village traders has failed to touch big foreign monopolies like Caltex and

Standard Vacuum Oil companies.

**TIGER**  
It even throws the door wide open to increased penetration of American and Japanese capital.

This has provoked the comment of D. N. Aidit, chairman of the Communist Party of Indonesia, that the Indonesian Government "Fought only with cats because it was afraid to resist the tiger."

Widespread sympathy and support for the overseas Chinese exists among the Indonesian labouring people, among whom they have lived in amity for generations.

**There is an acute awareness of the efforts of imperialist circles to poison relationships between China and Indonesia and a strong determination to defeat this plot.**



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