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News



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SWEDEN MAY INVEST IN KABUL, HERAT PROJECTS

Envoy Discusses Proposals For Match, Shoe Factories

KABUL, December 17, (Bakhtar).—Bjorn Bratt, the Swedish Ambassador in Tehran who also represents his country in Kabul, met the Ministers of Public Health and Mines and Industries Thursday morning.

In the meeting with Minister of Mines and Industries Samad Salim, views were exchanged on Swedish investment in a match factory, a tannery and a shoe factory in Kabul and in industrial projects in Herat.

The envoy's discussion with the Minister of Health, Miss Kobra Noorzai, was mainly about family planning.

The Education Minister, Dr. Mohammad Osman Anwari, gave a reception in honour of the Swedish Ambassador Wednesday evening. Officials of the Ministry of Education and the Foreign Ministry were among those at the reception.

The shoe factory to be set up with Swedish help is to produce 400,000 leather shoes and 300,000 rubber shoes a year. For the tannery it is proposed to raise Af. 1.6 million.

Details of these projects and some projects in Herat are being worked out.

In Herat Thursday Agriculture and Irrigation Minister Mir Mohammad Akbar Raza inspected the Herat cotton company.

The company was set up three years ago with an initial capital of Af. 10 million. Now the company operates with a capital of Af. 20 million.

The president of the company, Azizullah, explained to the Minister the operation of the company, which includes purchasing, processing and exporting cotton. It also has plans to increase output, improve production methods and increase home consumption.

Azizullah said work on buildings in a 65-acre area has been completed. Warehouses and buildings for ginning and pressing machines, a power plant and cleaning and packing machinery were now ready and the machinery will go into operation in a month.

Raza also inspected the digging of deep wells and other activities of the department of water and soil survey in Herat and the work of the agriculture department in Qal'ai Nau, centre of Badkhis province. In Badkhis he also visited the Archa Leq forest and the site of the Sabzak dam.

Home News In Brief

KABUL, Dec. 17 (Bakhtar).—Teachers of Pakhtu courses held a meeting Thursday and discussed steps to promote learning of Pakhtu. The meeting was presided over by Azizullah Amerkheil, director general of the education department in the Pakhtu Academy.

KABUL, Dec. 17, (Bakhtar).—A department of Arabic has been established in the College of Letters in order to train teachers of Arabic and facilitate further studies in the culture and history of the country. The college already offers courses in French, German and Russian.

TALUQAN, Dec. 17 (Bakhtar).—A delegation from the Ministry of Mines and Industries, including a UN expert, has arrived here from Badkhis to study prospects of improving handicrafts in the province.

KABUL, Dec. 17.—The British Ambassador Sir Whitteridge called on Topyalai Etamadi, Rector of Kabul University, Thursday morning in order to present a collection of books for the University Library.

The collection is part of a gift of books whose total value is \$200, which is being provided for the University Library out of British technical assistance funds under the Co-

MAIDAN SHAR, Dec. 17 (Bakhtar).—The Deh Afghan bridge, which links the Kandahar highway with the city of Maidan, was opened by the governor, Mohammad Ebrahim Abasi, last week.

The bridge, 8 metres long and 5 metres wide, was constructed with the help of the people. Work on it began two months ago.

AEC Selects Site For Atom-Smasher

WASHINGTON, Dec. 17.—The U.S. Atomic Energy Commission (AEC) Friday selected Weston, Illinois, near Chicago, as the site for the proposed largest atom-smasher in the world.

Technically the atom-smasher is known as a proton accelerator—device which speeds up the rate of travel of protons, one of the elements in an atom—and will be rated at two hundred thousand million electron volts (200 bev).

The machine will be used to probe more deeply than ever before into the fundamental nature of matter.

The commission will request authorisation and funds (from Congress) in the amount of \$10 million for initial design work in the fiscal year 1968 budget which President Johnson will send to Congress in January, the AEC said. Funds for construction will be requested at a later time, the AEC added.

Total costs for the machine will be about \$37 million. Completion is planned in eight years. It will employ 2,300 persons.

STOP PRESS

In Budapest Dinh Ba Thi, the head of the permanent mission of the South Vietnam National Liberation Front Friday surveyed the South Vietnamese people's heroic struggle against the American aggressors. He was addressing a press

Royal Audience

KABUL, Dec. 17 (Bakhtar).—The following have been received in audience by His Majesty the King during the week ended December 15:

General Khan Mohammad, Minister of National Defence; Dr. Mohammad Haider, Minister of Justice; Mohammad Sediq, Governor of Herat; Abdul Rauf Rasoul, President of Operations in the Ministry of National Defence; Din Mohammad Delawar, Governor of Nangarhar; and Mohammad Hanif, Governor of Samangan.

15 Stupas Found In Hadda

KABUL, Dec. 17 (Bakhtar).—The Afghan archeological mission now excavating in Hadda, 8km. north of Jalalabad city, has discovered 15 stupas on the Tape Oshtor.

The stupas belong to the third and fourth centuries A.D., according to Dr. Shai Bye Mostamandi, head of the mission.

Among the finds is a 1m. 35cm. statue of the Buddha. Dr. Mostamandi said a notable feature is that the Buddha's shoes bears great similarity to those on the feet of the Kanishka statue found several years ago in the Surkh Kotal excavations.

Sixty coins have also been found on the Tape Oshtor.

Soviet Deputy Minister Of Trade Returns

KABUL, Dec. 17, (Bakhtar).—Nikolai Ozpov, Deputy Minister for Foreign Trade, left for the Soviet Union Thursday.

During his stay here Ozpov also discussed the price of gas to be piped to his country from Afghanistan.

Grozov Deputy Minister for gas in the Soviet Union, another member of the delegation, also left for his country.

Need To Normalise East-West Relations Stressed In Paris

PARIS, December 17, (Tass and AP).—Addressing Friday's afternoon meeting of the NATO council which assembled here for the last time, French Foreign Minister Couve de Murville stressed the need for normalising relations between states with different social systems. "East-west relations," he said, "have become a fashionable topic now, and it is a sign of a deep running evolution in the present world."

"France," he went on, "has drawn the necessary conclusions for itself from the development of the international situation and its goal is detente and cooperation with Eastern countries, the need now is for an over all normalisation of relations with these countries."

Noting further that France was for preserving the political alliance of the signatories of the North Atlantic Treaty after the term of the treaty expires, Couve de Murville said this did not mean, however, that the member countries would necessarily pursue the same policy. France had not left the joint military organisation which no longer conformed to the world situation in order to accept a joint formula in the sphere of international policy.

Couve de Murville expressed agreement with the proposal of the Belgian Foreign Minister for a re-organisation of the structure of the North Atlantic Union. He said that France did not share the idea of preserving tention or in other words, the hope that the West could force the USSR by relying on military strength to accept the Western viewpoint.

In conclusion, the French Foreign Minister said that the war which the United States was waging in Vietnam was a serious obstacle to the relaxation of tension.

British Foreign Secretary George Brown served notice Thursday Britain is ready to help strengthen European defence cooperation—but only within the wider framework of the North Atlantic Treaty Organisation.

"A European defence arrangement detached from NATO would be worth nothing," he told the North Atlantic Council of foreign ministers in his first major speech since taking office in August.

Brown met President de Gaulle last night.

The three-day meeting of NATO Ministers which ended Friday, was one of the most successful in NATO history in terms of business transacted, an American official source said.

He also noted it went "as expected and predicted."

26 Die As Plane Crashes Into Bus

DAMASCUS, Dec. 17, (AP).—All 25 passengers aboard a Trans-desert autobus were killed when an Iraqi air force training plane crashed into the speeding vehicle near the Iraqi-Syrian frontier at mid-day Wednesday, it was announced here and in Baghdad Thursday.

A statement over Baghdad radio said the plane's pilot was also killed in the crash, which occurred inside Iraqi territory 44 miles (70km) from the Iraq Petroleum Company's H-3 desert station.

A spokesman for Trans-desert company which owns the autobus, said the victims included three Lebanese, five Pakistanis, six Syrians, seven Palestinians, two Somalis, one Jordanian and one pregnant Iraqi woman.

Greek, Turkish Ministers Meet To Discuss Cyprus

PARIS, Dec. 17 (AP).—The Greek and Turkish Foreign Ministers held further meetings here Friday and Saturday to continue their secret quest for a solution of the disputed future of Cyprus.

Admiral John Toumbas and Ihsan Sabri Caglayangil, according to aides, met late Friday and on Saturday after the windup on the North Atlantic Council of Foreign Ministers which both are attending.

Toumbas and Caglayangil also have discussed the progress of exchanges with British Foreign Secretary George Brown and U.S. Secretary of State Dean Rusk, but Brown and Rusk both want to keep their governments out of the Greek-Turkish exchanges if they possibly can manage it.

One of the big issues expected to come up relates to action Turkey is taking to prevent supplies reaching President Makarios government.

Turkish warships were reported to have steamed from Izmir towards the Mediterranean Wednesday after the Ankara government threatened forcibly to halt the arrival of Czech arms shipments to Cyprus.

At least one such Czech vessel, said to be carrying 150 tons of light tanks, bazookas, machine-guns and small arms, is believed on the high seas heading for the islands.

The United Nations Secretary Council, which Friday extended the mandate of the island for six months has called on all member-states to refrain from any actions that might heighten tensions between the Greek and Turkish Cypriots.

U THANT'S ADVICE

Secretary General U Thant has advised the UN Security Council of an assurance that he has had from Makarios—that arms ordered from Czechoslovakia were needed for police purpose only.

Thant told the council of Czechs so far have sent material that includes rifles and sub machine guns. And earlier this month the Greek government said these arms have not been reached the Cypriot government, but have been kept in storage and under the control of the Greek army contingent in the island.

The arms question is only one of many aspects of the situation being kept under review by Toumbas and Caglayangil. The foreign ministers have been meeting over a period of months in secret in Vienna.

Other aspects of the Cyprus problem under Greek-Turkish discussion include constitutional issues. These stem from the bitter differences which have arisen between the rival island communities over the working of 1960 settlement which the Turkish-descended Cypriots consider has failed to safeguard the communal interests and rights.

Turkey has augmented her threat to use force against ships she regards as arms-runners by warning Makarios she will deliver an equal quantity of weapons to the Turkish-speaking community.

UN COUNCIL VOTES SANCTIONS; OIL PUT ON LIST

NEW YORK, Dec. 17, (Combined News Services).—Mandatory selective economic sanctions, including an embargo on oil, were voted by the United Nations Security Council Friday against the rebel white minority regime in Rhodesia.

The action marked the first time that the Council had utilised its powers under the UN Charter to invoke mandatory economic sanctions to deal with a threat to international peace and stability.

The vote on the draft resolution introduced by Britain, and amended by Mali, Nigeria and Uganda, was 11-0 with four abstentions.

The Security Council action was requested by Britain in an effort to bring down the illegal Ian Smith regime which unilaterally declared its independence from Britain last year.

Voluntary economic sanctions imposed by several countries on certain products, including oil, failed to force the Smith regime to back down from its independence declaration.

The list includes oil, aircraft, motor vehicles or parts, asbestos, iron ore, chrome, pig iron, cigar, tobacco, copper, meat and meat products, hides, skins and leather.

The Council resolution reminds all member states that the failure of any of them to implement the sanctions shall constitute a violation of the UN Charter.

The resolution also calls on all states not to give any financial or other economic aid to the Smith regime.

The Secretary-General was asked by the Council to report on the progress of the implementation of the resolution not later than March 1, 1967.

The Soviet Union, Bulgaria, Mali and France abstained in the vote on the resolution. The United States voted in favour of it, along with Nigeria, Uganda, Argentina, Uruguay, Jordan, Taiwan, Japan, the Netherlands, New Zealand and Britain.

Lord Caradon of Britain accepted the African demand that oil be added to the list of mandatory embargoes.

He also accepted the proposed call on all states not to render financial or economic aid to Rhodesia, while making it clear that this must not prohibit payment of pensions and for the work of missions, medical and charitable bodies.

While agreeing to the inclusion of oil in the list of embargoes, Lord Caradon rejected a complementary African proposal which would invite Britain to prevent by all means the transport to Southern Rhodesia of oil and oil products.

This, Lord Caradon said, would put an obligation to enforce the sanctions on the British government alone, by force if necessary, and without any limitation of the obligation.

The British delegate also turned down the proposal that Britain should make a categorical declaration that it would not grant independence to Rhodesia until there was majority rule there.

This, he said, impinged on matters within the sovereignty of the British Parliament and so could not be accepted as part of the solution.

Lord Caradon said the African states' proposal that Rhodesian exports of coal and manufactured goods should be prohibited was of particular concern to Britain.

"Such a prohibition," he said, "would result in great dangers to the economies of Zambia and other neighbouring Commonwealth countries."

"Damage to Zambia would be far greater than any damage likely to result to the Rhodesian regime," Milko Tarabanov of Bulgaria said Britain's concern about the proposed embargo on coal had nothing to do with worry for Zambia.

The coal was used for smelting Zambian copper which was vital to certain British interests, he said. The General Assembly Friday unanimously voted covenants to give the force of law to the Universal Declaration on Human Rights.

U Thant, UN Secretary-General, stressed the historic importance of the action by addressing the Assembly. He told the delegates, he believed that it someday "will bring us nearer to the kind of world which our organisation is committed to build."



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PUBLISHING AGENCY

Sweden's Gift To Ministry Of Education

For the second time in five years the government of Sweden has presented to the Ministry of Education paper to print textbooks. The earlier gift of 500 tons greatly assisted the Ministry in providing textbooks for various classes in the primary and secondary schools.

The second consignment, the agreement for which was signed last week between the Minister of Education, Dr. Mohammad Osman Anwari, and the Swedish ambassador, will be mainly devoted, as the Minister said, to printing textbooks for the primary schools.

The Ministry of Education during the last five years has moved from a stage of great need toward self-sufficiency in providing textbooks to the schools. Many of us still remember the time when most of the textbooks selected by the textbooks preparation department of the Ministry had to be printed abroad. Even the basic books for the primary schools, such as the Dari textbooks for the first years in school, were printed abroad. Three main developments have helped the Ministry to print its own textbooks—the establishment of printing presses in the country capable of handling large orders, the import of paper in large quantities and the employment of qualified personnel to prepare textbooks. Today not only the Education Press but also the Government Printing Press accepts orders from the Ministry.

Some years ago there was talk of establishing a paper manufacturing factory in Herat province, but no action was taken. We hope that the Ministry of Mines and Industries will revive its efforts to establish a factory. As wood pulp is the basic raw material for a paper factory, the Ministry could consider Pakthia province, with its large forests, as a possible site for the factory.

Food For Thought

Experience is the child of Thought, and Thought is the child of Action. We can not learn men from books.

—Benjamin Disraeli

It is time the supply of other needs of the Ministry of Education, such as ink, penicillates, chalk, is also considered by the Ministry of Mines and Industries. As we have enough slate in the country it may not be difficult to make slates and pencils. It is time we stopped importing chalk and erasers.

In the preparation and printing of textbooks we hope the Ministry of Education will observe priorities. At the beginning of every academic year, shortage of some textbooks in every level of school is felt. Textbooks that have gone out of print may be given top priority. We also hope that all or at least most of the textbooks will be printed during the winter vacation, so that by the beginning of spring the students will have their textbooks.

In addition to printing new textbooks, we hope the Ministry will also embark on a scheme to provide second-hand books to the schools. Most children throw away their books when they pass their examinations. The schools may form "book dumps" and ask the children to bring their books and leave them there. The books may be distributed to the classes next year. To make parents value the books more, nominal prices might be levied on the textbooks. This may help the Ministry meet part of its expenditure on printing books.

In thanking Sweden for the gift, which will greatly help the Ministry of Education in implementing its five-year plan of education, we hope that Afghanistan and Sweden will increase their contacts. It is of particular importance that Sweden is a non-aligned country like Afghanistan, has the same constitutional set-up and, in addition, has had diplomatic relations with this country for many years.

HOME PRESS AT A GLANCE

Today's *Islah* comments editorially on the Mazare Sharif-Sherbagan highway and its role in improving communications in the country. Economic development, the editorial says, has certain prerequisites, and unless these are provided smooth progress will be hampered.

In a country like Afghanistan where regular, economic air links do not exist between all corners of the country roads are of paramount importance in transporting men and goods.

For this reason in the Development plans construction of roads enjoys priority and large sums are spent on road building projects.

There are a number of people who consider road building projects of secondary importance to development of agriculture. But it is impossible to do much to develop agriculture unless there are roads by which to get equipment and fertilizer to the farmers and crops to market.

As the area of cultivable land expands, through reclamation or other means logically there should follow an increase in production. However, better equipment is also needed. To purchase it the farmer must have more money. This requires that his products reach the market. Only good roads can ensure this, and a subsequent rise in the standard of living of the agrarian population.

After a decade of planned development we have a number of excellent highways which serve the local people as well as those who come to see the breathtaking beauty of the Afghan landscape.

Although road building is one of the most expensive undertakings for two reasons more projects must be launched. First roads encourage economic and commercial activities. Second, such projects provide employment for large numbers of people who would otherwise be unemployed.

In yesterday's *Anis* Maghmoom Serarodi supports a letter published in *Anis* several days ago that pro-

posed the Kabul Museum be moved from Darulaman, which is a distance of 10 kilometres from downtown Kabul, to a more central location. Maghmoom argues that if the museum is moved to downtown there will be two advantages. There will be more local and foreign visitors, thus the museum will serve its purposes which is to introduce the history and culture of the country. And as the number of visitors increases charging of a nominal fee would help finance the Kabul Museum and similar institutes.

In a letter to the editor of *Islah* Mohammad Navid, a resident of

Mirwais Maidan complains that in the month of May, this year, the Kabul Municipal Corporation began asphaltting of roads in Deh Bouri, a part of Mirwais Maidan district, in Kabul city. The writer asks why was the work stopped after 15 days and was never resumed.

He also complains about the lack of care on the part of the Municipality's maintenance workers. The residents of Kabul pay a municipal tax to cover the cost of keeping the streets clean and in repair, the letter points out.

WORLD PRESS

President Johnson is having second thoughts about a trip to Europe this spring, *Newsweek* magazine said Sunday.

In its *Periscope* column, the magazine said the President would like to postpone the trip now that Kiesinger has taken over in Bonn. "Kiesinger's Nazi past poses some embarrassment and so does his plan to work more closely with France. LBJ also had hoped to visit France, but Charles de Gaulle so far has shown no interest in extending an invitation," the magazine said.

The *Sunday Times* of London said no one can be happy about the British approach to the United Nations for mandatory sanctions against Rhodesia.

"There is no guarantee that such sanctions will achieve their purpose, and only one guarantee that we can keep the pace of events in our hands, the use of our veto, an act which would destroy at one blow any pretensions that Britain is sincere and resolute in its commitments to the Commonwealth and the world about the illegal regime in Salisbury," the paper said.

"Nevertheless, after the failure of the Tiger effort, recourse to the UN, despite its dangers and contradictions, was the least unsatisfactory of a number of cruelly unsatisfactory choices."

The *Observer* said on Rhodesia: "A constitution drafted by the British government and by a government controlled by Smith and a

royal commission appointed also by them, are not convincing methods of ensuring proper consent of the African majority. At least, any Rhodesian constitution should be discussed at a conference attended by European and African representatives and then submitted to some other form of popular consultation agreed to by the African representatives at the conference."

In an interview, Fidel Castro is quoted as saying the United States made secret concessions to end the 1962 Cuban missile confrontation with the Soviet Union.

Castro is quoted as saying "not a word has ever been said" about the agreements. He refused to describe them, but hinted that he might tell about them some day.

Asked to comment, U.S. officials said they have no information on any such agreements.

Castro's viewpoints on a variety of topics are published in the January issue of *Playboy* magazine in a copyrighted interview it said was obtained by Lee Lockwood, a photo-journalist who has written various articles on Cuba.

Earlier this year Castro denied giving an interview published in Europe, saying he never talked to the reporter.

The conversation ranged from the difficulty of a woman taking a sun bath with worldwide aerial spying under way to the "lowest ebbs" of relations between Cuba and former Soviet Premier Nikita Khrushchov.

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Aden Question: After The British What?

The announcement that all the families of British forces in Aden will have left there by the end of July 1967 is further confirmation that the British government is determined to carry out its promise to withdraw from the Aden base and give full independence to the Federation of South Arabia by 1968.

But while military plans for withdrawal are going ahead rapidly, the efforts to leave behind a viable political state in South Arabia are still making little progress.

Terrorist attacks against the British forces in Aden and against supporters of the present South Arabian Federal Government are continuing at a high rate. The attacks are the work of the National Liberation Front, the most extreme of the exiled Arab nationalist opposition groups, whose main political organization is FLOSY (Front for the Liberation of South Yemen).

Attempts were made earlier this year to get FLOSY and other opposition groups around a conference table with representatives of the federal government to discuss the political future of South Arabia. They failed, partly because South Arabia's future is affected by the still-unsettled civil war in neighbouring Yemen, where Egypt and Saudi Arabia are involved on opposite sides.

Britain then took two measures to try to prepare the ground for a political settlement in South Arabia. First, she made it plain that her

military withdrawal would be complete. When she left the Aden base she would not sign a new defence treaty with an independent South Arabia. But she promised help in equipping and training a small federal army which would help South Arabia to stand on her own feet when the British have gone.

The other British move was to turn to the United Nations. Having after some reluctance, accepted the series of UN resolutions calling for independence for South Arabia and a British military withdrawal, the British government also accepted a resolution by the UN Sub-Committee on Colonialism (the "Committee of 24"), which asked the Secretary-General to send a UN mission to South Arabia to see the resolutions were carried out.

Britain laid down the conditions that it must be accepted that she was still ultimately responsible for law and order in South Arabia until independence, and that until then Britain was still also in treaty relationship with South Arabian federal government. These conditions caused some delay in setting up the mission, but the main problem now is finding members of the mission acceptable not only to the militant anti-colonialists of the Committee of 24, but also to the federal government in Aden. Negotiations are still going on behind the scenes at UN headquarters in New York to find the right people especially an acceptable chairman.

The British hope that if an acceptable mission can be created, its task might be enlarged to helping South Arabia emerge as an independent state without the chaos of civil war—at present a serious threat hanging over the embryo state. But the British believe that if it is to be successful the mission will have to proceed with tact and caution at first in order to secure the confidence of the Arab ministers in the present federal government of South Arabia, as well as of the nationalist opposition in exile.

Unless confidence can be established in a mediator who can bring the opposing factions around the conference table to discuss a future constitution and prepare for elections, there is danger that South Arabia will split openly, like the Yemen, into rival groups of "traditionalist" and "progressive" nationalists, each looking for help and support to an outside power.

The search for a political settlement in South Arabia is complicated by the conflict in the Yemen which has recently threatened to flare up again into open warfare. Because the future of each country has become a focus of the struggle for influence in the Arab world and especially in the Arabian peninsula between President Nasser and King Faisal of Saudi Arabia, and also involves Britain, it is probable that a stable settlement in South Arabia will be found only as part of an agreement covering the whole of the area, including the Yemen. (OFNS)

Progress Of Disarm Moves In 1966

The story of the effort to achieve arms control and disarmament during the year just ending is largely the story the late President Kennedy used to describe as "trying to keep the jinni from getting out of the bottle." In other words, the great emphasis in this area in 1966 has been on the attempt to negotiate a treaty to prevent the proliferation of nuclear weapons.

President Kennedy used the figure of speech from Arabian folklore to suggest the awesome and unpredictable force that would be let loose in the world if other countries were to acquire such weapons. As William C. Foster, director of the United States Arms Control and Disarmament Agency, has written, the result would be "at best, a far more trouble and unstable world environment than the one which we now know; at worst, it could lead to a kind of titanic battle in the dark, in which nations and their people might be destroyed without ever knowing who the destroyer was."

By way of emphasizing the urgency of the problem, the late President observed that "once the jinni gets out of the bottle, it may be almost impossible to put him back in." That is why the most intensive effort in the disarmament field this year has been focussed on preventing nuclear proliferation.

In the light of the fact that no concrete agreements on this subject have yet been reached, perhaps it should be said that the preoccupation with non-proliferation does not diminish in the slightest the significance of the great achievement of 1966 in related area. This is the agreement just concluded on a treaty concerning the peaceful uses of outer space, which President Johnson has called "the important arms control development since the limited test ban treaty of 1963."

There is reason to hope, in fact, that this success may improve the prospects for a non-proliferation treaty.

Yet the space treaty remains peripheral to the problem of checking the arms race here on earth, and the next logical step in

that direction is still considered to be finding a way to prevent a spread of nuclear weapons. In principle, it might seem even more logical to concentrate on extending the partial test-ban treaty to prohibit nuclear explosions underground as well as in the atmosphere. But efforts along this line, which also have continued during the past year, always run against what Foster calls "the obstacles of Soviet mistrust and secrecy."

The United States has been spending more than \$50 million a year on improving techniques for the distant detection and identification of underground nuclear explosions. In most cases—but not all—modern technology in this field can distinguish between such seismic disturbances and natural earth tremors. Yet the Soviet Union still refuses to agree even to the minimal number of on-site inspections necessary to investigate suspicious signals, and thus to guard against possible violations of a comprehensive test ban treaty.

One advantage in concentrating on a non-proliferation treaty is that it need not involve the difficulties posed by this Soviet obsession with secrecy. Essentially, it would be nothing more than a simple undertaking by nuclear-weapons states not to transfer such weapons to others, and by non-nuclear states not to acquire or produce them.

Discussions of this concept during the past year at the 18 nation disarmament conference in Geneva and at the United Nations in New York have progressed to the point where, in Foster's words, "each side has at least recognized publicly that the other is making a serious effort to reach agreement." This has created, in turn "a very real possibility that we shall succeed."

Foster's deputy, Adrian S. Fisher, goes on to say that a non-proliferation treaty would reduce the possibility of war, either nuclear or conventional. "In this sense," he adds, "such a treaty will do more for all countries, nuclear and non-nuclear alike,

than any conceivable programme of armament." And this is no less true, in Fisher's judgement, of those nations that feel they are technologically capable of producing nuclear weapons. If what they really want is security, they will find more of it by adhering to a non-proliferation treaty than by yielding to a temptation to "go nuclear."

But it may be asked whether China, which has been pressing a programme of nuclear development during 1966, can be expected to accept this viewpoint. The answer, almost certainly, is no—despite the fact that non-proliferation is as much in the interest of China as of anyone else. Some day, it may be hoped that a more pragmatic regime in Peking will come to recognise this. Meanwhile, however, Foster has expressed the belief that "even if China did not sign a non-proliferation treaty, this probably would not have any effect on the treaty's operation."

The real problems in the disarmament field that are posed by China's attitude—and also by the Soviet Union's continuing resistance to all proposals for inspection—lie further in the future. The relevance to these problems of the present search for a non-proliferation treaty lies in the fact that, as Fisher has put it, success "would create a valuable legal and psychological framework within which further steps can be taken."

One such step might be the conclusion of the comprehensive test-ban treaty. Another might be agreement to cut off manufacture of fissionable materials for use in nuclear weapons, and to bring the world's nuclear reactors under the safeguards system of the International Atomic Energy. These and other approaches have also been urged by the United States during 1966. If there is indeed now "a very real possibility" of agreement on the priority objective of a non-proliferation treaty, it may be that the way will be opened for a broader advance on the arms control and disarmament front in 1967. (U.S. SOURCES)

Prospects Of Prolonged Truce In Vietnam

PART I

The Viet Cong truce proposal for Christmas and the New Year contains a whole series of features suggesting that it is intended as an opening towards negotiations and a long-term settlement. It provides several opportunities for the United States to accept the enemy's terms, and to improve on them, which, if done, could provide further opportunities for the Viet Cong to extend the scope of its own proposal.

For all the reticence with which the Foreign Office treats any enquiries about George Brown's recent talks on Vietnam with Soviet leaders, there need be no doubt that the Christmas truce, and the possibility of using it as the starting-point towards negotiations, was fully discussed.

Brown's visit to Moscow was suddenly advanced, so that it could take place well before Christmas instead of after. His departure from Moscow was quickly followed by the Viet Cong announcement of a truce proposal that is much more extensive than last year's. On that occasion, the ceasefire offer was broadcast two weeks before Christmas, and was to apply only to a

period of 12 hours starting on Christmas Eve.

This time there are four weeks to go and the cease fire is to last two full days and nights, from seven o'clock in the morning (Saigon time) on Christmas Eve, to seven in the morning on Boxing Day. Moreover, a similar two-day ceasefire is announced for the New Year, starting in the morning of December 31.

This is an entirely new element, and it makes it possible to suggest with much more reason than previously that the U.S. could properly respond by proposing that the whole period between these two dates should be regarded as a truce, not just the Christmas and New Year holidays. Indeed, it may well have been the Viet Cong intention in adding a New Year truce to last year's Christmas truce idea, to give just such an opening to the U.S.

The extension by the Viet Cong of the time available for preparing the truce from two weeks last year to four weeks now suggests that it is anxious to give the U.S. extra time to consider its response, since last year's events showed how slowly and uncertainly the U.S. moves

in these matters.

The circumstances in which the Viet Cong offer was made last year, as a climax to a whole series of peace feelers, suggested that a prompt U.S. response to it, and a counter-offer to extend the truce, might well set the ball rolling towards negotiations.

This view came to be widely held by Western "doves", including the British government, which strongly urged it on Washington. But during the weeks that followed there was a spate of official and unofficial statements from U.S. "hawks" rejecting any such suggestion.

From these public indications, the Viet Cong were fully entitled to assume that the U.S. and South Vietnamese commands would not order their troops to cease fire, whatever the communists might do. The Viet Cong troops, therefore, had to be warned to stand by for hostilities during the intended truce, and even to reckon with the possibility that the confusion about the truce might be exploited to spring surprise attacks on them.

(To be concluded)

SUNDAY

Ariana Afghan Airlines

Kandahar-Kabul Arrival-1000
Khost-Kabul Arrival-1050
Mazar-Kunduz-Kabul Arrival-1430
Tashkent-Kabul Arrival-1810
Kabul-Khost Departure-0830
Kabul-Tashkent Departure-0900
Kabul-Kunduz-Mazar Departure-1030

Iran Air

Tehran-Kabul Arrival-0855
Kabul-Tehran Departure-1005

Indian Airlines

New-Delhi-Kabul Arrival-1125
Kabul-New-Delhi Departure-1345

MONDAY

Ariana Afghan Airlines

Herat-Kandahar-Kabul Arrival-1600
Kabul-Kandahar-Herat Departure-0830

P I A

Peshawar-Kabul Arrival-1020
Mazul-Peshawar Departure-1100

TUESDAY

Ariana Afghan Airlines

Mazar-Kabul Arrival-1010
Kandahar-Kabul Arrival-1030
Amritsar-Kabul Arrival-1600
Kabul-Mazar Departure-0830
Kabul-Amritsar Departure-0930
Kabul-Kandahar-Tehran-Damascus-Beirut Departure-1030
Kabul-Kandahar Departure-1700

Ethnologists Study Badakhshan, Nuristan

From September 1962 till May 1963 an expedition of West German ethnologists equipped by the Stuttgart Linden Museum stayed in Badakhshan. It consisted of the ethnologists Dr. Friedrich Kussmaul, Dr. Peter Snoy, and the photographer Hermann Schlenker.

The aim of the expedition was the ethnological research of some Pamir-Tajik groups around Faizabad, Munjan, and Zebak. Number 14 of the periodical 'Tribus' from August 1965 contains two papers about the results of the expedition the contents of which are summarised here.

BADAKHSHAN

By Dr. Friedrich Kussmaul Badakhshan was largely exempted from military expeditions, looting, and devastation, because it is so isolated. Because of this isolation much originality has been maintained. Villages with eight to 35 buildings, mostly one-storied single farm houses, are the most frequent form of settlement. Large property holdings do not exist at all. Agricultural small property is dominant. The products of the soil are sufficient only for modest living.

Fields are mostly irrigated, but there is also rain agriculture. The number of cultivated plants is rather big: wheat, barley, millet, fodder beans, flax, sesame, lucerne, clover, rice, and Indian corn. Rye and oats are missing. Flax is only used for extracting fat; it is unknown as plant for spinning. The three-field system prevails with a certain rotation of crops. On nearly half of the cultivated area wheat is grown. Stall manuring is common. The knowledge of agriculture is considerable.

Besides agriculture fruit growing is important. The most important fruits are: apples, pears, and nuts. Quinces, morello cherries, apricots, sweet cherries, and almonds are also grown and sold in big quantities. Of all the methods for conservation only drying is known. Use of jams is unknown.

Besides agriculture and fruit growing, cattle-raising is an important branch of their economy. Sheep, goats, and small livestock are kept. They are more important from the view of economy than cows, donkeys, and horses. As a rule 5-7 small animals and 2-3 cows belong to a household. Milk production is little. It amounts to 1 1/2 litres per day during 6-8 months.

Pasturing on the mountains for 2 to 4 months is common. The yak has also infiltrated the region of Zebak and Samangan from Tiber via Wakhan. Altogether the people have little knowledge of cattle breeding.

Food is prepared by the women. The basis is flat bread and soups. Generally 3-5 meals are eaten daily. Consumption of fat and meat is little. Meat is only boiled. 'Kebab' is hardly known in Badakhshan.

Commerce extends mostly to agricultural products but also includes products of home trade and handicraft. Barter predominates, but buying and selling are increasing. Saleable articles of the domestic trade are woollen materials, knitting works, kelims, and ceramics.

Cloth from Gulbahar, salt from Kalafgan, oil, petrol, and matches from the Soviet Union, sugar from Baghlan, rice from Khanabad, cotton from Kataghan, tea and clothes from Kabul are products of the long distance trade.

Traders coming from other provinces sell the articles with a huge profit and have pushed many peasants into debts and dependence. For example, tea is sold for 200% more than in Kabul. For one cow 5 kg. of tea are taken in exchange, and this cow is sold again with a 500-600% profit in Kabul.

Households go back to a common ancestor from a clan (konda or amaki). The clan is organised like

the extended family according to paternal law. Monogamy is the rule, men having two wives are rare. The age of marriage for men is 17-22 years, for girls 14-16 years. The bridegroom family has to pay a sum to the bride's family, although this was not usual in former times according to statements of elder people.

Service marriages are also found. A man who has worked without pay for the future father-in-law for seven years can claim a woman for his wife. Marriage between cousins is seen at least in 50% of all marriages.

On an average a woman has 7-8 children. Only two or three reach adulthood. Hygiene needs to be taught in this area. Despite this the population has increased explosion-like in the last years. Thus the demand for soil has grown very much.

In pre-Afghan times Badakhshan was divided into principalities. Central authority has replaced the formerly prevailing self-government by the old Afsakal-line.

For many centuries Badakhshan was an isolated area. For one generation it has been opened by roads and means of transportation, by radio, telephone, schools, and seasonal factory employment in Kataghan.

The Pamir languages are disappearing and are being replaced by Dari. The local variants of an old culture, like fixing the date, funeral rituals, megalithic meeting-

places are slowly becoming out of date. Immigrated Pakhtun peasants have been assimilated into the population. They have won fortune by resolute planning and working.

NURISTAN AND MUNJAN

By Dr. Peter Snoy

Munjani people speak a Pamir language. They are Ismaelites since the 11th century. Men do farming, women look after the cattle.

Nuristani people, however, speak Archaic Indo-Aryan languages. They have become Sunni Moslems only since the end of the 19th century. Women do the farming, men look after the cattle. Yet since the old days trade connections exist. A considerable part of the goods imported to Munjan comes from Nuristan, while in former times Munjani people supplied Nuristani people mostly with salt.

Munjani people have kept the invasions of the Kafiris in the last century well in mind. Defence works in some villages of that time are still maintained. Not forgotten is the 12-years' occupation of government troops during and after the conversion of the Nuristanis at the end of 19th century.

Today relations are peaceful. Munjanis go to Nuristan as seasonal workers. Nuristani men come to Badakhshan to marry women. The beauty of those women is famous. Today Nao near Munjan is a Nuristani settlement. The immigrants adapt themselves to the local custom concerning the division of labour and expand slowly towards the north. There is a friendly relation between both groups of people which, however, is not free of mutual teasing.

Here and there Gujur nomads come from the southeast after crossing the border.

The formerly important salt trade by which the Munjani people made good profit has suffered from competition of the south for some time. Since Nuristan has been opened by traffic from Jalalabad this turns the advantage to the traders coming from there. Nevertheless a modest trade goes on.

Munjani people supply woollen and cotton material, and woollen overcoats, Nuristani people supply skins, hides, kelims, cattle, fat and honey. There are blacksmiths, carpenters, wood-carvers, shoemakers, and weavers in Munjan. Yet the handicrafts of the Nuristanis are much better developed. Many commodities have changed from Nuristani to Munjani people. These imported goods are specified and described in detail.



Jashen crowds at Faizabad capital of Badakhshan.

Provincial Press

By A Staff Writer

In an article on religious leaders and their responsibility to the society, Faryab, published in Maimana, welcomes the freedom allowed to religious leaders to give sermons on social and political conditions. The writer, a Mawlawi, writes that religious leaders have an important role in promoting social reforms undertaken in the country. In trying to achieve democracy that is in complete conformity with Islamic teachings, we have a duty to encourage the people towards unity of thought and action and social justice in our sermons.

Helmand, published in Bost of Helmand province, says that the Helmand area has been agriculturally strong for centuries. In the last five years special attention has been given to the further development of agriculture in this area and for 18 years efforts have been made to mechanise agricultural production.

The paper says that along with the development of agriculture in Helmand it is essential that industrial development also receive attention. An edible oil plant is now being built in Bost which will go into operation in a few months time, says the paper. Mentioning other small industrial plants already found here, the paper notes that the attention of our entire nation is being focused on the industrial and agricultural developments of Helmand so that we will eventually be able to claim that the economic infrastructure is benefiting our people by raising their living standard.

In a letter to the editor of Helmand, a writer urges the government Monopoly Department to improve gas station service in Bost. He claims the station is not located in a safe place and that an increase in the capacity of the tank is necessary to store a sufficient quantity of fuel there.

Commenting on the recent visit of a group of artists from Kabul to Herat, Ittefaqi Islam, published in Herat, writes that in recent years effective steps have been taken in the country to develop the arts. His Majesty himself is a great patron of the arts and the change of the name of the Ministry of Press and Information to the Ministry of Information and Culture is also evidence of the government's interest in developing the arts. A Department of Culture has been formed within the Ministry to take care of all cultural activities throughout the country, the paper adds.

Commenting on the importance of the theatre, Ittefaqi Islam says that in addition to their aesthetic values plays are good instruments of education and therefore should be welcomed.

In an article in Beidar, published in Mazare Sharif of Balkh, the recent teachers' seminar in the city, the writer praises the idea of holding such meetings in the provinces but offers four criticisms which he hopes the authorities will take note of.

In the seminar there was no classification of the teachers according to classes taught. The programme of the workshop was organised in such a way that it was largely a waste of time for the teachers who took part in it.

Secondly while the films shown during the meetings were of great interest to the teachers it would also be worthwhile if some films on teaching methods and activities were also brought in to the country from outside and shown in such gatherings. Those would greatly benefit the teaching community of Afghanistan.

The writer's third point is that those from Kabul who took part in the seminar, including foreign specialists, were not properly introduced to the teachers. The teachers were not told in what particular fields they were considered authorities. Finally, the writer criticises the lack of discipline during the meetings and hopes that in the future participants will observe the rules and regulations of such gatherings.

Commenting on the Minister of Public Health's statement that very soon marked changes are to be brought about in training nurses for our increasing hospitals, Ittehad, published in Baghlan, claims that it is high time for girls to consider nursing a worthy profession and fill the gap which exists in our medical services throughout the country. The paper praised the special attention paid by the members of the Royal Family to many fields of public services, including the development of nursing.

The daily Ittefaq Islam of Herat in its editorial discusses the problem of unemployment and describes it as a contagious disease and the root cause of almost all crimes and other social evils.

Today our country is confronted with various problems such as illiteracy, ignorance and unemployment, and poverty asserts the paper. The government is making great efforts to remedy the present state of affairs through launching comprehensive educational and economic programmes throughout the country.

The Decline And Fall Of Paternal Authority

Father Only Good For Pocket Money And The Carkeys

The record player has taken over from grandmother. Little Red Riding Hood, electronically amplified, is eaten by a celluloid wolf. What 20-year-olds like best about their father is his ignition key and latter-day defiant youngsters have little to say for themselves except when their pocket-money is not enough for a smart pullover. Genial TV hosts have ousted the family chat, hardly leaving time for curt exchanges.

The family, so sociologists say, is steadily disintegrating. It has become a community of interests. Father is no longer the paterfamilias of old, upholding patriarchal order. For teenagers has is the breadwinner, the old man the boss and like epithets.

Sad though it may seem, there is no denying the fact. Father, once the hub of the family, has become dad, an extra in the otherwise zesty play of youth. But he has himself to blame for much of this decline to a minor role where he is tolerated only as an unfulfilling source of financial aid.

The nerve-racking pace of modern life has stunted and fatigued many fathers. On returning home after the third or fourth hour of overtime he hears his wife calling: "Quiet children, your father wants peace." And when he steps into his slippers and reaches for the newspaper the noise of play is muted, the carefree laughter subdued.

Father wants peace. Of course, he does. He must work hard to earn enough to feed the hungry, have shoes soled, pay insurance, car instalments, tailors' bills, tank up with fuel oil for the winter, finance party preparations. But do his obligations end here?

A trade union poster used to show a happy family captioned "Dad belongs to us on weekends." Unfortunately, dad belongs to many other people as well. He has his regular get together in the local, his card game, his bowling, his round of golf, his choral society maybe.

All this activity, these people, flatter him, pull him hither and thither so that he has little time left for his children. And they need him badly, for children too have their problems and want to discuss them with someone.

The electric grandmother mentioned in the first paragraph is being joined by other technical marvels that are bound to depersonalise life and children. The robot with the text-book is already at the school-door and the spectre of computerised families evokes dreadful visions of the future.

If fathers still have a function it is relative, they are the "avengers." Mothers must be blamed for invoking the father as the person to whom respect is due and not immediately punishing misbehaviour or cheek. The stereotyped warning "just wait till your father comes home this evening" is not going to halt alienation. It is against all wisdom to relegate the father to the role of boyegman.

What has really undermined father's authority in the family? Lethargy, resignation at not understanding or not wanting to understand, a new generation, indifference? The reason cannot be found in the narrow world of cliches.

A keystone in the jumbled mosaic we call a family is tolerance. Indeed tolerance is the keystone of all harmonious living, as wherever it is observed, an exchange of views is possible.

ENGLISH GROWS AS UNIVERSAL LANGUAGE

In the last 400 years, the experts say, the proportion of people in the world who speak English has increased five-fold.

In the long view of history, this may rank as one of the most important steps to world peace taken by man, since most agree that speaking the same language often eliminates misunderstandings which can lead to war. This is especially important in a world where people today still talk to one another in more than 3,000 different tongues.

The United States does not claim credit for the spread of English over recent centuries. Specialists there concede the British Empire started it. They add, of course, that the United States has played the biggest role in recent years, with 1.5 million Americans now abroad on business or technical assistance programmes and millions more American tourists ranging the far corners of the globe. United States Government programmes are now teaching English to thousands in scores of countries—to students who want it as a tool so as to be able to use the scientific and technical knowledge available to them in this age.

There is no doubt but that English is today the primary language of science, aviation, shipping, sports and, surprisingly perhaps, because of the past prominence of European tongues, in the theatre and literature.

English is the chief language of nuclear physics, space science, medicine and of other advanced research. It is also the main language of diplomacy, spoken by more diplomats at the UN today than any other tongue, and used as a primary language at numerous international conferences, such as those held in recent years in Bandung and Addis Ababa.

When a Russian pilot seeks to land at an airfield in Athens, Cairo or New Delhi, he talks to the control tower in English. English is also the common language of shipping in almost every international seaport in the world. Hotels and tourist guides in every major city greet the traveller in English.

Air transport, as the magic carpet of the 20th century, is a major exhibit of the new importance of English as the chief international language, not only in the pilot's cockpit but in the passenger compartment, where stewards provide service with English as a secondary tongue, along with that of the carrier's nationality. The code of the International Civil Aviation Organisation pro-

vides that "in the absence of an international language," pilots have the right to request guidance in English anywhere in the world.

Estimates are that 70 per cent of the world's mail is written in English, and even a bigger percentage of cable and wireless transmissions. Sixty per cent of the world's broadcasts are in English.

In the long view, this trend toward English may be one of the most important developments in linguistics since the world cleaved into two great alphabetic divisions, the Aramaic and the Phoenician, some thousand years ago. Aramaic was the father of most alphabets used since in Asia, including Arabic, Hebrew, Burmese, number of Indian scripts, Korean, Malayan, Manchu, Tibetan, Thai and many others.

Ancient Greece borrowed heavily from the Phoenician alphabet to build the Greek language, and the results were subsequently modified successively by the Etruscans and the Latins of Rome. Europe's languages today thus trace back to Phoenicians.

The growing use of English comes at a time when many primitive peoples still have no alphabets or writing systems. Some speculate they may find it better to adapt themselves to English, which will have a broad use, than try to develop their own isolated system.

Former U.S. Senator William Benton has long been a supporter of English as a second language throughout the world, so that man will be better able to talk with his fellows and share in the secrets of today's civilisation.

Benton says this is "not because of any special pride in the English language—but as a humanitarian service to the spread of knowledge and the advancement of communication among men." A new generation would grow up, Benton says, with the ability to speak and understand, in addition to their native tongues, one language which would have universal currency and validity.

The Soviet Union has recognised the importance of English as a second tongue. There are today 41,000 teachers of English in the USSR. Most books exported by the Soviet Union are in English.

There are 70,000 English teachers in Japan, where English is compulsory for eight years in the schools. English is also a compulsory second language taught in the schools of a growing number of other countries.

(CONTINENTAL PRESS)

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(Contd on page 4)

WORLD NEWS IN BRIEF

JAKARTA, Dec. 17, (DPA).—A special military court in Jakarta was requested early Friday morning to impose the death penalty on Omar Dhani, former commander in chief of the Indonesian air force, for complicity in the abortive revolt of October last year.

The prosecution, in asking for the death sentence, said Dhani was proved guilty on two main charges: first that he had made available to the communist movement air force facilities for the rebellion, and second that he had conspired with others to overthrow the Indonesian government.

The prosecution described Dhani as a menace to the state.

PARIS, Dec. 17, (DPA).—French President Charles de Gaulle will again hold his traditional address to the French people on New Year's eve, December 31. The message will be televised. He will spend his Christmas holidays at his country home of Colombey-les-deux-Eglises.

TOKYO, Dec. 17, (DPA).—An estimated total of 150,000 commuters were deprived of means of transportation in Tokyo Friday due to the restricted repair work on the site of a disastrous railway accident late Thursday night.

A passenger train of the Tobu railways jumped the track near Nishinari station downtown Tokyo at about 11:30 p.m. Thursday night, then rammed into the side of a departing sub-way train.

In the accident, seven people were killed and 20 others injured, some seriously.

The extent of casualties would have been far greater if both trains had not been slow at speed, according to a railway spokesman.

KINSHASA, Dec. 17, (DPA).—Foreign companies operating in the Congo which by January 1 have not transferred their company headquarters to the Congo will lose all land property which they may retain in the country, according to a government statement issued Friday.

WEATHER FORECAST
In the northeast, northwest and central regions the skies will be partly cloudy. Other areas will have clear weather.
The temperature will range between minus six degrees to plus 12 degrees centigrade.

AT THE CINEMA

ARIANA CINEMA
At 1, 3, 8, and 10 p.m.
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At 1, 3, 7:30 and 9:30 p.m.
Italian colour film in Farsi **ROULETTE**

PAMIR CINEMA
At 2, 7:30 and 10 p.m.
Indian film **DADA**
BEHZAD CINEMA
At 12, 2:30, 7:30 and 10 p.m.
Indian film **BOMBOY KA BABO**

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Father's Decline

(Continued from page 3)
It would be unwise to seek the root of the trouble in any one cause.

Every member of the family, and not only mother, has waitingly connived at forcing father into the wings, where he continues to lead a shadow existence, appearing from time to time to pay up and keep smiling.

A well-functioning family coordinates its interests. But at all times it remembers to show father he is needed. Mother and children impart to him a feeling of sovereignty.

They say, you are the boss, you must set the example, you must ensure that the little events of everyday life are remembered and discussed in the family round, that the vagaries of Elke's love affairs receive as much attention as planning the weekend outing.

Such thoughts as these should not be waved aside impatiently. They provide the material for an interesting discussion in which the guiding theme should be: "Make fathers of the men once more."

TOKYO, Dec. 17, (DPA).—The Japanese Foreign Ministry, following consultations with the South Korean Embassy in Tokyo, decided on Thursday to deport for home 135 South Koreans who have illegally entered Japan.

Those South Korean now detained at the Omura detention camp, are due to arrive at Pusan, South Korea, on Saturday.

This will be the second mass deportation of South Koreans from Japan.

GENEVA, Dec. 17, (Reuter).—Poland is seeking full membership in the 70-nation General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (GATT), which makes rules for about four-fifths of the world's trade. The GATT council Friday granted a Polish request to consider procedures for the envisaged Polish accession at its next meeting here, a GATT spokesman said.

Czechoslovakia and Yugoslavia belong to GATT while Hungary and Romania are represented by observers.

NEW DELHI, Dec. 17, (AP).—U.A.R. and India agreed Thursday to increase their trade exchanges in cotton, tea and steel by \$18 million in the coming year.

The agreement was announced by U.A.R. Economic Minister, Hassan Abbas Zaki, and Indian Commerce Minister, Manubhai Shah, following a week of bilateral talks held in conjunction with a tripartite economic conference which ended Wednesday.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 17, (Reuter).—B.K. Nehru, the Indian Ambassador, has paid a secret visit to the White House where he was believed to have discussed his country's food situation with President Johnson.

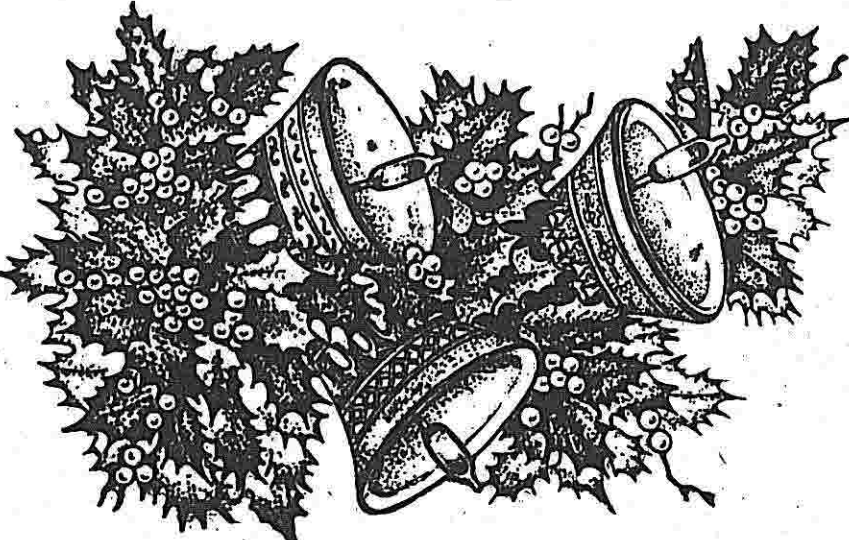
The President has delayed for nearly two months his decision on an Indian request for two million additional tons of grain this year, in spite of threatening famine in India.

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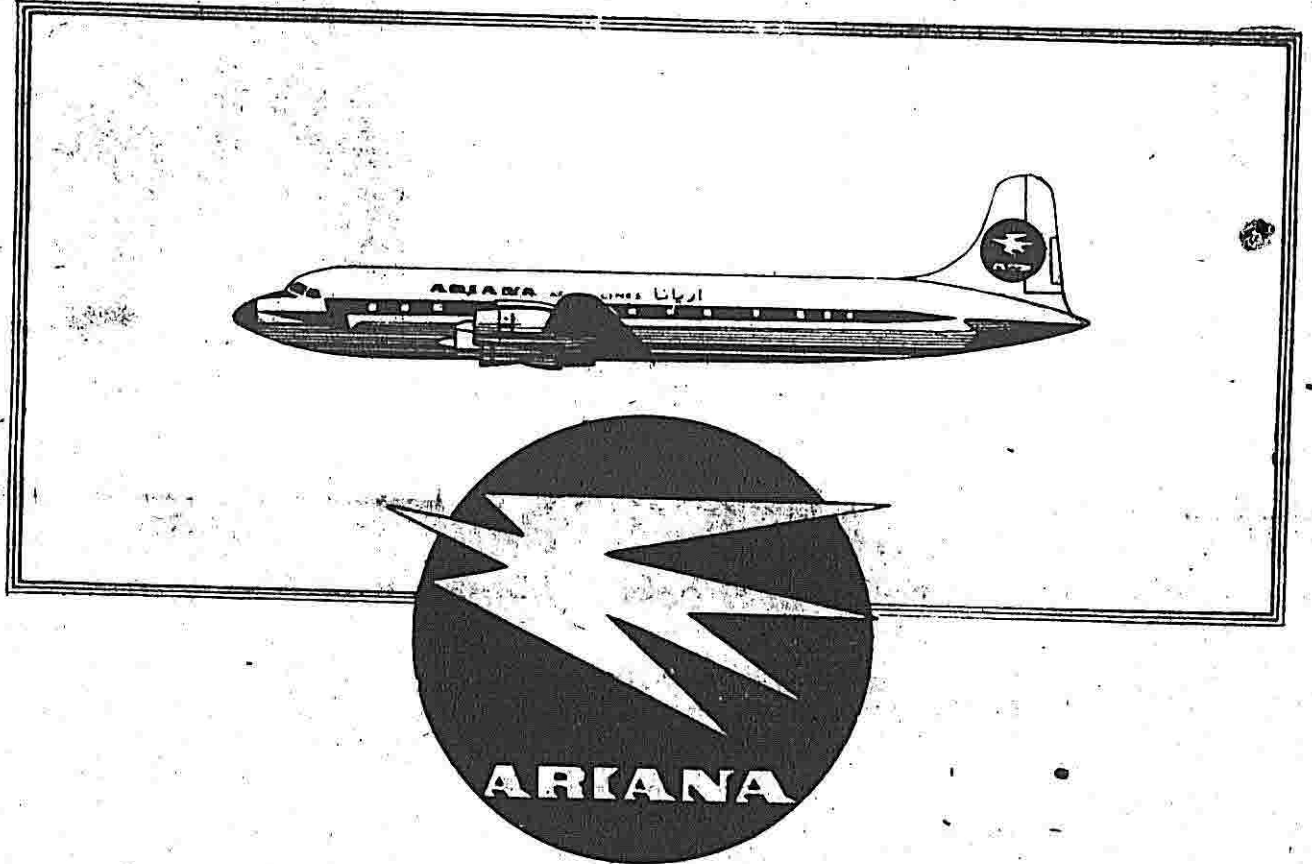
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