

DETENTION ACT HELD VALID



A pleasantly informal incident during Mr Liaquat Ali Khan's visit to Kansas City. While driving past he saw these children at play and stopped to chat with them for several minutes.

Sec. 14 Declared Ultra Vires SUPREME COURT JUDGMENT

From Our Delhi Office

MAY 19.—By a majority of four to two, the Supreme Court of India, in the eagerly awaited judgment in the habeas corpus petition of the Madras Communist detenu, Mr A. K. Gopalan, under Article 32 (1) of the Constitution, today held valid the Preventive Detention Act of 1950.

THEIR Lordships unanimously held that Sec 14 of the Act was ultra vires, as it abridged the right given to the citizen under Article 22 (5) and infringed his remedial rights under Article 32 of the Constitution. The Act could not, however, be declared invalid because of Sec 14 which was severable.

In their dissenting judgments, Fazl Ali and Mahajan, JJ, holding Secs 12 and 14 of the Act to be ultra vires, declared that the detention was illegal and ordered the release of the petitioner.

Mr Gopalan's petition, on which the Supreme Court issued a rule on March 23, was the first case before the court in which the different Articles of the Constitution contained in the chapter on fundamental rights came up for discussion.

COMPLETION OF AUSTRIAN TREATY URGED

Joint Statement By Big Three

LONDON, May 19.—The U.S., British and French Governments, in a joint statement today called for the "earliest possible completion of an Austrian treaty to bring about restoration of a free and independent Austria and withdrawal of the forces of occupation."

The announcement was made by the British, U.S. and French Foreign Ministers in a statement which read: "The Governments of the U.S.A., the United Kingdom and France reaffirm that their policy with respect to Austria requires the earliest possible completion of an Austrian treaty which will lead to the restoration of a free and independent Austria, in accordance with the pledge given in the Moscow Declaration of Nov. 1, 1943, and to the withdrawal of the forces of occupation."

The three Powers announced that they would shortly appoint Civilian High Commissioners to replace their Military Commanders in Austria.

They promised that, if agreement with Russia on an Austrian treaty were further delayed, they would themselves do all possible to "lighten the burden of occupation."

They declared their readiness "at any time to settle without delay" the issues which had blocked four-Power agreement on the treaty for over three years. —PTI-Reuters.

INTERNATIONAL STATUS OF S.W. AFRICA

THE HAGUE, May 19.—South Africa has a "legal duty and an international obligation" to place its mandate territory of SW Africa under international trusteeship, Judge Ingles claimed in presenting the Philippines' views to the International Court of Justice today.

The U.N. General Assembly has sought the advisory opinion of the Court "on the international status of the territories of SW Africa and the international obligations of the Union of South Africa arising therefrom." —PTI-Reuters.

COMPULSORY HINDI IN SECONDARY SCHOOLS

CENTRE URGES STATES TO TAKE EARLY ACTION

NEW DELHI, May 19.—The Government of India have, it is learnt, requested State Governments to take steps to introduce Hindi as a compulsory subject in secondary schools.

Nurul Amin To Meet Bardoloi

Further Talks On Implementing Pact

From Our Staff Correspondent

DACCA, May 19.—Mr Nurul Amin, East Bengal Premier, will, it is understood, leave for Shillong on May 21 for a conference with Mr Bardoloi, Assam's Chief Minister, on matters relating to the implementation of the Indo-Pakistani agreement.

Discussions, which will be held at the same time as the Chief Secretaries conference, will, it is believed, be in continuation of the talks held in Dacca at the recent conference between the Chief Ministers of West Bengal and Assam.

Mr Nurul Amin is expected to return to Dacca on May 25.

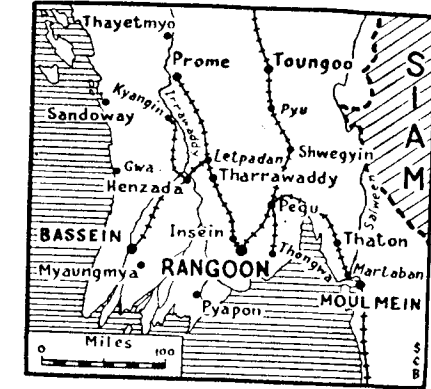
[See also Page 7.]

CALCUTTA WEATHER

Weather readings in Calcutta up to 5-30 p.m. on Friday were: Maximum temperature 97° F and minimum 77° F. The maximum wet bulb temperature was 81° F. The maximum humidity was 88%. Rainfall for the 24-hour period ended 5-30 p.m.—Nil. [Weather Readings—Page 3]

Prome Retaken By Burmese Troops Communists Retreat Across Irrawaddy

RANGOON, May 19.—Burma Government forces, aided by the Air Force and Navy, today recaptured Prome, a citadel of Communist resistance since last March.



Steady Flow Of Raw Jute For Indian Mills

All sections of Calcutta's important jute industry—after months of worry—are now able to breathe more freely following the signing towards the end of April of the Indo-Pakistani jute deal. A steady flow of raw jute is feeding the mills, which turn out an important dollar earning product.

The improved situation is reflected in the downward trend in blackmarket prices for jute manufactures, which have been quoted at a premium since September last year when the Government of India fixed ceiling prices for all descriptions. Since the end of April, blackmarket prices for jute goods have been gradually shaded, and it is reported that jute dealers are now offering "B" twill gunnybags for October/December delivery below the maximum controlled rates.

All other classes of jute goods are quoted in the bazar at slightly above the ceiling prices to the end of the year. Shippers and mills, however, continue to quote at the maximum prices for all jute manufactures to the end of 1950.

Following assured supplies of raw jute until the new Indian crop arrives and the expected conclusion of another Indo-Pakistani jute deal when the present one expires, mills are considering the question of increasing their working hours from the present 42½ hours weekly to 48 hours. A decision on this point is expected shortly. Any increase in the jute production schedule would be universally welcomed, as a larger quantity of jute goods would then be available for export and India would reap the benefit of earning more dollars and other hard currency.

Unsatisfied overseas demand continues for all classes of jute manufactures. Mills are endeavouring their best to meet this demand, but the labour situation is not entirely satisfactory. Many mills are working well below their capacity, and a general falling-off in loom output is reported, which may be attributed to the emigration of much skilled labour. Training of new hands will take some time, and meanwhile, production of jute goods must inevitably suffer.—PTI.

FUTURE OF JUTE BOARD TO BE DISCUSSED AT DACCA
DACCA, May 19.—High level discussions about the next year's jute crop and the future of the Jute Board will be held here next week. The Pakistan Finance Minister, Mr Ghulam Mohammed, and the Commerce Minister, Mr Fazlur Rahman, are expected to arrive in Dacca.

Mr Rahman, who is arriving here on May 25, will also visit the office of the Deputy Controller, Exports and Imports, at Chittagong during his five-day stay in the Province.—PTI-Reuters.

MATTHAI'S RESIGNATION FROM PARLIAMENT
NEW DELHI, May 19.—Dr Matthai, Finance Minister, is understood to have resigned his seat in Parliament with effect from June 1.

It is understood that he will be relieved, as desired by him, of his portfolio of Finance on May 31.—UPI.



Riad Ghali, diplomatic adviser to the Queen Mother of Egypt, holds a photograph of the Queen's 19-year-old daughter, Princess Fathia, who recently became his wife in a civil ceremony. King Farouk has passed a Royal decree depriving Princess Fathia of her title, rights and privileges.

PERSIA ACCEDES TO RUSSIAN DEMANDS Aerial Surveys Abandoned

TEHERAN, May 18.—The Teheran Government told Russia tonight that it had ordered air photography near the Russo-Persian border to be abandoned "to remove Soviet uneasiness."

A Persian Government Note handed to the Russian Embassy here assured the Russians that no air photographs had yet been taken.

Russia had protested in a Note last Tuesday against the alleged activities of American technicians in Persia, and particularly their aerial and land photography in Northern Persia.

In future only land surveys would be made, the Persian Note said. The Persian Government wished to strengthen already friendly relations with Russia, it added. The Note said that the Persian Oil Company, which was exploring northern and other areas of Persia, was owned exclusively by the Persian Government with 100% Persian capital, and only Swiss experts were helping to carry out the explorations.—PTI-Reuters.

SIR O. DIXON TO ARRIVE IN DELHI ON MAY 25

From Our Special Representative
NEW DELHI, May 19.—It was officially learnt tonight that the U.N. mediator for Kashmir, Sir Owen Dixon, would arrive in Delhi on the morning of May 27.

Sydney Talks End In Compromise Aid To Asia Sooner Than Expected

SYDNEY, May 19.—Seven Commonwealth nations today agreed to spend £8m to aid South and South-East Asia as soon as possible.

THE Australian External Affairs Minister, Mr Spender, Chairman of the Commonwealth conference which has been meeting here all the week, said: "We have now come to a successful conclusion of our deliberations, which is an indication of the importance attached by Commonwealth countries to the welfare and stability of the area of SE Asia."

"Great emphasis should be placed on the extraordinary agreement we have reached on all the major matters before us."

The conference—called in extension of the Commonwealth meeting at Colombo earlier this year—came to an end late tonight.

It was said that the agreement was to aid Asia sooner than had at first been expected.

A deadlock had threatened the meeting for some days, but was broken with a compromise on granting immediate technical aid to the Communist-menaced areas.

Britain's Paymaster-General, Lord Macdonald, who leads the British delegation, said: "We have given practical (Continued on page 7, col. 3.)

U.S. RESPONSIBILITY IN DEFENCE PLAN

EXPANSION OF NAVY AND AIR FORCE EXPECTED

WASHINGTON, May 19.—The USA might have to expand its air force and navy to support the newly announced 12-Power defence plan of Western Europe, a leading U.S. official stated here.

Under the plan, he said, American planes would be almost entirely responsible for strategic long-range bombing, and the U.S. Navy would carry the major burden of sea defence.

The high official, who asked that his name be withheld, told reporters that so far none of the Atlantic Treaty Powers had asked the USA to give them the atom bomb.

He said he did not expect an early appointment of a Supreme Military Commander for the 12-nation defence. It was far more important to work out the overall strategic concept, and the appointment of a Supreme Commander could well await the approach of a war emergency.

He thought it would be a mistake to increase the U.S. arms aid programme for Europe beyond the current level of \$1,000m. "It might defeat the purpose of the treaty and the arms assistance idea by weakening the will of some nations to assist and by retarding their ability to stand on their feet." —PTI-Reuters.

[See also Page 4]

JUST ARRIVED THE FIRST FIVE

NEWTON CHAMBERS NCK EXCAVATORS

(NEWTON CHAMBERS KOEHRING)

Built in England to the American Koehring Co.'s approved design....

The NCK Model 304 can be equipped as a Face Shovel, Drag Shovel, Drag-line or Grab Crane.

All types are available for prompt delivery ex U.K.

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