

# MRA INFORMATION SERVICE



FUTURE OF CYPRUS BRIGHTER

STAGE AND SCREEN DRAMATISE THE ANSWER

CALCUTTA DOCKERS TAKE ON NEW FIGHT

'FRANK BUCHMAN'S SECRET'

VOL. 11 NO. 263

FOUR HAYS MEWS, BERKELEY SQUARE, LONDON, W.1

SATURDAY, 17 MARCH, 1962

## Africa—decisive continent in the world struggle

AFRICA AND THE WORLD watched uneasily developments in the Central African Federation. In Algeria fear continued to breed hate. In London the Kenya Constitutional Conference entered its fourth week with the opposing views of KANU and KADU not yet reconciled.

On the day the British Government announced its decision on a constitution for Northern Rhodesia, an MRA task force landed at Johannesburg, part of a continent-wide offensive to turn the ideological tide in Africa.

There were Ruhr miners in their traditional uniform, Fritz Hirschner, editor of the *Rhein Zeitung*, and General Gareis of Germany, along with men who fought in the Norwegian Resistance, and the Colwell brothers, television stars from Hollywood. Racial barriers were forgotten as black and white South Africans gathered to meet them in the great hall of Johannesburg Airport.

They were welcomed by the African leaders, Mr. P. Q. Vundla and Dr. William Nkomo. Mr. Vundla said, 'You bring an idea above party, race or class. It is what we need. Any idea that excludes any person is too small for the world in which we live. Here is an answer for everyone everywhere. Together we will upturn South Africa and the whole African continent.'

Three days later, on 3 March, they were in Sharpeville, scene of the shooting tragedy two years ago. Police

who had participated in the shooting and Africans who had been under fire together watched the film *The Crowning Experience* in Sharpeville Community Hall.

The crowd leaped to its feet and cheered as the Ruhr miners filed into the hall. They heard the Colwell brothers sing in Xhosa and other African languages. After the film they refused to move. The Colwells sang again, and still they stayed. Finally Vundla said, 'If you want us to come back, say so, and we'll come.' The united 'yes' lifted the roof. An usher in the hall said, 'We have never had an evening like this.'

From Sharpeville the action moved to the new Johannesburg township, where 600,000 Africans live. Fifteen hundred crowded every available space in the Mofolo Hall while a thousand who could not get in gathered outside to listen over loudspeakers.

Militant African leaders came, men who had been in prison under the government emergency regulations. One was a man who led the (now-banned) Pan-African Congress. He had physically attacked Vundla when the latter publicly announced his intention of bringing Moral Re-Armament to Africa and the world. Now he said, 'I am absolutely convinced that if we don't accept this answer, the world will be destroyed. This is our last hope. I decide without reservations to give my life to this battle. This is Africa's destiny.'

## Kenya—60,000 see 'Freedom' in Swahili

EIGHTEEN HUNDRED miles to the north, in Nairobi, the *East African Standard* of 12 March reported that more than 30,000 people were in the African Stadium for the world première of *Uhuru*, Swahili version of *Freedom*.

The report said that 'KANU and KADU youth wing members co-operated in collecting money at the gates, selling Moral Re-Armament books and showing people where to sit to see the film that advocates the brotherhood of mankind.'

Hundreds had poured in all day from the outlying districts, to find that they could not get into the stadium. They stood on buses, lorries and cars as far as six hundred yards from the huge, specially erected screen. Hundreds more crowded the windows of flats half a mile away.

The singing in Swahili of the African anthem *Nkosi Sikelele Africa* at the end of the film swelled as the tremendous crowd joined in. They then surged forward

chanting 'uhuru' to grasp the hands of Manasseh Moerane of South Africa and Ifoghale Amata of Nigeria, stars of the film. Amata told them, 'This film will make Kenya the land of expectation, the hope of Africa. It is the right answer in the right place at the right time. You are the right people to take it to the African continent.'

On the following evening the audience was even greater, and people clamoured for further showings. The story was the main item on the lunchtime radio news bulletin. One newspaperman commented, 'This

film is topical and realistic. It could be Kenya. Only a change of heart would unite this country.'

From London Mr. Musa Amalemba, who is Parliamentary Secretary to the Office of the Leader of the House and belongs to KADU, and Mr. John Keen, Organising Secretary of KANU, sent a joint cable: 'On this momentous occasion of the *Uhuru* première we Kenyans and friends in London send you our greetings and best wishes for the film. *Uhuru* points the way to permanent freedom for Kenya and all Africa. We hope everyone will have the opportunity of seeing it.'

## Future of Cyprus brighter

**A**FTER MONTHS of growing tension between Greeks and Turks in Cyprus, the whole island's press headlined on 6 March a 'goodwill meeting' between President Makarios and Vice-President Kutchuk to 'discuss all matters which have caused friction and sometimes crisis between the two communities'. The papers quoted Dr. Kutchuk as saying, 'We discussed how to bring about a smooth functioning republic; I am very satisfied with the good understanding created', and added that the talks have made the island's future brighter.

This news came just after the visit of the Japanese force with their play *The Tiger*, which the President and the Vice-President together had welcomed to Cyprus. The play was seen by many thousands of Greeks and Turks throughout the island, including the leaders of both communities.

One Turkish leader commented, 'Since this force came to the island there has been a completely different atmosphere. Greeks and Turks are consulting with one another now, instead of printing their inflammatory views in the papers without even seeing each other. It is a new day.'

### 'The end of hate and greed'

The Japanese were twice received by the President and were also entertained to a three-hour dinner by Vice-President Kutchuk and his wife. 'Through your love you create a new atmosphere wherever you go,' Dr. Kutchuk told them. 'MRA is working to prevent blood being shed in the world.'

'We are at a crucial point in world affairs, when subversive forces are working not only to divide nation from nation but to create disunity within nations and communities. Today we want to forget the past and create a new life, especially for the poor people and those in need of work. The people of all Cyprus will remember your visit. They understand now how they can help their fellow man.'

When they addressed the Turkish Communal Assembly next day, its President, Rauf Denktash, said, 'All of

us are fully with you in the heroic struggle which MRA is putting up around the world. We are searching for peace in Cyprus and the end of hatred and greed. Your presence has helped us to come nearer to that unity.'

A former EOKA leader agreed. 'What you have done here in the past week is more important than all that has been done since independence by the twenty-two embassies,' he declared at the final showing of *The Tiger*.

### 'This idea is of God'

The momentum created by *The Tiger* increases daily. After the departure of the cast for India and Pakistan requests for films and speakers came from all quarters. In Limassol, the principal port, former EOKA leaders took the initiative in issuing an invitation to a special banquet. In Larnaca, leaders of the Armenians, who admit that a high percentage of their community has become Communist, said: 'We've heard that MRA changes men, including Communists. That's why we are interested.' After a two hour meeting they decided to plan a full programme of films and ideological training for all their compatriots.

In Famagusta, the old walled town captured by Turks from the Venetians in 1571, two showings of the film *Men of Brazil* were arranged by the Mayor, while in the nearby village of Gypsou a series of meetings for the whole population went on for nine hours.

At Paphos, where St. Paul landed 1,900 years ago, His Beatitude Bishop Gennadios described MRA as 'the continuance and renewal of St. Paul's revolution throughout the world.'

During a ninety-minute reception in his palace, Bishop Gennadios declared, 'Through your work a bridge is being constructed that is uniting people and races in the world, and is helping many who have lost their faith to come closer to God. This idea is of God. We must take it together to all peoples. Young and old alike will be enthused by it. This is the job for all men who stand for Christ.'

## Stage and screen dramatise the answer

### 'The Hurricane' and 'The Ladder' in Britain

The one hundred and thirty-first performance in Britain of *The Hurricane* and *The Ladder* was given in the Theatre Royal, Newcastle upon Tyne. It ended a season which began with an eleven-week run in London, followed by a six-week tour in Aberdeen, Edinburgh, Brighton, Liverpool and Newcastle. During the season 62,000 people have seen the plays.

Twenty mayors and chairmen of urban district councils were in Newcastle's first-night audience. Leading employers in the British Shipbuilding Federation came, and executive members and branch secretaries of the Boilermakers' Union.

Councillor Harry Luxton, Secretary of the Gateshead Labour Party and of the North Eastern Federation of Trades Councils, said, 'These plays have shaken the community on Tyneside. They have been attended by the greatest cross-section of the community one could ever meet. New building is transforming our towns. But the great need is for a change in the people and in those who run our cities, our country and the United Nations. The MRA plays and films must be seen all over Britain and the world.'

### 'The Dragon' in Germany

The *Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung*, Germany's leading daily, wrote of the Chinese play, *The Dragon*, that, far from merely portraying the experiences of the Chinese people with Communism, it gives 'an answer to our questions about a new destiny for this universe.'

The performances in Frankfurt, hub of post-war Germany's commercial and financial enterprise, were sponsored by the Socialist Lord Mayor, Dr. Werner Bockelmann. The crowds were so great that the Lord Mayor decided to give the city's municipal theatre for a special performance of *The Dragon*. He told the audience that he saw in Moral Re-Armament a way

to show both East and West an alternative to tyranny and war.

That same evening Germans on both sides of the Iron Curtain saw and heard this alternative solution for the world, as highlights of *The Dragon* were given on the most popular news programmes on radio and television.

From Frankfurt the play moved to Munich, capital of Bavaria, where the performances were under the sponsorship of the Prime Minister, Dr. Hans Ehard.

The President of Parliament made the parliament building available as headquarters for the action and personally invited all M.P.s to the performances. The Trade Union Council of Munich distributed 10,000 invitations and 400 posters to the main factories. Catholic and Protestant church leaders asked their clergy to inform their congregations. The Director of Education alerted all schools, and the Chancellor of the University sent invitations to every professor and lecturer.

### 'The Tiger' in India

Last week the Mayor of Calcutta welcomed the Japanese force of *The Tiger* to his city. 'I am deeply impressed with your ideas. You will be able to do much here,' he said. By the end of the week public demand had made a further week's run of *The Tiger* necessary. *Ananda Bazaar Patrika*, the largest Indian-language paper, said: '*The Tiger* maintains the high standard one has come to expect from MRA dramas. The settings are successful, the synchronisation, sound and lighting are done with distinction, the staging is wonderful, the translation perfect.'

'*The Tiger* has drama, humour, conflict, tragedy, brilliant use of stage technique and a dedication many of our Indian actors could well emulate,' wrote *Vishwamitra*, oldest Hindi daily. 'MRA has started to change the spirit of the people,' commented the *Chinese Journal of India*.

## Calcutta workers take on new fight

**B**ENGAL, with its great industrial concentrations, its revolutionary tradition and its nearness to China, is at the heart of the ideological struggle in Asia.

In Calcutta, capital of West Bengal, as election fever was at its height and results of the contest between the Congress Party and the Communists were coming in hourly, seven hundred dockers heard fellow workers from Brazil, Britain and Australia describe an ideology of change at work in their countries, answering the materialism of left and right and division of every kind.

At the end of the meeting, held under a scorching sun in an open field near the Union Office, the Dockers' Union President, Noor Mohammed, declared, 'We live

in a divided world, where self-interest in all parties prevents solutions to the problems of the workers. Moral Re-Armament is out to abolish selfishness. Some try to change the world by force. MRA is changing the world by truth. It is to MRA and to the change in our General Secretary that we owe our recent victory in achieving our eleven-point programme for the workers.'

Trade union leaders with the MRA international force also met the Chairman and Deputy Chairman of the Dock Labour Board and addressed the Master Stevedores' Association, who represent the port employees. At a lunch given in their honour they spoke to workers and executives of the railwaymen's unions, four port

and dock unions, mercantile employees, postal workers and tramway workers.

At a roof-top meeting overlooking the Hoogly River sixty executive members of the Eastern Railwaymen's Union, representing 80,000 men, were given a gripping picture of what trade unionists can do to clean up their

countries. E. R. Chakravarty, Vice President of the All-India Railwaymen's Federation, with half a million members, declared, 'We need this moral ideology. An international force such as yours is needed so that we workers can not only work for our unions but for our country and the world.'

## 'Frank Buchman's Secret'

'MANY PEOPLE believe that Buchman's art is too simple, but Howard's book may reveal to them that the real problems in our own lives, as in the affairs of nations, are simpler than we are willing to admit.

'No one reading this book can fail to be influenced by it, and to achieve a new understanding of the dignity of the human soul and the need to proclaim that truth, so that we may live again by the old-fashioned virtues, and as a nation once again lead our confused world.'

WILLIAM CROSS in the *Paisley Daily Express*  
22 February, 1962

IN THE three months since *Frank Buchman's Secret* was published, 135,000 copies of the English edition have gone out.

In the same period it has been published in French and German (both already reprinted in larger editions), Danish, Norwegian and Swedish, Portuguese (100,000) and Malayalam. Editions are about to appear in Japanese, Spanish, Dutch and Greek. In the United States the book will be published by Doubleday in early May. In India a special paper-back edition has been published in the leading University series. Other language editions are in preparation.

IN RECIFE, north-eastern Brazil, *Frank Buchman's Secret* has been featured in the press and on television. The dockers are selling it in the port, while their wives visit the factories and textile mills. In the centre of the town a bookstall is manned by students in the open square—the very place where a few months ago army tanks were standing in readiness to deal with any trouble arising from the student strike in which some of these selfsame students were engaged.

Meanwhile in Sao Paulo, where for two weeks running Peter Howard's book stood second on the list of best sellers by non-Brazilian authors, another book display, reinforced by a photographic exhibition, has been organised in the busy Galeria Prestes Maria, where escalators link two levels of the city, and where tens of thousands of people pass each day. The book-tables are manned by men and women in national costumes from many parts of the world, and the city's newspapers have printed photos of the crowds who flock around them to buy the books.

THE SWISS WEEKLY *Die Woche* published recently a list of January best-sellers in the nineteen leading bookshops of Switzerland. *Frank Buchman's Secret* was fourth.

## News in Brief

**General Eisenhower** has congratulated the authors and cast of *The Tiger* on the success of their work. The former President wrote in a letter of his 'real satisfaction' at the success of *The Tiger* in Latin America, and added, 'Needless to say I hope the results of your work continue to spread throughout the world.'

**Brazilian national heroes**, Marshal Tavora and Marshal Lott, and former Foreign Minister da Fontoura, have challenged the leaders of their country to unite on the basis of Moral Re-Armament. Bitter opponents for many years, they were reconciled at the recent MRA Assembly at Petropolis. They have sent their challenge in a letter to the President, Cabinet and Parliament, Archbishops, military, industrial and union heads.

In the 'Catholic Pictorial' of 4 March, John Farrell writes of Peter Howard's play *The Ladder*, 'There is a compelling beauty about the play—a lyricism of pathos in movement and in words. The players—all of them—

show a fine sense of occasion, in every gesture posing the question: is it my will or His?'

**When visiting** the editorial offices of *The World*, leading African daily newspaper in Johannesburg, Mr. Hans Herrig, founder of the Communist Party in Castrop-Rauxel, paid tribute to two previous editors whose portraits hung on the wall. 'These men, Dr. Nhlapo and Mr. Salope Tema, brought Moral Re-Armament to Germany,' he said. 'They challenged us Germans to take up this answer for the whole world. I accepted their challenge, and here I am to fight for Africa.'

**A call to the people of Kerala** to bring about a moral renaissance was given on Sunday, 4 March, in an editorial in *Malayala Manorama*, Kerala's largest daily. 'The choice before the world is to surrender to God's control or perish,' wrote the paper and went on to quote extensively from the full page in *The Times* of 9 February, 'One Enemy, One Answer for the World.'