



MRA INFORMATION SERVICE

AUSTRALIA SEEKS MARKETS—AND A BIG IDEA

‘I WILL GIVE MY LIFE TO THIS BELIEF’
—SAYS VICE-CAPTAIN OF WEST INDIES TEST TEAM

‘SPACE IS SO STARTLING’—A PLAY FOR
LONDON, WASHINGTON AND MOSCOW

THE FIRE THE WHOLE WORLD NEEDS

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What Britain must tell both Mr. K's

IS A BERLIN SELL-OUT on the way, already decided by the two Mr. K's? Was Kennedy's private agreement with Krushchev over Cuba part of a package deal, with Katanga next and then Berlin?

Six years ago the late Professor Hans Koch, one of the world's greatest experts on Eastern Europe, who spoke every Slavonic language and forecast Communist strategy uncannily, told an American audience that Russia's long-distance aim was to sit down with America and decide world issues over the heads of other nations.

A few weeks ago the *U.S. News and World Report* wrote: 'Krushchev probably is following the U.S.-British spat over missiles with considerable interest, for this reason: If the argument ends with no U.S. nuclear weapons in Britain, this will leave U.S. and Russia as the only powers having a real nuclear deterrent. In effect, it will then be a two-power world, dominated by U.S. and Russia.'

Last week a *Daily Express* cartoon showed Kennedy and Krushchev falling into each other's arms and each exclaiming, 'Goodness, Mr. K! It's easier to co-exist with you than with my allies!'

Three days later press and radio reported that America and Russia would be holding private talks in New York about a nuclear test ban pact. Britain and other countries would be kept 'closely in touch'—but not included. The same report described the U.S. as willing to have a United Nations 'presence in Berlin to help solve the dispute with Russia over the city'.

Ambition to go down in history as 'the man who knew how to handle the Communists' has already dazzled and confused more than one Western statesman. It led to the tactics of Yalta and Potsdam. It divided

Churchill and Roosevelt, and left Stalin the winner. It also left Berlin a divided city, behind the Iron Curtain.

As Western commentators write of the rift between Moscow and Peking, we may overlook the relish with which the whole Communist world must be watching the gaps torn in the Western alliance.

Mr. Kennedy needs help, and honest friends who will speak the truth.

The truth is that an ability to 'go it alone' militarily is no sign at all of ability to 'go it alone' ideologically. Russia did not use armed might or roubles to put Communism into Cuba. Yet it was done, in the face of U.S. armed might and dollars. It was done by the power of ideas.

If America and the free world do not have the uniting force of an ideology, the initiative at any conference, of any size, will always be with the Communists.

We need to live and give to the world an idea more revolutionary and more attractive than Communism. Nuclear power is only valid as a shield behind which we are meant to shape, and then offer to East and West, a new society built on absolute moral standards.

Rajmohan Gandhi, grandson of the Mahatma, told a London audience last Sunday, 'If Kennedy plans to "go it alone" with Krushchev, Britain must cry halt. She is the nation best equipped to stand up and say that the alternative to war is not a compromise sell-out but a new way of change for all—Moral Re-Armament.'

Professor Koch, along with his warning on Soviet aims, said the same thing six years ago. A morally re-armed America, he said, united with Europe, Africa and Asia would one day win the millions of Russia and China to the true ideology of freedom.

U.S. première of 'Music at Midnight'

'MUSIC AT MIDNIGHT', with its star British cast headed by Nora Swinburne and Walter Fitzgerald, was given an overwhelming reception for its American première in Los Angeles. The Los Angeles County

Board of Supervisors, which represents six million people, designated 10-16 January a special 'Music at Midnight Week' for the county.

The Los Angeles *Herald Examiner* described the play

as offering America a solution to the 'international turmoil' of our age.

The *Herald Examiner*, reaching two million readers throughout Southern California, carried a review of the play by drama critic John Houser.

Headlined '*Music at Midnight* Tense, Taut', the review reads: 'The seeds of international turmoil and distrust were sown long ago, but in *Music at Midnight*, which opened last night at the Biltmore Theatre before a distinguished and impressed audience, an 'answer' and solution were provided to the problem.

'Authors Peter Howard and Alan Thornhill have taken the electric atmosphere of our times, the diametrically opposed philosophies of freedom versus Communism, and put together a drama charged with tension and softened with humour.

'The play is taut with realism, sharp and cutting with incisive and definite lines and as gripping as tomorrow's headlines.'

The critic refers to the 'charm and delicacy' of Nora Swinburne's acting. Of Walter Fitzgerald, he says, 'As Prime Minister, he is as crusty and convincing as Churchill himself, whom he strongly resembles in both speech and physical proportions.'

In a further news story the paper wrote that the play could look forward to a successful ten-day run.

'The production boasted a \$28,000 advance ticket sale, and if last night's audience is any indication, that figure will be exceeded. . . .

'An after-theatre party was held for more than 350 guests, headed by Mayor Samuel Yorty and members of the Board of Supervisors.

'Film celebrities and civic dignitaries present were Leland Atwood, Irene Dunne, Patrick Frawley, Johnny Green, Joel McCrea, George Murphy, Katherine De Mille Quinn, Cesar Romero, Charlton Heston, Roy Rogers, Dale Evans, Meredith Willson, Archie Moore, Beulah Bondi, James A. Doolittle, Janet Leigh, Reginald Owen, Judge Roger A. Pfaff, Francis X. Bushman, Spring Byington and many others.'

The Hollywood *Citizen News* headed a three-column review by Hazel Flynn, 'MRA Play makes memorable bow'. Miss Flynn wrote, 'The air was electrically charged last night at the Biltmore Theatre. Not only was this the American première with a distinguished cast of players, but the event was characterized by the presence of so many social, civic, political and theatrical notables that the list of those sponsoring the event read like a "Who's Who" in both Hollywood and Los Angeles. . . .

'MRA plays are usually dynamic, and this one by Peter Howard and Alan Thornhill is especially well done and especially thought-provoking.'

Australia seeks markets—and a big idea

AUSTRALIA is re-assessing her situation in the world. She is linked with Britain by heritage and trade. If Britain joins the Common Market, she expects to lose the best customer for 15 per cent of her exports, mainly dried and canned fruits.

Searching for new markets, her eyes are drawn increasingly to Asia. Japan is already her largest buyer of wool. For the last two years, China has taken one third of her wheat.

Yet trade cannot be divorced from the ideological struggle in the world. Thus, when the Chinese invaded India, they were reported to be re-selling wheat bought from Australia in order to purchase arms and military equipment. Australians protested strongly. The Prime Minister promised to investigate.

Something more than trading acumen is needed. Sir Raphael Cilento, the distinguished Australian commentator on world affairs and former United Nations Director for Refugees and Displaced Persons, recently gave his assessment on the issues facing Australia in Asia. Sir Raphael, who had returned from meeting Prime Minister Ikeda and other leaders in Japan, referred to the significance of the Japanese initiative in creating an Asian Assembly Centre for Moral Re-Armament at Odawara. 'I had always feared the Japanese because of their efficiency,' admitted the Australian. The spirit he saw in men like Saburo Chiba, M.P., and Governor

Sogo of the National Railways, two of the men most responsible for Odawara, had changed his whole outlook. Such statesmanship was urgently needed in the world.

'Today there are three claimants for the leadership of Asia,' Sir Raphael said, 'China, India and Japan.' China had sought to remove India as a competitor by humiliating her with military defeat. 'China's next move is to win Japan if she can,' he added, 'or to destroy Japan if she can't.'

Referring to the ideological war in Asia, Sir Raphael commented, 'We are losing hands down every day.' He challenged Australians to live their faith compellingly and to develop the ideological 'thrust' needed to win Asia. 'The Communists,' he said, 'have an ideology, a plan, and their devoted and dedicated missionaries.'

He believed that Australia and Japan, together with Thailand, Malaya, Formosa, Singapore, the Borneo States and the Philippines, should win Indonesia, potentially the richest country in the world, for a greater idea than Communism. Then the future of the whole area would be assured.

To do that, Australians needed a great deal more honesty and purity of motive. They needed urgently to face the realities of the Asian situation and act. 'I beg you,' he said, 'if you are not interested in this in terms of your own lives, think of it in terms of your children, your grandchildren and Australia itself.'

'I WILL GIVE MY LIFE TO THIS BELIEF'

—says Vice-Captain of West Indies Test team

CONRAD HUNTE, opening batsman and vice-captain of the West Indies Test team to tour Britain this summer is already in the headlines. A full-column article in the *Daily Mail's* sports page by cricket correspondent Alex Bannister describes his part in Peter and Anthony Howard's new play, *Space is so Startling*, at the Westminster Theatre.

The *Mail's* eight million readers saw a picture of Hunts, complete with bat and pads, as he appeared on stage, Bannister wrote:

'Hunte emerges from the back row of the chorus in the opening numbers to take a prominent part in a sporting scene which also includes Rusty Wailes and John Sayre, U.S. Olympic gold medallist oarsmen.

'Finally, Hunte, who is one of the world's greatest opening batsmen, makes an impassioned appeal for Britain to take its full part in world affairs.

'"I love Britain," Hunte told me. "Her role in the past was great, and I believe her destiny in world affairs is still greater in the years to come."

'Between nightly shows, and twice-a-week matinees, Hunte is having net practice at Alf Gover's indoor cricket school.

'For his part Hunte is dressed in full cricket rig and carries a bat.

'Before going on stage Hunte, who was seven years professional for Enfield, the Lancashire League club, grease-paints over the scar on his forehead—a legacy of a bumper from Trueman in a Test at Trinidad three years ago.

'He dedicated his life to the cause of Moral Re-Armament after seeing the film *The Crowning Experience* at Melbourne during the fifth Test of the Australian-West Indies series in February, 1961.

Problem is not class or colour

'His first act was to return to the West Indies Board of Control expenses which he felt were not justified.

'His fee of nearly £1,000 as a professional for the tour of England will be given away. He plans to live on the £7-a-week out-of-pocket expenses every player receives.

'Recently he turned down the offer of an important post in the Civil Service.

'"My life is to be given to what I believe to be right," he told me.

'"The problems of the world are not the outcome of colour, class or false ideologies alone, but of man's character, and by character I mean the character of man's inner self.

'"In cricket my first duty is to my captain and the team, and I am returning to the West Indies to play my

full part in the pre-tour training sessions. Before we arrive in England on 7 April I hope I shall have played my full part in helping to shape, unite and discipline the side."

'The eyes of Hunte the cricketer gleamed, "I am sure if it is a dry summer there will be a return to the vintage days of batting. If Dexter accepts the challenge I know Frankie Worrell will make, there will be glorious cricket. West Indies will win."

A second picture of Hunte at the top of the page, is captioned 'I will give my life to this belief.'

The *Mail* story on Hunte was picked up in the BBC Saturday Sports Round-up of the week. The Johannesburg *Star*, South Africa's largest daily, carried the news in a two-column article on its sporting page. Papers from many Commonwealth countries sought interviews with the Test batsman to get further details.

'Space is so Startling'—a play for London, Washington and Moscow

'FULL HOUSE' notices were out again last week-end as *Space is so Startling* began its final fortnight at the Westminster Theatre. From London it will go to Glasgow, where it has been booked for a week's run at the King's Theatre from 4-9 February.

Special trains, planes and buses continued to bring people from all parts of the British Isles and Europe. Such is the response to what one journalist described as a 'play that can be shown in London, Moscow and Washington and have the same appeal'.

The *East London Advertiser* wrote that the play has 'shrewd and realistic comments on life as it is today and a logical message on the way in which a divided world might be united.' The paper added, 'Delightful songs with lilting tunes are plentiful.'

'This musical will make you think' was the headline in the *East End News*, which called the play 'merry entertainment'.

'*Space is so Startling* is a world-beater' was the verdict of one of Fleet Street's foreign news editors.

'It is the most adult show on in London,' commented an executive member of a national trade union, 'a cracking good show, too.' A leading hostess described it as 'so modern, so contemporary, so sparkling', while the wife of a Ford worker gave her reaction, 'Thank God there are people who know what the country needs and are doing something about it'. A leading publisher's comment was: 'The music is first rate. I can understand why people want to see it again and again.'

The fire the whole world needs

by our correspondent in Italy

NEWS IN BRIEF

PORTICI is an industrial town standing at the gates of Naples. The class war is a hard reality there. Employers and workers have for years faced each other with violence and suspicion. The great names of Italian industry are emblazoned across the factory gates. The Communist Party is solidly entrenched, and last year's mayor was the secretary of Togliatti.

When the Latin American play, *El Condor*, was presented there, the box office receipts were a record. Communists, Socialists, Christian Democrats, Monarchists poured into the theatre. Late into the night passionate discussions went on around the students, the trade unionists, the industrialists and the generals from Latin America who make up the cast of *El Condor*. They continued unabated through the following days in the streets, the bars, the factory offices and the trade union halls. They are still not finished.

Portici is not an isolated case. Wherever it has gone in the past three months, *El Condor* has stirred the thinking and imagination of thousands of Italians and given them back a sense of the great destiny of their land.

Pivot for humanity

Don Luigi Sturzo, the great patriot-priest of Italy and 'father' of the Christian Democratic parties of Europe, called Moral Re-Armament 'fire from Heaven'. It is this fire which Italy is finding again, a fire that the whole world needs.

Through the centuries, Italy has three times altered decisively the course of history. Imperial Rome introduced a barbarian world to the rule of law. Centuries later, Italy produced the saints and martyrs who initiated the great forward steps of Christian civilization. The Renaissance opened immense new vistas for all humanity.

In this year of the Ecumenical Council in Rome, Italy is more than

ever heart and head for 550,000,000 Catholics in every part of the world. At the same time, with one of the largest Communist Parties in the world, she is a key in global Communist strategy. Both Moscow and Peking have paid court at this year's Party Congress in Rome. Togliatti bides his time.

This is Italy's position at a moment in history when all over the world there is rebellion against democracy without ideology as much as against ideology without democracy. Italy knows these realities. She could again become the pivot on which the world turns as humanity finds a new way.

There are obstacles. One is the hang-over of fascism. 'Italy is terribly preoccupied by what other nations think because of what happened under fascism,' said one Naples professor. 'She is only too conscious of past mistakes and hesitates to take up her full responsibility in the world.'

There is the materialism of a society, called Christian, that tolerates injustice, exploitation and division. It leads to 'la dolce vita'—which is not the prerogative of one class—to indifference amid misery and to the systematic mobilisation of bitterness and hate.

Yet the day Italy decides to live out to the full her universal heritage with the same conviction that Moscow lives Communism, a new page will be opened in the history of man.

A hundred years ago Garibaldi and his Thousand riding from the South met King Victor Emmanuele and his army marching from the North. Their meeting sealed the independence of the nation. Today many share the conviction of the Mayor of Sorrento that 'we men of politics have not satisfied the needs of the human heart. Moral Re-Armament does. We Italians have an enormous responsibility because we have the capacity to take this idea to the world. This is Italy's key year, as we take up that task.'

Cyprus—As disagreements between the Greek and Turkish communities led to the abolition of the municipalities, *Phileleftheros*, one of the biggest Greek dailies, carried a full page with the thinking of Moral Re-Armament to their people, initiated and financed by local citizens. It was followed by *Nacak*, a Turkish newspaper, which published the page on the initiative of its owner, Mr. Rauf Denktash, President of the Turkish Communal Chamber.

Switzerland—The Swiss military magazine, *Der Schweizer Soldat*, carried an editorial describing the great interest aroused at home and abroad by their special August issue on 'preparedness in the ideological war' through Moral Re-Armament. Never before, it says, has a special issue of a military magazine focused such passionate discussion, been so acclaimed by a decisive majority of readers, and so violently criticised by some. The special issue reached three times the normal circulation. The editor, after quoting from letters from twenty-eight readers, including a bishop, concludes, 'We are in the middle of an ideological war. . . . It is five minutes to midnight—and high time to take up the battle.'

Kenya—Two newspapers and a television programme reported that among the few Africans at Nairobi airport to welcome the new Governor, Mr. Malcolm MacDonald, were Mr. James Muigai, brother of Mr. Jomo Kenyatta, and Mr. Nahashon Ngare, who displayed placards saying, 'Welcome MacDonald—it's not who is right but what is right.' Recently the *East African Standard* wrote editorially that for the new Governor 'it may be that the first lesson, and one which he will have need to instruct others to learn, is that what matters in Kenya and East Africa today is not who is right but what is right.'