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US ASKS THANT'S HELP IN GETTING CEASEFIRE

Goldberg Promises Full Cooperation To Start Talks On Vietnam

NEW YORK, December, 20, (Combined News Services). The United States government has formally asked United Nations Secretary General U Thant to help bring about a ceasefire in Vietnam. The move comes about less than a week before the ceasefires scheduled for Christmas and New Year's.

United States chief delegate, Arthur Goldberg, said that his government would cooperate fully with the Secretary-General to get talks going promptly and make them successful.

He repeated that the United States is already seeking to get a ceasefire but did not elaborate on

Heavy bombing raids were made Sunday on both sides of the demilitarised border zone dividing the two Vietnams, the U.S. command reported.

Rain and clouds shrouded targets in North Vietnam's Red River valley and no attacks were made near Hanoi or Haiphong for the fourth successive day.

Continuing their systematic weeklong pounding of the region, longrange B-52 bombers of the U.S. struck targets just south of the border four times in the last 24

While the high-altitude B-52's rained hundreds of tons of high explosives onto the mountainous jungled area, smaller fighter bombers divebombed lines of communication and base camps both north and south of the buffer zone.

Just north of the frontier, they bombed and strafed two southward bound convoys of North Vietnamese trucks Five out of six vehicles in one of the convoys were claimed destroyed or damaged.

The other convoy was hit after dark, and pilots reported that their bombs were still detonating explosions as they left the target area.

In the northwestern tip of South Vietnam, American and South Vietnamese fighter bombers pounded storage areas in the mountains near the Laotian border.

The United States has lost 450 planes over North-Vietnam and 114 over the south, according to figures issued by the U.S. command here last night.

A guerrilla-trained brigade of the U.S. ninth infantry division arrived Monday in South Vietnam and the buildup of American forces rose above 372,000 men.

As the first troops of the divisions 3rd brigade came ashore, ground fighting tapered to small-scale skirmishes.

The USS enterprise, only nuclearpowered attack aircraft carrier of the world which rejoined 7th fleet ships operating off North Vietnam Sunday, has launched raids on bridges, truck convoys, supply targets and fuel tanks, the U.S. navy announced Monday.

The South Vietnamese command is trying to strengthen the discipline and conduct of its troops, often criticised for slackness and abuses.

The effort has the strong backing of U.S. military men who feel the campaign to win over the peasants has been hampered by instances of S. Vietnamese troop misbehaviour in dealing with civilians.

Hand-in-hand with the discipline improvement programme, the South Vietnamese joint general staff is moving to strengthen the moraleand thus the fighting will-of its

This is being done through a broad plan to give S. Vietnamese soldiers and their families better housing, medical treatment, schools, commissary privileges and payments for disability and death in

Better pay also is an objective, but the government's anti-inflation programme stands in the way. South Vietnamese regular privates

are paid about 43 dollars a month. In a memorandum, made available to the Associated Press, the South Vietnamese general staff said it has ordered unit commanders on several occasions to apply necessary measures to maintain discipline in the armed forces:

Among other things it listed "lack of courtesy and committing improper acts and attitudes while in public relations with the people." Details were not provided, but South Vietnamese troops have been

accused of such acts as stealing chickens and other food from vil-

The staff document complained

STOP PRESS

FILM LIBRARY **FORMED**

KABUL, Dec. 20, (Bakhtar).— The department of public libraries of the Ministry of Information and Culture has recently set up a film section with the cooperation of Afghan Film.

The department will issue to individuals and organisations documentaries and feature films on science, letters, art, history, etc. for screening.

The department is also planning to set up a gramaphone record sec-

The head of the department, Gul Ahmad Farid, said the films collected are of 16 mm. The department has a comprehensive programme under which films are screened in schools, hostels, hospitals, etc. in the provinces. It is hoped that the film section will help coordinate the work of local and foreign organisations and in implementing the programmes of the Ministry of Information and Culture.

Af. 1.6m. Emergency Clinic Nears Completion In Kabul

Ninety per cent of the work on emergency clinic at the Wazir Akbar Khan Hospital has been completed. The Af. 1,6 million elinic is begin built east of the main hospital.

that in some regions, there had been

"improper utilisation of military

police personnel in duties such as

office guard and ceremonials" on

orders of "some responsible offi-

When completed the clinic will be opened 24 hours and will be run by six doctors and 16 nurses working on three eight-hour shifts.

Apart from emergency works, on the second floor the clinic will have 20 beds for infectious diseases.

Mrs. Kennedy Asks Court To Halt **Book's Publication**

NEW_YORK, Dec. 20, (Renter). William Manchester, author of Death of a President, has accused Mrs. Jacqueline Kennedy of "cruel and unjust" comments on the book, an account of the events surrounding her husband's assassination.

Mrs. Kennedy, who has filed suit to stop publication of the controversial book, has described it as "prenature, tasteless and distorted.

Manchester replied yesterday "John Kennedy was my President. To suggest that I would dishonour his memory or my association with him is both cruel and unjust."

Manchester also denied that he had taken advantage of Mrs. Kennedy's "words and emotions" in writing the book. This was an apparent reference to Mrs. Kennedy's complaint that he made extensive use of a tape-recorded interview with her shortly after the assassina-

In a statement, Manchester said President Kennedy's own standards of excellence had guided him in writing the book.

"It has been said that I have broken faith with Mrs. Kennedy: that I took advantage of her confidence in me and that I recorded too faithfully her words and emotions," he said.

"I do not believe this to be so. Mrs. Kennedy asked me to write this book. I did not seek the oppor-

He denied that the book was being published prematurely or that the Kennedy family had not given their authorisation and consent for its serialisation in Look magazine.

"This is not so. In the summer of 1966, authorisation was given by the family for publication of the book in early 1967, to be preceded by serialisation in Look magazine."

Mrs. Kennedy filed a suit to stop publication of the book on Friday. It is a show case order requiring Manchester, Harper and Row, the publishers, and Look magazine to show why publication should not be

stopped. The crux of Mrs. Kennedy's case, as outlined in an 11-page sworn statement filed with the suit, is a memorandum of understanding signed by Manchester and Senator Robert Kennedy giving the Kennedy family veto powers over the final manuscript.

Mrs. Kennedy charges that this agreement has been broken. The defendants maintain that it was superseded by later written and oral instructions from the Kennedy family.

1,103 Girls Pass Out Of Kabul Primary Schools

KABUL, Dec. 20, (Bakhtar).-Graduation certificates were presented to 1,103 graduates of Kabul city's girls' primary schools Monday. At the ceremony, held in Rukhshana Girls Primary School, awards were also given to students who stood first, second or third in their classes.

KABUL. Dec. 20 (Bakhtar).-

The president of the department of curative medicine in the Public Health Ministry, Dr. Abdul Ghani Afzal, said the clinic will have its own ambulance. Doctors and nurses will visit patients at their homes or elsewhere in an emergency. This will avert complaints that doctors supposed to be on duty in evening do not visit patients.

Asked why the clinic was not built at a more central place, Dr. Afzal said that it will be near the blood bank. Secondly, being close to a well-equipped hospital like the Wazir Akbar Khan, emergency patients will be able to get all the help required without loss of

New Bridge Spans Logar River

KABUL, Dec. 20, (Bakhtar).-The No Burja bridge built by the people of Shewaki with the help of rural development project personnel was opened Monday.

The bridge, on the Logar river, links the villages of Deh Yakoub, Kalai Hassan Khan, Kalai Wali Mohammad Khan, Kalai Sher Khan, No Burja, Kalai Adam Khan, Mousa Sai and Bagrami.

It is 45m. long and 4.5 m. wide, The people of the area raised Af. 191,000 to build the bridge and the rural development project unit of Shewaki contributed Af. 78,000.

The Deputy Minister of the Interior, Amanullah Mansouri, who opened the bridge, thanked the people for their work.

Consolidation Of Indonesia's Loans **Discussed In Paris**

PARIS, Dec. 20, (AP).-Representatives of a seven-nation financial consortium met Monday to consider Indonesia's request to consolidate her debts.

The Indonesian delegation, which for several days has been contacting individual nations, was expected to be called in for consultation within 24 hours.

The closed door discussions were taking place in a majestic government building near the Arc De Tri-

The head of the Indonesian delegation, Ha Pandelaki, Inspector General of the Ministry of Finance, waited a few blocks away in an office set up in his hotel room.

Pandelaki said the total amount of obligations under consideration was about \$2.2 billion. This sum included short, medium and long term loans. He did not explain why his total was less than figures made earlier by French sources.

PARIS TO GET **NEW AIRPORT**

PARIS, Dec. 20, (Reuter).-Paris is to have a huge new airportcovering an area about one-third the size of the city-to cope with bigger planes and supersonic airliners, according to officials here.

It will be built within the next 20

The new airport, to be located north of Paris and named Paris Nord (Paris North) will handle some 25 million passengers a year in the

Paris's present main airport, Orly, will be enlarged shortly to handle 15 million passengers, more than twice its present capacity. The plans were outlined to a press

conference last night by Paris's airport authority Director General Pierre-Donatien Cot, its equipment director Henri Vicariot and two top airport engineers. Paris Nord will be located some

10 kilometres (six miles) northeast of Le Bourget, the smaller of Paris's two present civilian airports, which will eventually be closed.

The new airport, plans for which date back to 1959, will have stronger runways, parking capacity for some 40,000 cars, and fast approach

It will have five arrival-departture centres, the main one connected to the runways by tunnel. In London a floating heliport may

be built on the river Thames. The plan is to build a floating platform which could take three 26-seat helicopters at a time. It would be used for a helicopter shuttle-service to London airport which is about 20 miles (32 km) from the city centre, and possibly to other airports around London.

Assembly Postpones Decision On UN Peacekeeping Costs

NEW YORK, December 20, (Combined News Services).-The UN General Assembly Monday voted with a majority of 20 to postpone all new decisions on UN international peace operations until next year.

The postponement came following Soviet and French objections to a Canadian-U.S. motion that the General Assembly be made the authority deciding on peace operations in case any member should veto peace operations in the Security Council.

France and the Soviet Union, who do not contribute financially to the peace actions, are against giving such authority to the General Assembly.

The Assembly at the last minute passed by 56 in favour, 36 against and with 25 abstentions, a motion tabled by 20 non-aligned countries to postpone the decision until the next General Assembly extraordi-

nary session in April next year. The Special Political Committee will be instructed to prepare a report for that session about peace operations. By accepting this motion, the Assembly killed the Canadian-

U.S. draft resolution. The Canadian proposals adopted recently by the 122-nation Special Political Committee, which sent them to the Assembly, represented the first move on peacekeeping in

two years. IRISH-CANADIAN CHARGE

Earlier yesterday, the chief Canadian delegate, George Ignatieff, and the Irish Foreign Minister, Frank Aiken, had accused the opponents of the new peacekeeping plans of trying to gag the Assembly.

Aiken had already withdrawn his own plans calling for a rigid scale of assessments against all member states to pay for peacekeeping.

They would have required a twothirds majority for adoption and he acknowledged they stood little chance of success.

The Assembly unainmously approved the text of a treaty to bar nuclear weapons from outer space. The document, representing the

first breakthrough in arms control since the limited test ban treaty of 1963, was thus opened to signature by all countries.

It may be signed at any time in London, Moscow or Washington.

The treaty will come into force after it has been signed by five governments, including the United States, the Soviet Union and Britain.

The Assembly also called for a worldwide drive to help the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) raise \$50 million.

The Assembly unanimously approved a resolution urging governments, organisations, groups and individuals to intensify their efforts to help UNICEF meet its income goal.

The resolution noted with deep concern "the magnitude of the unmet needs of children and youth in the developing countries" and the demands on UNICEF's funds these needs would make in the next few

The Assembly endorsed the work of UNICEF thus far and the programmes the organisation has launch-

Assembly decided that Tehran, Iran, should be the site of an international conference on human rights during the spring of

The Soviet Union and France yesterday led objections to the credentials of the Taiwan delegation to the Assembly.

The two countries were among 25 which abstained on a resolution which found that credentials of all 122 Assembly delegations were in order. Eight-seven voted in favour, with none opposed.

IMF's REPORT

In a report to the Economic and Social Council the managing director of the International Monetary Fund. Pierre Paul Schweitzer, said prospects are encouraging for continued economic growth and expanded world trade in 1967.

"Since 1958 world trade has increased in volume by nearly 70 per cent," he reported. But poor harvests last year followed a long period in which food production had barely kept up with population growth.

"There has been for some time a widespread recognition of the longer-term need to increase food production rapidly enough to feed a world population which, despite all efforts of population control, continues to grow by some 70 million each year," Schweitzer said.

In presenting the Fund's 1966 annual report, he noted that the industrial nations have had problems in maintaining price stability during the period of economic growth.

"All the industrial countries have sooner or later, to take measures to curb excesses of demand in order to relieve pressure on their domestic resources," he

PROPORTIONATE AID

But, Schweitzer said, richer countries should contribute aid in proportion to their national income, increasing the amount of aid as their incomes rose.

This aim had not been realised, and the amount of aid to developing countries had shown any increase" snice 1960. "Nevertheless," Schweitzer said,

"the developing countries as a group have continued to add to their exchange reserves and to maintain a modest growth. In most countries it has exceeded the rate of growth of population sufficiently to permit a slight general improvement in living standards."

Turning to the problem of world monetry reserves, he said much work remained to be done in indentifying a generally acceptable medium of new reserves and working out a mechanism for its crea-

"We are, I feel, approaching one of the most important stages of the evolution of the international monetary system, a stage which involves the deliberate, orderly, and equitable creation of international reserves," he said.

"I hope we can move, without undue delay, toward final agreement on a contingency plan for controlled liquidity creation. Such an agreement would in itself help to disperse the uncertainty which hangs over the working and future adequacy of the international monetary system."

MIDDLE EAST PEACE While the UN Assembly postpon-

ed a decision on steps to meet the cost of peacekeeping operations, the British government declared it regards the United Nations as primarily responsible for the maintenance of peace in the Middle East.

Foreign Secretary George Brown said this in Parliament yesterday when asked how the government proposed to avoid further clashes between Israel and its Arab neighbours and for an assurance that the government stood by the 1950 tripartite declaration guaranteeing the frontiers.

Brown said: "We regard the United Nations as being primarily responsible for the maintenance of peace in the area.

"It is our policy to support the United Nations to fulfil this task and nich after competing in a fencto support every effort made to improve its peacekeeping machinery."

WORLD NEWS IN BRIEF

NEW DELHI, Dec. 20 (INFA) -While people starve in the drought effected areas Bihar, the relief and food items meant and collected for them continue to rot in Delhi.,

The food items have been lying in the godowns of the Central Citizens Food Council for the past nearly a fortnight. They include 11,000 kg of atta, 4,000 kg, of wheat, 2,000 kg

maize and varying quantities of pulses, sugar and gur. The foodstuffs has been lying for want of adequate Government machinery to second them to the affected areas and also to waive

rules against their entry. The Council has now approached the Prime Minister's Secretariat and the Union Ministry to arrange the transport of these goods.

S. LOUIS, Dec 20 (Reuter). -A small explosive device, said to be a tear-gas bomb, was set off outside the St. Louis airport Sunday less than 24 hours after a time bomb exploded in the air-

port's terminal. No one was injured in either explosion, and authorities said people inside the terminal were hardly aware of the second blast.

CAIRO, Dec. 20 (Reuter).-Exking Saud of Saudi Arabia was Sunday night given accommodation in a leading Cairo hotel after arriving from Athens to spend the holy month of Ramadan here.

The 64-year-old former monarch brought along a 50-strong entourage from Athens, where he has lived since he was deposed

two years ago by his younger brother Feisal.

DAMASCUS, Dcec. 20 (Reuter). -A military delegation led by General Mohammad Fawzi, the chief of staff of the Unified Arab Command, arrived here by air

from Cairo Sunday night. The delegation was met at the airport by major-general Ahmad Sweidani, Syrian Army Chief-of-Staff, and a number of senior army officers.

No details were announced here on the purpose of the visit or how long it would last.

ROME, Dec. 20 (Reuter).-Italian railway men went back to work Sunday night after a 24hour strike which brought chaos to many stations, where stranded tourists and Italians heading home for Christmas left on bitterly cold platforms.

Angry Passengers besieged railway offices at the central station in Milan, where the strike stranded 9,000 Italian workers returning from Switzerland spend Christmas at home.

The strike, called to back demands for better work schedules, also delayed freight and many Italian children may now gettheir Christmas presents a day or two late.

KUWAIT, Dec.20 (Reuter),-Nominations opened Monday for candidates in Kuwait's January 25 general election, the Interior Ministry announced here Sunday. Nominations will close 10 days

later, the Ministry said. Press reports here Sunday estimated that more than 4000 people will compete for the 50 seats

in the National Assembly. Five assembly deputies will be elected from each of the 10 constituencies during the one-day poll.

AMMAN, Dec. 20 (Reuter) .-The Kuwaiti Minister of Interior and Defence, Sheikh Saad Alabdullah Alaslaem Alasabah, said Sunday that his government had signed an agreement with the British Aircraft Corporation (B.A.C.) to buy an unspecified number of lightning supersonic jet lighter and trainer aircraft. Kuwait radio, announcing this

in a broadcast heard here, did not reveal the number of planes in the agreement or the value involved. It said that the new jets and Hawker hunters now in use

with the Kuwaiti air force would

form "a coordinated air power for

defence of Kuwait." MUNICH, Dec. 20 (Reuter).—A Hungarian olympic champion reported missing on Friday been in police custoday for allegedly shoplifting a pair of trousers, police revealed Sunday.

Dr. Frenc Toero, 34, a lawyer judge, and Hungary's 1964 olympic pentathlon champion, was freed from a Munich prison after being detained for two days, He denied stealing the trousers,

but said he paid a small fine to avoid being held while investigations took place. Toeroe disappeared early Friday while shopping in Mu-

ing tournament at Frankfurt.

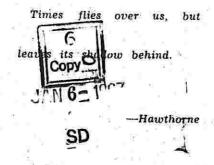


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PUBLISHING AGENCY

Food For Thought



U.S. Appeal To U Thant To End War

The United States government today appealed formally to the United Nations Secretary-General, U Thant, to help bring about a ceasefire in Vietnam. Although the exact proposals of the United States government are not clear, as they have not been disclosed in detail, the step itself seems to be in pursuance of a firm conviction on the part of the American government that war may not ultimately solve the problem.

From the statement made by Arthur Goldberg, the United States chief delegate to the world organisation, it is clear that his government will do everything within its power to cooperate fully to make the effort of U Thant successful.

The latest U.S. move seems to be the climax of a series of peace ventures in the context of Vietnam-the official trips of Averell Harriman, the roving ambassador of the United States, to some Afro-Aslan and European countries. followed by the short but fairly extensive tour by United States Secretary of State Dean Rusk before attending the Ministerial meetings

of the NATO countries in Paris. At one point, the whole attention of the world was drawn to Algiers, during the recent trip of Averell Harriman. After the extensive talks held between him and Ahmad Boutlifka, the Algierian Foreign Minister, the ambassadors of the People's Republic of China and North Vietnam were called to the Foreign Ministry. What Boutlifka discussed with them is still to be learned but the outcome, which political observers were hopefully watching, was nothing specific to justify calling it a step toward a

Arthur Goldberg himself gave some hope, though vague, some time ago when he said that there was "new light" in efforts to solve the Vietnam issue.

Dean Rusk, during his tour of some of the countries of the Middle East and Southeast Asia, exchanged views with the leaders of these nations. What useful conclusions were drawn from these talks, in addition to explaining the United States policy on the problem, is not vet known.

With the Christmas and New Year's truce accepted by the warring factions, the world once again is hopeful about a settlement of the problem; last year's truce observed on these two occasions was all too short and shattered the hopes of the people of the world that the parties to the war will take the issue from the battlefield to the conference table.

As the truce for Christmas and New Year's will begin next week, it is a golden chance for the United Nations Secretary-General to undertake personally a tour of war-torn Vietnam and discuss a settlement with the leaders concerned.

At a time when sincere efforts are being made by the leading governments of the East and West to lessen international tension and improve East-West relations, it is necessary that the main stumbling block to a rapprochement is removed. The prolonged wars in the Indo-China region since the end of World War II have certainly been tiring. The political and military stubborness of the factions in the war will not produce any logical conclusions for a settlement.

We hope that the initiative of the United Nations Secretary General will produce the necessary measures to end the war and find a permanant settlement of the issue.

The Main Task Of The United Nations

The United Nations, which is not a supra state, and which does not legislate, has succeeded since the end of World War II in preserving international peace and security. Although the whole credit for stopping conflicts and decreasing tension in various parts of the globe do not go to the United Nations alone but also to the countries who were parties to a conflict, the world organisation within the limits of the legal authority it enjoys under the Charter, has played a worthy role. The preservation of peace is the main task and cause for the existence of the world body. The United Nations has applied two methods of diplomacy in preserving and safeguarding international peace and security: mediation and concilliation-both of which amount to the use of the instrument of negotiations in terms of diplomacy-and the application of sanctions and force whenever it is thought feasi-

ble and necessary. The Lebanese crisis which erupted in 1958, for example, was resolved by negotiations helped by the presence in Lebanon of a United Nations observer group. The General Assembly of the United Nations on the recommendations of the Security Council last week approved mandatory sanctions against the

By Shafi Rahel rebel regime of Ian Smith in Rho-

It is the employment of UN forces for peacekeeping operations that has shaken its financial stability and, at a stage two years ago even

threatened its existence. Though in 1953 the UN recommended joint military action in the case of Korea, it was not till the Suez crisis of 1956 that a peacekeeping force was established. The United Nations Emergency Force which was established then put an end to the hostilities and also came to stay as a task force of the United . Nations to preserve peace in other parts of the world whenever required. In response to an appeal a United Nations force, called ONUC, was sent to the Congo in 1960 and was withdrawn four years later.

The Cyprus situation in 1964, which nearly resulted in open hostilies between Greece and Turkey, was brought under control by the peacekeeping: force: UNFICYP. The extension of the term of this force in the island republic was approved by the Security Council for the 10th time last week.

The peacekeeping operations have indeed been a highly difficult and problematic venture in terms of finance. By the end of 1964, bills its main task-to preserve peace.

totalling more than \$130 million payable by 20 states had piled up. The countries in arrears were requested to pay their dues. But, as there was no clear principles assessing the amount that nations have to pay for peacekeeping operations the requests were mere requests rather than legal notices.

The Political Committee of the General Assembly last week passed three resolutions which concern peacekeeping operations. The most interesting features of the resolu-

tions are: The members of the Security Council must pay 75 per cent of the cost of peacekeeping.

-The developing nations should pay 5 pen cent of the costa !... -Nations who are not parties to

the resolution for calling United Nations military intervention may not pay for any peacekeeping operations.

By these resolutions a clear line is now drawn between the nations who must pay, and those who need not

Later in the Assembly the Irish resolution on the subject was withdrawn and the General Assembly Monday postponed a decision to the next session. But though it has been delayed, a decision is vital if the UN is to fulfil what all agree is

New UN Agency Begins Operations January 1

The United Nations is not practicing birth control, some delegates remarked facetiously, as another UN agency was born. But they were happy over the birth.

. The newest baby, called UNIDO (which is short for UN Industrial Development Oragnization), becomes one of a large family of existing specialised UN institutions, including a myraid of separate agencies dealing with health, education, labor, food, children, etc. etc.

UNIDO was conceived upon the joint urging of the developing countries of Africa, Asia and Latin America, who expect much help from it in developing their industri-

Approved by the General Assembly earlier this year, UNIDO got its first boss with the Assembly's approval of an Egyptian, Ibrahim Helmi Abdel-Rahman, as executive director, just in time for the official inauguration of UNIDO's activities on January 1.

UNIDO's board is composed of 45 UN member nations. At least 10 governments offered sites for a headquarters. They were Austria, Greece, France, India, Kenya, Peru, Trinidad, Turkey, Switzerland and

Abdel-Rahman is no stranger to the task he will be undertaking. He has served the United Arab Republic in many related spheres, including development planning, teaching and atomic energy. In 1949 he was placed in charge of the UNESCO

Science Co-operation Office in the

Middle East. Until his recent appointment as executive director of UNIDO, he headed the UN's Center for Industrial Development, a unit of the Secretariat whose budget and functions will be transferred to UNIDO.

Abdel-Rahman's other UN activities have included memberships on the UN Expert Committee on Compensatory Financing; the UN Special Fund expert team that considered the establishment of the Latin American Development Institute in Santiago; a committee of the Alliance for Progress which examined the 10-year development plan for Bolivia; the Arab delegation to the UN Conference on New Sources of Energy in Rome and the delegation to the UN Conference on the Application of Science and Technology for the Benefit of Less Developed Areas held in Geneva.

An autonomous body with an initial budget of about \$15 million, UNIDO, according to Abdel-Rahman, will be the executing agency for industrial projects already approved by the United Nations Development Programme, which is one of the UN's principal financing agencies.

He said UNIDO's services are aimed at creating viable industrial projects, and are available to any member of the UN family upon request. They might be even privately promoted projects, like cooperatives or utilities, so long as the request for UNIDO aid is made through government channels. These can be

filed with the UN's resident representative in a country.

The new executive director said he saw two special areas where UNIDO can be helpful. The first is in rescuing projects already underway which are failing because of mismanagement, lack of technical help or insufficient financing. "Our experts," he said, "will diognose the ailments in the same way a doctor diagnoses the illnesses of a human being, and prescribe a cure. Our people will even supervise the recovery, though we will not actually

operate the plant or factory." The second area, where the need is greatest, he said, is in arranging for the financing of a project which has already been approved as feasible. "We are not particular where the capital comes from-whether it's another government, a private source or a multilateral agency. Our job is to find out who is interested enough in the project to finance it and to bring the interested parties together. What arrangement, they work out is no concern of ours!

He observed that resource studies had been made in a number of countries, and plans worked out for exploitation, but that further progress had bogged down for lack of available financing.

UNIDO, he emphasised, recognises no political philosphies and hopes to be helpful to economies whether based on public or private ownership.

(CONTINENTAL PRESS)

HOME PRESS AT A GLANCE

on the peaceful uses of outer space. downgraded so that these depart-Commenting on a resolution adopt- ments may be headed by an official ed by the United Nations Main of Rank 2, whereas the central deeditorial Political Committee, the said for centuries man has been enchanted by outer space mysteries, always cherishing the desire to reach out for the heavens to get a greater, understanding of the universe.

The editorial recalled the times when man was sending light balloons to great heights with simple equipment aboard to achieve this aim. During recent years, it went on, great progress has been made towards conquerring outer space. That is why the question of peaceful use of outer space and the ownership of planets has become of vital importance. The idea of signing treaty ban-

ning the use of outer space for military purposes has been gaining momentum during the past few years. Now that the Political- Committee has agreed on such a treaty. it is hoped that the General Assembly, too, will-apprové (it was approved by the Assembly later), so that it becomes binding on member nations. The editorial expressed particular delight of the fact that the treaty shows more than anything else agreement between two super powers (the United States and the Soviet Union) on a vital international issue.

The same issue of the paper carried a letter to the editor signed Abdul Wakil Amiri suggesting the establishment of a central department to coordinate regional development plans. It said the policy of progressive democracy outlined by Prime Minister Mohammad Hashim Maiwandwal envisages the implementation of special plans for the development of those regions in the country which have remained

relatively less developed. Such programmes are being implemented right now, it said, but under different administrations. It would be much better and more effective if these activities are coordinated by one central department. The letter suggested that the Helmand Valley Authority, the Nangarhar Valley Authority and the

Today's Islah carried an editorial Pakthia Valley Authority should be partment should be headed by a first-rank official. The central department should have two deputy chiefs, each of second rank,

The letter also suggested that the development department, which is now functioning under the Ministry of the Interior, should be incorporated with this central department since most of its activities are related to the development of regional districts.

Yesterday's Anis carried an editorial welcoming the step taken by the Ministry of Mines and Industries in launching a course for training carpet weavers. Carpets, it said, are among the country's major export items. There are many regions which offer favourable conditions for the promotion of this industry. With the help of the government and the initiative of the carpet company initial steps have been taken to improve the quality and design of carpets in the country, and the launching of the course will be additional help in the promotion of this vital industry.

The Soviet news agency Tass the Chinese said "cultural revolution" has moved into a new phase, with rival factions reported engaged in open struggle.

It said in a dispatch from Peking that the Chinese described the new stage as a struggle between the "proletarian revolutionary line" represented by communist party leader Mao Tse-tung and his group and a "bourgeois reactionary line" led by the Chief of State, Liu Shao-Chi, and the party secretary, Teng Hsiao-ping.

The first open sign of this aggravation of the conflict was the reported arrest of the former Peking mayor, Peng Chen and other ousted officials on December 4.

Tass quoted the newspaper Red Guard as saying the arrests were "an overture to a general attack on the bourgeois reactionary line."

The paper said "architects and advocates of the bourgeois reactionary line" refused to accept their defeat and had launched a counter-offensive "spearheaded directly against Mao Tse-tung" and the communist party's "cultural revolution" group. The Soviet agency said publications circulating in Peking streets opposing the "cultural revolution" were seen.

The Peking People's Daily said in a commentary that "Fascist dictatorship did not save the Hitlerites from their doom nor will it be able to prolong the life of Indian reac-

It said that "scared stiff by the Indian people's struggle against government tyranny the Indian reactionaries are also openly following the Hitlerite fashion." It said the Indian government "has

always practised a ruthless dictatorship of the big landord and big capitalist classes.

Jordan's King Hussein and Israel's Prime Minister Levi Eshkol were quoted by Newsweek magazine as being "in unusual agreement that militant Arab states are more interested in destroying than in building."

Newsweek carried separate interviews with Hussein and Eshkol. Of the Arab nations who call themselves revolutionaries, the King was quoted as saying:

"They are not revolutionaries. There is nothing they have been able to give their people. Their only objective as far as I can see is to destroy everything in this area of the world-all our roots, our foundations, the faith of Arabs in themselves"

Reason For Non-Proliferation Of N Bombs There is still one technical stumbling block to making nuclear weapons: getting the necessary small quantities of very highly enriched uranium. The rest is relatively easy. The science of physics has made such bounds in the past twenty years that all you need to know to knit your own primitive atomic bomb is in the textbooks and taught to sixth formers. Any nuclear power station will turn out enough plutonium for a few bombs; and, as the French have shown, quite impure and low-grade plutonium will explode. The manpower requirements are not very great. The number of countries capable of making nuclear weapons of this sort either now or in the next decade is, therefore, so long and alarming that it is not worth listing them. They stretch from North America across Europe to Asia and the Mid-So what stops them? Only that

the efficiency of a nuclear weapon (the destructive power that can be packed into a missile warhead, or into the tactical bombs a small aircraft might carry) depends on that small and vital uranium content. Without it, nuclear weapons are simply not in the same class as the blockbusters that the Americans, Russians or even the British can launch. They are not effective deterrents against anyone but any equally deprived, weaker neighbour; and although the day may eventually come when the big powers will stand back permit a nuclear mi-ni-war between smaller countries, it certainly has not come yet. The nuclear balance of peace has rested very largely these past twenty years on the extreme difficulty of getting. that essential uranium. The special significance of the Chinese tests, the fifth of which is scheduled any day now, is that they have all contained

· If the implications of this have barely been grasped outside a small group of nuclear insiders, the fault lies with the fog of military security that has covered every aspect of the design and operation of the plants where this uranium is obtained. Bevond their mere existence, and the

briefest description of the system they work on, virtually nothing is known about the plants-no eye-witness descriptions, no photographs (except from the outside, of sheds looking like broiler chicken farms), nothing to add substance to the perfectly fair claim that these are the engineering marvels of the age. This policy may have been sensible enough in the past, but there are now industrial reasons why a simple policy of "hush" may not work in the future. These plants are not only essential for weapons; they are also the places where the atomic fuel of the 1970s will have to be produced for the nuclear power stations now rushing up. Policy decisions will have to be taken about whether other western countries will accept dependence on Britain and the United States for supplies, or whether they will try to build their own plants, alone or collectively. The opportunities for design to go wrong are vast. Doggedness alone will not get one of these uranium plants to work. To open their doors and explain why these plants are likely to be so enormously intricate and expensive for small powers to operate might be one of the best safeguards the world has against the attempted spread of nuclear weapons.

The real difficulty, whether the engineers like to admit it or not, is that no way has been discovered of finding out whether a plant, onceoperating, is operating successfully. The engineers themselves just have to wait to see if the right stuff comes out at the end. There is no way of measuring the really vital thing that they want to measure, namely whether the two forms of uranium. are separating the way they are intended to separate; the lighter kind (the uranium 235 that fissions almost spontaneously) going one way, and the heavier kind (uranium 238 that fissions only with the greatest difficulty) going the other. And the enormous size of the separation plants makes this a real embarrassment. The very smallest that it is possible to build (like the British plant at Capenhurst, or the French one at Pierrelatte) cover 40

acres; the three-quarter mile long factory at Capenhurst, houses long, continuous process running from end to end and coiling around a bit in the middle as well. There are thousands of moving parts; there are hundreds of miles of pipe; the whole huge network operates in a vacuum alternately filled and emptied of turbulent, corrosive gas, while it drums and throbs and mutely vibrates under the power of the compressors driving the gas and the eddies and sometimes violent surges set up inside the pipes and cylinders. It takes, as shown in the photograph, eleven cooling towers to remove the heat set up inside a "small" plant like Capenhurst, and a power station capable of serving a large city to drive it. But it is operated by guess, and so is every separation

When something goes wrong, the cost is measured in hundreds of millions of pounds. Something has gone very wrong in France, where a plant of the size of Capenhurst threatens to cost nearly £400 million to complete; Capenhurst cost around £50 million. One possible explanation is that the British worked with the Americans on some aspects of the design of these plants in the very early wartime days of the first atom bomb. Even though no British scientist has ever actually set foot in one of the Americans' plants nor they in ours, or the French some obvious non-starters got eliminated. The French have been obliged to work entirely alone; some of their components, like compressors, are probably not as efficient as they ought to be, and they are suspected of having made at least one expensive wrong start.

The textbooks make the actual separating operation sound simple. In a gas, they say, light atoms will diffuse rather faster through a porous substance than heavy atoms will This offers an obvious way of separating two forms of uranium, which are chemically identical but marginally different in weight. Turn the uranium into a gas-which is easy; it reacts when it is heated up

(Continued on page 4)

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BUSINESS & INDUSTRY

RISING DEMAND FOR FURNITURE

Unlike other traders, many of which face declining demand as more and more factory-made goods reach the market the carpentry industry has boosted its sales in the past 10 years. One of the main reasons for this is that good quality wood is now easily available.

The carpenters primarily use four types of wood most of which are purchased from the forests in eastern regions of the country. Both soft and hardwoods are used for furniture! The softwood is usually pine (archa). Three varieties of hardwood are used-mahogany, mulberry and walnut. The most precious and expensive of these is the mahogany which is rare and is only grown in the Pakthia forests. It is not available in Kabul lumber yards but can be bought by special order.

Nomade and gypsies bring this wood to the city and sell it to the shopkeepers.

Smoking Habit In **EEC Countries**

BY THEO BASS

As a rule smokers hardly trouble their heads over the warnings on the dangers of smoking to their health which internationally recognised medical bodies have issued repeatedly in the last few years. They do tend to be more particular about what they smoke but they are not in the least prepared to smoke less. This is especially true of the European smokers, who, as appears from a survey carried out by the Banque Francaise, is a consumer with highly promising prospects for

the supplier.
During the last few years, European smoking habits have undoubtedly undergone a transformation. The rising standard of living in the countries of the European Economic Community, together with the steadily growing number of woman smokers. has led to an increase in the consumption of cigarettes, in particular. Special preference has been shown for light cigarettes of "American" taste with filter tips. At present this type, reckoned as being more healthy than the plain-tipped type, accounts for not more than 48 % of sales in the EEC, but before long the trend may follow the example of Britain (58 %) and the USA (62 %). Hand in hand with increasing prosperity, sales of cigars and cigarillos are also increasing in the Common Market whereas sales of pipe tobacco, chewing tobacco and snuff, and paper and tobacco for rolling one's own cigarettes, are slightly decreasing. (Continued on page 4)

Karkar, Eshpushta Supply 400 Tons Coal Daily

BAGHLAN, Dec. 20, (Bakhtar).- About 466 tons of coal is mined daily from the Karkar and Eshpushta coal mines. From 1954, prospecting started more than eight million tons of coal have been obtained from the

Ghulam Maider Sarwari, acting president of the Karkar and Eshpushta mines, in disclosing this said that 1,200 workers are employed daily on a three shift basis. The coal is used by the Sugar Factory in Baghlan, Ja-bul Seraj, Gulbahar and Pule Khumri textiles mills and for the asphalting projects in northern Afghanistan, he added.

By Our Own Reporter

The slabs are five to seven centiis two and a half metres. The price of one piece is 400 afghanis.

Walnut and mulberry grow in Istalif and Paghman as well as Pakhtia so there is no transportation problem. Mulberry wood is the most abundant and also the cheapest. Pine is available under several names in lumber markets. Different varieties are called jalgoza, gola and

Good quality furniture depends mainly on how wood is dried. Since there are no kilns in which to dry the wood most of it is seasoned in summer. This is not done systematically. The lumber is cut and then seasoned for a few days. The shopkeepers argue if seasoned wood could be purchased they would be able to produce more durable furniture. Another problem which drying has posed is that the carpenters are unable to use much hardwood because if not properly dried it becomes warped or cracked. Most of the hardwood is used for the framework for cushions and legs of chairs. One sheet of hardwood is often used

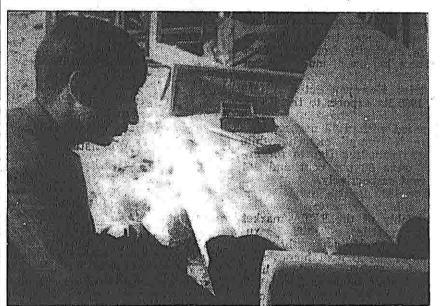
for the surface of furniture such as cupboards and desks. Originally such sheets were cut into thin slabs metres thick and the average length of about five m.m. by men skilled in the use of the hand saw. Now it is usually done in the mills, by power saw.

Hajî Abdul Ghafoor who opened a shop in Deh Mazang 10 years ago believes that during the last few years the demand for modern furniture has grown tremendously. More and more people are now ordering furniture. They believe it is a necessity for their homes.

Carpenters are often upholsterers, too. The time needed to make a set of cushions differs according to the quality and the type of order. The best ones, Ghaffor thinks take about 10 days to finish.

Abdul Ghafoor has been a carpenter for the last 35 years and he now has five apprentices working in his shop. He thinks, that if the work is properly supervised, more work can be done effectively.

He estimates that there are about 100 carpenters who make furniture in different parts of the city, while 25 years ago there were only a few



The young carpenter covers a sofa in his workshop next to his sales room.

THE EUROPEAN FREE TRADE ASSOCIATION

On 31st December the progress organisation. The Convention essince its inception will be crowned by the removal of almost all the remaining tariffs and quotas on industrial goods traded between its member countries. (Finland and Portugal are following slower time-tables in respect of certain designated items.) During the following months a number of special events are being organised in the eight nations to celebrate this landmark in creating an industrial free trade area of nearly 100 million people.

CONSTITUTION, AIMS

EFTA was established seven years ago, in January 1960. It has seven members-Austria, Denmark, Portugal, Sweden; Switzerland and the United Kingdom. Finland is an associate under a separate agreement concluded in 1961. Essentially EFTA is an industrial free trade area; i.e., an arrangement whereby a group of countries creates a single market through the abolition of tariffs and all other restrictions on the flow of industrial goods between its members while leaving them free to follow their separate commercial policies with non-mem-

An outstanding feature of the Association is the simplicity of its

made by EFTA in the seven years tablishing EFTA was drafted in broad terms. It defines EFTA's aims as economic expansion, fair and competitive conditions for trade within the Association, and contributions to the harmonious growth of world trade and the progressive removal of barriers to it. To supervise the operation of the Association, it created only one organ, the Council, essentially a forum in which the member Governments consult and act together, continuously at official meetings of Ministers.The Council has wide powers, and may take decisions binding on member states; except where specially provided however (mainly in the machinery for dealing with disputes) these decisions must be unanimous. The Council has established several subsidiary committees and subsidiary organs, such as the Economic Development Committee, each with clearly specified aims.

ELIMINATING TRADE BARRIERS

The Stockholm Convention provided for the gradual reduction and elimination of quotas and tariffs on trade in all goods save a limited and defined list of agricultural and fishery products and laid down a limited (Continued on page 4)

USSR Expects Increased Revenues In 1967

Following is a report made by Soviet Minister of Finance, Vasili Garbuzov, on the 1967 Soviet budget to the session of the USSR Supreme Soviet last week and reported by APN.

For 1967 revenues are planned at over 110,000 million roubles or 3,100 million roubles more than expected in 1966.

Expenditures were put at 109,900 million or 3,200 million more than in 1966. Revenues exceed expenditures by 200 million roubles.

Proceeding from the planned wage bill, taxes on the population must make-9,000 million roubles or 8 per cent of revenues.

Thus, over 100,000 million roubles or 91 per cent of revenues will come from the incomes of the socialist economy.

A lion's share of expenditure will go to finance next year's big economic programme. Expenditures on the national economy grow by over 4,000 million roubles to reach 86,500 million roubles, including the

own means of enterprises. It is also indicative that budgetary expenditures on the people's social and cultural requirements are substantially increasing with every year. In the new budget they will make 39 per cent of the total expenditures. Almost 43,000 million or 5.2 per cent more than in 1966 are allocated on education, science, culture, health service, social maintenance and insurance. Besides, state enterprises and collective farms will spend another 5,000 million on these purposes. Consequently, the public consumption funds will exceed 48.000 million roubles next year.

The public consumption funds are a distinctive form of distribution typical of socialism. Through these funds the Soviet state provides the people with free health service, education and numerous cultural services, ensures low rents, gives people free or reduced-price accommodation in sanatoria and holiday homes, pensions, study grants, etc.

In 1965 payments and benefits from the above funds made a 35 per cent addition to average wages as against 28 per cent in 1955.

In 1966 every person employed in the Soviet national economy received an average of 400 roubles in payments and benefits from public consumption funds. In 1967 this figure will grow even more. Most of the new budget will be spent on economic and social requirements.

Soviet leaders have repeatedly said that they would like to spend means only on peaceful needs and raising living standards. However, not everything depends on the USSR which cannot but take into account the international situation which has worsened recently. The Soviet Union had to take the necessary measures for the further enhancing of its defence potential and increased defence allocations by 1,100 million as compared with the current year, Garbuzov said. The 1967 budget envisages 14,500 million roubles for the Soviet armed forces, or 13.2 per cent of the total expendi-

However, even these increased defence allocations have but one-third of the sum earmarked on social requirements and by 1,500 million less than allocations for state social insurance and maintenance.

The budget provides for econqmic, cultural and other aid to foreign states in accordance with inter-government agreements.

Afghanistan's Econ Development

The following is the third part of survey of the economic development of Afghanistan between 1929-61 by Amalendu Guha, head of the Department of Economics, Darung College, Tezpur, Assam, India: The survey was recently published in the form of a pamphlet in Delhi.

In the absence of any population census or scientific sample surveys, the official population estimate of 13.8 million for 1961 is not necessarily acceptable. But whatever be the population, its expected rate of growth under poor conditions of public health and medical services, over the three consecutive decades since 1929, could at best be annually 1, 1.25 and 1.50 per cent respectively. At these rates the present size of population is roughly one-and-a-half times that in 1929. Did the total physical output and the material means of production increase at a faster rate than this during the same period?

Gultivated Land

Cultivated land-the major means of production-apparently increased at least threefold, if not more. Most of this expansion, however, took place before the Plan. The total cultivated area, estimated at less than I million hectares in 1924-7 by Vavilov and Bukinich, is now officially estimated at 7.8 million including 2.5 million hectares of dry lands. Even allowing for a wide margin of underestimation or overestimation in these figures, the fact of extension of cultivation cannot be denied. The share of irrigated lands in total cultivation also increased from less than 50 per cent before 1929 to more than 65 per cent in recent years. This implies an increase in average productivity because the yield from irrigated farming is generally 1½ to 2½ times that of dry lands.

Over the First Plan period alone, 60,000 hectares in the Helmand Valley and 1,600 hectares in the province of Kabul near Kargha dam were reclaimed irrigation. As about 50 to 60 per cent and 30 to 35 per cent of all irrigated and dry lands respectively are annually put under cultivation, the total sown areas in 1961 amounted to 4 million hectares.

The tendency of nomads to invest their money in developing land in southern and eastern Afghanistan as noted by Robinson in the early thirties, of sale of waste lands continued and the progressive settlement of landless peasants in the reclaimed areas of North Afghanistan and the Helmand Valley as a result of increasing irrigation both on

public and private initiative,-all corners of the agricultural sector. these indicate that a minimum threefold increase of the total cultivated area over 1929 is not at all an unlikely possibility.

Total crops production also must have increased at least at the same rate, if not more, as a result of increased share of irrigated farming in total cultivation. As primitive techniques of agriculture, in general, remained unchanged, there was no perceptible progress in per hectare productivity. But in this field too, a handful of pioneer farmers appeared here and there, whose successful farming coupled with the examples set by state experimental stations and farms was slowly disseminating new techniques. Such trends were also observed in horticulture and sericulture.

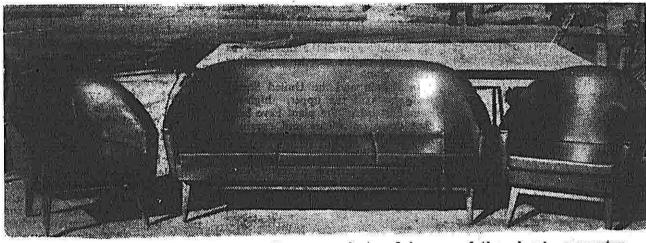
Even in the case of wheat and other cereals increased productivity was observed in recent years. For example, while the acreage under wheat increased by some 30,000 hectares during the First Plan, the annual production of wheat increased by 79,000 metric tons which implied a rising marginal productivity as against the erstwhile average of slightly more than one ton per hectare. If export figures are good indicators, the average fruit production also appears to have increased to more than 1½ times, at the least, over the thirties. Marketed cotton production increased more than sevenfold from 8,000 tons in 1936-7 to 60,000 tons in recent normal years. Cultivation of sugarcane increased from a low 160 hectares in 1940 to 1,800 hectares by the end of the First Plan period, thus recording more than an elevenfold

Agriculture Production Agricultural production did not only increase, as shown above, at a faster rate than population during the period, but it also underwent some structural changes. Some commercial crops such as long staple cotton, beet and virginia tobacco introduced during the period are now firmly established in the economy; and sugarcane is fast becoming popular in the Jalalabad oasis. If the land under cotton and beet failed to increase at a desirable rate, it was not so much because of the farmers' conservatism as because of competition from wheat, which had become more profitable as a cash crop. Thus much

Throughout the whole period, the process of de-tribalisation progressed steadily. The creation of saleable property rights in land, expansion of irrigation opportunities, the government's active encouragement-monetary and otherwise-to landless nomads to settle down or to restrict nomadism within the bounds of Afghanistan. More frequent cultural contacts with other national groups within the country as a result of improved transport and nation-wide labour conscription played no small role in de-tribalising the society. Families migrating to and settling down in new areas by the hundred were bound to lose their clan-ties and lovalties in due course. New types of individualistic families took shape in the urban centres and industrial and construction sites. As a cumulative effect of all these factors, the estimated nomad population remained static roughly at two million only in recent years as against an overall increasing population. It now forms some one-fifth to one-sixth of the nation whereas, according to Vavilov and Bukinich, it constituted an estimated one-third in 1924-7.

Karakul Sheep

Compared with other sectors of agricultural production, karakul and wool did not record any steady overall progress. The number of kara-kul sheep had increased from less than 3 million in the early thirties to at least 6 million by the end of the Second World War. But thereafter the number heavily decreased as a result of repeated epidemics, fodder shortage and fall in demand for karakul abroad. The estimated number in 1961 was only 5.3 million. In the same way, despite some improvement in recent years, there are reasons to believe that wool production has remained almost the same as the pre-war average. The export of nearly 10,000 tons of wool in 1940-1 remains the record figure till date, the highest figure for recent years being only 7,000 tons. Taking 1936-7 as the base year, quantum indices of karakul and wool exports for 1958-9 were 118 and 100 only. This relative stagnation in pastoral production and the continuous encroachment of farmers on pasture lands were signs of declining importance of nomadism as a way of life. Agriculture was undergoing a significant structural change in so far as fullfledged nomadism was rapidly adapting itself to mixed farming, which alone could ensure an increased per hectare and per beast productivity in



of even a food crop like wheat be-

gan to be produced for the market.

With ever-increasing supply of

money and expanding transport faci-

lities, the market economy spread

its tentacles even to the remotest

A three-piece set of living room furniture, manufactured in one of the local carpentry shops awaits a buyer.

Price Stability: US Concern In 1966

After several years of rapid economic growth, the United States early in 1966 found itself faced with what appeared to be too much of a good thing.

From the second quarter of 1965 to the first quarter of 1966, real gross national product—the total output of the economy-surged ahead at an annual rate of 7.2 per cent. Since the speed-up was accompanied by upward pressures on prices, continuing inflationary pressures became the dominant concern of economic policy.

As 1966 drew to a close, officials were estimating that gross national product for the year would come to about \$640,000 million representing a 5.6 per cent increase in the physical volume of output and 2.9 per cent increase in the over-all price level over 1965. Most economic indication seemed to point to a slower, more sustainable rate of growth for 1967.

Increased government spending in connection with the Vietnam conflict was one factor in the spurt of rapid growth that continued in early 1966, From the first quarter of 1965 the third quarter of 1966, government purchases for defence rose by 27 percent.

However, the pickup-in defence spending came on top of a continuing and rapid rise in business spending for new plant and equipment. After rising from \$39,220 million in 1963 to \$51,960 million in 1965, business outlays for plant and equipment scored another 17 per cent gain in 1966.

The seasonally adjusted unemployment rate dipped below four per cent in the second month of 1966 and remained there throughout most of the remainder of the year-the first line the U.S. unem-

ployment rate averaged less than moving a 7 per cent tax credit and four per cent for an entire year since 1953.

Manpower shortages appeared in some areas, particularly in skilled jobs in capital goods industries.

At the same time, farm prices were rising steeply for other reasons, including an early freeze and a drought in 1965. Between September 1965 and September 1966. consumer prices rose 3.5 per cent.

Early in 1966 President Johnson decided on a moderate tax course. Instead of a general increase in income tax rates to syphon off excess demand. He asked Congress for a number of less drastic measures, most of which temporarily speeded up tax collections without

increasing the rates. Combined with an increase social insurance taxes that went into effect at the beginning of 1966, these measures drew about 10,000 million of purchasing power out of economy during the year.

The rapidly rising demand for loans for business expansion caused strong competition for the funds available for lending interest rates moved up to the highest levels the United States had experienced 40 years.

The higher interest rates and tighter monetary policy at first seemed to have little effect on business spending for plant and equipment, but they did cause an immediate and drastic slump in the housing industry. Housing starts fell from an annual rate of \$1,700 million in December 1965 to an estimated \$800 million in October 1966. But labour, idled in the housing industry, was rapidly absorbed elsewhere.

Late in 1966 the U.S. government had a further restraint on the rate of business expansion by

a special depreciation rule for building that had been applied in 1932 to encourage business invest-

By December, the policies and factors working for restraint appeared to be taking hold. Automobile sales—an important factor in U.S. economic growth in recent yearslagged behind the previous years levels during most of 1966. Sales of some other types of consumer goods were showing signs of slower growth rates. Interest rates began to drift

down from their peak highs. Analysts attached particular, importance to a survey late in 1966 showing that businessmen were planning to increase their investments by only five per cent in 1967. The increase in 1966 was 17 per cent.

Wholesale prices for commodities other than farm products and processed foods-stopped rising in July and remained stalled for the rest of the year, giving further cause to hope that the pressure on prices was beginning to ease.

One of the unanswered questions at year's end was the effect 1967 wage settlements would have on prices.

Administration spokesmen continued to urge wage and price restraint.

(US SOURCES)

D'Afghanistan Bank Free Exchange Rates At

KABUL, Dec. 20,-The following are the exchange rate at the D'Afghanistan Bank expressed in afghanis per unit of foreign currency:

Buying Af. 74.95 (per US dollar) Af. 75.45 Af. 208.86 (per Pound Sterling)

workers are the maintenance engi-

Surface

Af. 11 (\$.15)

Lightning Kills 14 Lesothans

MASERU, Lesotho, Dec. 20 (Reuter).—Fourteen people were killed when lightning struck a small village near here Saturday night while a feast was in progress.

Prime Minister Chief Leabua Jonathan and several ministers and senior civil seryants rushed to the village, Khamolane, when they learned of the tragedy.

Two Americans On Trial In Leningrad Court

LENINGRAD, Dec. 20. (Tass). -Four witnesses were called in the public trial of U.S. citizens Wortham and Gilmour, which opened here.

Buel Ray Wortham and Craddock Matheur Gilmour are charged with violating Soviet currency regulations while staying in the Soviet Union as tourists late in September. Besides, Wortham is charged with stealing a sculpture from the Leningrad hotel Evro-Witness testimony conpeisakya. firmed their guilt.

By the Soviet laws, crimes committed by Wortham and Gilmour, carry prison sentences with the confiscation of foreign currency and securities.

Wortham said during questioning that he had dollars and Finnish marks at a black market price hiding with the currency dealer in a public toilet of a setore. "I realised of course, that such methods of currency exchange were unlawful," he replied to a question by the state pro-

During their tourist trip in the USSR the two Americans unlawfully exchanged foreign currency for roubles.

WEATHER FORECAST Skies through the country will be partly cloudy.. Central and northern regions will have frost.

The minimum temperature will be minus seven degrees and the maximum will be 11 degrees centigrade.

AT THE CINEMA ARIANA CINEMA

At 1, 3, 7:30 and 9:30 p.m. Russian film with English transla-

ACTRESS PARK CINEMA: At 1, 3, 8 and 10 p.m.

Iranian film. THE STAR OF DESERT BEHZAD CINEMA

At 12 noon, 2:30. p.m. Indian film. BOMBAY KA BABU KABUL CINEMA

At 1, 3, 7:30 and 9:30 p.m. French colour film. CHOPLIN OF X NO. 18

(Contd. from page 2) and compressed a little with fluorine. Let half that gas diffuse through a porous barrier and it will have more light (i.e. uranium 235) atoms in it than the other half remaining on the other side: repeat until all the uranium has been separated. The snag is the same as in Mrs. Beeton's apocryphal recipe for

the hare. First, catch it. The uranium turns into a gas all right, but one so corrosive that it attacks everything within sight; and the favourite material for constructing the separation plants is inchthick aluminium plate of nickelplated steel (the Americans also use gold plate, but British and French scientists are perplexed to think quite where-or why). It also attacks and corrodes most of the obvious materials for making the porous barrier and clogs up the holes (which, as they are only about a millionth of a centimetre in diamefer anyway, are all too easy to clog). Probably the most difficult choice in the whole design is to find something to make this barrier from: something that would contain the right size of hole, and stand up to corrosion, and still be strong enough to hold against some fairly formidable battering from gas under pressure on one side, and a vacuum into which the gas was diffusing on the other. The Americans have been more forthcoming about these barriers than either the British or the French; they admit to using tubes of powdered nickel into which the gas is pumped under pressure and allowed to filter out through the walls. In the early days of research, the British fell back on the etching techniques used by printers to etch out the holes in their fil-

These are the basic ingredients of separating uranium-a gas, a cylinder fitted with porous barriers, a compressor to force the gas against one side of the barrier, a vacuum pump to keep contaminating air out of the system. They can all be built and assembled in a laboratory. But when one tries to translate them into a full-scale plant, one collides with the nature of uranium itself. It hasn't got 50 per cent, or 40 per cent, or even 25 per cent of the light uranium 235; it has considerably less than one per cent. To start from as little as this, and end up with the nearly 100 per cent uranium 235 that the bombs require, involves at least 4,000 filtering stages, each with its associated compressor and vacuum pumps, all linked in one long, continuously operating, hot vibrating cascade. Huge quantities of gas have to be processed for a tiny yield; the plant scales down from pipes towering 20 feet high to units diminishing off in the distance to shoe-box size. The few people who have visited t all describe the sensation of apparatus dwindling into the distance as eerie, and unlike that in any other known plant.

In Britain and the United States, these units at the upper, high-enrichment end of the plant have been shut down on a care and mainte-

nance basis, blanketed in nitrogen,

The Christmas Pageant

with camels and other live animals will be held in the garden of the Community Christian Church Thursday, Friday and Saturday nights December 22, 23, and 24 at 7:30 p.m. Kindly dress warmly since the presentation is outside and takes 23 minutes.

HAMIDZADAH AND MATTIN STORES



We have everything CHRISTMAS SHOPPING

Reason For Non-Proliferation their light switched off. Their only

neers doing their occasional rounds. For Britain's and America's inventories of weapons are full. Only towering, low-enrichment ends of their plants are working, and in Britain being substantially rebuilt, to produce very mildly enriched power station fuel with between two and three times the normal concentration of uranium 235. But in France and China (one cannot guess what is happening inside the Soviet Union) the high-enrichment plants are working at out on warheads and fuel for nuclear submarines. The French will have no margin of capicity to make civil atomic fuel unless extra stages are built at Pierrelatte; and the £400 million bill for what is going up now may make even General 'de Gaulle consider that a bit expensive. The puzzle remains how the Chinese mastered the art-for it is an art-of building their separation plant. The late head of the Indian Atomic Energy Commission, Dr. Bhabha, used to argue privately that the Chinese had only half a plant. He suspectted that they were feeding it with enriched uranium fuel provided by Russia years ago for research reactors given to China; so that half the job had already been done for the Chinese in advance, and they did not have the problem of getting a

(ECONOMIST)

Smoking Habit

4,000-stage installation to work with-

out benefit of instrumentation. But

if that gift from long ago is the

Chinese governments only source of

enriched uranium, it is blasting

through it at a pretty prodigal rate

of testing.

(Co-tinued from page 3) According to the Banque Franquaise's study prospects for Eurepean cigarette manufacturers are particularly good because the citizens of the Community are still comparatively moderate smokers. Western Germany, with an annual consumption of some 1,500 cigarettes per adult, is undeniably the heaviest-smoking country of the Six, but nevertheless it is far behind the USA and Switzerland (each over 3,000 and even behind Britain, Poland, Australia Japan and Hungary (over

However, the Community's tobacco-growers, who are mainly to be found in Italy (Apulia and Campania) and in France, will not profit much from the expected rise in consumption. Of all the tobacco sold in the EEC in 1964 only 23 % was home-produced; 267,000 metric of unmanufactured the low consumption of indigenous tobacco in I cost of production, which is almost twice as much as in the overseas tobacco-growing regions. Cultivation is extremely difficult, and requires the constant employment of many workers. A further problem is the producers' custom of satisfying the current taste of the public by preparing complicated blends of tobacco of the most widely different origin.

Besides becoming steadily more modern, the European tobaccomanufacturing industry becoming concentrated. For instance, in Western Germany, where there were 2,500 cigar manufac-turers in 1948, 19 firms now account for 70 % of the country's entire production .Conditions are much the same in the cigarette industry: there, 17 manufacturers are responsible for 97 % of pro-

Dismantling of customs frontiers and the general integration of the EEC are undoubtedly also helping intra-Community tobacco trade. To be sure, special conditions might be said to apply, owing to the fact that in France and Italy tobacco is a government monopoly. In contrast to the other countries of the Community, the cultivation, manufacture and sale of tobacco there are in the hands of the state.

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(Continued from page 3) time-table for this elimination. In fact these barriers have been removed much more quickly. A 50 per cent reduction in tariffs was achieved in two years and four months instead of four and a half years, and at the Ministerial Meeting of the Council at Lisbon in May 1963 a final time-table was established for the complete dismantling of tariffs and quotas at the end of this year, three years earlier than originally envisaged. Following the 10 per cent reductions at the end of 1964 and 1965 of the pre-EFTA tariffs levels the final cut of 200 per cent takes place on 31st December 1966. Four EFTA countries-Norway, Sweden, Switzerland and Britainalready have virtually no quantitative restrictions on imports of industrial goods from other member countries. GROWTH OF TRADE

Without doubt the agreement has been the major factor in the impressive growth of trade between the member countries. Imports into EFTA from other member countries about doubled in value between 1959 and 1965from \$3,662 million to \$7,174 million, an increase of 69 per cent with an annual average increase of about 12 per cent, During 1966 trade has continued to expand, intra-EFTA imports in the first half of the year rising by 91 per cent over the corresponding periods

Britain accounts for under 30 per cent of intra-EFTA trade. Its general overseas trading pattern differs markedly from the other members in much higher non-European with proportion countries. However, between 1959 and 1965 its exports to the EFTA countries rose by 72 per cent, compared with a 42 per cent increase in overall exports, while the corresponding figures for imports were 66 per cent and 441 per cent respectively.

Since 1960 British industry has been able to increase its share appreciably of the EFTA market for cars, textiles, scientific instruments, chemicals and other products. In the British home market other EFTA members have likewise improved their relative position in textiles, clothing, cars and chemicals and in certain type in machinery. Intra-EFTA trade in agricultural products, which for the most part lies outside the Convention, has benefited from certain bilateral arrangements, the main one being bet-ween Britain and Denmark. The rate of increase since 1961 has been broadly in line with the growth of trade as a whole.
ECONOMIC UNITY IN EUROPE

One of EFTA's original aims is pean market, and the meetings of its Council of Ministers repeatedly reaffirmed this objective. The removal of trade restrictions inside EFTA has more than kept pace with the tariff cuts in the EEC, thus enabling EFTA to go ahead without difficulty in any future process of unification. (Austria's negotiations for association with the EEC are now at a relatively advanced stage.) The whole issue of a fresh approach to an individual European ecostructure much under consideration at present. Meanwhile, the inauguration of EFTA's own free trade area demonstrates smoothly apparently formidable obstacles may be overcome. (FACTEL)

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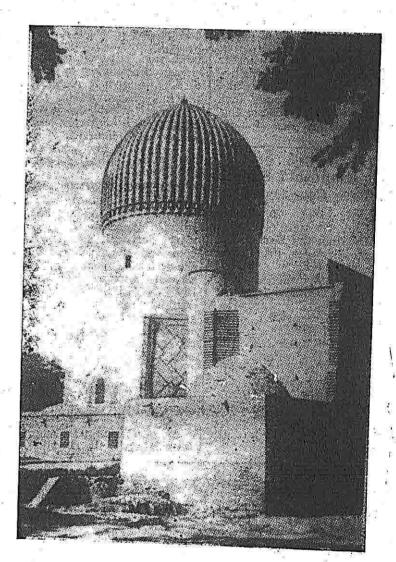
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