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Bakhtar News Agency

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# THE KABUL TIMES

FOR SHEER  
DELIGHT



VOL. VII, NO. 10

KABUL, TUESDAY, APRIL 2, 1968 (HAMAL 13, 1347 S.H.)

PRICE AF. 4

## Accommodation For 5000 Provided On Farm No. 3 In Nangarhar Valley

JALALABAD, April 2, (Bakhtar).—The Nangarhar valley development farm No. 3 has been equipped with all necessary facilities. The farm, 50 km. west of Jalalabad city covers 7500 acres of land and is irrigated from canal no. 21. The town in the farm has been constructed on modern lines and residential quarters for 5,000 people has been provided. A hospital, a school, three hotels, a restaurant, a public bath, a club, a silo, a dairy farm, food conservatory, are some of the buildings which have been completed in farm No. 3.

There are 66 one storey residential quarters, and several two storey buildings which will house two families and four families respectively, Sardar Mohammad the director of the farm said. The 25 bed hospital has x-ray, lab, interior, surgery, maternity and infectious diseases departments.

## Senate Debates Development Budget

KABUL, April 2, (Bakhtar).—The International and Foreign Relations, the Financial and Budgetary Affairs Committees of the Senate in their meetings yesterday discussed matters related to them. The anti-slavery law was discussed in the International and Foreign Relations committee which was presided over by Senator Abdul Hadi Dawee, the president of the Senate. The anti-slavery law has been approved by the House of Representatives. The development budget for the current Afghan year which started on March 21 was discussed by the financial and budgetary affairs committee. Senator Mir Abdul Maqoul presided.

## Extremists Maul Traditional Belgian Parties

BRUSSELS, April 2, (Reuter).—Belgium appeared on the verge of splitting into a federal state yesterday after Flemish and French extremists badly mauled the traditional parties in Sunday's general elections. The Flemish nationalist Volksunie gained eight seats for a total of 20 in the 212 seat lower chamber while the French nationalists picked up seven new seats to give them 12 representatives, according to incomplete official returns. The big loser was outgoing Prime Minister Paul Vanden Boeynants' Social Christian (Catholic) party which is thought to have lost between eight and ten of its 77 seats. Leading political figures including senate President Paul Struyve, a close aide of Vanden Boeynants, and Volksunie President Frans Van Der Elst predicted that formation of a new government would be more difficult than ever. Vanden Boeynants' government fell on February 7 when eight Flemish-speaking ministers resigned in a dispute over the future of the French speaking sections of 500 year old Louvain university. The subsequent election was fought almost entirely on the language issue—the future of relations between five million Dutch-speaking Flemish in the north and three million French-speaking Walloons in the south.

## Sen. Fulbright Impressed By LBJ's Decision

WASHINGTON, April 2, (AFP).—Senator J. William Fulbright of Arkansas, a noted critic of U.S. Vietnam policy, said yesterday President Johnson's decision not to stand for the presidency could mean he is "seeking peace." "I don't think anyone is more surprised or taken aback than I was by the announcement." The Republican leader of the House of Representatives, Gerald Ford, said Johnson's withdrawal would lead to a series of Democrat candidates offering themselves for the presidency. Democrat Senator Albert Gore of Tennessee, an opponent of Johnson's Vietnam policy in the past, said, "This is the greatest contribution President Johnson could have made towards unity."

## Royal Audience

KABUL, April 2, (Bakhtar).—The following were received in audience by His Majesty during the past week prior to His Majesty's departure for Europe:

The Chief Justice of the Supreme Court: Dr. Abdul Hakim Ziaee; the President of the House of Representatives Dr. Abdul Zaher; the Minister of National Defence General Khan Mohammad; the Minister of Finance Mohammad Anwar Ziaee; the Minister of Justice Professor Mohammad Asghar; the Minister of Planning Dr. Abdul Samad Hamed; the Minister of Agriculture and Irrigation Engineer Mir Mohammad Akbar Reza; the Commander of the Air Force Lt. General Abdul Razaq; the Governor and the President of the Pakhtia development project Lt. General Mohammad Azim; the Governor of Herat Mohammad Siddiq; the personnel inspection department President in National Defence Ministry Lt. General Abdul Karim Seraj; the President of the Military Tribunal in the Military Academy Colonel Nasrullah; the Commander of the Work Corps Lt. Khwazak; the President of Mines and Geology in the Ministry of Mines and Industries Eng. Mir Mohammad Hashim Mirzad; and Dr. Abdul Bashir a graduate in medicine from the Marburg University of the German Federal Republic.

His Majesty also received Salahuddin Qonsuwa, the United Arab Republic Ambassador in Kabul whose term of office has ended.

## Security Council Adjourns Mideast Meeting For Tonight

UNITED NATIONS, April 2, (DPA).—The UN Security Council which resumed its Mideast debate Monday postponed its meeting for tonight.

Soviet UN delegate Jakob Malik took over the chair at the opening of the Monday session. He will preside over the body through April according to the Security Council's system of rotating chairmen.

Israeli UN ambassador Josef Tsekoah opened the debate with a new complaint about alleged Jordanian

violations of the ceasefire. Jordan's delegate Mohammed El-Farra rejected UN Secretary General U Thant and the U.S. proposal to send United Nations observers to the Israeli-Jordanian border as mediators.

The Security Council first had to adopt sanctions against Israel, since there was too much importance attached to observers and too little done to end Israeli aggression, the Jordanian ambassador said.

He reiterated the complaint that the Security Council despite advance warning-Jordan had announced an Israeli aggression a few days before the March 21 Israeli assault into Jordanian territory had not responded by taking immediate action.

Some of the Security Council members had actually shown "indifference," ambassador El-Farra charged.

Meanwhile, the Israeli security forces Monday detained and screened the entire male population of the Hebron quarter on the eastern bank of the Jordan river to find the Arabs who ambushed two border policemen in the old market place.

One of the Israeli policemen was killed and the other, wounded in the ambush.

## Humphrey Regrets Johnson's Decision;

## Too Soon To Judge, ays Richard Nixon

NEW YORK, April 2, (Reuter).—Former Vice-President Richard M. Nixon, who now has a clear field for the Republican nomination, said he would not prejudge Johnson's motives. But he added he thought the President had come to his decision when Senator Kennedy announced he was entering the race. Asked if he thought Governor Nelson Rockefeller might now enter the contest against him, Nixon said: "This is changeable year and he is apparently a changeable man."

Vice-President Hubert H. Humphrey, now in Mexico City to sign a Latin American nuclear arms ban treaty, said he deeply regretted Johnson's decision but it came as no surprise to him. Humphrey is himself a possible candidate for president now.

Senator William Fulbright, outspoken critic of the administration's Vietnam policies, said he was staggered by Johnson's decision. But he added that the President's withdrawal from politics "adds credence" to his offer to negotiate an end to the war.

If the North Vietnamese refused to seek a settlement now they would be foolish, he said. "I don't believe they are so foolish," he added.

Governor Ronald Reagan of California, his state's "favourite son" for the Republican nomination, said it was too early to try to evaluate the president's announcement might mean politically.

## Asians Like To Live Under Govts. Of Their Choice: Rusk

WELLINGTON, April 2, (Reuter).—"Successful communist aggression in Southeast Asia would have consequences which would not be confined to Asia alone," U.S. Secretary of State, Dean Rusk, declared at the opening of the SEATO ministerial meeting here today.

"Every government in East Asia and the Western Pacific understands the stakes in this struggle," Rusk told SEATO delegates in a speech at the opening ceremony.

Most Asian nations desired only to preserve their independence and make economic and social progress in their own ways under governments of their own choice, Rusk stated.

"Successful aggression in Southeast Asia would have consequences not confined to Asia," he said.

Rusk said the United Nations had been unable to function as effectively as had been hoped when it was founded.

Consequently it is necessary to organise defensive alliances in

conformity with the provisions of the UN charter.

The Secretary of State added: "It is of the utmost importance that both our friends and our adversaries—actual or potential—know beyond question that these mutual security treaties mean what they say and that the nations which sign them have both the means and the will to make good on their pledges."

The military advisers of the South East Asia Treaty Organization Monday emphasised the

## Kennedy Praises Johnson's Move, Offers To Meet Him

NEW YORK, April 2, (Reuter).—Senator Kennedy said yesterday he had cabled President Johnson offering to meet with him to discuss future plans.

He said the cable praised Johnson's decision not to run for reelection as a move which "subordinates self to country."

Announcing this at a press conference, the Democratic Senator for New York now thought to be the front runner in the race for the party's presidential nomination—said he hoped President Johnson's curtailment of bombing of North Vietnam "will prove to be a step towards peace."

He was accompanied to the press conference by his wife Ethel and Theodore Sorensen, his top adviser and one of the leading aides of his late brother, President John F. Kennedy.

Kennedy said of his recent jet-set tours around the U.S., "wherever I went I found Americans of all convictions deeply desirous of peace in Vietnam and desirous of reconciliation at home."

He said the 1968 presidential campaign was going to determine the direction of the U.S. in the 1970's and for the next generation "and I have some ideas on this."

The U.S. needed an end to violence and lawlessness currently afflicting it, examining its relationships with developing countries and decide what to do about the question of nuclear weapons.

Answering questions, Kennedy said he took the president at his word that he was not going to run, and praised the "courage and generosity" of that decision.

(Continued on page 4)

## McCarthy Plan Unaffected By LBJ's Decision

MILWAUKEE, Wisconsin, April 2, (Reuter).—President Johnson's stunning withdrawal from this year's White House race left his Vietnam war critics Senators Eugene McCarthy and Robert Kennedy joking for position as the only remaining Democratic candidates.

Senator McCarthy, after recovering from the initial shock of the President's announcement, emphasised he would "continue the course upon which I have set myself."

The 52-year-old Minnesotan Democrat avoided making a direct challenge to Kennedy and told midnight press conference: "I have not been speaking a knock-down, drag-out battle with Kennedy up to this point. On the other hand I have not been seeking a combination."

"So, he added, "we will proceed between those two dangers."

Johnson's withdrawal took some of the heat and meaning out of Tuesday Wisconsin primary election, although it was thought possible the president would draw a significant "sympathy vote."

Before Johnson addressed the nation Monday night political observers were saying that Senator McCarthy stood a good chance of defeating him in this mid-western dairy farming state.

Senator McCarthy's political stature was immediately boosted by the President's dramatic statement twinning his withdrawal with the announcement of a halt in the bombing of most of North Vietnam.

Johnson virtually trimmed his Vietnam policy to the pattern laid down by Senator McCarthy when he entered the presidential race last November 30.

McCarthy indicated he did not feel fellow Minnesotan, vice-president Hubert Humphrey, was a serious contender for the Democratic nomination. He told questioners:

"I don't see a clear possibility, but if you look closely I think you might see a slight cloud on the horizon tomorrow morning."

McCarthy announcing his intentions to press ahead with his fight for the presidency, paid a personal tribute to Johnson, saying it was "a sad and difficult moment for a man who has given years in the service of his country."

The President's move however, had "cleared the way for the reconciliation of our people which he called for and for a redefinition of the purpose of the American nation," the Senator added.

## UNICEF Officer To Visit Kabul

KABUL, April 2: The Deputy Regional Director of the UNICEF Office for South Central Asia and the Planning Officer are coming to Kabul in order to discuss with officials here on the prospects of future UNICEF assistance to Afghanistan for the development of projects to benefit mothers and children.

The UNICEF Officers will stay in Kabul until April 11th.

The UNICEF Representative has recently submitted to the consideration of UNICEF Headquarters New York, proposals for the continuous UNICEF assistance to the Afghan government to carry out programmes of Teacher Education Training, Malariia Eradication, Mother and Child Health Basic Health Services, including RDD, safe water provision, TB control and other health activities for the year 1969.

WASHINGTON, April 2, (AFP).—President Johnson announced yesterday that he had appointed Henry Cabot Lodge Jr. as U.S. Ambassador to West Germany.

Johnson said that Lodge, presently a naval ambassador, had accepted the appointment which must be confirmed by the Senate.

## Thieu Invited To Washington For Talks On Viet. War

CHICAGO, April 2, (Reuter).—President Johnson announced yesterday he had invited President Nguyen Van Thieu of South Vietnam to visit the United States to work on means of ending the war and finding peace. Johnson also said he has asked ambassador at large Averell Harriman to ready himself for possible talks with the North Vietnamese.

In Ottawa, Canada's representative on the International Control Commission in Southeast Asia, Ormond Dior, stand ready to proceed to Hanoi if it would advance the prospect for peace. Canada External Affairs Minister Paul Martin said here Monday.

Martin, who welcomed U.S. President Lyndon Johnson's decision to suspend the bombing of the greatest part of North Vietnam, urged North Vietnamese leaders to "seize this opportunity" swiftly so that next steps could be taken to end quickly the "tragedy and suffering of all the people of Vietnam."

Canadian Prime Minister Lester Pearson said it was strictly up to the communist side "in Vietnam to reciprocate the U.S. move to halt the bombing of North Vietnam and to show a desire to end the war by negotiation rather than force."

In an official statement, Pearson said he hoped devoutly North Vietnam would respond quickly to the U.S. action.

"We must also hope in this new situation the friends of Hanoi and most of all the Soviet Union will urge the North Vietnamese government to react to the initiative of the U.S. so the slaughter and destruction of this tragic conflict can be brought to an end," Pearson said.

He also said he believed this is the moment to consider seriously the possibility of intervention by the United Nations to assist in the process of peace-making and reconstruction.

"This is the time for urgent action on every front by all govern-

ments concerned with ending the war and beginning the negotiation of peace," Pearson said. "It would be tragic if the reaction to this new situation were such as to betray and destroy that hope."

It is recalled that Pearson made his plea about two years ago for a bombing halt as a start of peace talks in Vietnam.

## Business As Usual For LBJ's Loyalists In Wisconsin

MILWAUKEE, Wisconsin, April 2, (Reuter). President Johnson's supporters decided yesterday that his stunning withdrawal from the presidential race would not halt their drive to give him victory in Wisconsin's primary elections today.

It was "business as usual" for Democrats loyal to the President and fighting the candidacy of Vietnam war critic Senator Eugene J. McCarthy, although most of them were in a state of shock following his televised address to the nation Monday night.

"We are going to work to get the largest possible vote," declared Leslie Aspin, executive director of the Wisconsin Johnson President committee.

Wisconsin democrats took the president's announcement at face value although there was talk and hope that his decision, twin with his order for a de-escalation of the war, would inspire the draft which he would not refuse.

Congressman Clement Zablocki, heading the Johnson campaign in the state, called for "an overwhelming vote of confidence" in the president on today's primaries.

He claimed there was a very strong possibility that the president could be forced to accept the party's nomination when the national convention met in Chicago on August 26 for members general elections.

## UN Committee Approves Decolonisation Resolution

UNITED NATIONS, April 2, (AFP).—A vote of 90 to 0 with 10 abstentions the UN special committee on decolonisation approved Monday a resolution calling on Spain to give to equatorial Guinea its independence by July 15.

The resolution was sponsored by Afghanistan, Ethiopia, India, Iran, Iraq, Ivory coast, Madagascar, Mali, Sierra Leone, Syria, Tunisia, Tanzania and Yugoslavia.

At the suggestion of Chile the resolution was softened somewhat by deleting an expression of "regret" that Spain had not fully complied with a resolution of the last General Assembly calling for independence by July of this year.

The four abstainers on the resolution were the United States, Australia, Italy and Finland.



## THE KABUL TIMES

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### U.S. Deescalation

The decision of President Johnson in halting the American bombing over most of North Vietnam shows a definite departure from the previously held systematic policy of escalation.

President Johnson declared that food producing areas and principal populated sections of the Democratic Republic of Vietnam is now excluded from arena of aerial and naval bombardment of the United States forces.

Johnson's unilateral deescalation of the war is a barometer for evaluating the chances for peace. It is more than a feeler. It is a concrete measure, the impact of which is being felt in every city, every village, and every harbour of Vietnam including the D.R.V. which was subjected to air attacks for the past three years.

The U.S. opponents of Vietnam war believe that long years of war, bloodshed and destruction has taught all the parties directly involved in the war in Vietnam that a military victory is an illusion which should have never been, and which should never be sought after. They think that voluntary limiting of air raids by the United States which has long been supported by a major part of the world public opinion reveals a firm desire of the United States to seek ways of taking the Vietnam issue from the battlefield to the conference table.

Johnson's announcement of bombing halt of 90 per cent of North Vietnam and his decision not to seek reelection to the United States presidency in the November general election is considered as an indication that his government is determined to take the issue to the conference table. Johnson was always accused of handling his Vietnam

### Food For Thought

States as great engines move slowly.

Francis Bacon

son was always accused of handling his Vietnam policies to suit his personal promotion as a Democratic party candidate for the U.S. presidency. But his decision to step down from his post in another nine months may be considered as the reason to rule out any possibility of him having ulterior motives.

Many of the U.S. critics of Vietnam war believe that it is time North Vietnam grasps the significance of this moment when the concern of the peace loving nations for peace and security in Vietnam and Southeast Asia is at its climax and deescalate its war efforts in the same proportions as the United States. Such a step will make not only a complete bombing halt possible in the near future, but also pave the way for favourable contacts to start negotiations.

But a complete, and unconditional halt of bombing will show greater courage on the part of the United States and will convince the world of their genuine intentions to solve the Vietnam war through peaceful means. A complete halt, which has been demanded by the Democratic Republic of Vietnam, as a condition for peace talks, will pave the way for starting negotiations. The Foreign Minister of North Vietnam has publicly and repeatedly announced that his government will start peace talks if the United States halts its air bombing of North Vietnam.

The decision of the United States to restrain its use of power is admirable but it is earnestly hoped that total halt will take place.

## HOME PRESS AT A GLANCE

Today's *Israh* carries an editorial entitled "A new proposal for peace in Vietnam." The war in Vietnam still continues, it said. The Viet Cong and the North Vietnamese forces on the one hand, the South Vietnamese troops and their allies on the other constitute the warring parties. War under any circumstances is regrettable since in addition to the troops and military personnel the civilians, too, are endangered and some times killed.

A war which engages approximately a million troops on both sides using modern weapons will certainly involve a lot of overheads and losses which are not meant to be inflicted upon the civilian population, the editorial asserted. Therefore the world welcomes any move or suggestion that could possibly lead to the termination of this needless war. Reactions to a fresh proposal made by one of the British Conservative-party leaders deserves consideration. The proposal calls on the United States to halt bombing North Vietnam for one month during which, the International Control Commission should supervise along the ceasefire line to check possible infiltration of troops and weapons into South Vietnam. Efforts to start peace talks, too, should be pursued vigorously during this period, according to the proposal.

However, as regards Vietnam, several proposals from various quarters have come in the past but since the warring parties have paid no attention to them, they have been shoved off. The proposal mentioned deserves consideration by the U.N. Security Council.

At the moment this is only a theory. To translate this into action, first of all it is necessary that both sides accept it in principle and then, the Security Council find ways and means of financing the supervision and control operation.

At the same time, said the editorial, one cannot ignore two other developments which are related to the Vietnam war: First, the United States has for the first time announced

ced a halt of bombing over most of North Vietnam and, second, President Johnson dramatically announced that he would neither seek reelection nor accept Democratic Party nomination for presidency. The halt of bombing can to a great extent pave the way for the opening of negotiations. Similarly



Tow Soviet journalists have made a strong plea for night-clubs and late-night restaurants to be opened in Moscow and other cities.

At present no restaurants or bars in the Soviet Union stay open later than 11 p.m., even at weekends. There is one Moscow restaurant with a cabaret, which is booked up weeks in advance.

The two journalists, A. Rubinov and L. Chernyetski, made their plea, which they sarcastically described as "risky," in the weekly *literaturnaya gazeta* this week.

This newspaper, organ of the writers union, frequently pioneers ideas for change.

They used as their example a visit to Budapest.

There, they told their readers, there were pleasant clubs and restaurants where people could talk, eat, dance, sing and be entertained up to three in the morning.

In Moscow the word "night-life" conjured up the thought of something wicked and immoral in the minds of most people. But these people were obviously thinking of life in the capitalist world the journalists added.

In Budapest night-life was a form of "cultural rest." It did not lead to drunkenness and hoodliganism.

The two writers said that the introduction of the five-day week in the Soviet Union had added to the need for night-clubs and late-night restaurants.

"Why should only theatres and concerts be considered cultural rest in our country?" they asked.

President Johnson's decision may be the manifestation of the change in American position as regards the Vietnam War. In any case a new chapter has been opened in the history of the Vietnam war and it is hoped that it will lead to the establishment of peace in that war-torn country.

They described the opponents of night-life as "severe puritans" who often argue that working-men had to get up early and should not be out enjoying themselves late night.

The *South China morning post* said that the agreement on "paper gold" in Stockholm among the world's leading nations was a vital leg of the current battle to make the two-tier gold system work.

But what was still needed was American action to boost the dollar, the English-language daily said in an editorial.

Referring to the Stockholm decision, the editorial said: "Predictably, France remained aloof. But it stood alone... France's partners in the Common Market, faced with the choice, put the health of the world's monetary system before (an increasingly strained) political solidarity with Paris."

France's partners had been willing to go some way to "woo the general (De Gaulle) away from his gold and dollar vendetta," it said.

The paper added that continued French abstention could weaken the eventual functioning of Special Drawing Rights (SDR's) but it would not cripple it. "Action by the United States to narrow its deficit is not only the major step that could bring the French back into the fold," the editorial asserted.

"More to the point, it is the remaining step absolutely essential to ensure the viability of the international monetary system itself over this difficult and dangerous transition period"

## Education And Development Planning

By G.N. Naushad

General economic planning and educational planning must go together in a developing country. Both are equally important.

The form that a system of education takes is affected not only by the central government but also by private organisations, educators, parents and even the students themselves.

Planners are deeply concerned with costs. Their primary job is to advise on how the available can be spent to the best advantage of the country as a whole.

They must consider, therefore, the likely returns from given investments and assess priorities such as whether at a given time roads and housing are more important to the country than are schools.

The return from investment in education is always difficult to assess though all are agreed that it has a very high margin in indirect returns, that is with the initiative and training to carry out the development that the country needs.

It is always easier for developing countries to produce consumer goods than it is to train the skilled manpower which makes them.

The cost of education in developing countries, which are not well organised is comparatively much greater, than for those who have adequate teacher training, school buildings, new textbooks and so on.

The less developed countries need to think a great deal about the uniformity of education provision. From the economic point of view it is unwise to spend much money on building just a few schools of high quality with adequate equipment, modern laboratories and so on, when other schools have not even enough chairs for the pupils to sit on.

Whilst there are always shortages of manpower for certain essential skills there is also the constant over supply of personnel with certain qualifications.

Afghanistan needs technologists rather than lawyers and philosophers. It is the job of government planning, by careful long term assessments of manpower needs, to divert personnel

away from non-essential occupations.

In a country such as Afghanistan which is trying to be democratic this diversion is accomplished by encouragement, not by compulsion.

The demand for education in the developing part of the world is already great, and there is a growing need for well trained specialist teachers who will provide the impetus for the industrial revolution to which all these countries look forward.

Nowadays the close interdependence of economic growth and education is being more fully recognised. Poverty, disease and starvation kill the desire to acquire the initiative, which only proper schooling can develop, and which is needed for economic progress.

Another problem which underdeveloped countries face is how to make a choice between education and other forms of investment, as well as between the different levels and sectors of education.

These choices are affected by such problems as the economic trends, manpower requirements, degree of illiteracy, the age range, size and qualifications of teaching staff, the social background of pupils, their progress through the school system, their examination, the percentage of drop-outs and reasons for dropping out.

Many countries still cannot afford to give opportunity for those students who have finished primary stage.

Although more and more countries are coming to regard good education as an essential for economic, cultural and social progress, many are still quite unable to afford to provide proper educational and training opportunities for many of the older pupils after the primary level.

The educational planning which took place in New Delhi in 1962 covered some educational problems that are particularly acute all over Asia.

Also the Karachi plan of 1960 was perhaps the first effort in

this direction and served as a model for the Addis Ababa plan for Africa and the Santiago plan for Latin America.

The four training institutes at New Delhi, Beirut, Dakar and Santiago which exist to train persons with certain levels of experience also undertake research in areas where satisfactory solutions to basic problems would greatly aid the planning progress.

Unfortunately many countries have not made proper use of the personnel that have been trained in these countries. An educational expert recently reported "the occupational analysis of the trainees who were in our last course is not available with us, but of the 70 candidates whom we had trained in the preceding planners course, only 11 persons were directly employed in planning work in their countries."

Thirty-eight of them were educational officers working in the field or in the department of the Ministry of Education and 15 were supervisors or inspectors."

This seems to suggest that the planners do not plan their own work very well.

Such an attitude is most unfortunate in Asia where the educational and economic problems are so enormous.

A general director of UNESCO called educational planning "an intellectual discipline for thinking out the present in the light of the future." In this very difficult task educational planning often suffers from an unbalanced picture of the whole situation which tends to overshadow the whole system, because no effort has been made to teach those who hold the control of policies in their hands.

Educational planning is now recognised as an essential in all developing countries. Maximum use must be made not only of those trained in planning techniques, but far greater use must be made of audio visual aids such as radio, films, T.V. etc. to overcome teacher shortages or shortages of teachers qualified to give instruction in the skills that a country needs to meet its economic requirements.

## Vietnam Does Not Impinge On U.S. Security

Vietnam could never impinge on the safety of the United States, Far Eastern expert professor C.P. Fitzgerald said Sunday.

If the Americans left the area, their country would suffer no change, he told a seminar on Asia.

Professor Fitzgerald, now with the History Faculty of the Australian National University in Canberra, said the U.S. had perhaps unknowingly taken up the task of filling a power vacuum.

Vacuum had been left in South-East Asia by Japan's defeat in World War II.

"But the problems of this area, while they may have affected Japan's security, do not affect America's," he said.

Chinese ascendancy which would probably follow if the United States got out of Asia "would quite possibly be exercised with modernisation."

Professor Fitzgerald continued: "The only alternative for America is the termination of the war in Vietnam."

"Increasingly, Americans who see what is happening, and their friends throughout the world, favour the policy of withdrawal."

wal."

The common justification for American intervention in Vietnam was the necessity of "containing" the People's Republic of China.

As no Chinese troops, planes or ships had taken part in any operation in South-East Asia, Peking was said to operate through "agents."

While the National Liberation Front and the Hanoi government were both undoubtedly communist, it had not been proved that China had contrived them, or that they were not movements of local origin.

It was a distortion of language to claim that it was wrong for the Chinese and the Russians to arm regimes they supported, but moral and legal for the United States to give such massive aid to the threatened government in Saigon.

"It could be argued that open American military intervention rather than alleged Chinese military intervention has brought war to South-East Asia," Professor Fitzgerald said.

"China's direct interest in Vietnam is strictly related to the northern part which shares one

of her borders.

"China's very limited action in respect of the war in Vietnam is a controlled reaction to massive American military intervention."

"If China were to participate more directly in the war she would involve herself in a struggle for which she is obviously not equipped..."

"If China were following the expansionist policies attributed to her, first victims would be the small communist states on her borders, then the small neutrals, none of which enjoys U.S. protection."

China would naturally like communist or neutral neighbours, and distrusted governments such as Thailand's, "which act as hosts to United States bombers."

Professor Fitzgerald, author of several books on China and the east, made his statements to an audience attending the conference on peace, power and politics in Asia.

He is one of several overseas speakers who have come to Wellington for the seminar, arranged by the committee on Vietnam, a New Zealand group which opposes American and Commonwealth involvement in the Vietnam war.

(REUTERS)

## Electronic Eye For Blind Developed

A Mexican group of scientists have developed a revolutionary electronic eye which they claim may help blind people to see.

The apparatus called an "Amauroscope" transmits computerised signals to the brain indicating shape, movement, height and even colour.

Functioning like a television camera, the dual-focussed transistorised apparatus is built into spectacles connected to the brain by wires attached to the skin just above the eyebrows.

Dr. Armando Del Campo, who heads the group, lectures in psychology at the National University in Mexico city and his team comprising a physicist-mathematician, an electronics engineer and an electronics mechanical engineer have worked on the Amauroscope for the last four years.

Experiments with blind people using the instrument showed they were able to walk unaided through traffic receiving signals of shapes and movement directed to the visual globe of the brain.

"The Amauroscope is by no means finished. It is still like a blurred television screen where one can identify shapes and movements but cannot clearly define them yet", Dr. Del Campo said.

Dr. Del Campo left this week for Argentina to lecture on his invention. Early in April he will start a tour of Australia where he will lecture at the universities of Sydney, Canberra, Melbourne and Perth.

He has also been invited to give lectures on his invention in Athens and Naples and will visit the Blind Institute in London.

Dr. Del Campo predicted that within "a few years" if research money was available and scientists pooled their knowledge in a joint project, his apparatus could be perfected to give full vision to the blind."

Right now the Amauroscope indicates a tree, for example, like a shimmering object with a definite trunk. A car is a shiny object and blind people can determine whether it is stationary or moving, according to Dr. Del Campo.

The signals transmitted give an

almost exact impression of the size and shape of the object without giving details.

"However, in time and with more research this can be perfected", Dr. Del Campo said.

He added that his team was concentrating mainly on black and white images since colour transmitters would be too extensive for many blind people to afford.

"It is important that we develop something everybody can afford to buy. Colour will come later—it took almost 12 years to develop a commercial colour television even though the principles were known", he said.

The team has so far paid for all research expenses out of their own pockets.

"Research is painstaking. We must find out more about the patterns the computer needs to send to the brain so giving the right signals on impressions, and colours particularly."

Dr. Del Campo added: "We also want more research on the speed we have to transmit. The apparatus is like a record. If you don't play it at the right speed the voice is blurred and mutilated."

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## Kabul Bus Company Training Courses Graduate 380 Drivers

By Our Own Reporter.

The Bus Company, Kabul, which is one of the oldest concerns in the country launched a modernisation programme in 1962 under which the company built a well-equipped workshop where practically all types of vehicles imported into the country can be repaired.

The Bus Company, known as "Sherkate Service", was floated with an initial capital of Af. 40,000,000 which came from the city's entrepreneurs. The Company now owns 300 vehicles imported from the Soviet Union and from the United States, said Hafizullah, the president of the Company in an interview with the Kabul Times reporter.

The buses, imported from the United States, came in parts but were assembled in the company's workshop in Zenda Banan, east of Kabul, where the company also has its headquarters and training courses for mechanics and drivers, Hafizullah added.

The Company has trained, at home and abroad, a good number of mechanics and all assembling and repairing is done by them, Hafizullah pointed out. At present there are 320 mechanics and engineers in various sections of the general workshop.

Taking into consideration the growing population in the city and its expansion, the Bus Company intends, under the future plans, to put more city buses into service, asserted the president of the company.

At present the Company's buses run within the capital city and between Kabul and various provinces.

This year for the first time the Bus Company arranged a caravan, of 11 buses including mobile workshop, taking some 200 Af-

ghan Hajis to Mecca for pilgrimage.

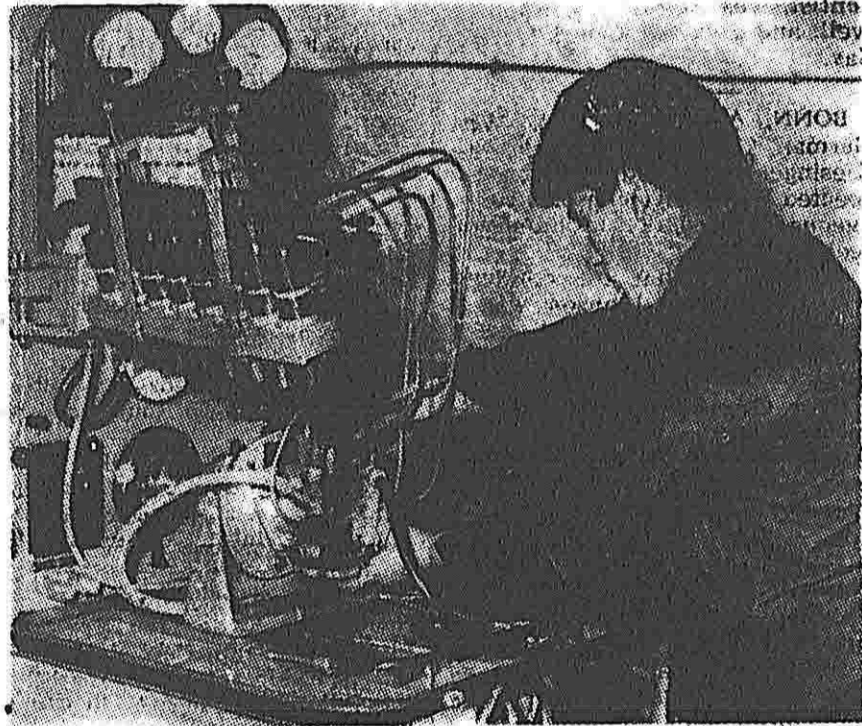
Only recently the Bus Company installed diesel engines in a number of its city buses, which according to the president of the Company is more economical as far as consumption of fuel is concerned. So far the Company has imported 351 diesel engines, most of which have been sold to individual truck owners.

The Company has also bought a well-equipped plant called Diesel Pamb Tester, at the cost of \$12,000 from Perkins Company, Britain, which is used for repairing and testing the diesel engines.

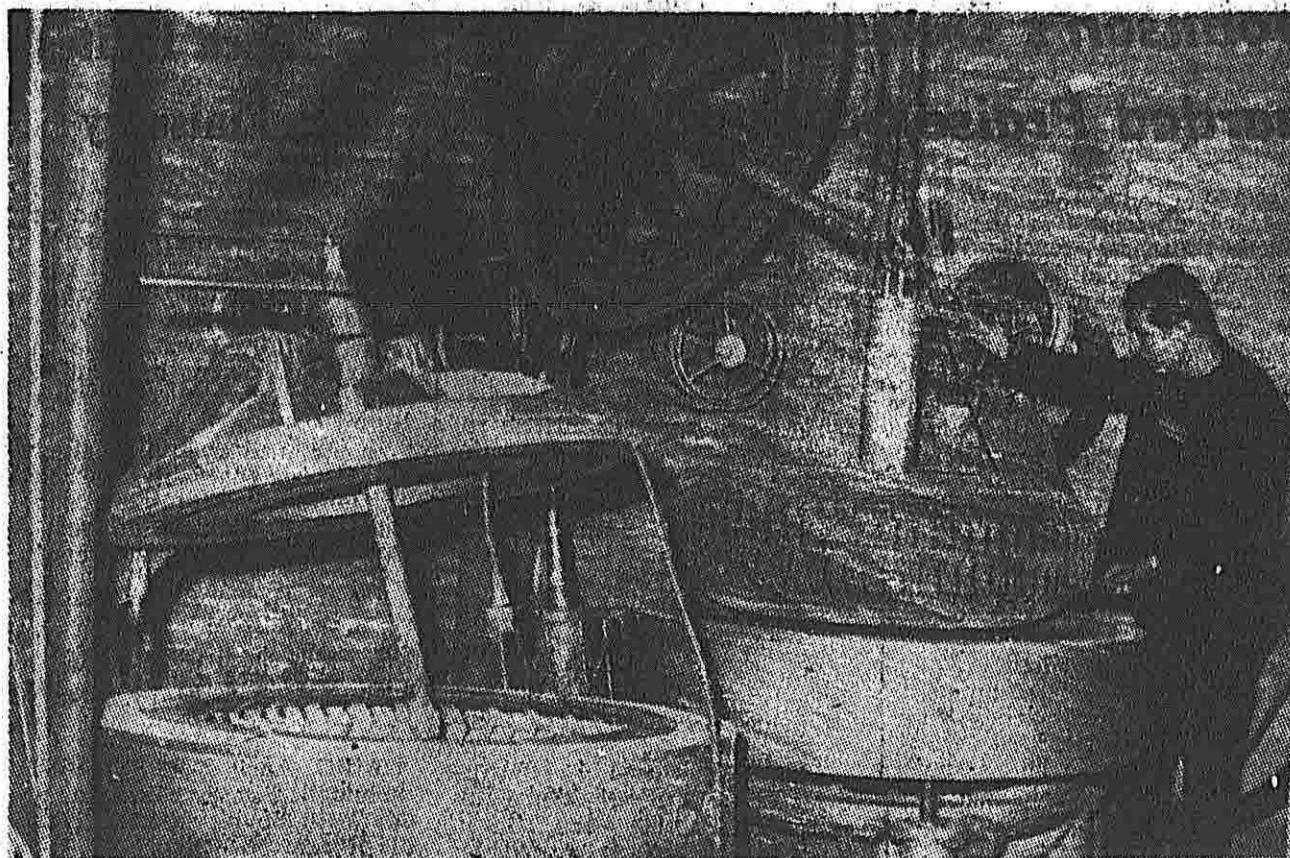
The Bus Company has three main sections. The commercial, which handles the imports affairs of such articles as tires, tubes, spare parts most of which are sold to individual car owners.

The Bus Company also has a well-equipped plant where second hand tires are vulcanised.

The Company has also been conducting training courses where the participants learn about engines mechanics, driving and traffic regulations. So far 380 drivers, and mechanics have been graduated from these courses and they are busy running the Company's vehicles.



This machine tests the diesel engines.



In this section second hand tires are being vulcanised.

## BUSINESS REVIEW OF THE WEEK

By A Staff Writer

The Afghan Bicycle Company in their advertisements in the newspapers in the past few weeks have announced substantial reduction in the price of their bicycles known as Ariana.

Although the firm has been in existence for the past several years there has been little advertisement about the products. The

negligence in advertising has caused almost total ignorance about the existence of bicycles made in Afghanistan.

Some of the offices in Kabul have tried to use these bicycles. The general impression is that they are good, useable and lasting. But, protective measures have not been taken by the Ministry of Commerce to guarantee its boosting of sales in the home markets.

Two foreign patents bicycles specially sell well in Afghanistan. They are: Raleigh and Atlas. Raleigh bicycles, which are made in England are very good. They have been in the markets in Afghanistan for the past 40 years or so. They are expensive comparing with the bicycles made in Afghanistan. But, since they last long they are in high demand.

The price of a well equipped Raleigh bicycle in Kabul ten years ago was Af. 2,200. Today it is Af. 4,600. The rise in the foreign exchange has resulted in the sharp rise in the price of British made bicycles. Most of the government offices buy Raleigh bicycle for their use.

Atlas bicycles are made in India. These bicycles are inferior in quality to our own bicycles. They sell in Kabul specially and the other parts of Afghanistan too because of two main reasons: a well arranged publicity campaign over Radio Afghans-

tan and the press, and its cheap price of Af. 1,800, which is suitable for most of the pockets. Some of the Kabul Times delivery boys had Atlas bicycles, which broke quickly and no amount of repairing proved them suitable for use again.

The advertisements of the Afghan Bicycle Co. in recent days shows their desperate effort to boost the sale of this product. Apparently so far the management of the firm did not realise the importance of advertising, and seeing its stock full with poor sale prospects, they embarked upon this new scheme of sales promotion.

Parts of the bicycle are imported from Japan. It is well assembled. But unless protective measures are adopted, the firm may be shortly threatened by a shut down. The present supply of bicycle, which is the low income group's Cadillac, is perhaps for a few years. Probably the imposition of a ban on the import of bicycles from abroad for a year on experimental basis will prove useful. But before such a step is taken, the resources of the firm should be evaluated.

Only the banning of import is not enough. The government must issue orders to all government offices to buy home made bicycles when they are in need of it. Government purchases of bicycles reaches thousands. There is no doubt that mass purchase by the government of home made bicycles will boost production as well as sale.

The bicycle firm should also try to sell its products on installment basis. We are sure that there are thousands of students and office boys who would like to have their own carriers if they could afford it. The Usha sewing machine, which sells on installments to civil servants, has sold thousands of it to the people here this way. We don't see why the Afghan Bicycles Firm can not do the same.

## Banking For Ordinary Man

Economic revolutions are going on all over the world. Things which were unattainable luxuries not long ago are now becoming common articles in the shopping list—even in the poorer parts of the world. Some

services, like retailing and distribution of goods, have kept well up with this trend. But banking has not.

One country where a banking revolution is certainly due is Britain, and this year it is likely to happen. Why? Because of the "giro". This system of money payments exposes some of the weaknesses in the traditional banking world.

Banking developed for the service of merchants and the rich, for those who had a lot of cash, and used it in relatively large sums on frequent occasions. Governments of the world entered the system, too—chiefly to finance big wars; they borrowed from the bankers and their rich customers. (This was the start of the stock exchange, for government loan certificates became a way of investing large savings.)

And there, it is hardly an exaggeration to say, banking stopped. So when medium-sized firms, small traders, and then ordinary people began to want banking services, new systems had to be devised.

First, the savings clubs and friendly societies; then government savings banks; then building societies (which are co-operatives); then the hire purchase companies which provide credit to buy household goods, and cars; finally credit card companies. It is the growth of "ordinary man's banking" that has caught the big banks napping. Belatedly, they have started to take an interest in the ordinary man. But there is long way to go.

Take one small example. The rich merchant can go round to his bank any time during the day, or (Continued on page 4)

## Common Markets In Vogue

Common Markets are playing an increasingly important part in the development of various areas of Africa and Latin America.

Kenya, Uganda and Tanzania, with long standing arrangements to cooperate economically, launched their East African Community on December 1. Already it seems likely to be greatly enlarged, for Ethiopia, Somalia, Zambia and Burundi have applied to join, and interest in the community's aims has been expressed by other countries, notably the Congo-Kinshasa and the Central Africa Republic.

In West Africa, plans are well advanced towards forming an economic community. Fourteen West African Heads of State or their representatives are due to discuss the proposal in Monrovia next April.

And from Latin America where there are various schemes for regional economic cooperation, comes news of a report on the successful operations of the Central American Common Market.

At the opening session of the 12-nation conference of East and Central African leaders in Kampala on December 15, President of Uganda said that an outstanding landmark in the field of cooperation in 1967 had been the signing of the Treaty of East African Cooperation and the consequent launching of the East African Community.

The Emperor Haile Selassie of Ethiopia expressed the view that the pooling of resources and efforts by groups of States was bound to accelerate overall development.

President Bokassa of the Central African Republic said that the East African Common Market needed to be experienced with, and countries not yet in should be given a chance to join. The industrial development of East Africa had captured his imagination. President Bokassa indicated that he would like to see cultural and economic cooperation between the Central African Republic and East Africa.

On arrival in Uganda on December 13, President Kaunda told reporters that Zambia would do anything to bring about clo-

ser political and economic cooperation in Africa. It was only by having strong regional economic unity that they could hope to bring about United States of Africa, he said.

At a meeting in Kampala on December 7, Uganda's Foreign Minister, S. Odaka, described the prospects for a wider East and Central African Community as "very bright". A well coordinated region of five or more countries would be a formidable force, politically and economically, he said.

There are a number of similarities between the East African Community and the European Economic Community. Both aimed at unity, harmonisation of economic activity, common customs tariffs, the abolition of trade restrictions and a common agricultural policy. East Africa also accepted a coordinated planning policy and research framework.

But the two communities are not identical. "Ours is an association of developing countries," Odaka said. Also the situation facing Britain in its effort to join the European Community could not be found in East Africa. "We will not ask any country to change its character before being admitted."

The Foreign Minister said there was already an informal East and Central African association, and work had been done in coordinating transport and communications.

The proposed West African economic community has been discussed for a long time, but noticeable progress towards creating it has been made only in the past two years. Delegates from 12 of the nations due to be represented at the Monrovia "summit" met in Niamey about a year ago and in Accra last April, and a conference of the interim Council of Ministers of the proposed community was held in Dakar in November.

The report on the Central American Common Market, which was formed between 1958 and 1961, says that regional trade in industrial goods increased in the period 1960-1965 by 532 per cent. This largely represented the use of previously existing idle capacity in the Common

Market's five member countries. Costa Rica, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras and Nicaragua.

The Common Market, the report adds, has promoted technical efficiency in existing industries, particularly in those concerning textiles, where rapid expansion and modernisation have occurred. The market is almost wholly responsible for the increased foreign investment in the five countries.

(LIONS FEATURES)

## Commerce Dept Reveals Figures On U.S. Trade

United States exports in February were worth only \$172 million more than her imports—compared with \$397 million in February 1967, Department of Commerce figures revealed in Washington last week.

The figures confirmed a steep drop in the American trading balance since last autumn despite favourable export trends.

Between November and the end of February sales abroad rose by seven per cent against the preceding four months after levelling out for the greater part of 1967.

But this improvement has been largely cancelled out by rocketing imports. In the four months from November to February they notched a level 16 per cent above the preceding four months.

Observers here attributed the trend partly to an increase in copper and steel imports, as a result of the strike which has paralysed the country's copper industry since last July and which is now nearing settlement; and of the threat of a strike in the steel industry next September.

(AFP)

## EXPORTS, IMPORTS

By Our Own Reporter

In the first ten days of Hamal (March 21 to 29, 1968) the Kabul Customs House's earnings were high by about Af. 5,000,000 compared to the same period last year.

In this period the Customs handled about 70,000,000 worth of imported goods and fetched more than Af. 20,000,000 in duties. The imported goods included textiles, cigarettes, tea, china wares, while nuts, sheep casing, hides, raisins, carpets, which went to Britain, France, Italy, Pakistan, Iran, Beirut and Switzerland constituted the export items. The export valued at about Af. 6,000,000 and brought the Customs some half million afghanis in duties.

During the last week ending March 27, 1968, the Kandahar Customs House has exported about Af. 30,000 worth of such goods as herbs and dried fruits.

The imported goods valued at Af. 9,000,000 included textiles, woolen pieces, sewing machines, edible oil, tea and tires and tubes of which the Customs earned more than Af. 4,000,000 in duties.

During the same period the Herat Customs House handled about Af. 4,000,000 worth of exported goods and received Af. 500,000 in duties. The export items consisted of carpets which went to the United States.

The Customs also handled about Af. 7,000,000 worth of imported goods and received Af. 500,000 in duties.

The Nangahar Customs House, during the same period, handled such goods as textile, paper, tea and obtained some Af. 450,000 in duties.

## Gold Reserves In West World Drop

The West World's Monetary reserves in gold decreased by \$1,160 million in the last quarter of 1967, the International Monetary Fund (IMF) indicated in its review, International Financial Statistics.

At the end of December, the gold reserves totalled \$39,450 million compared with \$40,610 millions three months earlier and with \$40,900 millions at the end of 1966. They have therefore fallen to their lowest level since the end of 1962, when they amounted to only \$39,275 million.

The drop in gold reserves obviously results from the November-December gold rush, after the devaluation of Sterling. The IMF statistics nevertheless confirmed that private sectors were not the only ones to buy the precious metal during the crisis.

Though the United States gold reserves dropped by more than \$1,000 million and those of the United Kingdom by more than \$500 millions, those of the central banks of several African and Middle East countries, as well as those of Switzerland, increased.

The gold holdings of South Africa, the world's chief supplier of the yellow metal, went up also.

Though the western countries' gold holding went down, their over-all monetary reserves increased. They totalled \$73,285 million at the end of the year, compared with \$72,225 three months earlier.

This advance resulted both from the deficit in the United States' balance of payments, the increase in the dollar balances held by the foreign central banks and perhaps also from the use of barter agreements among central banks immediately after the devaluation of Sterling.

(AFP)

## Free Exchange Rates At D'Afghanistan Bank

KABUL, April 2.—The following

are the exchange rates of the D'Afghanistan Bank expressed in Afghani per unit of foreign currency:

| Buying                                 | Selling     |
|--|-------------|
| Af. 76.50 (per U.S. dollar)            | Af. 77.50   |
| Af. 183.60 (per sterling pound)        |             |
|  | Af. 186.00  |
| Af. 1912.50 (per hundred DM)           |             |
|  | Af. 1937.50 |
| Af. 1781.14 (per hundred Swiss franc)  |             |
|  | Af. 1804.43 |
| Af. 1548.58 (per hundred French franc) |             |
|  | Af. 1568.83 |
| Af. 600.00 (per hundred Indian rupees) |             |
|  | Af. 710.00  |
| Af. 865.00 (per hundred Pak. rupees)   |             |
|  | Af. 875.00  |

## London Gold Market Reopens After Fortnight

LONDON, April 2. (Reuter).—The London gold market, formerly the world's biggest, reopened yesterday-keenly watched by international financiers and economists.

The market started trading for the first time since its enforced closure a fortnight ago to damp down speculation in gold that caused an international stampede in 'bullion'.

Financial observers will anxiously study the market's new phase of life—and any price reactions—to President's Vietnam speech and last week's international conference in Stockholm.

Dealers, representing five bullion houses, meet at Rothschild's to comprise the London gold market and they will be fighting to re-establish this as the world's leading centre.

Experts later were to examine yesterday's movements in the price of gold for signs of a verdict on the Stockholm financial talks that brought the decision for a new kind of international money, dubbed 'paper gold'.

The 10-nation weekend talks produced a move create special drawing rights which member nations of the International Monetary Fund can call on if their trade is in the 'red' they have run short of the accepted world currencies—gold, dollars and pounds.

## Hanover Fair Fully Booked

The Hanover spring fair is, a box-office success—"sold out" in advance. Exhibition space once more has been fully booked.

The fair, from April 27 to May 5, already has commitments from 5,031 exhibitors, and 475 firms that will be presented through representatives. They come from 31 countries.

As it was last autumn, the entire exhibition space—395,000 square metres in 26 halls auxiliary buildings and in the open has been spoken for.

Significantly, the interest of East European states in the big West fair continues to rise.

As of now, the exhibitors and the firms to be represented otherwise that are located beyond Germany's borders total, respectively, 877 and 380.

This time as previously, the fair will have as supplementary attractions various conventions of specialists and individual economic branches.

Simultaneously with the fair, the West German Aeronautical Show is to be held at the Hanover airport (Langenhagen). As of now, 326 firms, among them 204 from abroad, are to take part.

(FRG SOURCES)

## BUSINESS & INDUSTRY

## Reaction To Johnson's Decision Mixture Of Silence, Guarded Praise, Scepticism

The United States plunged into political turmoil Sunday night as the nation tried to guess who the Democratic party would choose to run for the White House in place of President Johnson.

The spotlight turned on Senator Robert Kennedy, one of the most likely candidates, when he announced that he had asked Johnson to meet him to discuss how they could work together "in the interests of national unity" during the coming months.

But the 42-year-old Senator, brother of assassinated President John Kennedy, refused to be drawn in how President Johnson's shock decision not to stand for re-election would affect his own election strategy.

The Democratic party's choice for the November presidential election seems a toss-up between Senator Kennedy and Senator Eugene McCarthy, who has won powerful support from the party's liberal wing for his campaign for peace in Vietnam.

The big question being asked in Washington last night was what effect President Johnson's withdrawal from the scene would

have on the Democratic party's chances of victory over the Republican contender, former Vice-President Richard Nixon.

President Johnson's announcement Sunday night that he was staying out of the presidential election race to concentrate on bringing peace to Vietnam left the next move up to the North Vietnamese regime in Hanoi. The president's announcement was coupled with a decision to halt the bombing of all but a small part of North Vietnam in an effort to persuade the Hanoi government to go to the conference table.

Hanoi was still silent. The Washington correspondent of the Soviet news agency Tass accused the president of "manoeuvring" and of ignoring Hanoi's demands for a complete and unconditional halt to acts of war against North Vietnam.

In Prague, the new Czechoslovak government welcomed President Johnson's decision to halt the bombing but said it thought the gesture was insufficient.

Among America's allies President Johnson's initiative was

seen as a big step forward in the search for peace and Britain immediately contacted the Soviet Union to see what the two countries, as co-chairman of the 1954 Geneva conference on Indochina, could do to get peace talks started.

The Soviet government has turned down previous British requests for a re-convening of the Geneva conference on the grounds that this is a question for Washington and Hanoi to deal with themselves.

(REUTERS)

## S. Africa Invites UN Emissary

CAPE TOWN, April 2, (DPA)—South African has invited United Nations Secretary General U Thant to send a personal representative to Southwest Africa, it was announced here today.

The invitation was made in a letter to U Thant by South African Foreign Minister Hilgard Muller.

In his letter Muller stressed that the representative should be mutually acceptable, should study the facts in Southwest Africa and make a factual report.

## POST OFFICE GIRO

(Continued from page 3)  
send employees round for him. Most working men cannot go except before they start or after they finish work.

But banks are open in many countries only during part of the day; in Britain, they open at 10 in the morning—and, incredibly, close at 3 in the afternoon. No wonder they are regarded as a rich man's club.

But what is this "giro"? It comes from the Greek word "giros", meaning a circuit or a turn. The giro system of payment has already been instituted in many Continental European countries, where it is

usually operated by the state post offices.

It is the ordinary man's way of receiving and paying money. It can be done through any post office in the land; for very little charge and with very little trouble, anyone can send money safely anywhere within the system.

In Britain, the Post Office has now announced that it will, in the autumn, start a country-wide giro system. It will be based on an enormous computer in Lancashire, which will be able to handle millions of payments.

All anyone has to do is to go to a post office, apply for an account number (free), buy the necessary forms (cheap), and then start paying his bills by post (no postage). He can request his employer to pay his wages into the Post Office giro, and can draw cash from the Post Office. And remember that post offices are open before normal working hours, and afterwards too.

The announcement had an electric effect on the banks. They immediately issued publicity brochure pointing out that their customers could do all this, too. They abolished their charges on their "credit transfer" system (which, is rather like the giro). What they feared were two things: that many people would now decide not to open a banking account; and that employers would take all their wage payments over to the Post Office.

The loss in terms of work could be enormous. So they have had to think hard how to meet this competition. Something may have to be done about their opening hours (if the bank workers' unions will negotiate). And something will have to be done about their "image"—the appearance they still have of being only for the rich.

Nevertheless, the advantages will not be all on the side of the Post Office giro. After all, the old banks do more than just organise payments. They give advice, they issue travellers' cheques, they help customers to save—and most of all, they lend money.

The Post Office giro does none of these things. The computer in Lancashire is no substitute for the local bank manager (even when he says "no" to your request for a loan). But the computer is sure to stimulate the banks to provide a better service to more people.

FWF

## WORLD NEWS IN BRIEF

MOSCOW, April 2, (DPA)—Soviet Prime Minister Alexei Kosygin left Moscow for Tehran yesterday for a week-long official visit at the invitation of Iranian Prime Minister Amir Abbas Hoveida.

This will be Kosygin's first visit to Iran. Going with him to Tehran are the Prime Minister of Armenia Muradyan and the head of Tajikistan's government Abdul Ahad Kakharov.

TOKYO, April 2, (DPA)—Indonesian President General Suharto left Tokyo yesterday for a visit to Cambodia.

Suharto paid a five day visit to Tokyo during which he had talks with Prime Minister Eisaku Sato. At the same time, Indonesian Foreign Minister Adam Malik discussed problems of mutual interest with Japanese Foreign Minister Takeo Miki.

WASHINGTON, April 2, (DPA)—The successful first flight of a "Spartan" anti-missile was announced by the Pentagon Monday. The 17.5-metre rocket can carry nuclear warheads and intercept enemy missiles in space. It is the main component of the "thin" protecting shield against a possible missile attack, announced by the then defence secretary Robert McNamara last September.

WIESBADEN, April 2, (DPA)—West German cargo shipping in ocean going vessels in 1967 decreased by 2.19 million tons or two per cent to a total of 105.2 million tons. The West German central statistical office announced here yesterday.

The decrease in ocean traffic was due primarily to a drop in imports of crude oil, grain, ores and coal from non-European ports.

WASHINGTON, April 2, (AP)—Robert S. McNamara spent his first day as president of the World Bank at a series of conferences with his top officials at the 107-nation organisation, which has devoted its existence to helping underdeveloped countries.

The former Secretary of Defence had no immediate public reaction to President Johnson's announcement of bombing halt in North Vietnam and his decision not to seek reelection.

He is now an international civil servant, a World Bank spokesman said. "The indications so far are that he won't talk to anybody for quite some time."

On his first day McNamara saw officials of the bank and its two subsidiaries—the International Finance Corp, which invests in private industry, and the International Development Association, which makes loans on easy terms in less developed countries.

CAIRO, April 2, (AP)—UAR's President Nasser conferred Monday with Soviet Defence Minister Andrei Grechko.

The meeting took place at Nasser's private residence and no word on what they discussed immediately was available.

However, sources said the two men dealt with the military situation in the Mideast, particularly in Egypt, Syria and Iraq.

CAPE TOWN, April 2, (AFP)—Philip Blaiberg, the world's only surviving heart transplant patient, had another routine check up at the Groote Schuur Hospital here yesterday.

A bulletin issued later said that Dr. Blaiberg, a former dentist, was eating and sleeping well, and growing stronger every day.

BONN, April 2, (DPA)—West German Chancellor Kurt Georg Kiesinger said yesterday he respected President Johnson's courageous decision not to stand for reelection.

He added that the bombing stop ordered by Johnson was a genuine chance for achieving a cease-fire and subsequent peace talks.

West German Foreign Ministry officials privately expressed hope that Hanoi would give a positive reply to Johnson's new peace offer.

BONN, April 2, (DPA)—West German President Heinrich Lübke Monday night approved the appointment of Ernst Benda, 43-year-old Christian Democrat as new interior minister. It was announced here.

Benda, undersecretary in the

interior ministry, succeeds Paul Luecke, who resigned last Thursday after the Social Democrats, partners in the Bonn coalition, demanded the postponement of electoral reforms.

## U.S. Scene

(Continued From Page 1)

It was a long road to the November elections, and too early to see what was going to happen.

He refused to be drawn into saying what would now be the position between himself and the other Democratic presidential candidate, Senator Eugene McCarthy (Dem. Minnesota).

He shared a common view with Sen. McCarthy on Vietnam, and was glad to support the Minnesota Senator in Wisconsin, which holds its primary presidential election today Sen. Kennedy said. Sen. Kennedy said "eventually the Vietnam problem was going to disappear, but there would still be under-developed countries, poverty, illiteracy, the problems of Latin America, the question of national security and the relationship of European countries with the U.S."

"All these are going to affect the lives of every American," he added.

In Washington, DPA adds Johnson Monday said he was prepared to meet Robert Kennedy at any time convenient to him to discuss political questions.

The president announced his readiness to see the Democratic Senator from New York shortly after his return to Washington following a speech in Chicago.

## SEATO Meeting

(Continued From Page 1)

need for member nations to sustain and increase the military effectiveness of SEATO in the face of "continuing and widespread communist subversion, insurgency and open aggression in the treaty area."

This strong line was taken in a final communique at the military advisers 23th conference yesterday.

The SEATO Secretary General Lt. General Jesus Vargas referred to the dimension and implications of the Viet Cong Tet offensive in South Vietnam.

The United States military advisor, Admiral W.S. Sharp, said "communism hopes to provoke popular uprisings, armed forces defections and governmental collapse, had failed to materialise."

Te communique said that Britain's representative, General Sir Michael Carver, told the advisers at a meeting here last Friday of "changes in the nature and size" of his country's military participation in SEATO.

These changes were consequent on the run-down of British forces in Far East, the communique said.

The British government plans to pull its troops out of Southeast Asia by 1971. But no timetable for the withdrawal has yet been disclosed.

Members of SEATO are Australia, New Zealand, the Philippines, Thailand, the United States, Britain, France and Pakistan.

But France is not represented at this year's ministerial meeting opened today and Pakistan has only sent an observer. The two countries do not support the active participation in the Vietnam war of some other members.

## Weather Forecast

Skies in the northern, western, southern and central region will be cloudy and in the Eastern parts clear.

Yesterday the warmest area was Jalalabad and Farah with a high of 26 C, 79 F, and the coldest was North Salang with a low of -16, 3 F.

The temperature in Kabul at 12:00 noon was 15 C, 59 F. Today wind speed in Kabul recorded at 4 knots.

| Yesterday's Temperature: |            |
|--------------------------|------------|
| Kabul                    | 18 C - 2 C |
|                          | 64 F 28 F  |
| Kandahar                 | 24 C 3 C   |
|                          | 75 F 37 F  |
| Mazare Sharif            | 18 C 4 C   |
|                          | 64 F 39 F  |
| Herat                    | 23 C 2 C   |
|                          | 73 F 35 F  |
| Kunduz                   | 17 C 1 C   |
|                          | 63 F 36 F  |
| South Salang             | 1 C - 9 C  |
|                          | 36 F 15 F  |
| Farah                    | 16 C 0 C   |
|                          | 61 F 32 F  |
| Bost                     | 25 C 14 C  |
|                          | 77 F 57 F  |
| Lal                      | 4 C - 14 C |
|                          | 39 F 7 F   |
| Khost                    | 21 C 7 C   |
|                          | 70 F 44 F  |



and Azar, Shewa.  
ARIANA CINEMA:  
At 2, 5, 7, and 9 Iranian film *TOLERANCE* with Majid Mohseni and Azar Shewa.  
PARK CINEMA:  
At 2, 5, 8 and 10 Iranian film *TOLERANCE* with Majid Mohseni

## Quake Causes 3 Deaths, Eight Landslides In Japan

TOKYO, April 2, (Reuters)—Three persons were reported killed, 11 others were injured and many more were missing when a fairly strong earthquake jolted southern and western Japan at 0944 hours local (0044 GMT) yesterday.

A total of 27 houses were completely or partially destroyed and there were eight landslides, police said.

An unmanned small boat sank following tidal waves which assailed the Pacific coast of Kyushu, Japan's most southern most island, and Shikoku island in western Japan.

Tidal waves as high as two metres hit the coast at intervals of 20 to 30 minutes but they have almost subsided by mid-afternoon, the meteorological agency said.

Police said a worker in Yamaguchi prefecture, western Japan, fatally plunged 20 metres to the ground when the construction he was working on was shaken by the quake.

About 20,000 houses each in Matsuyama and Uwajima on Shikoku island had power blackout when transmission lines were cut off following the quake.

Many windows were shattered and broken.

Train operations in southern and central Kyushu and Shikoku came to a complete halt when officials and engineers were checking rails.

The epicentre was located 40 kilometres underground in the Hyuga Nada off the east coast of Kyushu.

An intensity of five on the Japanese scale of seven was recorded in Kagoshima, southern Kyushu. The magnitude was believed to be 7.7, according to the meteorological agency.

## INTERNATIONAL CLUB

Special Film Show

Wednesday April 3 at 8 p.m.

MUENCHAUSEN

in colour

Starring: H. Albers, I. Werner, H. Meyekrink

## GOETHE INSTITUTE

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**MICHAEL BRAUNFELS**

"Piano MUSIC OF THE YEAR 1822"  
by the composers:

Weber  
Beethoven  
Chopin  
Schubert

On Wednesday, April 3, 8 p.m. at the auditorium of Radio Afghanistan.  
Tickets available at Goethe Institute, Kabul, Share Nau.  
Admission Free!

## AFGHANISTAN

The 1968 winter issue of Afghanistan, the Historical Society's quarterly, is on sale now. It can be purchased from the Ebne Sina bookstore, groundfloor of the Ministry of Education building and at the headquarters of the Society, Ghiasuddin Avenue, Share Nau.

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