# ASIAN-AFRICAN CONFERENCE



# BULLETIN

# Asian-African Conference Bulletin

### CONTENTS

|                                     |   |  |  |  |  | Page  |
|-------------------------------------|---|--|--|--|--|-------|
| The Conference Secretariat          | • |  |  |  |  | 2     |
| Message from Sir John Kotelawala .  |   |  |  |  |  | 3     |
| Cables of Greeting                  |   |  |  |  |  | 3     |
| Communique of Economic Committee    |   |  |  |  |  | 3     |
| Communique of Cultural Committee .  |   |  |  |  |  | <br>4 |
| Addresses by Heads of Delegations . |   |  |  |  |  | 4     |
| Who's Who                           |   |  |  |  |  | 9     |
| World Press Opinion                 |   |  |  |  |  | 13    |

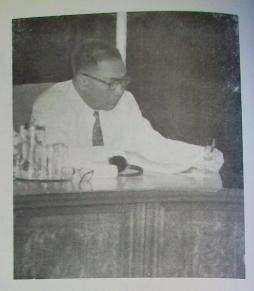
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# The Conference Secretariaat

During a plenary sitting of the Conference on the first day, the leader of the Turkish Delegation, Deputy Premier Fatin Rustu Zorlu, proposed to the meeting that the Joint Secretariat as at present composed continue to function as the Conference Secretariat.

Conference President Ali Sastroamidjojo asked whether there were other suggestions concerning this matter. There being none, the proposal of the Turkish Delegation was adopted.

Roeslan Abdulgani of Indonesia, who has hitherto been Chairman of the Joint Secretariat, thus becomes Secretary-General of the Conference.



Roeslan Abdulgani



# Message from Prime Minister Sir John Kotelawala to the Asian-African Conference Bulletin

There are many thoughts that cross my mind as I write this message for the Bulletin of the Asian-African Conference. I feel a sense of elation that this Conference has become a reality, that a new era is about to begin in the history of Asian-African relations. But we are meeting in difficult times, and for this reason I have some anxiety about the future. We, Eastern nations, have, so to speak, been reborn in a divided world. We have to find our places among the other nations and our task is made difficult by the tensions all around us that threaten to endanger our very survival.

2. Among the problems that face us, undoubtedly the most pressing is the economic development of our countries. For many centuries our people have been compelled to be satisfied with small mercies, while the rich resources of our lands have gone to benefit others. But this state of affairs is now at an end. We are free and are the masters of our own destinies. Freedom alone is, however, no panacea for our ills. We have to rebuild the traditions of our lost civilizations, and we have to infuse in our people a will to better themselves. The road ahead is by no means easy but I am confident that we shall not falter.

3. The first requirement of all our countries, if we are to progress, is a period of undisturbed peace; and peace in our time has become a very uncertain thing. But there can be no peace without international understanding. The principal task of the leaders gathered at Bandung is therefore the establishment of confidence and understanding among themselves. If we can make the slightest contribution towards creating an area of understanding in Asia and Africa, we shall have justified our meeting.

### Cables of Greeting

Many cables of greeting have been received by the Conference from various organisations in a number of different countries. They express warm support for the Conference and request its support of the struggle by the various organisations for national independence, against racialism, for peace and for international cooperation.

Amongst the messages received are those from:

The Chairman of the Supreme Soviet of the U.S.S.R., H.E. Voroshilov

The President of the Supreme Soviet of the Kazakh Soviet Socialist Republic

The Chairman of the Praesidium of the Turkman Soviet Socialist Republic

The Chairman of the Praesidium of the Uzbek Soviet Socialist Republic

The newly-elected Government of Singapore

The Somali Youth League, Somaliland

The Communist Party of Morocco, Casablanca

The Arab Refugees from Palestine, Beirut

The Moslem Council, Gaza

The Christchurch Peace Council

The Malay Youth Congress, Kuala Lumpur

The Archbishop of Cyprus, Makarios

The Civil Rights Congress, New York

The Mayor of Gaza

The United Negro Committee, London

The Prime Minister of the Democratic Republic of Germany, H.E. Otto Grotewohl

The Palestine Chamber of Commerce, Gaza

Mr Cheddi Jagan, of the People's Progressive Party, Georgetown, British Guiana

The Students of Singapore Chinese Middle School

Besides the cables from overseas, messages have been sent to the Conference by more than 300 Indonesian organisations, including various political parties.

# Communique of the Economic Committee

19th April, 1955

- The Economic Committee of the Asian-African Conference met today at 9 A.M.
- His Excellency, Professor Rooseno, Minister of Economic Affairs of the Government of the Republic of Indonesia, was unanimously elected as Chairman.
- The Chairman stressed the importance of economic problems facing the Asian-African countries and urged the pooling of energies and resources in the pursuit of common goals. He emphasised the urgency of development, with particular reference to tech-

nical progress and skill aimed at raising living

- The following agenda was adopted
  - a. Co-operation in economic development
  - b. Co-operation in development of trade
  - c. Co-operation in other fields
  - d. Development of nuclear energy for peaceful
  - Organisational aspects
- 5. The Committee decided to adopt the following rules of procedure:

- Each of the five agenda items will be discussed separately.
- The summary of discussions on each of the five items will be incorporated in a report to the Conference. The verbatim minutes of the Committee will be appended to the report.
- Mr. Akbar Adil of the Secretariat will act as Rapporteur/Secretary of the Committee.
- If it is considered necessary, a drafting committee will be appointed to help in the drafting of the report.
- The Committee adjourned until 9 A.M. tomorrow

# Committee on Cultural Cooperation

Communique no. 1

April 20, 1955

- 1. The Committee on Cultural Cooperation of the Asian-African Conference met this morning at 9.30 with H. E. Dr. Mohamad Yamin in the chair. The various delegates in their speeches enthusiastically supported the proposal for cultural cooperation.
- 2. Based on working papers already submitted by India. Indonesia, Japan and Pakistan, various delegates put forward amendments and new proposals.
- 3. After a discussion on procedural matters a subcommittee of 12 members was appointed to examine the problems of cultural co-operation and ways of furthering this co-operation.

- 4. The representatives of the following countries were elected to serve on the subcommittee:
  - 1. India
- 7. China
- 2. Indonesia
- 8. Philippines
- 3. Japan
- 9. Sudan
- 4. Pakistan
- 10. State of Vietnam
- 5. Iraq
- 11. Democratic Republic of
- Vietnam
- 6. Egypt
- 12. Liberia
- 5. The subcommittee will meet this afternoon at 3 p.m. and the full Committee will reassemble at 9 a.m. tomorrow

# Addresses by Heads of Delegations

Some important parts of speeches, continued from Bulletin No. 4

## Sami Solh, Lebanon

On the threshold of this conference let us not forget that the world is observing and judging us. Let us not forget that on our work depends the well-being and may be the salvation of numerous peoples; and the first thought, which, I believe, should dominate these debates, is that of Human brotherhood.

In fact, regardless of the distance or the opinion or the culture which differentiates the peoples here represented or which separate them from those absent, we are all united here by the ties of this brotherhood. Therefore the value of the service which the leaders of every nation may render to their country and to the world is proportional to their efforts to bring together peoples and to insure for individuals lodging, clothing and food.

However, three obstacles impede this idea, hinder the success of our meetings and may compromise the noble enterprise to which, gentlemen, you have today linked your name. These dangers are first, fanaticism in all its forms,

second, chauvinism or overpushed nationalism, and third hatred of foreigners.

These are, without doubt, seeds for discord and division. These are the enemies of peace and of humanity.

If human rights, as defined by the Charter of the United Nations, are sacred, the right of nations themselves, no matter how small, to the respect of greater nations is at least just as sacred. Furthermore, the oppressed peoples, those who have not yet enjoyed freedom and independence as well as those who have been deprived of both will find here, we hope, the best support.

Deeply convinced, on the other hand, of the existence of a fundamental justice and imbued with the principle

of democratic freedoms, we believe of men that it is through safe-guarding faith in the spiritual destinies of men that we would ameliorate their fate and it is by encouraging such policy that this Assembly would have accomplished its mission.

After all it is through tolerance that we will settle permanently our difficulties and that we will impose our respect on the world. It is through tolerance that we will create an atmosphere favourable to international collaboration. Finally it is through tolerance that we will appease passions, which unfortunately have been for so long nourished, and which if unchained, would lead us to disaster.

# Momolu Dukuly, Liberia

This delegated convocation of top-level emissaries of goodwill from most of the Nations of Asia and Africa cannot but be considered as the beginning of a New Era symbolic of a new awakening on part of the Peoples of these two great continents to their momentous responsibilities to mankind everywhere.

As for us, we have come with no preconceived notions calculated to undermine the meaningfulness and import of this Convocation or detract from the lofty aims and ideals of this Assembly. We proffer friendship, love and mutual respect for all; consequently, we express the fervent hope that we shall enter upon all deliberations in the healthy atmosphere of objectivity and common understanding.

In a Foreign Policy Statement contained in his message to the National Legislature on January 21, 1955, our Chief of State, President William V.S. Tubman stated the following:

"There is a tremendous upsurge of the under-privileged peoples of the world for independence and selfdetermination. Toward the natural and inherent tendency and clamour of this group of the carth's inhabitants, Liberia cannot be indifferent or unsympathetic.

"She is the second oldest Negro Republic in the world and the only Republic in West Africa, and has enjoyed this status for more than a century. She too has passed through the grind of deprivation of the rights and benefits of freedom.

"We therefore must give sympathetic support and encouragement to these under-privileged and less fortunate inhabitants of the earth, but within the bounds of firm determination and orderly and peaceful evolution.

"The coming together of racial and continental groups to discuss their general welfare appears to be commendable, provided the main objectives are for the enhancement of universal peace and brotherhood among all nations and peoples in order to evolve a better era of international concord, freedom, equality, justice, privilege, opportunity and benefits for all alike, regardless of race, colour, religon, creed, clime or cost. To be contrariwise would mean a widening of international gaps."

# Mahmoud Bey Muntasser, Libya

My country is of the opinion that the present tension in world relations is due to a number of evils; evils which must be won if humanity wishes to live in harmony, and if world peace is at all to be safeguarded. Most countries have realized long ago where the danger lies. Their efforts to fight it, however, have been too slow.

I am referring to:

Firstly: COLONIALISM. Mankind has been able to free itself from individual slavery, but, alas, it is still suffering in many parts of the world from nation slavery, the subjugation of an entire people.

It is also very regrettable that France, the first nation to proclaim the principles of Liberty, Equality and Fraternity, should meet the rightful claims of these three countries to freedom and independence, with violence and repression. We sincerely hope, however, that France will reconsider her attitude, and stop bloodshed, and answer the aspirations of the people of North Africa. Secondly: RACIAL DISCRIMINATION, whether based on colour or origin, is an evil derived from the colonial spirit and it is indeed a great offence to humanity.

Thirdly: EXTERNAL IDEOLOGICAL INTER-FERENCE. We all agree that every country has a perfect right to choose for itself whatever ideology she wishes to, but it is very dangerous for the world as a whole, that any country should attempt to interfere in the internal affairs of another country, and to force upon her, whether openly or secretly, a different way of life or system of government. Such interference, whatever its source might be, is but another kind of colonialism more dangerous and of much stronger effect, since it embodies all the disadvantages of colossal colonialism, and, in addition, intellectual slavery. It is a danger menacing the sovereignty of nations, and the cause of world peace.

I shall conclude by saying that the United Kingdom of Libya firmly believes in the institutions of Democracy, and in the principles proclaimed by the Charter of the United Nations, and sees in them the only means to ensure for all peoples on earth, peace and security. For these reasons the Libyan people and its Government are against colonialism, whatever its kind or source may be, as well as against racial discrimination, and external ideological interference. It furthermore believes in the desirability of economic cooperation based on equality and common interests, and in the necessity to widen the scope of such cooperation by lessening control over trade.

All these principles in which my people and Government believe, do fail within the aims and purposes of this Conference.

# Mohammed Ali, Pakistan

It is my earnest hope that our work in this Conference will result not only in promoting understanding among the nations here represented, but will also be of benefit to all nations of the world. The countries of Asia and Africa cannot regard themselves as a group apart. Their problems and their fortunes are inevitably bound up with those of the rest of the world.

They meet because they find it necessary to come together for promoting goodwill and cooperation among themselves and to exchange views on problems which require their combined attention. They meet also in the conviction that by so doing they may help, in so far as lies in their power, to promote international goodwill and strengthen the fabric of world peace.

I am confident that no nation in the world pays only lip service to justice and that the trend towards the liberation of subject peoples is universal. I believe that imperialism, as we have known it in the past in Asia and Africa, is an anachronism and is well on the road to liquidation. We cannot be complacent however.

We must do everything in our power to ensure that the peoples who are still groaning under the hell of foreign domination, are allowed to enjoy in full measure the fruits of freedom. At the same time we must be very careful that we are not misled into opening our doors to a new and more insidious form of imperialism that masquerades in the guise of liberation.

We shall during this Conference discuss the means whereby the causes of tension between nations may be removed and world peace assured. At the appropriate time I propose to place before you the following seven principles, acceptance of which by all nations is, in my

opinion, essential for the maintenance of peace. These seven principles are:

ONE : Respect for the sovereignty and territorial integrity of all nations.

TWO: Recognition of the equality of every independent and sovereign nation.

THREE: Abstention from interference in the internal affairs of one country by another.

FOUR : Non-aggression against the territorial integrity or political independence of any country.

FIVE : Right of self-defence exercised singly or collectively.

SIX: Right of self-determination of all peoples and abhorrence of colonial exploitation in any shape or form; and

SEVEN: Settlement of all international disputes by peaceful means, namely, negotiations, mediation or arbitration.

It is my conviction that not until these seven principles of peace are universally recognized and resolutely implemented, can existing world tensions be resolved and world peace firmly secured. It would not be enough merely to proclaim our faith in these principles.

It is only when these principles are not only accepted but acted upon by all countries that it will be possible for nations to co-exist in peace, regardless of diversities of race, religion, ideology or form of government. I look upon these seven principles as the Seven pillars of Peace. Only when the edifice of peace has been thus securely raised, will fear and mistrust be banished from the hearts of men and it will be possible for all nations freely to maintain and develop friendly relations on the basis of mutual esteem, mutual trust and mutual benefit.

From a willingness to accept these seven principles will stem agreement on reduction and international control of armament.

In our efforts to help strengthen the forces of peace and remove international tensions we will no doubt consider the question of the Palestine refugees and the grant of self-government to Tunisia and Morocco as well as the problem of Algeria when we take up detailed discussion of our agenda.

There is one other matter on the agenda with regard to which I should like to indicate the attitude of my delegation at this stage. We believe firmly in the university of membership of the United Nations. We consider that the more broad-based that organisation is the better it will be in a position to serve mankind.

We consider that all independent countries which have applied for membership of the United Nations and are eligible should be admitted as members of the body. There may be some difficulties in the way of admitting certain countries in Europe, but we see no reason why the admission of such countries in Asia and Africa to the United Nations should be held up. We consider also that these two vast continents are inadequately represented in the Security Council and would suggest an increase in the non-permanent seats on the Security Council to ensure proper representation of Asian-African nations.

The political crisis of our time creates anxiety in our hearts. But we must remember that peace is not a purely political phenomenon. It is affected largely by economic, social and moral factors. As the difficulties on the political plane increase, we should lay greater stress on the economic, social and moral values. The real enemies of peace and progress are poverty, disease, ignorance and prejudice. They corrupt and corrode society and breed unrest and hatred. Economic improvement will combat the evils of poverty and disease, and education will dispel ignorance and prejudice. In these days of political anxiety we must intensify our efforts for the economic, social and intellectual improvement of our peoples.

# Carlos P. Romulo, Philippines

All who are represented here are certainly concerned with the issues of (1) colonialism and political freedom; (2) racial equality, and (3) peaceful economic growth. The history of the world in our time turns on the ways in which these issues are met and resolved, or not met and not resolved.

..... To begin with, the very fact that we have come together here in this manner illustrates the great new fact that these issues of freedom, equality, and growth are no longer merely national problems but world problems.

In this world of contending great powers, the indepence of the small or meak nation is at best a precarious and fragile thing. Obviously the ultimate greater
freedom will lie in a greater coherence, a uniting of
regional interests, in the creation of counterbalancing
moral, economic, and physical strength, in the greatest
possible common action by all to avert the disaster of a
new world war. Let us face squarely up to the fact that
within the nation we can regain our self-respect and
grapple with our local problems but that for the primary
goals of economic transformation and well-being and peace,
the nation no longer suffices. Western European man
today is paying the terrible price for preserving too long
the narrow and inadequate instrument of the nation state.

Besides the issues of colonialism and political freedom, all of us here are concerned with the matter of racial

equality. This is a touchstone, I think, for most of us assembled here and the peoples we represent. The systems and the manners of it have varied, but there has not been and there is not a Western colonial regime, which has not imposed, to a greater or lesser degree, on the people it ruled the doctrine of their own racial inferiority.

We all confront the staggering facts of our economic backwardness. This has been partly due to factors of climate, geography, and the stubborn survival of obsolete social patterns. But it has also in large measure and perhaps decisively been the result of patterns imposed upon us by Western colonialism. This heritage is the heaviest burden we carry with us into the new epoch of national freedom. The great masses of our people live in a state of poverty. We need to diversify our economies. We need to industrialize in accordance with our resources and needs. We have to win a more balanced place in the market places of the world. We have to do this in a manner that will effectively raise the standard of living of our people. These are the things we have fought for. These are the things that some of us here are still fighting for. For these things above all, we have needed to be free to seek our own way

But let us not have too many illusions about national independence. We arrive in the world as nations in the middle of the 20th century, not the 19th or the 18th.

In this 20th century world the sober fact is that a

purely national economy is an illusion. We cannot start where, say, England started two centuries ago. We have to make our places in a world that has already made tremendous advances technologically and where economic inter-dependence has become the key to effective economic development and growth.

But this by no means leaves us helpless to act in our own interest. It does not mean that we have no choice but to leave the great decisions to others. Quite the contrary. Quite the contrary, because it is precisely in our lands, in our continents, that the most important decisions are going to be made. And it is we who will make them, by what we do or by what we do NOT do in the coming years.

In could be that Russia's bombs or America's bombs will determine the future shape of the world and the fate of humanity.

If it comes to that the tragedy will be total: it will make all we say or do here or anywhere else quite irrelevant. Reason will die and the survivors will move as best they can into a new epoch of savagery. But I do not think the great decisious will come that way. I think

the shape of the world is going to be determined in large measure by the way in which the peoples of Asia and Africa go about the business of transforming their lives and their societies.

This made the lowliest drunken sot superior, in colonial society, to the highest product of culture and scholarschip and industry among the subject people.

Today this type of Western racism survives in virulent form only in certain parts of Africa, notably in the Union of South Africa but certainly in many other places as well on that vast continent. Against this every decent man on earth has to set his face. In the United Nations, the Asian and African states have again and again forced this issue on the unwilling attention of the other members. There we could see palpably the extent to which Western men have had to become defensive about their past racist attitudes. Few of the Western countries were willing to go far enough in condemning the racial practices of the Government of the Union of South Africa. They have yet to learn, it seems, how deeply this issue cuts and how profoundly it unites non-Western peoples who may disagree on all sorts of questions.

# Khaled El-Azem, Syria

In the battle for peace, first and foremost, we must have faith in our capacity and our potentiality. We are not negligible. It is true we are under-developed in the military and economic fields. It is equally true that we do not possess nuclear and other weapons of mass destruction. But still our contribution can be great and decisive. With our combined will, if we earnestly will, we can veto a catastrophic war or bring it down to a minimum. Without us a world war cannot be waged. We command the greatest of man power, of raw material, of war fuel, of military bases and of strategic positions. What a great asset to arrest war and establish peace.

Peace cannot be manufactured. Peace is not a commodity liable to export or import. Peace is the making of a peaceful mind, of a peaceful policy and of a peaceful action. Should a third war be waged, there would be no victors or vanquished, as all will be vanished. Those on the right or on the wrong, those on the offensive or defensive — all would be brought to non-existence. This dreadful destiny decrees that peaceful co-existence must be the basic foundation of our international life. It is a fallacy to think of war as a necessity. It is a great evil to think of war as an unavoidable evil. In this world of ours with the human genius capturing the riches of nature, all human needs can be satisfied. There is ample room for all ideas to be advanced, and enough room for all ideals to be achieved.

Israel does not belong to Asia or Africa. Israel is a pocket left behind the line of imperialism in its desperate retreat. Placed at one of the main gates of Asia, at the cross-roads of the three continents, Israel is an advanced outpost of imperialism. Thus, Israel exposes to danger the liberty of the peoples of Asia and Africa — a liberty they captured through their sweat, blood and tears.

Next comes the question of North Africa. The conditions in Morocco, Tunis and Algeria, are distressing and disturbing. Morocco, a State ten centuries old, is now a vast concentration camp with a deposed monarch. Tunis is lingering since 1950 in a process of protracted negotiations for its humble autonomy. Algeria is in a state of little war, a recurrence of a century's conflict. In general these three Arab territories, once the seat of dynasties and civilizations, are denied their national aspirations and the exercise of the principle of self-determination.

Africa presents another tragic problem. Racial discrimination against the people of Indian and Pakistan origin and the policy of Apartheid are a source of grave concern and deep anxiety to the whole civilized world.

On Asia we have the question of West Irian. This is again a legacy of imperialism. The territory is an integral part of the Republic of Indonesia. It is alarming that the United Nations dealing with this question in its last session has not adopted a resolution framed in the most moderate language.

In all these problems imperialism stands out as the main cause with no other cause.

We trust that our conference will lead to concrete results. The world has become sick of deliberations without tangible outcome. It would be a great disappointment to public opinion if we are to confine ourselves to oratory as a substitute to constructive measures. We hope, when we go back to our homes, we will be able to offer our people a list of action rather than a heap of speeches. Let us hope that the closing session of our Conference would point out before us a line of conduct and action to realize the sublime purpose of this historic coference.

# Who's Who in the Conference

Kojo Botsio



Aged 39yrs, married and with one son, Kojo Botsio is a Minister of State and member of the Legislative Assembly of the Gold Coast. After a college education and graduating as Bachelor of Arts from the University of Durham, Freetown, he proceeded to the United Kingdom and did post-graduate work in Education at Oxford University.

In 1946 he taught in a London County Council Secondary School and was also active as Treasurer of the West African National Secretariat and warden of West African Students' Union Hostel.

Returning to the Gold Coast he became vice principal of Abuakwa State College, Kibi, from 1947-1949, and editor of Accra Evening News 1948-1950. He was imprisoned in 1950 for his activites in the "Postitive Action" group; subsequently he was elected unopposed to the Legislative Assembly and appointed Minister of Education and Social welfare.

He was re-elected in 1954 and appointed Minister of State in Dr. Nkrumah's second cabinet.

## Chou En-Lai

Born in 1898, Chou En-lai was educated at Nankai High School in Tientsin, North China. He was editor-in-chief of the daily newspaper of the Tientsin Student Association during the 4th May Revolutionary Movement in 1919. From his student days Chou has always been active in politics and as a result of his activities was imprisoned for six months.

In 1920 he founded the Student Youth Group in France. After his return to China Chou En-lai became an instructor and later head of the Political Training Department of Whampoa Military Academy in Canton from 1924-1926. In 1927 he was one of the leaders of the uprisings in Shanghai and Nanchang, Central China.

Chou En-lai was one of the founders of the Chinese Communist Army and took part in the Long March. During the peace negotiations with Kuomintang, he was the Communist representative on the Committee of Three which was headed by the American General, George C. Marshall.

Chou En-lai joined the Communist Party of China in 1922 and is now a member of the Central Committee; member of the political bureau and secretary of the Secretariat of the Communist Party of China. He became Prime Minister and Foreign Minister after the establishment of the People's Republic of China in 1949.

In 1950 he signed the Sino-Soviet Treaty of Friendship. In 1954 he led the delegation of the People's Republic of China to the Geneva Conference and later the same year visited India and Burma, when he issued a joint statement of the five principles of peaceful co-existence. In September 1954 he visited the German Democratic Republic, the People's Republic of Poland, the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics and the People's Republic of Mongolia.



Premier Chou En-lai and his host.

### Sayed Ismail El Azhari



In 1902 a grandson was born to Sayed Ismail El Azhari, former Grand Mufti of the Sudan. The baby was given the same name as his grandfather. After completing his studies in the Teachers' section of the Old Gordon Memorial College he took a graduation course in the American university of Beirut, Lebanon, and won his Bachelor of Arts. He taught for five years at the Old Gorden Memorial College and was active in graduate activities.

Sayed Ismail El Azhari was chief delegate to the negotiations in 1946 for the settlement of the Egyptian and Sudanese question; head of the delegation to the Security Council in 1947; attended the negotiations leading up to the Cairo Agreement with the Sudan in February 1953.

When the Legislative Assembly was set up in 1948 Sayed Ismail El Azhari led popular anti-demonstrations against it and was imprisoned for his activities. He received a further four months' imprisonment on a charge of abetting hatred and opposition to the Government of the Sudan at that time. He was head of the first Sudanese Government delegation to the United Kingdom in November 1954.

### Horticultural Display & Souvenirs from Indonesia

After the heat and bustle of the town, a visit to the horticultural display at Dj. Naripan 1, is very cool and refreshing. Cactus growing in a rockery, a waterlily pond and many varieties of orchids are arranged around a magnificent centre display of flowers.

In the same room is an interesting collection of Indonesian souvenirs which will tempt many a visitor. You can buy pottery made by students of the Art Academy in Bandung, dolls dressed in Indonesian costumes and many other lovely things. This shop is arranged by the Women's Committee of West-Java; the fortytwo Women's organisations of West-Java have co-operated in arranging the many entertainments for the A. A. Conference.

On Wednesday morning Madam Ali Sastroamidjojo visited the clubhouse of the Women's Committee and later, accompanied by some of the ladies, went to the "Tambatan Hati" orphanage and gave presents to the children.

# Prince Wan Waithayakon Krommun Naradhip Bongsprabandh

Prince Wan, the head of the Thai delegation, was born on August 25th 1891. In 1914 he graduated as Bachelor of Arts from Balliol College, England, and three years later as Master of Arts. After further studies in Paris he became in 1920 Private Secretary at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, and until 1924 was Chief of Cabinet of the same Ministry. He then became Under-Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs and from 1926-1930 was Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary in London, Brussels, and The Hague.

The Prince was Chief of the Delegation to the Assembly of the League of Nations in 1928 and Vice-President at the Conference on Revision of the Statute of the Permanent Court of International Justice, Geneva in 1929. In 1931 he was appointed Professor of History at Chulalongkorn University and in 1933 Acting Dean

of the Faculty of Law.

From 1933 to 1946 Prince Wan acted as advisor to the Prime Minister and Foreign Minister of Thailand. In 1946 he was appointed head of a Special Delegation to the United Nations and in 1947 he became his country's Permanent Representative to the U.N. He still holds this post, in conjunction with the portfolio of Foreign Minister.



Prince Wan on arrival at Andir airport, Bandung

# KARTINI DAY

Panitia Hari Kartini (Kartini Day Committee) extend an open invitation to a gathering on the occasion of the anniversary of the birth of Raden Adjeng Kartini, one of the pioneers in the women's struggle for emancipation in Indonesia. The meeting will be held in the "Erlangga" Building, Dj. Riau 49 at 9am, on 21st April.



Mme. Ali Sastroamidjojo and Premier Nehru

# World Press Opinion

### HISTORY IS MADE

A great thing, something taking place for the first time in world history, has become a reality in Bandung with the holding of the Asian-African Conference. Indonesia plays not only an important but also an honourable part in its convening, because she is the initiator of the conference as well as host.

For several days the big political figures of Asia and Africa such as Nehru, Romulo, Chou En-lai, Nasser, Mohammed Ali and U Nu are gathered in Bandung. On their shoulders is laid the task of carrying out measures to maintain world peace as well as to raise the position of the Asian-African nations in the world today and in the future.

For centuries Asian and African nations have been the victims of Western domination. The Bandung conference will seek ways and means to eliminate that domination. The representatives of the twentynine Asian-African nations will consider various important problems affecting the peoples of Asia and Africa in particular and the world in general.

The conference in Bandung is a unique conference in world history, and we hope it will be able to come to a joint declaration that conforms with the aspirations of all the Asian and African peoples. The big political figures of Asia and Africa taking part in the deliberations should put forward new ideas and new ways to eliminate international conflicts and the cold war which exists today. If this can be done, the results of the Con-



The Indonesian President and Mme. Fatmawati Sukarno greeting Prime Minister Nehru, an old friend

ference will represent a valuable and important contribution now and in the future.

The Conference offers an excellent opportunity to the participating countries to create closer relations with one another, and we are convinced that each delegation will make use of this opportunity to sow the seeds of understanding in order to smoothen future relations. Only by close co-operation can the remnants of colonialism be eradicated, and only in this way can the political, economic, social and cultural development of each participating country be achieved.

Indonesia, as the host, should realise the importance of her position and do her utmost to see that the Conference achieve the best possible results — results that will not disappoint either the Asian and African nations or the world in general.

(Merdeka, Djakarta, 18-4-1955 - Translated).

# THE WHYS & WHEREFORES OF THE A—A CONFERENCE

The Asian-African Conference due to meet in Indonesia this summer, is an event of unique significance in the history of Asia. In order to educate public opinion in India and the rest of Asia, where Blitz is widely read and commented upon, we began last week a new series of articles by leading public figures as to the main issues before the Asian-African Conference and how they can be tackled. This week's contributor is Dr. Rafiq Zakaria.

The move to call the Asian-African Conference is another successful application of the now famous Nehru Doctrine in international politics.

About three years ago, no one would have dreamt that such a move on such a gigantic scale would ever have materialised. But let it be said to the credit of our Prime Minister that he stood firm by his policy of neutrality and non-alignment with the two power blocs even in the days of India's isolation in world affairs.

### Widening the Sphere of Neutrality.

This move, as the sponsors have made it clear, is not directed against any country or group of countries. It is a move in the direction of world peace and progress. True, this move, if successful, will widen the sphere of neutrality and to that extent some powers may not relish it. But we have to look today at the problems of the world, specially in view of the Atom and Hydrogen Bombs, in the larger perspective of the preservation of world oeace.

### Important Role of Arab Countries.

Viewed thus, it would be clear even to the meanest intelligence that, as our Prime Minister has repeatedly made clear, defence pacts do not lead to any security but on the contrary provoke others to organise themselves into counter-defence pacts with the result that the menace of war becomes more and more real.

In the Asian-African Conference, I am sure, the Arab countries will play an extremely important role. Today they occupy, not only strategically but also on account of their immense oil resources, a key position in world affairs; and hence if they are persuaded by the Colombo Powers to take a correct lead it will go a long way in the easing of the world tension.

In this connection the fight that is going on between Egypt on one side and Iraq on the other in the Arab League is of more than local significance. On its outcome will largely depend the contribution that the Arab bloc will make towards the success of the Asian-African Conference.....

## United Stand For World Peace.

The Egyptian Prime Minister, though a military man and yet in his thirties, has proved to be a great statesman and I am sure he will not leave any stone unurned to preserve the Arab unity, of course without sacrificing any of the fundamentals of his stand.

I am also hopeful that the new King of Saudi Arabia, Saud bin Abdul Aziz, who has already acquired a unique position for himself in the Arab world, will exert all the influence at his command to see that no edge is created in the edifice of Arab security and that the Arabs will come unitedly to the forthcoming Asian-African Conference and help Mr. Nehru in preserving world peace.

(Blitz, Bombay, 12-2-55).

# BILLION AND A HALF PEOPLE WILL BE PRESENT

By Donald Grant

Red China's premier, Chou En-lai and Vietminh's successfull revolutionary, Ho Chi Minh, are expected to use all of the tactics of world Communism, developed in the nearly 30 years since the Russian revolution, to

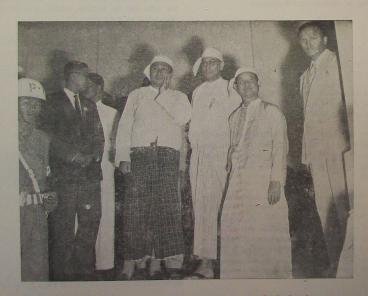
turn the Asian-African Conference into a cosmic anti-American demonstration

Viewed from the perspective of Washington — where high State Department officials newly returned from conference in Asia believe, they say, much of that part of the world is in the process of sliding down into the morass of Communism — the issue at Bandung seems to be: Will the Asian-African Conference become another way-station on the road to domination by the Moscow-Peiping axis for a billion and a half Asians and Africans?

But viewed from Asia or Africa, Bandung raises the hope of being a way-station on the road to independent power and economic development — the high road to world recognition.

Red China and Vietminh will present the "Russian way" as the most attractive way for the as yet uncommitted nations to modernize their economies and to achieve the status they seek.

The United States will have friends at the conference notably the representatives of the Philippine Republic, whose delegation probably will be headed by Gen. Carlos P. Romulo, Philippine Ambassador to the United States and personal representative in the United States of President Ramon Magsaysay.



Three leading Burmese: Premier U Nu, the Minister for Trade Development, U Raschid, and the Burmese Ambassador to Peking, U Hla Maung

Gen. Romulo's position at Bandung, however, will not be an enviable one. State Department officials have for months been recommending with the greatest urgency that a new and massive American program for the economic development of the underdeveloped areas be projected in advance of the Bandung Conference, to give our friends there something to talk about.

Conference earlier this month at Bangkok, Thailand, referred to the Asian-African Conference by stating that "all of us are working for peace, freedom, justice and well-being and therefore working for a common purpose." The Seato Conference adopted a resolution of greeting to the Asian-African Conference, which will be attended by Seato members, Pakistan, Thailand and the Philippines.

As of today, the most the State Department hopes for from the Bandung Conference is that Nehru, leader of the uncommitted nations may be able to emerge as the dominant figure. The only visible alternative is outright Communist domination.

There is evidence that Nehru will indeed assert his leadership at the conference, not only through his friends in Asia, but also through Egypt's strong-arm Premier Gamel Abdul Nasser, with whom Nehru recently has gone out of his way to develop cordial relations.

(St. Louis Post-Dispatch, USA, 13-3-55).

### CONFUSING

With the best will in the world it is difficult to understand what Premier Jawaharial Nehru expects of the Afrasian conference at Bandung next April.

Doubtless the fault is largely with the abbreviated account of his views on the subject made available over the radiocasts. But from what can be ascertained from such a skimpy source, Mr. Nehru really doesn't expect anything much.

He concedes that all the nations represented are opposed to colonialism, but he adds that the conference is not expected to bring out any definite program of action against colonialism. It is possible that since the colonialism to which Mr. Nehru has been accustomed is pretty much of a dead horse, there is no point in kicking it any longer. There is a new colonialism around, of course, but it is expedient at this time to say nothing about it.

He concedes that there are two distinct forces in the world and that among the nations to meet at Bandung

there will be those favoring one or the other, and nations which choose to stand aloof from the controversy. But he adds that the conference is not intended to serve as a debating floor for the issues involved.

He does add that this will be the first time a large number of nations of differing and contrasting ideologies will meet together. But there he overlooks a meeting ground for precisely the same three categories of nations that has been in action for ten years come April — namely the United Nations.

He points out that the conference will not be called upon to discuss issues as between the various nations represented. But if that is so, why is not Israel represented?

About the only positive point in the conference, according to Mr. Nehru, will be that it is an "experiment in co-existence". But there is a good deal that is inconsequential in using the world "coexistence." It is something that has been accepted since the beginning of man—who would be extinct as a species now if he had not learned by instinct, back before the Peking, the Piltdown or the Neanderthal, that co-existence is as essential to keeping alive as food, water and air. Unless, that is, we accept the Soviet Russian premise that co-existence, like the radio and the airplane, among other things, was first discovered by a Russian.

All of which leaves one somewhat confused as to the purpose and objective of the Afrasian conference.

(The Sunday Times, Manila, 6-3-55).



Some of the colourful costumes to be seen at Conference gatherings