

NATIONAL DEMOCRATIC FRONT

FOR NATIONAL DEMOCRATIC TASKS

Vijayawada's Call to Countrymen

(FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT)

The momentous Sixth Congress of the Communist Party of India after deliberating over the issues for ten days drew to a worthy finale on April 16 when lakhs of people from all over Andhra Pradesh converged on Vijayawada to cheer the four-hour long demonstration that preceded a late night rally attended by crowds estimated varying between one-and-a-half and three lakhs, among them a good part being women.

FROM the eve of the session when delegates had started arriving to the final closing day the Vijayawada city had put on a gay and festive appearance. Sturdy Andhra peasants crowded outside Lumumbanagar and during off hours when the sessions would not be on, floated through the palm-leaf and bamboo township and the Congress hall itself, cheering and clapping as Party leaders and fraternal delegates arrived or left the place.

The people of Andhra Pradesh had responded magnificently to the call of the Andhra State Council of the Party and of the Reception Committee headed by their beloved leader C. Rajeshwar Rao. Over three lakhs of rupees were raised by them to make the session worthy of Andhra's great name.

White-clothed volunteers with red scarves round their necks worked round the clock to assure smooth functioning of the Congress.

All through the session every night cultural performances—dance items, stage plays and music packed the hours. Tens of thousands flocked to them every evening and the box office collections through sale of tickets of

small denominations aggregated ultimately to thirty-six thousand rupees. Inaugurated by Sajjad Zaheer and presided over by Andhra's renowned poet Sri Sri and bringing together the leading lights in the cultural field of Andhra, Tamilnad and the entire South the cultural events powerfully reflected the cultural renaissance and the great role the Communist Party plays in it.

The Party Congress opened on April 7 morning with the unfurling of the Red Flag by Comrade Muzaffar Ahmad, 72-year old founding member of the Party, and with all the delegates filing reverently past the Martyrs' Column erected at the entrance next to a bust representing Patrice Lumumba the symbol of the present-day fight against imperialism and colonialism which was unveiled immediately after by General Secretary of the Communist Party of India, Comrade Ajoy Ghosh.

The Congress was attended by 439 out of the 454 voting delegates elected to represent the Party's 1,77,501 members (1959). Present also were 17 non-voting delegates and observers.

For the first time in the history of the Party a five-man fraternal delegation of

the great CPSU headed by one of the foremost leaders of the world Communist movement, Comrade M. A. Suslov attended the CPI's Congress.

Also present were fraternal delegates from the Communist Parties of Czechoslovakia, Bulgaria, Italy, Australia, the Workers' Party of Rumania and the Socialist Workers Party of Hungary.

The fraternal delegates from the Parties of France, German Democratic Republic and Israel were unfortunately refused visas and could not attend. A number of inspiring warm-hearted messages from fraternal Parties were received.

It was while the Congress was in session that the great news of man overcoming the barrier of space came. It was a Soviet man, a citizen of the first Socialist State, a Communist, who had performed the feat on behalf of all humanity. The jubilation and rejoicing at the Party Congress knew no bounds. Even before the event had happened and when only rumours were afloat Comrade Suslov through comrade Ajoy Ghosh had made it known to the delegates that it would take place

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NEW AGE

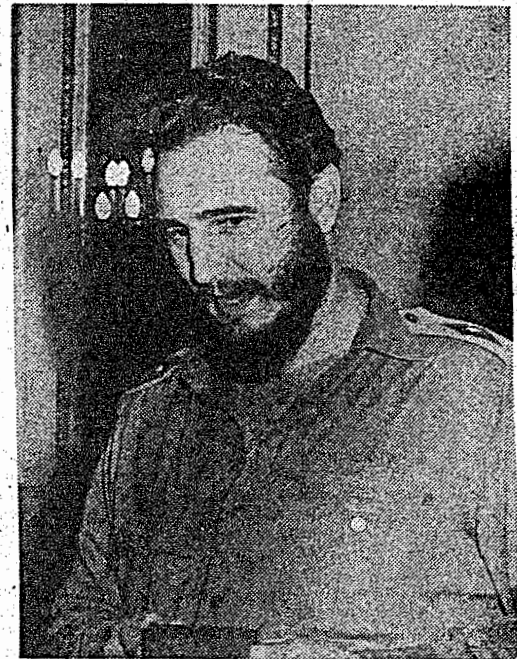
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RALLY TO UPHOLD CUBA



NOT CASTRO, BUT U. S. IMPERIALISTS ARE THE DESPOTS

WHILE heroic Cuba stood up as one man to repel the U.S.-subsidised mercenaries' invasion of the little island and the USA under the new administration suffered its first Suez-like debacle, the new U.S. ambassador to our country, the much-advertised Mr. Galbraith, was trying in his first press conference in New Delhi to justify the U.S. aggression by slandering Fidel Castro as a despot. The rally round Castro of the entire Cuban people and the massive demonstrations in their support all over Latin America and elsewhere have shown who is the beloved democrat and who would reimpose despotism on Cuba.

We demand that the U.S. publicly renounce its continuing plot of aggression and subversion against Cuba and their embassy in New Delhi stop slandering the beloved national leader of Cuba, for whom the Indian people have the highest admiration and regard.

AJOY GHOSH, General Secretary of the Communist Party of India has called for demonstrations in support of Cuba. In a statement on April 18 he said:

"The invasion of Cuba by counter-revolutionary forces, armed and organised by American imperialists, is an assault by a giant power on the freedom and independence of a small but heroic nation. It is a foul crime fraught with gravest consequences to cause of World Peace.

"We hope that the Government of India will demand that the United Nations acts—and acts immediately—to ensure that the invaders are expelled from Cuban soil. Mankind will judge the United

Nations by how it acts on this issue.

"We express our solidarity with the gallant people of Cuba who are resolutely defending their freedom under the leadership of their indomitable Prime Minister, Dr. Fidel Castro. Their cause is the cause of all men and women, in all lands, who love peace and cherish freedom.

"We call upon our people in every State and every area to organise meetings and demonstrations to express solidarity with the Cuban people, to denounce American imperialists, and to demand that the United Nation must act resolutely in defence of Cuban freedom and World Peace."



A view of the demonstration passing through Vijayawada streets on April 16.

City of Congress

SOCIALISM'S GIFT TO HUMANITY

Two despatches from our correspondent, Masood Ali Khan

MOSCOW, April 12.

The day for which all humanity waited with bated breath has dawned. Man has triumphantly stepped out into cosmic space, and, as I write this, continues his flight round the earth. Soviet socialist man has done it. It is a day of victory for all rational human beings and a day of great rejoicing. So let us sing and celebrate.

THE great news was broadcast by Moscow Radio at two minutes past ten this morning, a few minutes ago. The voice of the announcer and his excitement told us from the very beginning that something very big had happened. As the news was read out we heard with difficulty, for our pounding hearts made too much noise. Then we three—my wife, my daughter and I—did crazy things—shouted hurrah, danced with joy and kissed each other. Then the telephone started ringing and one by one friends and fellow correspondents phoned, congratulated. "Have you heard? Yes, we have", "Oh what a day!" We made a quick check-up of all the data and rushed to give the big news to our papers, one of the biggest news in human history.

Moscow Radio is playing triumphant music. People in the snow-covered streets embrace each other as I write. The news was announced less than an hour ago but the excitement is mounting and I can imagine what it would be like by the evening.

And I think of our Party

Congress meeting in Vijayawada at this moment. How somebody will make the thrilling announcement, how everybody will cheer and congratulate Suslov and other Soviet delegates.

Yes, they deserve all our congratulations, all our thanks and greetings—these Soviet people—for having made the Revolution in 1917 for having defended it and built Socialism in spite of all odds and suffering, for having saved human civilisation from destruction in the last war and for bringing humanity to this day, to this moment of joy and happiness unlimited. What a present for May Day! For all of us, what a holiday it is going to be!

The first flight of man into cosmos, April 12, 1961. The pilot a citizen of the Soviet Union, Major Yuri Alekseyevich Gagarin on board the cosmic spaceship called "Vostok" (the East) going round the Earth every eighty nine minutes on orbit at the height of 175 to 302 kilometres over the Earth's surface at an angle of 65.04 to Equator, weight of

spaceship 4,725 kilograms including the pilot Yuri Gagarin. Two-way contact with him by radio and television is working. The radio announces the wave-lengths so that everyone could hear for himself.

Gagarin took the strain of the take off satisfactorily. At the present moment he feels "Khorosho", the radio announcer declares with pride and tremor in voice. The flight in space continues with Comrade Gagarin on board. Now some music is played but a few minutes later the radio announces that Gagarin going over South America at nine, twenty-two Moscow time informed: "Flight going normally. I feel fine."

Then at twelve past eleven the announcer again breaks into the music to tell the world following this great drama of human genius: at twenty-five minutes past ten Moscow time, he begins—and now there is tension in his voice and some alarm—after the flight round the earth engines were switched on to apply the brakes and spaceship Vostok began to come down.

The announcement ends. The excitement mounts. The radio now takes us out on to the streets; we hear excited voices.

What can we say, says someone with lump in his throat. We are happy for Gagarin, for our Soviet land. Molodets, molodets (well done), people repeat. We wish him happy landing on our dear Soviet soil, someone adds.

Then the radio announces: switch on your television sets, portrait of the day's hero will



Yuri Alexeyevich Gagarin, First Man in Space.

be shown. Gagarin, Gagarin, the whole world repeats. How everyone envies him, how everyone is proud of him, and proud of the mighty people and the mighty Socialist land born of the Great October Socialist Revolution. We all wait with confidence for the happy outcome, but the minutes go like hours. At twelve, the television screen brings us his portrait in pilot's helmet and confident look in his eyes.

Outside, it is a typical Moscow day. There is brilliant light and a light snow lyrically floats slowly down the air. Songs ring out in praise of this heroic feat; glory to Science, glory to good people of the world, glory to our motherland, glory to the working people of our land, the loudspeakers boom out. The radio broadcasts the voice of Tsiolkovsky, the great Soviet scientist who calculated and scientifically worked out methods of rocket flights, but did not live to see this great day.

At 22 minutes past 12, the radio begins to announce again. Successful return of man to Earth from the first cosmic flight, he says. At 10-55, Soviet spaceship—Sputnik Vostok—landed safely at the appointed spot in the Soviet Union. After landing the pilot said, "Please report to the Party and Government and personally to Nikita Sergeyevich Khrushchov that landing took place normally. I feel fine. Had no shocks or injuries. Flight of man in cosmos opens grandiose perspectives for the conquest of space by mankind."

So the great feat has been successfully accomplished. This is probably the greatest event of the 20th century. It is 30 minutes past 12 now, and I rush to the telegraph office with my heart bursting from a tidal wave of limitless joy.

FOUR DAYS LATER

MOSCOW April 15.

THESE last four days Moscow has been in a whirl of a fantastic dream.

Since the moment of the landing of the spaceship Vostok with world's first astronaut, safe and sound, without a scratch and beaming smiles this whole city of seven millions has opened all the floodgates of happiness and the rejoicing has been en masse and on a scale unprecedented, even in Moscow used to doing things in a big way.

I have watched many many days and other holidays here but what has been going on since Wednesday beats all records of gaiety and open hearted, all embracing joy and merriment.

The drama of the epoch-making flight with the world watching its progress gave the whole people a sense of participation in this heroic exploit. The Soviet people were with Gagarin all the time and the few minutes after the announcement that the spaceship had started coming down and before the news of safe landing was broadcast millions lived through a tense period of waiting.

The consequent outburst of happiness was all the greater and the flood has not subsided yet.

After all for the first time in human history a man from the planet earth, a Soviet man, in a ship built by Soviet hands burst out into outer space and circled the earth for 108 minutes at the speed of 28 thousand kilometres an hour and landed successfully at a predetermined spot. All this is enough cause for pride, joy and merriment.

But it is more than that; successful flight by a human being in space has fired the imagination of the people here in a big way as if the boundless expanses of the universe became practically real for the first time in such a concrete manner. As if mass consciousness had fully grasped the meaning of man's entry into outer space and the great and limitless possibilities before a developing confident Communist society had become wonderfully alive and mentally and emo-

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CPI Congress Hails Achievement

The Sixth Congress of the Communist Party of India on April 12 adopted the following resolution of greetings on the successful launching of man into space by the Soviet Union:

In the name of our people and all humanity, the Sixth Congress of the Communist Party of India hails the momentous achievement of Soviet science which has now enabled man to conquer the barrier of space and reach the cosmic universe. It is a tribute to the great achievements of Soviet science that the first man to enter the outer space is a Soviet citizen,

Comrade Y. A. Gagarin. The Party Congress notes with profound pride that Comrade Gagarin is also a member of the great Communist Party of the Soviet Union. We Communists have every reason to rejoice that such a wonderful chapter in the annals of civilisation has been written under the Socialist system which is guided by the beacon light of Marxism-Leninism.

This unrivalled feat will ever remain a glorious milestone along humanity's onward march under Socialism. It opens up a grand vista for man as the ultimate conqueror of the

realms of the stars. This is yet another example of the superiority of Socialism over capitalism and it demonstrates the heights Socialism can achieve in the world today.

On this historic occasion, the Sixth Congress of the Communist Party of India sends its heartfelt greetings to the Soviet scientists and technicians and all Soviet people. The Congress greets the Communist Party of the Soviet Union and its Leninist Central Committee headed by Comrade N. S. Khrushchov, under whose guidance and inspiration, Soviet science has registered this unique achievement.

News of the Century in the World Press.

