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GODSE TRIAL NEXT WEEK

Mr. V.D. Savarkar Among Ten Accused

CHARGES OF CONSPIRACY AND MURDER

NEW DELHI, May 14. THE trial of Nathuram Vinayak Godse, alleged assassin of Mahatma Gandhi, and eight others, including Mr. Vinayak Damodar Savarkar, also alleged to be implicated in the crime, is expected to begin towards the end of the third week of May. It will be held in the Red Fort, Delhi.

The charges against the accused include conspiracy, murder and offences under the Arms Act.

A notification in the "Gazette of India Extraordinary" dated May 15, 1948, says that Mr. Atma Charan, I.C.S., Judge, Special Court, Delhi, is to try the case.

Besides N. V. Godse and Mr. V. D. Savarkar, the accused include Narayan Dattatraya Apte, Vishnu Ramkrishna Karkare, Digambar Ramchandra Badge, Madanlal s/o Kashmirilal Pehwa, Shankar s/o Kistayya, Gopal Vinayak Godse and Dattatraya Sadashiv Parbhure.

The accused are charged with offences punishable under Section 120(B) I.P.C., read with Section 302 I.P.C., and Sections 7, 4, 5 and 6 of the Explosive Substances Act VI of 1908 and Sections 19(D) and 19(F) of the Indian Arms Act XI of 1878 and under Section 3, 4(B) and 5 of the Explosive Substances Act VI of 1908, read with Section 6 of the Explosive Substances Act VI of 1908 and Sec. 109 and 114 I.P.C. and under Sections 19(D) and 19(F) of the Indian Arms Act XI of 1878, read with Sections 109 and 114 I.P.C. and under Section 115 I.P.C. and under Section 302, read with Sections 109 and 114 I.P.C.

Admission of members of the public to the court during the trial will be regulated by permits.—A.P.I. (Report of Mahasabha leader's trial on page 10)

AUDITOR-GENERAL OF INDIA

Mr. V. Narahari Rao

NEW DELHI, May 14: Mr. V. Narahari Rao, Secretary, Ministry of Finance, has been appointed to succeed Sir Bertie Staig, as Auditor-General of India when the latter vacates his office with effect from August 15.

Mr. Narahari Rao joined the Indian Audit and Accounts Service in 1917 and has had a distinguished career of 31 years in the Indian Audit Department, the Government of India, Finance Department, the late Foreign and Political Department. He became the first Indian Secretary in the Ministry of Finance in January 1946.

He was intimately concerned with discussions on constitutional and financial questions in connection with the Federal scheme and the Government of India Act 1935, and subsequently with all the complex post-war financial problems. On three occasions he led the Indian Delegation on sterling balance talks.—A.P.I.

375,000 TONS OF RICE FOR INDIA

Reported Allocated

WASHINGTON, May 14: The International Emergency Food Council Rice Committee decided rice allocations for the second half of 1947 which allot China 203,000 tons for this period, India about 375,000 tons for the last six months of the year, and the Philippines 43,000 tons, informed sources said today.

The Committee is expected to announce the allocations on Saturday. This brings the total allocations for the year 450,000 tons for China, 825,000 tons for India and 58,000 tons for the Philippines.

The Committee allotted Ceylon 250,000 tons for the final half of 1948 bringing her total yearly allotment to 425,000 tons.—U.P.A. (Other food reports on page 5)

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Paris Welcome To Princess

CHEERING CROWDS Award Of French Decoration

PARIS, May 14. Thousands of Parisians thronged the streets of their flag and flower bedecked city today to cheer Princess Elizabeth and the Duke of Edinburgh as they began their five-day visit to the French capital.

The Princess and her husband called on M. Vincent Auriol, the French President, at the Elysee Palace shortly after noon. Tremendous cheers greeted them from the waiting crowds. Here she was due to receive the Grand Cross of the Legion of Honour, which she will wear at a dinner in her honour this evening.

Earlier, the Royal couple had been at the British Embassy, where they met leading representatives of British Commonwealth Embassies, including the Indian Embassy.

The Royal couple reached Dunkirk from Dover early this morning and were sound asleep in their special car as it was halted ashore from the night train ferry. At dawn thousands of people had begun to gather at all vantage points in the city.

Princess Elizabeth burst into tears later in the day as she was driving back to the British Embassy from the "Arc de Triomphe", after laying a wreath on the tomb of the Unknown Soldier. Tears continued to stream down her face as she wept to wildly cheering Parisians. Earlier, the Princess had already shown signs of strain.

TRADITION ABANDONED

When she was presented with the Grand Cross of the Legion of Honour, M. Auriol said that tradition required him to give the Princess the accolade—the kiss on either cheek which in France accompanies the award of a decoration.

Then he added that he decided to abandon this tradition—but only in favour of the Duke of Edinburgh. Speaking in French this afternoon when she opened the exhibition, "Eight Centuries of British Life in Paris", she called for the "breakdown of prejudices born of narrow-minded nationalism."

ANGLO-FRENCH AMITY

Recalling that for many centuries Britain and France had fought each other, she said that the contrast between ancient rivalries and the present friendship was striking. "Among nations the bitterest enmity can give way to friendship as profound," she said.

"This lesson is one of the clearest we can Princess Elizabeth offer a world so tragically confused. Today, if we are to escape destruction, we must work for the breakdown of prejudices of narrow-minded nationalism. The time has come when all men who wish to preserve the values for which you and we have fought two wars side by side must look well beyond their own frontier. No country is morally self-sufficient."—Reuter.



KASHMIR INDEPENDENCE CELEBRATIONS

H. H. the Maharaja of Kashmir, Begum Abdullah, Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru and the Maharani of Kashmir at the garden party held in Shalimar during Pandit Nehru's recent visit to Kashmir in connection with the Independence celebrations.



"No Move To Prolong Stay In Palestine"

BRITISH INTENTION CLARIFIED

LONDON, May 14. Mr. Albert Alexander, Minister of Defence, gave a "categorical assurance" today that Britain had no intention of putting reinforcements into Palestine to prolong her stay there.

He was winding up the House of Commons final debate on Palestine before Britain gives up the mandate tonight.

Mr. Alexander also said amid cheers, "There is no doubt that whatever forces are required to give our men proper security, will be available if needed."

Opening the debate, Brigadier Austin Low (Con.) said the British communicate announcing that British troops would be reinforced had caused doubts about the British Government's real intentions.

Another Conservative, Colonel Gomme-Duncan, asserted that the British armed forces in Palestine felt their hands were tied—that they would not be backed up in actions they took.

JEWISH REFUGEES IN CYPRUS

Pressing Government to disclose arrangements being made for the Jewish refugees in Cyprus. Col. Gomme-Duncan said many of them were "carefully selected and trained Russian Communists."

In his reply, Mr. Alexander said the military authorities in Palestine had not made to him one word of complaint that they had not had support. He accused Col. Gomme-Duncan of making his statement for party advantage.

Jewish illegal immigrants would not be allowed to use the port of Haifa while the British were still evacuating their troops.

It was open to the Jewish Agency to send immigrants to other places. British troops would be "withdrawn by August 1 or earlier."

A British Foreign Office spokesman said in London today that Britain will continue her payments to the Arab League under the terms of the Anglo-Transjordan treaty after her mandate in Palestine ended tonight.—Reuter.

"STATE OF ISRAEL" SET UP BY PALESTINE JEWS

End Of 25-Year British Mandate In Holy Land

TEL-AVIV, May 14. THE newly-born Jewish State tonight warned its citizens to be prepared for the possibility of invasion and air raids, as Egyptian and Arab armies stood ready, less than 100 miles away, to invade Palestine the instant the 25-year British mandate ended at midnight tonight.

The Jews proclaimed the new "State of Israel" eight hours before the mandate was due to end.

Reckoning with the probability that Arab planes would sweep in with the invading forces, the Haganah High Command called for a partial black-out in Jewish cities from tonight and ordered trenches to be dug in rural settlements.

The State of Israel's first official act tonight was to revoke the British White Paper of 1939 limiting Jewish immigration to Palestine and limiting land sales to Jews.

THE HAGUE, May 14: Princess Juliana today became Regent of the Netherlands for the second time in seven months, when she was sworn in at a joint session of the Dutch States-General (Parliament) in the historic 700-year-old Hall of Knights.

The Princess and her consort, Prince Bernhard, drove through crowded streets from Queen Wilhelmina's palace to the Hall. The Queen did not attend this afternoon's ceremony.

Queen Wilhelmina is temporarily relinquishing her duties for health reasons. The regency will expire on August 30, when the 68-year-old Queen will resume power for a few days to celebrate her golden jubilee. After that she will abdicate in favour of Princess Juliana.—Reuter.

MARTIAL LAW IN IRAQ

BAGHDAD, May 14. A Royal decree tonight proclaimed martial law throughout Iraq.—Reuter.

Princess Juliana Of Netherlands SWORN IN AS REGENT

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16 Persons Killed In Series Of Air Crashes

BRITISH MILLIONAIRE AMONG VICTIMS

LONDON, May 14. SIXTEEN persons were killed in a series of air disasters reported today and rescue parties were tonight battling through jungle and marshes of the Belgian Congo to reach a crashed airliner believed to have 31 passengers on board.

Lady Hartington, daughter of the former United States Ambassador to London, Mr. Joseph Kennedy, and 37-year-old Earl Fitzwilliam, millionaire British racehorse owner, died in a British chartered plane which crashed during the night in the Ardeches Mountains, Southern France.

The twin-engined plane crashed in a broken rocky country in a heavy storm. It was reported to have been struck by lightning and to have one wing and one engine wrecked off. The two members of the crew were also killed.

The wreckage of a Belgian airliner, missing since yesterday, was spotted by a rescue plane early today near the village of Magazine, Belgian Congo, scattered between the road and the river Ubangui, south of Libenge.

A United States Air Force Sky-master transport plane, flying on instruments through a driving rainstorm, crashed and burst into flames at Northampton, Massachusetts, today, killing three of its crew.

The four-engined plane hit the ground with terrific force—driving a hole eight feet deep in a soggy field and scattering the wreckage over five acres.

Officials of the United States Air Force Headquarters at Wiesbaden announced today that one survivor and nine bodies were found in the wreck of a Superfortress, 120 miles north-west of Dahan, Saudi Arabia, missing since May 11.

Four of the plane's occupants were still missing.—Reuter.

Delhi Stabbing Case

NEW DELHI, May 15: One person was stabbed on Thursday night in Frashkhana, in the Hauz Kazi police station area.

The body of a person was recovered by the police from a temple well near the district jail, Delhi. The body which has not yet been identified has been sent for 'post mortem' examination.

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Indo-Japanese Cotton Trade RE-START TODAY

Mission's Talks Succeed

Private trade in Indian cotton with Japan will be resumed on Saturday after a break of seven years following successful negotiations between SCAP Trade Mission and the East India Cotton Association, Bombay on the terms of contract.

Business for the present will be restricted to only two varieties of India's short staple cotton, namely, Bengals and Mathias.

The East India Cotton Association notified to its members on Friday evening that shippers interested in resuming trade with Japan could make offers to the Board of Trade on and after Saturday. Samples would, accordingly, be submitted to the Mission with a view to avoiding any delay on the basis of the terms of contract originally brought by the Mission from Japan; but the amendments suggested by the East India Cotton Association would be incorporated therein as soon as the Board of Trade's approval was obtained.

OFFICE AT SEWRI

In order to enable the Mission to expedite its plan of completing the deal, the Association has allotted a special room in its building at Sewri. It is learnt that Mr. K. Fukui, a member of the Mission, having experience of over 17 years about Bombay's cotton trade, will sit in this room to discuss the offers with the shippers and analyse their samples.

Under the arrangement, quotations will be in £ sterling C.I.F., Kobe, Japan and the average gross weight of bales will be about 400 lb. The sealed standards will be the basis of final determination of quality of delivered cotton in the event of dispute.

In regard to payment, buyers will open letters of credit in £ sterling which will be initially available against sellers' sight drafts to the extent of 97 per cent. of the invoice value. In the event of a dispute, arbitration will be conducted in accordance with arbitration rules of the East India Cotton Association. The date of approval by the Supreme Commander for the Allied Powers of his duly authorised representative will be the effective date of any contract.

TERMS OF CONTRACT

The terms of the contract were analysed following a prolonged conference between the Mission and the Association's President, Sir Furoshotamdas Thakurdas, on Friday morning. Thereafter the Mission met commercial bodies.

In the evening three members of the mission held discussions with the Local Sub-Committee of the Indian Central Cotton Committee presided over by Mr. R. G. Saraiya. It is learnt that the discussion covered a wide range of the cotton problem, including the supply position and Government's policy. The possibility of Japan buying the surplus short staple cotton in India was also discussed. The members of the Sub-Committee, among whom were three past Vice-Presidents of the Central Cotton Committee, Sir Furoshotamdas Thakurdas, Sir Chunilal V. Mehta and Sir Chunilal B. Mehta, emphasised that the new crop could not be available before December and Japan would have, in the meantime, to choose and pick supplies from the meagre stocks of the current season and the preceding years.

(Report on Premier's Party on page 4).

The Sind Government have ordered that all today, country liquor and foreign liquor shops should remain closed on Fridays and certain holidays. The order does not apply to clubs, hotels and canteens.

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