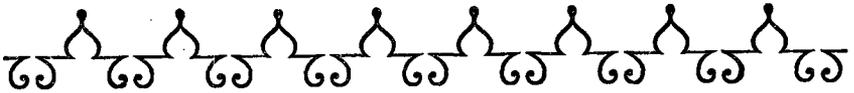


THE INDIAN SHELL GAME

by EDWARD HUNTER



WE constantly are being warned that India's Five Year Plan is a test case of democracy *vs.* communism, and that unless the United States finances its survival, rescuing it from collapse, we will have let the Free World down. This is proclaimed in a taken-for-granted manner that brushes off any skeptic as a low-brow, a reactionary, and undoubtedly a Fascist. We should recognize this tactic, used a decade ago against anyone who said that Mao Tse-tung was a real communist, not an agrarian reformer.

This tactic is stretched to include anyone whose criticism of Nehru goes beyond a gentle remonstrance over some of his more virulent attacks on American policy, although he usually manages to come up with an excuse for the most patent Red excess. It's all part of the pattern.

So far as India is concerned, it serves a very practical purpose. So far as the Americans involved are concerned, the motivation is much more complicated, ranging from die hard sentimentalism to outright pro-Red sympathies. New Delhi is seeking to extract all the advantages it can out of the cold-hot war, mainly at the expense of America, as the naïve element in the contest. This requires a sort of pay-off to hard-boiled Moscow, to induce it to reduce its pressure on India, and even support it on such issues as Kashmir, which costs the

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Kremlin nothing, and fits into its worldwide program of "double toil and trouble."

This was made plain to me on a visit to India. On one occasion, I was seated in the central of the three chambers that make up the houses of Parliament in New Delhi. This middle auditorium is an appendage from the pompous days of British viceroys and rajahs. With a bicameral Parliament now in existence, this chamber is now a lobby, where members sit and relax, have a snack, chat, and meet invited guests. The delegate whom I was interviewing beckoned colleagues—leaving from sessions at the two sides—so that a lively group was always gathered around us. Among the most prominent were specialists on Russian affairs, wellacquainted with Communism, who took a foremost role in debates on those matters. At least one spoke Russian fluently.

Their informality was matched by their frankness, a refreshing relief from the double-talk of Foreign Office and embassies. They analyzed Indian policy with clinical detachment. Independence, won only after World War II, was still shaky. They had a long boundary line with fiery Red China. They said they didn't want communism any more than I. "But we know you Americans are going to win out in the fight with the Reds," one remarked. "In the meantime, we can profit from the situation, help-

ing get ourselves firmly established in the world." The others nodded.

Although, I felt this game was too reckless for comfort, I had to admire their ruthless patriotism, and couldn't help feeling that more Americans could use that quality.

Not communism, but a lack of ethics characterized their approach. Instead of convictions, I came up against confusion. Issues were not thought through logically, but were determined emotionally, often as if by a child in a tantrum.

The same gamble was woven into the second Five Year Plan. Its actual objective is what Nehru vaguely refers to as "the road to socialism," reflecting an equal vagueness in his own mind over what socialism means. The usual assumption is that the objective of the plan is the improvement of Indian living standards. But that is only the publicized conception of it. Actually, emphasis is put on the requirements of socialism (giant industry for the government to operate) such as steel and transportation.

I WAS in India when the Plan was drafted. Gloatingly, Indian leaders and publicists—Nehru principally—made the socialist objective very plain. They did so in a framework of belligerence toward private enterprise and capitalism. The Plan was intended to show up the assumed fallacies in the American system. That was the test, so far as

the Indian people were informed. This line continued vocally until well after the scheme met inevitable obstacles and there was critical need of American help. The line, however, never has been dropped.

The Plan was created to demonstrate that state controls and a government-to-government approach were superior to private initiative and capitalism. While the efficacy of state controls was overestimated by Nehru, the danger in the government-to-government approach has been underestimated by the American people. Marxists always insisted that capitalism could be bribed to participate in its own destruction. When all else failed, that tactic could be depended on to win out. This has been part of the planning. It can save the Five Year Plan, which is intended to provide the definitive example showing that capitalism can be beaten in its own, economic realm. That is the essence of the test.

The Plan was conceived by Soviet Russian Communists. The composition of the planning committee was kept secret by Nehru from his own people as well as from the Free World, until it was discovered and disclosed by a political opponent, the saintly Jayaprakash Narayan, who fervently believes in freedom, yet regards himself as a socialist. (He has been struggling in the bonds of this contradiction for years.) Here is a partial list he disclosed of so-called ex-

perts, secretly hired by Nehru at the Indian taxpayers' expense, from behind the iron curtain: Dr. M. I. Rubinstein, Prof. I. Y. Pisaiev, D. D. Degtyar, academician, Filiminov, P. M. Moskvina and Timchevko all of the Soviet Union, and Prof. Oscar Lange, of satellite Poland.

THE list needs but to be read to show that the Plan could have been drafted only in accordance with the wishes of Soviet Russia. Assuredly then, the plan would be irreconcilably opposed to private initiative or any other aspect of Free World economics and culture.

Surely, nobody can believe, at this date, that a Communist who is allowed to go abroad on a mission, does not have to abide by Moscow policy.

He is liable to drastic punishment for himself and his family if he does otherwise. Even Moscow does not deny this, as revealed in the UN.

The theory that a Soviet citizen is freed from binding ties to his own country's policies when employed, for instance, by the UN Secretariat, has been bitterly ridiculed by the Russian delegates as a bourgeois piece of unrealistic sentimentality. The theory is only maintained by so-called liberals on the Free World side, who make believe once they are employed by the UN they no longer retain any responsibility or loyalty toward their own country.

The Soviet planners of the Indian Five Year Plan had to operate

inside the Communist ideological framework. Subtlety was obviously called for; the anti-free enterprise and primarily anti-American objective could not be spelled out abroad, although it was there to be seen by all who could read and who knew anything about India.

Thought, a bold, anti-communist weekly, published in Delhi, frankly said of the Plan as drafted: "The principles on which these recommendations are based are the same as those of communist or totalitarian plans—It should be obvious that if these recommendations get accepted, their cumulative effect would be to push India's economy increasingly into a mold indistinguishable from that of the communist country."

The program was primarily for the development of heavy industry. The production of consumer goods was virtually ignored. A sentimental sector was allotted—in passing, as it were—to cottage industry; what was called "the private sector" was allotted minor attention. The Indian Committee of Cultural Freedom in its official organ, *Freedom First*, pointed out that this emphasis on heavy industry "was the central feature of the first and subsequent Five Year Plans of Soviet Russia and it was this which led to the merciless exploitation of the people and the rise of the police state." The inevitable result in India, this genuinely liberal minded journal said, "will be the smother-

ing of free enterprise." This is what was presented to the American public as a test case between communism and democracy! If ever there was a game of "heads, the Reds win; tails, we lose," this was it!

I WAS discussing this one day on the outskirts of Madras with a member of the House of the People (the Indian equivalent of our House of Representatives). He was C. R. Narasimohan, son of the great elder statesman, C. Rajagopalachari, who in his dotage has made himself a mouthpiece of the left extremists by his lengthy and learned appeals to the United States to disarm unilaterally in the nuclear fission field. An appeal to the Soviet Russians to do so would be of no avail, he blandly admits; but he insists that if Washington would set the example, its moral effect would of course influence the Reds to do so! This is a reflection of the utter lack of logic in Hindu disputation.

His son was seeing me off, and we stood on the sidewalk for a few minutes continuing our conversation. He was enthusiastic over the blessings that he assumed the socialism of the future would bring. Yes, he said, the people would be called on to make further sacrifices to make the Plan work. At that moment, a typical representative of the Indian masses was approaching. He was a lean, tall man, wearing

only a G-string and his perspiration. He was pushing a two-wheeled cart loaded with timber. "Do you mean to say that that man will have to sacrifice even more?" I exclaimed. "What more can he give up, except his G-string?" The Parliamentarian shrugged his shoulders.

"Doesn't it seem logical that before anything else can have effect, people have to earn a little more and have a little more leisure time?" I asked.

"In India, what you say is communism," he replied.

In these surroundings, the Reds were presenting themselves as heralds of the good and free life, while promoting this Plan which required even more insufferable restraint on the people. The only outlet, in such a squeeze, would be desperate measures taken by the hapless population. This could be counted on to be in the Red favor. Evidence of slave labor in Soviet Russia had no shock effect on people living under those conditions; the information did not get to them, anyway.

THE TEXTILE industry was one of the few in India that had its roots in the natural economy. An increase in consumer goods through private enterprise would have been the obvious objective of any plan that was intended to raise living conditions and ward off the corrosive lure of communism. Yet

the textile industry was being penalized under the Plan, squeezed between an outdated and no longer feasible cottage industry and a program of nationalization, through concentration on heavy industry. The government depended on a vastly increased export trade in such products as textiles, while the overwhelming majority of its people wore rags that wouldn't be tolerated as dishcloths in Japan, much less America. India's textiles had to compete abroad with similarly increased exports by a number of other countries, all seeking to re-establish their economies.

A Five Year Plan that would put at least equal emphasis on consumer goods, accompanied by some of the modern characteristics of private enterprise in the Free World, for the benefit of worker and management alike, would automatically provide a tremendous market for textiles inside India. Self-help is always more satisfactory than aid. Yet this was excluded by the Plan which these communist specialists drafted.

I asked the Parliamentarian what he thought about this. "I don't understand economics," he answered blandly. He was voting on the Plan right down the line purely on an emotional basis, responding to Nehru's emotionalism.

"Won't the people, confronted with the demand for more and more sacrifice, turn to communism in their desperation?" I asked. He

didn't answer. He represented South India, a region not far from where, a little later, a communist regime was to be voted into office. No wonder! These people were trapped by the Five Year Plan. The Reds needed no coup, no putsch, to win in the state of Karala, only the squeeze play put on by the help of this Plan.

The entire Red network abroad with its quack liberals in harness, was called into action in support of the Plan. Even so, disclosure of its complexion forced it to be "toned down and rendered sober," said the *Economic Weekly*, published at Bombay, which put out a special issue on it.

Reds, such as Maurice Dobb of England, praised the Plan's "boldness of design."

Opposition was inevitable under the circumstances, and to make the Plan work, as in Soviet Russia, controls would have to be tightened, bringing about a police state. People, already utterly depressed, could not sacrifice any more. The Plan did not have to spell this out; it was implied in the text.

In desperation, Indian government authorities turned to the United States for tremendous financial aid, to save the Plan devised to discredit and help destroy the free way of life. The usual support was obtained from bleeding hearts among the egghead liberals and among big businessmen who

were blind to anything except the offer of a deal. A veritable campaigning for financial aid in a big way was built up in the columns of the *New York Times*. Such papers as the *Washington Post* joined the chorus, Senator Hubert H. Humphrey, as was to be expected, quickly got into line, calling for a \$900,000,000 "dynamic new Marshall Plan" just for India, saying \$1,400,000,000 was needed from foreign sources to make the Plan a success. Senator John Sherman Cooper of Kentucky, who had been rewarded for his financial aid to the Eisenhower campaign by being made Ambassador to India, did also. The glamor boy, millionaire Senator John F. Kennedy, got into line, too, with a Senate resolution for support of the Plan, which by now was known to be in a moribund condition.

NEHRU had been persuaded to soft-pedal his anti-American utterances long enough for the loan negotiations to be pushed through. \$225,000,000 was granted by Washington. Cooper thereupon came out asking \$500,000,000 more by 1961!

Nehru waited only a few days after the quarter-of-a-billion loan was announced before he resumed his attacks. In an angry speech, he slammed into those who hinted that India would now be a bit less

unfriendly to the United States. He said, "I want to tell the whole world that India will not change her policy under any threat or pressure or temptation of aid." The *New York Times*, referring—in hurt terms—to this outburst, in effect admitted the softening-up that had been put over on the American people, saying, "There has been an effort during the last few months by both India and the United States not to say anything ungracious that would hinder the work of Americans and Indians trying to arrange the loan." Letting the American people know about the communist composition of the planning board obviously was one of those "ungracious" matters to be kept secret from the American public and Congress.

IF the Reds and their dupes can make it seem that this is a test case between democracy and communism, they will have put us over a barrel. If the plan collapses, the Free World will appear to be to blame. If it succeeds, "the road to socialism" will have defeated the private enterprise system. The only way this Gordian knot can be cut is a new approach to world problems by the U.S. government and people. We will have to make known unmistakably that we are on the side of the free people, that we help those on our side, that we do not let our friends down even if they get into difficulty; then we can march forward with our allies, who will prove to be the peoples of the whole world, particularly our secret allies behind the iron curtain.

If we study the *CAUSE* of our troubles we will find that the *individuals* who grabbed the *MONEY MONOPOLY* and then became the "Invisible Government" in various countries, have organized and financed a conspiracy to make us economic slaves. They plan to destroy our way of life in these United States.

The anti-Christ forces have for some many years divided people in various countries. "They" poison the life stream of each nation, set up false values, miseducate the youth, and work for *DISINTEGRATION*. They have worked against the laws of God and nature. Their hot and cold wars, narcotics and crime, unpayable debts and other rackets will backfire. They will bring into play *the law of retribution*. A tornado of hate-fury will strike the guilty.

by Major General Charles A. Willoughby

Indonesia, The U.S. and The UN

INDONESIA, a chain of 3,000 islands, is sometimes known as the *Malay Barrier*, as it separates the Indian Ocean from the Pacific Ocean and controls the historic sea lanes from India to the Orient. This area is as important as the Suez Canal. It is no accident that global Communism is active in this region. Soviet operations, from the Carribean to the Middle East and Indonesia have a common denominator—Oil!

As far as the United States is

concerned, the “sovietization” of Indonesia would challenge the ultimate purposes of the Pacific War: we would have fought it uselessly.

The United States has defined an ultimate defense line in the Pacific, an “American Main Line of Resistance,” from which it cannot retreat: the island chain running from Japan, via Okinawa, Formosa, the Philippines and Dutch New Guinea, toward Australia. Indeed, MacArthur’s wartime advance to

