

After the Washington Meeting

Mesamarat al-Gayb, 2 December 1945

The meeting held in Washington, among the President of the United States of America, the British Prime Minister, and the Canadian Prime Minister, never granted seekers of security, and advocates of lasting peace, the chance to breathe a genuinely content, reassured breath — since this same meeting never carried the world a single step, near or far, toward genuine trust, and stability, but held the world, rather, exactly where it already stood, in anxiety, fear, and suspicion. It may well, in fact, have increased the world's own share of anxiety, fear, and suspicion — for it has, without any doubt, genuinely strengthened the bonds among the Anglo-Saxon bloc's own members, firmly, yet never brought the gap any closer, between this same bloc, and the Soviet Union. Every strength either bloc now enjoys becomes, then, a genuine cause for anxiety, fear, and suspicion — unless genuine rapprochement is achieved between the two, and the trust found without which no rapprochement remains possible.

The genuine divergence, and disparity, of interests remains the very source of whatever suspicion, and ill-will, exists between the two same blocs. One of these same two blocs dominates the outside world through her own vast empire, spanning every country of the earth, and through her own dominance over every sea besides, and through whatever this same dominance, and this same empire, together grant her: the ability to establish land, air, and naval bases, wherever she pleases.

This same bloc, moreover, dominates the outside world not merely through her own vast empire, and her own dominance over the seas, but also through this same immense economic, and financial, authority she derives from America's own inexhaustible wealth, and the British Empire's own boundless riches.

The other same bloc, meanwhile — the Soviet Union's own bloc, and the states orbiting around her — holds her own immense strength, derived from the sheer vastness of the land she occupies, across two continents. From this same land's own agricultural, and mineral, riches; from her own people's own capacity for work, and production; from their own skill in organizing this same work, and multiplying this same production; from their own remarkable capacity for research, and inquiry, then for deduction, and discovery; from their own faith in

themselves, their own confidence in their own future, and their own genuine ambition to secure, for themselves, a genuinely distinguished place in the world, matching all of these same qualities.

The Soviet Union's own empire remains genuinely immense, in her own length, breadth, and population — yet remains, altogether, contiguous, joined together into a single whole, genuinely confined, or nearly confined, scarcely able to reach the outside world at all, since she holds no genuine dominance over the seas, indeed scarcely reaching those same seas in the first place.

The war has already ended, and Comrade Molotov has not hesitated to declare, truthfully, that Russia herself was the one who hastened the war's own end — the very first to subdue Germany, once her own strength had been exhausted, and the very one who declared war on Japan, thereby compelling her toward surrender. So long as she has already borne more of the war's own horrors than others, and won more of its own victory than others, it remains her own genuine right to aspire toward a place in the world matching whatever effort she has expended, whatever horror she has endured, and whatever victory she has won. She is no longer content, then, with her own traditional, entirely confined position — she wants, rather, to breathe exactly as her own allies breathe, to plant her own foot wherever she pleases, among the earth's own empty spaces, and sail her own merchant, and warships, wherever she pleases, across sea and ocean alike. She does not love colonialism — yet has no real objection to serving as trustee over this or that same part of the earth.

She has no wish whatsoever to subject peoples to her own authority — yet has no real objection to adopting the mandate system as a genuine means of liberating peoples instead. She has no real objection, then, to planting her own foot in North Africa, as mandatory power over Libya, neighbouring her own ally France, overlooking the western Mediterranean. Nor has she any real objection to planting her own foot upon the Red Sea coast, in one of the former Italian colonies, overlooking that same sea from there, gazing from there upon the Indian Ocean, and neighbouring, there, her own ally Great Britain.

There is no genuine necessity that alliances be forged only during war, and hardship, and distress, only for each ally to turn his own back on the other, once victory has been secured! It remains entirely possible, and entirely reasonable too, that alliances should persist, during peace,

exactly as they persisted during war, and that the victors should agree, among themselves, on dividing the spoils justly, or in some manner resembling justice, and on exploiting victory fairly, or in some manner resembling fairness.

It is hardly natural, then, that the Anglo-Saxon bloc should monopolize authority over the earth, in East and West alike, while the Russian bloc remains exactly where she already stands, finding neither advance, nor retreat, available to her.

The Allies never triumphed so that the world might remain, after the war, exactly as it stood before it — a genuine source of wealth, monopolized by one faction of victors, to the exclusion of the other.

Add to this, too, that certain liberated nations hold vast empires outside Europe — France has her own empire, Holland has her own empire, Belgium has her own empire too. How, then, could it possibly stand to reason, that these same liberated states should hold colonies in Africa and Asia, while Russia — for we shall not say colonies, since Russia does not love colonialism — should hold no genuine trusteeship whatsoever, over some part here, some part there?!

This proves genuinely strange — and stranger still is that it never even occurs to the British and Americans that Russia might genuinely hold a right to share with them in exploiting the world, and dominating it. Nor ought we to be so naive, so innocent-hearted, as to imagine colonies genuinely hold any real right to reclaim their own freedom, and secure their own independence. All of this remained mere talk, spoken while the war's own predicament persisted — but now that this same predicament has ended, and the Allies have emerged from it victorious, the colonies must remain exactly as they were, with other colonies added to them besides: some taken from the vanquished's own spoils, others taken from smaller peoples, provided only that this same colonization is given some new name, one that offends no one's sensibilities — "partnership," say, resting on equality, or "cooperation," toward raising individuals' and communities' own standard of living.

The genuine proof of this lies in the fact that the victors have declared the independence of not a single colony, restored to not a single people its own right to independence, complete or partial, nor declared independence for those very colonies wrested from the enemy's own hands.

The genuine proof of this lies, too, in the fact that certain of these same colonies believed the Allies, and resolved to become independent — and now find themselves suffering genuinely severe torment for it.

And I believe what is happening in Indonesia proves genuinely, entirely sufficient to demonstrate that the victorious Allies have no wish whatsoever to change anything genuinely fundamental about the world's own state of affairs: the powers will retain their own colonies, and their own spheres of influence, and will expand these same colonies, and spheres of influence, wherever they genuinely find a way to do so. Why, then, should Russia not possess colonies, and spheres of influence, outside Europe too?! Could it possibly make sense that Russia should hold any less dominance over the world than Holland, and Belgium — indeed, than Spain, and Portugal?!

This, then, is exactly the matter over which the victors' own hearts genuinely differ, one their own tongues scarcely dare to mention at all. There exists, too, another matter, over which hearts and intentions genuinely differ, one their own tongues mention only with the utmost reserve, and caution: the very domination the first-class victors exercise over second-class victors. Europe, for instance, remains, it is claimed, too advanced, too noble a stock, to ever submit to colonialism — since colonialism represents a genuine diminishment of human dignity, one permissible for the peoples of Asia and Africa, yet impermissible, by comparison, for Europeans.

Yet Europe remains genuinely weak, exhausted by the war, in genuine need of the victors' own assistance — and if Europe stands above colonialism, mandates, and trusteeship, on account of her own privilege, and her own noble stock, she does not stand above submitting to the extension of influence itself. Some victors, then, might genuinely extend their own moral, and economic, influence over Western Europe, while others extend this same moral, and economic, influence over Eastern Europe instead. And here arises a problem no less genuinely complex than colonialism itself — since all the victors alike wish to extend their own influence over the whole of Europe.

Should Russia monopolize influence in Eastern Europe, the Anglo-Saxons grow indignant; should the Anglo-Saxons monopolize influence in Western Europe, the Russians grow indignant. Nor does it genuinely matter whether Europe's own opinion is even known, nor whether Europe herself enjoys any real freedom to choose her own allies,

should she ever need alliances at all — peoples' own will is nothing genuinely significant here; what proves genuinely significant, rather, is these same victorious states, and their own standing armies, demobilized only with the utmost slowness, and it was mere, pure chance that the atomic bomb was discovered at the very last moment, discovered, and kept secret, in its every detail, by the Anglo-Saxon allies alone. The atomic bomb remains a genuinely terrifying power, frightening even those who fear nothing, subduing even those unwilling to submit — and whoever retains her own secrets remains, without any doubt, genuinely superior. Russia, then, must inevitably grow anxious, treaties and covenants must inevitably be tested, and hearts must inevitably reveal what truly lies within them. Were the victorious Allies genuinely sincere in whatever love they show one another, genuinely faithful to whatever covenant they have given one another, the atomic bomb's own secret ought never to be withheld from the Russians, nor ought the Russians' own secret weapons ever be withheld from the Anglo-Saxon Allies.

People had believed the Washington meeting might narrow the very distance separating the two same blocs, each confiding to the other its own true self, its own innermost conscience, and the secret weapons on either side might finally become a genuine partnership, resting on equality between the first-class victors themselves. Events, though, reveal something entirely different from what people had expected: the atomic bomb's own matter will remain a genuinely fortified Anglo-Saxon secret, until Russia declares her own demands, clearly, and openly. Should these same demands be accepted, the atomic bomb's own matter would then be entrusted to the United Nations — and I say "the atomic bomb's own matter," not "her own secret," since it may well emerge that her own secret is one thing, and the matter of her own use, in establishing security and order, is quite another.

And so the Washington meeting concluded, its own participants dispersing, and the world remained exactly where it had already stood, in anxiety, fear, and suspicion — indeed, words and deeds have already occurred, only increasing the world's own anxiety, and fear. It is said, for instance, that Great Britain harbours some genuine inclination toward amending the San Francisco Charter, so as to abolish the veto right retained for the five great powers, and restore matters to the same equal footing they once held, in the League of Nations, or something genuinely close to it. On that same day, the old diplomatic manoeuvres would then resume, and Russia would find herself isolated, exactly as Germany was

once isolated, right down to everything Professor Mahmoud Azmi himself has already discussed, in certain remarks of his own, only days ago.

Throughout all of this, whatever troubles are now occurring in Iran continue to occur, whatever scheming is now attributed to Russia continues to be attributed to her, the Anglo-Saxons continue pressing for hastened evacuation from Iran, Russia continues plugging her own ears, and continues pursuing her own genuinely silent policy, one filling democrats' own hearts with suspicion, and fear. Russia, though, is hardly alone in working through silence — America, it appears, works through silence too, though in China, rather than Iran, and appears far less skilled at silence than Russia herself: her own ambassador to China resigns, violently, accusing the American State Department of interfering in China's own affairs, in a manner genuinely contrary to democracy — and his own resignation is accepted, his own successor appointed, in the shortest possible time.

As for Western Europe, matters here are hardly free of some genuine hidden complexity: France must inevitably ally with Britain, and Great Britain must inevitably ally with France, owing to their own shared proximity, and their own common interests, in the Near and Far East alike — yet France must inevitably ally with Russia too, and has already, in fact, allied with her. This same traditional alliance must inevitably be strengthened further still, to achieve genuine balance between Eastern and Western Europe, and to guard against any future German threat.

And so the French Foreign Minister looks toward London, and negotiates with her, while, at the very same time, a French delegation prepares to travel to Russia, to negotiate matters of finance, trade, and economics. It may well appear, then, that both countries stand in genuine need of close cooperation, across all of these same matters.

And so the conference the foreign ministers held, at the end of summer, ended in genuine failure — and people had believed the Allied leaders would overcome these same difficulties, remove these same obstacles, and narrow the very distance separating their own disagreements. Once the Washington meeting came, people believed it would prove the decisive step in eliminating fear, and suspicion — yet it became clear, to everyone, that it eliminated no fear whatsoever, adding only anxiety upon anxiety, and suspicion upon suspicion instead.

And yet, how genuinely easy rapprochement, and cooperation, and establishing the new world on the very foundations of right, justice, and

fairness, would prove, were governments' own intentions genuinely as pure as peoples' own intentions — for peoples themselves want neither oppression, nor injustice, nor monopolization.

Yet it appears the very nature of human life itself decrees that peoples should want one thing, and governments another — and that peoples should remain subject to whatever governments themselves want, since peoples have not yet learned, even now, how to govern themselves.