

Jagan Released From Georgetown Prison

Served With "Reminder" That Restriction Order Still Effective

Dr. Cheddi Jagan was released from the Georgetown Prison at 6.15 a.m. yesterday. At 8.25 a.m., at his Laluni Street home, Assistant Superintendent Hollington, of the Special Branch of the Criminal Investigations Department, served him with a "reminder" that he was still restricted to the Georgetown area, and must report to the police at the Alberrtown Police Station each Wednesday and Saturday.

Cheddi Jagan was allowed to leave the prison compound, driven by his brother Sirpaul, in his own car. The only other occupant was his young son, Joe. There was no crowd there, and what few persons there were, made no attempt to follow the car as it sped away north in Camp Street.

At Jagan's home, however, a steady stream of persons entered and left the house throughout the morning. Among those who were seen there were Rory Westmaas, Martin Carter, Ashton Chase and Eric Huntley. All spent short periods, then left in varying numbers as the size of the gatherings became too large.

Explaining his actions on Saturday which caused him to spend another 48 hours in prison, Jagan said he had protested at being awakened early to leave, because he was exceedingly tired from not having slept owing to the noise of bakers' working on Friday night, and because he knew as a fact that many prisoners had been refused permission to leave at an early hour, even though they had specially asked to be.

He wanted, he said, to be treated like any other prisoner. He said that he was placed on two charges, one of disobeying a lawful order and the other for creating a disturbance.

He denied, however, that he

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Seen leaving the Georgetown Prison early yesterday morning in his brother's car is Dr. Cheddi Jagan. With him is his young son, Joe.

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Jagan Released

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had been given solitary confinement as a result.

"ANCIENT SYSTEM"

Speaking to pressmen, a subdued and greying Jagan was loud in his condemnation of what he termed "an ancient prison system, sadly in need of reforms". He further said that the prison dietary, which in his opinion was hopelessly out-of-date, was seldom adhered to, but that when complaints were made, warders told the prisoners that they were not accustomed to receiving those amenities outside of the prison, and they should not look for them inside.

As a protest against prison fare and prison conditions generally, Jagan said, he and three others (Ramkarran, Eustace Sam and Bertram Yhap) with whom he was segregated since his return from H.M.P.S. on Thursday had gone on a hunger strike from early Saturday morning. Up to the time he left prison yesterday morning, the others had, like himself, taken no meals.

INJURED HAND

Throughout his interview with a representative of the **Daily Argosy**, Jagan was seen to be nursing an injured left hand in a sling. He would say no more about the injury, however, than that it was "a little thing" he had "picked up, up yonder".

He also refused to be drawn out as to whether he intended to break his restriction order again.

Asked if he had seen his wife in prison, Jagan smiled and shrugged. Asked if Dr. Lachhmansingh was among the segregated P.P.P. members in the Georgetown Prison, Jagan said: "No, he was not among us." Jagan did not comment further on the subject, but it is known that shortly after his incarceration, Dr. Lachhmansingh was in the prison infirmary being treated for diabetes.

Jagan yesterday confirmed reports that a special block is being constructed at the Penal Settlement to house the nine detainees who are still occupying the female block of the New Amsterdam prison.

NO INCIDENTS

Meanwhile, from police sources came the report last night that no unusual incidents were recorded anywhere in the Colony throughout yesterday. All restricted persons both in Georgetown and in the country districts reported within the appointed times.

In Georgetown there was little evidence of relaxation on the part of the police. Radio patrol cars kept relentless watch along the streets of Georgetown whilst vehicles kept at emergency stations since Friday night were still to be seen with their drivers on the alert.

At about 2.00 o'clock yesterday afternoon, Jagan sought permission to pay a visit to his wife at the Georgetown Prison, but this it is understood, was refused on the grounds that she was a special prisoner and, as such, could not be visited except by special permission. Mrs. Jagan, it is claimed, is entitled to a 'reception visit', the first visit accorded a prisoner within the first few days of being imprisoned.

Dr. Jagan Restriction Order

Dr. Cheddi Jagan is no longer required to report his movements in Georgetown to the police at Alberttown Police Station.

Released from the Georgetown Prison on Monday, September 13, Dr. Jagan was served with a notice reminding him that he was still restricted to the Georgetown area.

He was also ordered to report his movements to the police at Alberttown Police Station between the hours of 8.00 and 10.00 a.m. each Wednesday and Saturday,

Dr. Jagan reported at 9.00 a.m. on Wednesday, September 15, but was served the same day with a notice maintaining the restriction order, but relieving him of the necessity of reporting.

BPI

WORKERS NOTEBOOK

WEARING A BEARD

On June 17th Dr. Cheddi Jagan was taken to the Public Hospital, along with other prisoners, for examination and treatment. Kept in the waiting room for several hours, crowds of people gathered to see him. Dr. Jagan, dressed in prison garb and wearing a beard gave the people his well known smile. Soon after his wife arrived, a special police car drove up to hustle Jagan back to prison.

GO SLOW

Cheddi Jagan Research Centre

"Capitalists Are The Biggest Thieves" --Jagan

JANET Jagan, General Secretary of the People's Progressive Party of British Guiana, writing to **Samasamajist** from Georgetown on July 13, says:—

"The prison authorities have now segregated Cheddi Jagan and other PPP political prisoners from other prisoners. This followed an incident where Dr. Jagan was accused of indoctrinating prisoners at an 'Uplift Hour' meeting where, in a talk entitled 'Thou Shalt Not Steal' he attacked capitalists

as being the biggest thieves. Contrary to the prison regulations, the PPP prisoners are locked up twenty four hours a day and are not allowed the regular open air exercises."

Since then, it was reported in the Ceylon press that Dr. Jagan and other PPP prisoners had been transferred to a penal settlement in the interior.

On July 10, an appeal court of three judges reserved judgement in the appeal of Mrs. Jagan against the judgement of a

lower court last December which found her guilty of holding an illegal meeting. She was sentenced on that occasion to pay a fine of 250 dollars, in default three months imprisonment. L. F. S. Burnham, Minister in the deposed Jagan Government and Chairman of the PPP, appeared for Mrs. Jagan in the appeal court.

More people have been sentenced to terms of imprisonment on their refusing to pay fines or enter into bonds after having broken the Restriction Orders placed on them by the Governor. One of them was Eric Huntley, a postman, who is an executive member of the PPP. He was sentenced to two months imprisonment on July 2 after he refused to pay a fine of 50 dollars. Huntley had been ordered by the Governor to report to the Police Station daily but had flouted the order.

On July 6, Fred Bowman, a former Assemblyman, appeared before the Magistrate on a charge of breaking the Restriction Orders placed on him. Judgement was reserved until the 22nd. Roy Westmass was scheduled to appear before the Magistrate on a similar charge on July 14.

Ram Karram, former Assemblyman and Treasurer of the PPP, was arrested on July 10 and charged on two counts of failing to report daily to the Police Station as was required under the Restriction Order placed on him. He was enlarged on bail. On July 11, he was re-arrested for not reporting to the Police Station and produced before the Magistrate on a third charge of failing to report. This time the Magistrate refused bail and remanded him until the case was called on July 19.

Not all the repression of the British imperialists has curbed the People's Progressive Party. The spirit that inspires people to go willingly to jail rather than submit to repressive orders curtailing their democratic rights is the spirit that will triumph in the end. Governor Savage's savagery has not succeeded in crushing the determination of the people of British Guiana to free themselves of the imperialist yoke.

Samasamajist salutes a brave people.

Cheddi Jagan and all the other P.P.P. members now in the Georgetown jail have been separated from the other prisoners. During the day Jagan and his comrades are kept in confinement, and in the evenings they are placed in separate cells. This step was taken to prevent Jagan from indoctrinating the other prisoners there with his political views, and to prevent any disorders which could result from such indoctrination.

* 11/7/54

Cheddi Jagan Research

Samasamajist - Ceylon
11/7/54

Janet Jagan to Pay \$250 Fine

"RELIGIOUS SERVICE" MERE DISGUISE
OF POLITICAL MEETING

Mrs. Janet Jagan, People's Progressive Party Secretary, will still have to pay the fine of \$250 or serve three months' imprisonment — the penalty imposed on her last December by a Magistrate, for holding an illegal meeting at Cornelia Ida, West Coast, Demerara.

The Full Court of Appeal yesterday dismissed her appeal, with costs thus confirming her conviction and sentence.

The Court headed by acting Chief Justice Boland, President, found that there was ample evidence on which Magistrate P. M. Burch Smith could have arrived at the conclusion that she was an active party in the holding of a political meeting under the guise of a religious service.

NOT GENUINE

The Court found too that the evidence was sufficient for the Magistrate to hold that the religious service was not genuine but a mere disguise of a political meeting. It was not therefore a place of worship at the time.

The President rejected an application by her counsel, Mr. L. F. S. Burnham, for a six weeks' stay of execution to make arrangement, if necessary to have the decision reviewed by a higher tribunal.

On the Bench with the President were Hons. Justice Hughes and Justice Stoby.

The appellant was represented by Mr. Burnham, associated with Messrs. C. R. Wong and J. R. S. Luck. For the Crown was Mr. J. A. Luckhoo, acting Solicitor General.

NO PERMISSION

Mrs. Jagan and nine others were convicted by the Magistrate in December last for holding at Cornelia Ida, W.C.D., on December 13, 1953, without permission

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Graphic August 29, 1954

JANET JAGAN

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a meeting in premises other than a place of worship at which more than five persons were present contrary to directions given by the Governor and published under the Emergency Order.

Mrs. Jagan's nine co-defendants were reprimanded and discharged by the Magistrate, but as regards Mrs. Jagan, whom the Magistrate regarded as the "Master Mind," a fine of \$250, with costs \$23, was imposed, in default three months' imprisonment with hard labour.

Her appeal was heard on July 9 and 10 last and decision was reserved since then.

The Court's decision was delivered yesterday morning before a packed Courtroom by the President. The Hon. Justice Stoby made a few observations of his own because of the importance of what he regarded as the only substantial ground argued in the appeal.

Mrs. Jagan Abandons Appeal

Mrs. Janet Jagan, Secretary of the Peoples Progressive Party, who is now serving a three-month sentence for holding an illegal meeting on the West Coast, Demerara, has abandoned her appeal against the conviction by Magistrate Harry Bollers who found her guilty of a charge of unlawful possession of a copy of the Police "Riot Manual" and fined her \$150.00 in default three months imprisonment.

Notified by counsel Forbes Burnham that the appeal was abandoned, Magistrate Harry Bollers yesterday issued a warrant against Mrs. Jagan. The sentence will run concurrently, but as she has already served about a month of the original three-month sentence, she will now serve a total of about four months.

Mrs. Jagan was sent to prison following the dismissal of her appeal against the conviction of Magistrate P. M. Burch-Smith for holding an illegal meeting. She refused to pay the fine and elected to serve the alternative three-month sentence.

Mrs. Jagan Fined for Possessing Banned Literature

Mrs. Janet Jagan, Secretary of the People's Progressive Party, was fined \$126, in default three months' imprisonment, on Friday, September 17, when His Worship Mr. H.B.S. Bollers, found her guilty of possessing a copy of the banned publication, "Soviet News". She elected to go to prison. Her sentence will run concurrently with the three-month term she began serving on Tuesday, September 7.

B.P.I. 17/9/54

New Amsterdam Prison,
18.1.55

The Welfare Officer,
Prisons Dept,

R.M. Female 28 Janet Jagan is discharged from Prison today. She was not seen by the D.P.A.C. at this end. She is therefore referred to you for necessary action please.

b. b. Griffith
Asst. Superintendent
of Prisons

THUNDER

Hark the ralling of the thunder
Lo the sun! And lo there under
Rieth wrath, and hope and wonder
-- William Morris.

ORGAN OF THE PEOPLE'S PROGRESSIVE PARTY

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Five More Jailed

On Thursday, July 1st at Vreed-en-Hoop Magistrate's Court, Pandit Misir, prominent P.P.P. member, along with Lloyd Duncan, Edwin Mercurius, Vincent George and Lawrence Vincent protested against "coming here every day and coming back again and still coming back and yet the case can't seem to start." Misir told the Court that he would not be coming back again and that he was uplifting his own surety. The others also intimated to the Court that they wished to uplift their own surety and would not be attending Court.

Magistrate Burch Smith then ordered that the defendants be immediately taken into custody and locked up until July 8th. These incidents arose out of charges against Misir and others for holding a procession at Vreed-en-Hoop on Empire Day. It was the second time a Special Court was called at Vreed-en-Hoop to hear this case. Barrister Luck represented the Party members.

Court Finds Party Secretary Guilty

On July 1st a crowded court room heard Magistrate Bollers give his decision of guilty in the case of unlawful possession of a

Manual of Riot Drill brought against Janet Jagan by the Police. Overruling Barrister Burnham's no case submission, Magistrate Bollers fined Mrs. Jagan \$150 or three months imprisonment with hard labour. Barrister Burnham told the Court that "The judgement was predetermined. The findings of law laid down by this Court are miserably wrong". Magistrate Bollers expressed surprise at the statement coming from a member of the "English Bar" Replying, Mr. Burnham said— "Though a member of the English Bar I have to get the permission of a policeman to carry on my practice and I see no point in crediting me with status in one

respect and lack of status in another". Highlight of the case was the conflicting evidence given by Police Officers King and Sampson. Supt. King claimed he received only one copy of the Manual of Riot Drill while Sampson claimed that he gave King two Copies. Notice of appeal was given.

Khanto Start Fast

Mohamed Khan who was sent to jail for breaking the restriction orders placed upon him by Governor Savage has decided to go on a fast in protest against the Emergency Orders. Khan in writing to the Governor demanding an end to the Emergency Regulations.

EDITORIAL

ON THE BANNING OF BOOKS.

Fascism first made a strong entry into British Guiana when on February 27, 1953 the old Legislative Council passed the Undesirable Publications Ordinance. At that time it was vigorously opposed by the People's Progressive Party which picketed the Public Buildings protesting against the bill. Dr. Cheddi Jagan, the Party's sole Legislative member at the time made a historic oneman stand, speaking for six hours in an attempt to delay the passage of the bill which would rob the people of their rights. This bill which was passed and was popularly called the 'Luchko

About five weeks later, the Constitution was suspended and the Governor was given full powers of administration. The P.P.P. efforts to repeal the Ordinance was cited as one of the Party's "crimes" in the White Paper. Therefore the Undesirable Publications Ordinance remained in the statute books of British Guiana. Under that Ordinance the Governor has since banned 22 publications. It is common knowledge that thirteen persons have already been charged with being in possession of prohibited publications.

Under Article 19 of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights which was adopted by the General Assembly of the United Nations in 1948 (of which Great Britain is a member nation) it is stated that "Everyone has the right to freedom of opinion and expression; this right includes freedom to hold opinions without interference and to impart information and ideas through any media