

November 9, 1967

(1305)
The Editor,

Sir,

Does one send as an ambassador to a country a man who has distinguished himself by implacable hostility, publicly avowed, towards that country? The answer presumably is that one does not, but that is exactly what the Prime Minister and Government have done by appointing Mr. S.S. Dhawan as our High Commissioner in Britain.

In the course of an article in Blitz on 29th January, 1966, Mr. Dhawan delivered himself of the following sentiments: "Nehru had not anticipated British treachery. He did not realise that Britain was still an implacable foe of a strong and united India.....As regards Britain, I see no future for Indo-British friendship, because reluctantly I have come to the conclusion that Britain does not regard the existence of a strong India in her interests and she will shed no tears if India is disrupted." So a man who sees no future for friendly relations between India and Britain and who regards Britain as an implacable foe of our country engaged in our disruption is now supposed to represent us in a country which is our colleague in the Commonwealth, one of our best friends, as was proved in October 1962, and which is giving us substantial economic aid.

Mr. Dhawan's article in Blitz was no temporary aberration. He is not only Chairman of the "Blitz National Forum" in Lucknow but for several years wrote foreign policy articles in the National Herald under the pseudonym 'Sanjaya' which were nothing but a consistent apologia for Soviet foreign policy.

Yours etc.,

(M. R. Masani)

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S.S. Dhawan