

**Mr. Speaker:** No, no. I think the hon. Member has misunderstood me. I do not want him to run up to Cachar Hills and try to find out and check it up. He can check it up with the Minister here. When a newspaper report is published, the officers also must be in a position to report on those matters. I only asked hon. Members to check up from the Minister. Every hon. Member has got a telephone, I am sure. He can ring up the Minister and find out what exactly the facts are. I never said that the Minister ought not himself, to come and make a statement. In all serious cases I leave it to the Ministers to decide, and they themselves do so. The hon. Minister has been doing it, and I am sure he will continue to do so. (*Interruption*). Should there be any argument on this matter. We will proceed now, there is another adjournment motion.

**Shri Hem Barua:** This is not a personal matter. This involves the security of the country and public interest. Therefore, adjournment motion is the only medium of our getting enlightened.

**Mr. Speaker:** Order, order. Even here the hon. Member has not understood what I said. I did not mean to say that mere ringing up the Minister is enough. I only said that he may ring up the Minister and find out if there is any truth in it or not, when there are such broad banner headlines, and when it is brought to my notice I will also request the Minister to make a full statement so as to clear up the misunderstanding that might have arisen by such newspaper reports. It is complementary and supplementary.

**Shri K. D. Malaviya:** It is a false report that has come out in the paper. I thought my conduct will not be judged by the Members of the Opposition on this, but that something would be said about the way in which such news items are brought out. So far as I am concerned, even if less important news had appeared which had any relevance or truth in it, I

myself would have come and informed the House as to what has happened. But there is no truth in it. Members should not expect me to come and say, "Look here, this news is not correct".

**Shri Braj Raj Singh:** He may inform us in the lobby. (*Interruptions*).

**Mr. Speaker:** Then the old practice will continue.

I withhold my consent to the adjournment motion.

#### ALLEGED VIOLATION OF INDIAN TERRITORY BY THE CHINESE

**Mr. Speaker:** I have received notice of another adjournment motion which reads as follows:

"On the 10th February, 1961 in violation of the agreements entered into by the Prime Ministers of India and China in 1960, the Chinese forces crossed one mile into the Nathu-La pass and thus they violated Indian territory."

And I find three columns have been devoted to this in *The Hindustan Times*.

**The Minister of Defence (Shri Krishna Menon):** Mr. Speaker, there is some substance in this report, though it may not be strictly accurate in all particulars.

On the 10th of March this year, at about 1-30 in the afternoon, a burst of firing was heard near Kupup from the direction of Bitangchho, along the Sikkim-Tibet border. Kupup is 10 miles east of Gangtok and 4 miles west of Sikkim. Our patrol was sent immediately to investigate. They found one armed Chinese soldier close to a stone enclosure. He attempted to shoot at our patrol but was overpowered and captured. An automatic rifle and some rounds of ammunition were recovered from him.

The Chinese personnel concerned is now in our custody.

**Shri Khushwaqt Rai (Kheri):** The report is correct.

**Mr. Speaker:** Otherwise, I would not have brought it up. I only said that hon. Members when they table adjournment motions based on newspaper reports, will also try to verify the facts from the Minister and if they are not satisfied with what the Minister says, then certainly, they may say, I am not satisfied and there must be some truth and table an adjournment motion. I will consider whether it is right or wrong. I am not saying that you cannot proceed upon a newspaper report. It is not that every newspaper report is wrong or wholly correct.

**Shri Hem Barua:** Does it mean that we have to obtain the prior permission of the hon. Minister for every adjournment motion? I do not understand it.

**Mr. Speaker:** Prior information from the Minister, if possible. Hon. Members who do not want to do that, need not do so.

In view of the statement of the hon. Minister, I do not give my consent to the adjournment motion.

12.22 hrs.

CALLING ATTENTION TO MATTER  
 OF URGENT PUBLIC IMPORT-  
 ANCE

ATTACK ON A TRAIN BY NAGA  
 HOSTILES

**Shrimati Ila Palchoudhuri (Nab-wip):** Sir, under Rule 197, I beg to call the attention of the Minister of Railways to the following matter of urgent public importance and I request that he may make a statement thereon:—

Reported firing by the Naga hostiles at a train on the Lumding Badarpur section of the N. F. Railway on the 25th February, 1961.

**The Deputy Minister of Railways (Shri Shahnawaz Khan):** At about 10.45 hours on the 25th of February, 1961, while No. 254 Down Passenger train was running between Langting and Mupa Stations on the Lumding-Badarpur Section of Northeast Frontier Railway, it was stopped by Naga hostiles by placing sleepers and tree trunks across the Railway track. The Nagas thereafter fired at the train, as a result of which one Fireman working the train received minor injuries; no other person received any injury. The Railway Protection Force Escort on the train also fired 76 rounds in return. It is reported that the hold-up was with the intention of looting cash and valuables from the train.

After rendering First Aid to the injured Fireman, the train was brought back to Langting at 11.05 hours. After the passage of a Patrol Special, 254 Down, which was waiting at Langting since 11.05 hours, left for Mupa at 17.30 hours. Two passenger trains were terminated short of destination and two others were cancelled.

Night running of passenger trains on the affected section between Langting and Mupa has been temporarily suspended and arrangements have been made to run two Up and two Down Passenger carrying trains on revised timings.

As desired by Army authorities, running of a pilot ahead of passenger carrying trains has been arranged between Lumding and Maibang.

The injured fireman has been admitted into the Railway hospital, Lumding and he is progressing satisfactorily.

An Administrative Officer of N. F. Railway has been posted at Lumding to liaise with Civil and Military authorities.

At about 00.50 hours on 1st March 1961, the driver of 841 Up Goods train;