

rebels are still in authority in Central and in Southern Sumatra. Recent attempts by Djakarta to enforce political control over the Army have accentuated the army rebellion in Sumatra. Djakarta's move to appoint political liaison officers with the Army had been successfully resisted by the General staff. Even so the relation between the Army and the Government remains tense. It is not without significance that the Sumatran army rebels have demanded that Vice-President Hatta, who had resigned some time ago, should resume authority. Mr Hatt a has shown statesmanship in not aligning himself with the disgruntled army rebels. He has wisely suggested the formation of a representative National Government under the leadership of Mr. Soekarno.

Djakarta is under a double threat at the moment. In Sumatra and in other areas, the army rebels are active. Mr Sastroamidjojo's coalition Cabinet feels uneasy under the combined pressure of the Masjumi and the Socialists. To overcome both the political and military threats, it would be wise to form a broad based

National Government. Immediately, the problem is to deal with the army rebels. At bottom, this is a problem of securing gainful occupation for the former guerrilla force. It is not difficult to appreciate why the General staff is opposed to absorption of the former guerrillas into the regular Army. That would not only undermine the discipline of the Army, but would involve an unbearable burden on the national exchequer. This purely military aspect of the problem will have to be settled somehow. Even then, the resentment against Javanese dominance will continue. Both the political and the military problems may be easier of solution by the formation of a representative National Government which can command respect and authority throughout the country.

Fast by Bolivian President to End Miners' Strike

LA PAZ, December 30: The President of Bolivia, Senor Harnan Siles Zuazo, called off his hunger-strike last night, a victor in a Gandhi-like campaign of non-violence against striking workers.

Senor Siles Zuazo had his last meal at noon on Friday, announcing he would not touch food until tin miners ended their strike and railway workers lifted their threat of a walk-out.

The President said he must have labour's support in his fight against inflation, which features a United States-backed economic programme.

Advices from the interior said crowds demonstrated in support of the President.

Women of the President's Revolutionary Party gathered outside the presidential palace and threatened to go on hunger-strike too.

Then the tin workers of western Bolivia announced yesterday afternoon they would go back to work. - And railway workers withdrew their threat of a strike,

- "AP" and "The Times of India" News Service

Danger in Monoliths !

" 'Figure' (terra cotta) was a trifle heavy. The attempt to truncate the body for the sake of monolithic suggestions is fraught with danger".

- Sculptures of Shanko Chaudhuri, Fine Arts Gallery, New Delhi. Thought, December 29.

Letter From Paris

Reactions to Suez and Hungary

IT has often been remarked that the difference between the culture and civilisation of France and England surpasses all expectations that one might have had based on the geographical proximity and the historical associations of these two ancient countries. A striking demonstration of this difference was the difference in the reactions of these two countries to the happenings in the Middle East and in Hungary.

The people of England were upset in a very real sense. It has been said that this Christmas most families have met in an atmosphere of unresolved arguments and mutual recriminations. The discussion is all about the Government's Suez policy. Hungary has created consternation and aroused a lot of anger, but it has not engendered any conflicts: the condemnation has been universal and unreserved. If it has contributed to bitterness, it is only indirectly because of the appreciation that if it was not for Suez, one could have condemned Russia much more wholeheartedly.

The people of France did not appear to be upset at all. Even

during the fateful week of the Franco-British attack on Egypt and the second Soviet intervention in Hungary, life in Paris flowed on as unhurried as ever. Paris continued to be cool, detached and supremely elegant. There were no extra editions of newspapers, no banner headlines. True, there were vast-anti-communist demonstrations organised by the right wing parties and counter demonstrations by the Communists but they were conducted by the different parties and did not reflect any popular emotional stress comparable to that experienced in England.

That is not to say that France is untroubled by the happenings of November. The contrast lies in this that while in England there is heart-burning caused by the events in Egypt, in France there is soul-searching caused by the events in Hungary; and that while in England there is visible a mass emotional upheaval in France the disturbance is to be discovered mainly amongst the intellectuals.

The cause for emotional stress

among the English lies in the popular belief that this is the first time in history that Britain has done a thing that is not honourable. This attitude is completely missing in France. Perhaps the French do not make their national honour depend on the politico of their ever-changing ephemeral Governments; or perhaps they do not think that this is the first time their Government has done a thing like what the present Government has done; and any way, the right and the left being divided in France much more sharply than in England, the attitude of those who did not like the Suez adventure has most probably been like that of Sartre who switched off the radio in the middle of a speech by M Plneau: it is the attitude of one who knows that the Suez has not been accidental or unexpected but followed inevitably from, the real-politik of the day and to make verbal protests is merely to waste words. There can be no question of heart-burning under these conditions and It is understandable that the mention of the sordid word 'collusion' does not make the same flutter in the French