

Thermonuclear Weapons, Used "Tactically", May Produce Death on Oslo, Amsterdam, Paris and London

"Some, including Mr. Dulles himself, have sought to calm the misgivings of the peoples of Western Europe by claiming that the new N.A.T.O. plans involved the tactical, but not the strategical use of nuclear weapons. But such distinctions are artificial and lose their meaning when dealing with weapons of such vast destructive potentialities. Thermonuclear weapons, used 'tactically' on the Elbe, may produce death and injury due to radioactive 'fall-out' on Oslo, Amsterdam, Paris and London. Over vast areas of Europe the ground will become so contaminated that life will be insupportable and over a very much wider area the grain and vegetable crops and the fish of the sea will be in danger of radioactive contamination. The 'tactical' use of nuclear weapons as planned by the Western powers in the event of war will mean death, immediate or delayed, to countless millions of European civilians."

(Dr. E.H.S. BURMOP)

Possible Annihilation of the Human Race

Statement by M. JOLIOT-CURIE

President of the World Council of Peace.

"We still have present in our hearts the emotion we felt when the extent of the damage wrought by the atom bombs on Hiroshima and Nagasaki became known. That was in August 1945, and every year since then we have learned that the effects of the dropping of these two bombs are still coming to light. The list of victims and their sufferings is not closed.

The problem of the banning of weapons of mass destruction had already been raised in 1945, and at their meeting in Moscow in December of that year the Foreign Ministers Mr. Bevin, Mr. Byrnes and Mr. Molotov demanded that a special committee to study this problem should be created alongside the Security Council of the United Nations.

The committee was created. Negotiations that proved difficult were entered into and pursued. New factors arose one after another: the disappearance of the atomic monopoly, the perfecting and testing of thermonuclear bombs thousands of times more powerful than the Hiroshima bomb.

A further wave of anxiety arose out of the terrible consequences of the explosion in the Pacific on March 1, 1954. Fishermen who were several hundred miles away from the scene of the explosion were all stricken and one of them has died. The repeated warnings of scientists competent in the matter were dramatically confirmed. A new anxiety arose but hope began to revive through the apparition of certain signs of a relaxation of international tension, in relation both to the ending of wars going on and to the successful conclusion of the negotiations in the important Disarmament Commission of the United Nations.

It cannot be denied that in the sum total of factors that succeeded in preventing the use of the atomic weapon in Asia and in bringing about a certain easing of international tension, a role of the first importance was played by the mass consultation that took place in all countries and in all social circles through the launching of the Stockholm Appeal.

Everyone was asked for his opinion; all the questions were raised; all the answers given were thoroughly criticised. And the conscience of the peoples was so strongly revealed that the most responsible and powerful political leaders had to recognise the power of public opinion in the question of the use of atomic weapons.

Disarmament seemed possible; the negotiated settlement of political problems appeared over the horizon; the peoples began to hope for a stable peace and to see the promise of happiness ... It is precisely at this moment that acts are committed which put everything back into the melting-pot; the rearmament of Germany, and the decisions of the NATO Council on the use of nuclear weapons. As if the principle of the use of these weapons had been admitted.

Clearly, these acts, which are part and parcel of the policy of 'positions of strength', are diametrically opposed to the success of the negotiations going on in the United Nations Organisation and are a threat to peace.

As to the Atlantic Council's extremely grave decision, which implicitly admits the legalisation of the atomic weapon -- if there has not yet been a strong reaction on the part of public opinion, it is because the operation has been skilfully conducted. Public opinion was 'softened up' by carefully prepared statements by military leaders and the decisions themselves were presented in a diplomatic and technical form which makes it difficult to appreciate their full consequences.

Today, when a great number of atomic weapons have been produced and when even more powerful weapons have been perfected and tested -- with what tragic results -- an attempt is being made to override the censure of public opinion and to lead it, by stages, to accept the possible use of tactical atomic weapons, then strategic atom bombs, and finally thermo-nuclear bombs. It would appear that henceforth discussion should only bear on how nuclear weapons should be used, whereas the first and only problem is the very principle of the use of these weapons.

In short, these recent decisions of the Atlantic Council are the final touch to the preparations for the unleashing of atomic war, preparations which bear within themselves -- and I am weighing my words -- the possible annihilation of the human race.

The people will not thus passively allow themselves to be dragged down to collective suicide. For that is what is involved. Once nuclear war began, it would be waged with the full range of existing weapons. Think of the deserts that are Hiroshima and Nagasaki. Think of the unfortunate victims in the Pacific who were hundreds of miles away from the explosion on March 1, 1954. Tell yourself that nowhere will you be safe and that effective civil defence is an illusion. Understand that the nuclear bombing of any target in the world will sow immediate or delayed death even in places very far away.

The problem that is raised is not that of the level -- General Staff, Minister, or meeting of Ministers, with or without veto -- at which atomic war will be decided on. The problem is: will mankind accept the ruins and destruction, the death of hundreds of millions of living beings, wretchedness for the survivors and the probable birth of freaks, and even the possible annihilation of all life on our planet?

Paris, January 13, 1955.

Frédéric JOLIOT-CURIE.

THE CONCERTED ACTION OF THE PEOPLES CAN IMPOSE A POLICY OF NEGOTIATION,
DISARMAMENT AND THE USE OF ATOMIC ENERGY FOR PEACEFUL PURPOSES

DECLARATION OF THE BUREAU OF THE WORLD COUNCIL OF PEACE

At the outset of 1955, two threats to the peace of the world have become definite: the remilitarisation of Germany and the steps taken to prepare and justify atomic war. These threats come just at the moment when new prospects of peace are opening before the peoples. It is now a matter of the acts of responsible governments, and no longer only the declarations of politicians and generals.

These acts deliberately flout the desires of the peoples concerned and world opinion.

The remilitarisation of Germany, and the obstacles placed by SEATO in the way of a peaceful solution of the problems of Asia, underline the exceptional gravity of the measures adopted by the Council of the North Atlantic Treaty Organisation.

These measures are designed to regularise atomic war, which has been condemned by the conscience of mankind and is contrary to international law, and persuade public opinion to accept it as a necessity. They can lead to the automatic unleashing of atomic war in Asia as well as in Europe. From now on, they threaten with this peril every country on every continent.

The remilitarisation of Germany and the regularisation of atomic war are closely linked. They are the fruits of a single policy founded on the division of the world into two blocs, the drive for positions of strength and recourse to war in prosecuting international differences.

The peoples know from experience that this policy can lead only to economic chaos, poverty and war. The World Peace Movement calls upon them to appreciate the magnitude of the new dangers and to avert them by all means in their power.

The concerted action of the peoples can end the policy of blocs. It can oblige the governments to negotiate, disarm and to use nuclear energy solely for peaceful purposes.

Mankind will not passively allow itself to be led toward the disasters of atomic war.

The problem is not to calculate at what staff or government level atomic war may be decided on, or to draw distinctions between so called tactical and strategic weapons. The task is to reject the destruction, oppression and suffering that it entails, to ensure to all the peoples of the world their independence and the right to develop their own wealth, and take together the path towards security and prosperity.

It is to fulfil this task that the appeal to maintain the struggle against the remilitarisation of Germany and the appeal to organise a great signature campaign to stop the use of atomic weapons have been issued.

It is to this same end that the call has been issued for a great World Assembly that on May 22nd, 1955, in Helsinki shall bring together representatives of all tendencies and organisations for peace.

Vienna, January 19, 1955.

APPEAL TO THE PEOPLES OF EUROPE

The peoples of Europe refuse to accept the Wehrmacht.

They oppose the revival -- a bare ten years after the end of the war -- of the army which brought death and destruction down upon all Europe.

They are revolted by the idea that atomic weapons should be put at the disposal of Hitler's former generals.

The peoples will never accept this crime.

The ratification of the Wehrmacht treaties is far from being achieved.

In London and Paris, when the parliaments voted on the ratification, not even one half the members supported them. The governments, like the parliaments, have been obliged openly to acknowledge the hostility of the peoples concerned. But they are resolved to override the opposition of the peoples of Europe, and in particular the growing opposition of the German people themselves.

The peoples cannot be bound by decisions adopted by parliaments against their will.

Today, the governments that signed the London and Paris agreements can no longer cover up the tragic consequences of the creation of a new Wehrmacht: the remilitarisation of Western Germany would result in the setting up of armed forces in Eastern Germany. It would speed up the arms race. It would make the peaceful reunification of Germany impossible for years to come and would prevent any possibility of the collective organisation of European security.

The World Council of Peace calls on the men and women of every country to put all their strength, all their determination and all their courage into preventing the ratification and implementation of the London and Paris agreements.

It calls on all the men and women who have been waging such a magnificent struggle against the rearmament of Germany, and on all those also who are today becoming aware of the imminent danger which it involves, to join and multiply their efforts to oppose the revival of German militarism and to organise the security of Europe with participation of a peace-loving Germany.

Europe, supported by all the peoples of the world, will not let a new Wehrmacht be thrust upon her.

Vienna, January 19, 1955.

APPEAL AGAINST THE PREPARATIONS FOR ATOMIC WAR

Today, certain governments are preparing to let loose atomic war.

They are trying to make the peoples accept it as inevitable.

The use of atomic weapons would result in a war of extermination.

We declare that any government that lets loose atomic war will forfeit the trust of its people and find itself condemned by every people of the world.

Now and in the future, we shall oppose those who organise atomic war.

We demand the destruction of all stocks of atomic weapons wherever they may be and the immediate stopping of their manufacture.

Vienna, January 19, 1955.

THE YOUTH DO NOT RESIGN THEMSELVES

THEY WANT TO LIVE IN PEACE

Preparations for atomic war, and the treaties that want to reestablish German divisions, do not only represent a single threat, but a serious menace for youth all over the world.

The production of armaments is developing, military blocs are being formed, Germany is being rearmed.

The preparation of the atomic war is more than ever envisaged and the Hitlerite generals who have proven themselves in the field of the annihilation of man, will certainly not recoil from unleashing a war of extermination. Already, they have at their disposal on the soil of their country, atomic cannon, at Bauholder and Heilbronn. The head of the French government has just offered them the joint construction of atomic weapons.

Such is the situation at the beginning of this year of 1955.

The Bureau of the World Council of Peace, meeting in Vienna, January 18th and 19th, has launched a great campaign to safeguard peace, against the preparation of atomic war, for the destruction of atomic arms stocks in all countries and for an immediate stop to their manufacture.

The World Federation fully supports these decisions.

The youth of the world, by their immediate activity, will bring all their youthful enthusiasm, all their determination to live, into this great campaign, shoulder to shoulder with the peace forces of the whole world.

Information Service

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BUDAPEST

FEBRUARY 15, 1955

DECLARATION

Learning of the arrest of fifteen members of the Presidium of the Preparatory Committee for the 5th Festival, by the Adenauer police, at Bielfeld, German Federal Republic, the Secretariat of the W.F.D.Y. has declared:

"... This police measure, being in no way justified, represents a flagrant violation of the law, and should be seen as an obstacle to the free expression of the will for peace of the German youth.

The Secretariat of the W.F.D.Y., in the name of its 35 million members, forcefully protests against this anti-democratic measure.

We call upon all youth, all member organisations and all personalities who condemn this illegal act, to energetically protest to the Government of the German Federal Republic at Bonn.

Send evidence of your solidarity to the prison at Bielfeld, and to the Festival Committee of the German Federal Republic at Stuttgart, Landhaus Strasse, 58."

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ARBITRARY BAN ON THE FESTIVAL OF SAO-PAULO (BRAZIL)

The Festival of South-American Youth, which was to take place from February 6 to 13, 1955, at Sao-Paulo (Brazil), has just been banned by the Minister of Justice of Brazil.

This Festival, prepared among different categories of youth, supported by numerous sport and cultural personalities, corresponded to the ardent wishes of the youth to meet and exchange experiences in order to strengthen their friendship.

The decision of the Brazilian Minister of Justice is an arbitrary one, contrary to the interest of the youth. Even more so because hundreds of delegates and sports groups are already in Sao- Paulo.

The Secretariat of the W.F.D.Y. has immediately sent the following telegramme:

" To President CAPE FILHO,
Government Palace - RIO DE JANEIRO
B R A Z I L,

In the name of 85 million youth from 97 countries, we raise a vivid protest against the ban on the Festival of South-American youth. We demand elementary rights and free expression for youthful sentiments and joy. We demand that the ban be annulled. "

THE LIFE OF THE YOUTH OF
THE WORLD

TOWARD THE 5th FESTIVAL

SWEDEN

It has been announced that the eminent Swedish painter, Uno VALLMAN, will be a member of the Jury of the International Cultural Competition, and that the celebrated writer, Karl VENNBERG, will participate in the Jury of the Literary Competition.

More than a hundred meetings have been held in order to popularise the Festival amongst Swedish youth.

Various initiatives have been taken by the youth for the collection of the funds necessary for the trip. They have collected old papers and other objects, the profit from the sale will go to the International Solidarity Fund in order to assure that young Sudanese delegates to the Festival will be able to come. The Swedish youth are sponsoring the trips of delegates from Sudan.

FINLAND

Finnish youth have decided to sponsor young delegates from Senegal to the Warsaw Festival. To accomplish this, collections have been organised to guarantee their travelling expenses.

ISRAEL

A Preparatory Committee for the National Festival has been constituted.

An appeal, launched by the Committee, has been signed by various people, prominent in public and cultural life, as well as by young people of all professions.

A National Festival will be held from April 12 to 14, 1955, in Tel-Aviv.

BULGARIA

At the beginning of February, a competition was launched by the Ministry of Culture and the Central Committee of the Dimitrov Union of People's Youth. This competition has as its aim to choose the best talents among the contestants, who will go to the Youth Festival.

274 artists, singers, violinists, pianists, dancers, etc. are participating in this contest.

INDIA

In the city of Calcutta a Festival Preparatory Committee for the State of West Bengal, was constituted February 1st. Jacques Denis, General Secretary of the W.P.D.Y., spoke to the youth during the constitutive meeting. Eminent artists and sports personalities of India are taking part in the Preparatory Committee.

NUMEROUS SPORTS EVENTS TO TAKE PLACE DURING THE FESTIVAL

During the Festival, numerous and rich sports events will be held. Sportsmen in different branches may take part in those track and field athletics, gymnastics, swimming, boxing, cyclism, foot-ball, basket-ball, volley-ball, as well as in various other competitions, in order to obtain the Sports Badge, etc.

The participants may also take part in the 2nd International Friendly Sports Meets, which will be held at this time. These Meets are heralded as one of the greatest sports events of the year.

The International Friendly Sports Meets will be held in 23 branches of sports, thus surpassing the 21 branches of the Helsinki Olympics. 3,000 foreign sportsmen are expected, and 700 young Polish sportsmen will participate.

At the opening ceremony of the Meets, gymnastic exercises will be presented by more than 2,000 young Polish sportsmen.

SOME WELL-KNOWN PEOPLE STATE:

JORIS IVENS, well-known Dutch film-producer, speaking on the subject of competitions in preparing the Festival:

"I believe that these competitions can bring great freshness to the field of films. There will not be the restraint, the obstacle constituted by great academic films which are a little formal. The youth can present honest films, modest certainly, but bringing a great breath of pure air. They can make, contrary to the films shown, or even to certain documentaries, films closer to themselves, to their own lives and experiences.

In this period of intense gatherings which is the Festival, the film-maker can see not only the enthusiasm, but also the desire of youth for the future. I am sure that many film-makers will be inspired by this."

Mr. Francesco José LAZ, president of the Pan-American Gymnastic Federation has expressed his desire to participate in the 5th World Festival of Youth and Students for Peace and Friendship.

F E B R U A R Y 21

HOLLAND

In view of the celebration of February 21st, Dutch youth have decided to collect school supplies, such as books and pencils, in order to support the activities of the young people of Indonesia against illiteracy. In honour of this day, messages will be exchanged with Indonesian youth by telephone or radio.

FRANCE

" In answer to the appeal of the Union of Republican Youth of France, for the occasion of February 21st, the students of Paris are preparing, all opinions united, to demonstrate in the Latin Quarter.

In the different districts of Paris, various types of assemblies will take place, particularly in those districts where large numbers of workers of North African origin live. Receptions will be given in their honour.

There is no doubt that all these efforts will contribute to strengthening the bonds which unite the young people of France and those of the colonial countries in their struggle against oppressive colonialism and will strengthen still more the authority and the audience of our W.F.D.Y. "

From our mail.

For February 21st, the Union of Young Girls of France is organising Days of Support for young Algerian girls. In the Bouches-du-Rhône district, it is by the sale of bouquets of flowers to the population that the young girls are expressing their solidarity for their sisters of Algeria.

From our correspondent.

INDONESIA

A meeting with the participation of all youth organisations was held January 15th in order to organise the celebration of February 21st. During this meeting, an Executive Committee was formed with the participation of representatives of different sections of the youth. Since January 22nd, the Committee has begun to hold its meetings.

From our correspondent.

CAMEROON

The announcement of February 21st has been favourably received in different circles. A propaganda campaign through local newspapers, has been initiated.

The demonstrations planned for this Day will surely know great success, for the young people will get together and discuss their excellent organisation.

From our mail.

AUSTRIA

Among various activities taken for the collection of funds for the 5th Festival, the Austrian youth are selling stamps, the profit from which will go into the International Solidarity Fund.

ALGERIA

February 21st will be celebrated under the motto of the struggle against repression. Numerous meetings will be held at Algiers, Blida, Duperré, Orléansville, Cherchell, Ain, Taya, Tlemcen, Bône, etc.

YOUTH WANT PEACE

FINLAND

The Appeal of the World Peace Council has found a vivid echo among Finnish youth. They have decided to popularise these decisions among every section of youth, and, on February 15th, they will launch a great signature collection campaign against atomic war, against the rebirth of German militarism.

AUSTRIA

The same resolution was demonstrated on the part of the Austrian youth who, at the beginning of February, have discussed their contribution to the great campaign launched by the World Peace Council, in all branches and groups of the Free Austrian Youth.

GREAT BRITAIN

January 25th, 17,000 people, of whom a large number were youth, demonstrated before the British Parliament, thus showing their opposition to German rearmament.

Large numbers of them were young people who had to travel great distances in order to bring their M.P.s the petitions and signatures against German rearmament collected from young people in the different counties of Great Britain.

WEST GERMANY

"The Action Committee of Youth for Reunification in Peace and Freedom", a West-Berlin organisation grouping 10 youth associations, including the "Falkens" and the "Socialist Students", has decided to launch a campaign of meetings in the Western sectors against German remilitarisation.

IN DEFENCE OF THE RIGHTS OF YOUTH

FRANCE

In France, 3,000 pupils of superior agricultural education struck on January 27th at the National Agronomical Institute of Paris, at the National Schools of Grignon, Rennes, Montpellier, Algiers, etc. in protest against the insufficiency of scholarships in their schools.

TERROR IN GUATEMALA

Numerous young Guatemalans are among the victims of the Castillo Armas dictatorship.

Young peasants, pupils, students, such as RODOLFO ROMERO, RAMIREZ HUMBERTO CARILLO, HECTOR CABRERA, have been savagely tortured and are in danger of death.

Hundreds are being held in concentration camps.

The Democratic University Federation of Guatemala, has invited all youth organisations to send protests to the Government of Guatemala: Colonel CARLOS, Castillo ARMAS - Palacio de Invierno - ciudad de Guatemala - C.A., as well as to the Guatemalan Embassies in their countries, demanding the immediate liberation of the imprisoned young people.

GATHERING OF YOUNG WORKERS AND PEASANTS IN BRAZIL

STABUNA (BABRIA). In the cocoa plantations "Viva Dons", a fraternal gathering between young workers of town and countryside has taken place: more than 300 young peasants and city youth were present, as well as trade union leaders.

A memorandum on agrarian reform was signed by hundreds of workers.

GREECE

In Greece, arrests of patriots and young people continues. Recently the Greek government authorities arrested the militant patriots HRISOULA GOGOGLOU, ORTHODOXOS TOKALIS and CHI OEGHIS COUTROUKIS. Up till now, the government has communicated nothing on the arrest of the first two, nor in general on the fate of the arrested patriots. In addition information exists, according to which ORTHODOXOS TOKALIS has died as a result of the barbaric torture to which he was subjected.

Send your protests to the Minister of Justice, Athens, Greece.

From a letter.

WE LEARN OF...

THE CONGRESS OF POLISH YOUTH

The 2nd Congress of the Union of People's Youth of Poland took place from January 28th to February 1st, with the participation of about 1,200 young workers, peasants, students, pupils, delegates by the young people of Poland.

Bruno BERNINI, President of the W.F.D.Y., and Chen Li-jen, representative of the Chinese youth and secretary of the W.F.D.Y., represented the Federation at the Congress.

In the name of 85 million young people the world over, Bruno BERNINI greeted the delegates, thanking the Polish youth for their invitation to hold the 5th Festival in Warsaw; he showed how the preparation for the Festival in the countries is going to aid the youth in strengthening their struggle for peace and for the development of their unity. The Congress adopted an appeal to Polish youth, calling upon them to actively participate in the preparation of the 5th Festival.

FRANCE

The 5th National Congress of the Union of Republican Youth of France will take place at Montrouge (Seine), April 8th, 9th, 10th and 11th.

The Union of Young Girls of France, celebrating its 18th anniversary, will organise numerous activities all over the country: galas, entertainment matinées, parties, film projections, dances, where hundreds of young girls will be found. These activities, conducted among the different sections of young girls, are preparing the National Congress of this organisation which should be held April 29, 30 and May 1.

YOUTH, CULTURE AND SPORTS

At the end of January a cycling competition across Egypt was held for the second time.

14 countries and 80 cyclists took part in the competition, and the first prize was won by a Bulgarian team.

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HUNGARIAN CULTURAL GROUP IN FL

A Hungarian cultural group, playing at the "Empire" in Paris since the beginning of February, has found unprecedented success with the Parisian public.

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During an interview given to the newspaper "L'Avant-Garde" by the director of the Rumanian ballet at the time of their stay in Paris, it was stated:

"We have participated at the 3rd and 4th Festivals. These gatherings have helped us very much. They have inspired us and have created a wholesome competition."

Announcing their plans, Mer Minei indicated: "We shall participate at the next Festival this summer in Warsaw."

Information Bulletin



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TOWARDS THE FIFTH FESTIVAL

The interest of young people has been aroused by the Fifth World Festival of Youth and Students for Peace and Friendship. This great rally of youth will be held in Warsaw capital of Poland from the 21st of July to the 14th of August.

The preceding festivals have shown the necessity of such meetings among youth of all categories and conditions in order to develop friendship, and to work in defense of peace.

In a great number of countries, young people are redoubling their efforts to enable the greatest possible number of youth to participate in the preparations for the Festival.

From its first session at Vienna, the International Festival Preparatory Committee appealed to all international organisations to support the preparations for the Fifth Festival.

In response to this appeal, the Executive Committee of World Federation of Democratic Youth, met in Berlin from the 25th to the 28th of February with the question of the preparations for the Festival on its agenda. After a fruitful discussion, important recommendations were adopted so that all the organisations belonging to the W.F.D.Y should develop the preparations of the Festival in relation to the needs, and aspirations, the sensible demands of the different categories of young people.

IN POLAND - IN THE COUNTRY OF THE FESTIVAL

The decision to convoke the Fifth World Festival of Youth and Students in Warsaw, the capital of Poland, has given rise to great enthusiasm among Polish youth. They are making preparation in the various fields to receive their friends from the entire world. In factories, in schools, in universities, in the villages everywhere they are preparing not only to receive thousands of young people, but to have the honour of being delegates to this impressive youth gathering. It is certain that this festival will mark a new stage in the promotion of peace and the development of friendship among young people the world over.

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Warsaw, the capital of Poland is busy preparing to give a warm welcome to the various delegations of youth who will come from all over the world to attend the World Festival of Youth and Students for Peace and Friendship. Despite the unfavourable weather and the return of the frost, construction on the big stadium where the Festival will be inaugurated and where a great number of sports and artistic events will take place, continues without interruption.

The stadium under construction will be the biggest and the most beautiful in Warsaw. It is situated on the right bank of the Vistula and thoroughfares join it with all the districts of the capital.

Work on it began in July 1954 and it will be finished this July. The speed of the work is remarkable. Here are a few figures to give you an idea of the scale of the construction work.

- The stadium /including the stands/ covers 25 and a half acres.
 - The circumference of the stands, measured at the top, is 2,640 feet, the circumference of the sports grounds 1650 feet.
 - The number of seats is 80,000.
 - All the benches lined up in a row would stretch out for over 22 miles.
 - Approximately 1,000 workers and 78 technicians are working at the present.
 - 15 thousand 500 cubic yards of earth and rubble has been transported to the construction site.
 - The stadium will rise to a height of almost 63 feet above level of the sports grounds.
- Three tunnels, each 925 feet long, will lead to the stadium from the east, west, and south.

PREPARATIONS ALL OVER THE WORLD

CANADA

The National Preparatory Committee in Canada hopes to send at least 100 young Canadians.

The Reverend Omar Wolmsley, a young United Church minister of Maidstone, Saskatchewan, backs the festival in the following words: "We are convinced that at this moment there is no greater Christian duty than to find understanding and that the coming Festival will be a milestone on the road to tolerance and understanding for a great number of Canadians."

AUSTRALIA

The Association of Australian Dancers, the Eureka Youth League, and other organisations have already elected their representatives to the Festival.

During these preparations there has been great activity shown against the travel restrictions imposed on passports by the federal government. A pamphlet demanding a change in policy, and lifting of the restrictions has been distributed among young people.

The National Preparatory Committee will meet during the month of March.

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INDIA

In connection with the Festival preparations, The Democratic Youth Federation in the state of Bihar is undertaking various activities in defense of the rights of young people.

Thus, at its recent conference the Federation decided to build a school in the village of Koharan, in the state of Bihar, for the children of the rural population. The peasants have contributed 5 acres of land, 10,000 tiles, and collected 10,000 rupees, for the construction of this school. It was decided that the best builder of this school will be sent to the Festival.

SOUTH AFRICA

The second annual Festival for Peace and Friendship will take place in Capetown in April.

The programme of this Festival will consist of sports cultural and social activities in which young people of different national groups will participate.

The purpose of this Festival is to preserve and enrich the country's traditional culture and to develop the forces for peace. The organisers feel that this Festival will play a big role in promoting the understanding between the different groups of people in South Africa.

FRANCE

From the 1-st of May to the 5-th of June a big youth festival will take place in the Bouches du Rhône department. It will include sports and cultural events, dances, camp fires, concerts, get-togethers, professional discussions, sales of books with writers participating, exhibitions, etc. A rural Festival will also be held. An eight-page newspaper will be published in 100,000 copies in order to popularize the Warsaw Festival.

COLOMBIA

The young boys and girls of Palmira have organised a Local Committee for the Fifth Festival.

In spite of the difficult situation in their country, the young people are holding many excursions and trips in order to popularize the grand idea of Peace and Friendship of the Festival.

A radio programme is also being prepared on the defense of national culture as a contribution to the Festival as well as a Call addressed to all the young peoples of this picturesque country.

ITALY

The Italian Socialist Youth Federation reports in a letter: "... " The Italian Committee of the Festival has just set up

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headquarters in Rome. It is chaired by Senator Terracini. Besides the preparatory activities together with the F.G.C.I. we are realizing youth trophies and contests in honour of the Fifth Festival. These Trophies cover cultural, sports, recreation, folklore and other fields. They are elementary in basis and form, designed to get the greatest participation of the young people."

ALGERIA

Young Algerians will bring to Warsaw an Algerian documentary film. They are also preparing a folklore programme composed of dancers and music of the inhabitants of North Algeria.

ISRAEL

From the 12th to the 14th of April, an Izraeli Youth Festival for Jewish-Arab Youth Friendship will be held at Tel Aviv. A preparatory committee has been formed. It is composed of eminent personalities, cultural and civic as well.

SWITZERLAND

A session of the Swiss Festival Committee was held at the end of February. It was announced that Switzerland will send a theater group to Warsaw to stage plays in French and a folk song and dance ensemble to perform at the Fifth Festival.

DENMARK

The National Festival Committee has already received 181 applications from the young people who want to attend the Fifth Festival.

The director of the Royal Conservatoire, Finn Höffding, has offered the Committee an opera which he composed in order to be presented at the Festival.

Robert Voigt, 13-time Greek-Roman wrestling champion of Denmark, has declared his support to the National Committee.

GREAT BRITAIN

The London Festival Committee is preparing a Festival Carnival for May. Five song and dance groups will sing and dance in the squares and other commercial centres, where they will spread news of the Fifth Festival and organise a collection in order to help cover expenses of their trip.

HOLLAND

Local committee for the Festival have been organised in many cities and students are participating in many of them. They are popularizing the Fifth Festival by organising film showings where the Bucarest Festival is screened. Also a large number, of spe-

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INFORMATION BULLETIN

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cial bulletins on the sports and cultural events of the Festival are being distributed among the young people. The most diverse forms are being used for the collection of funds, the most successful being that of selling stamps. A sheet of ten pictures representing the different aspects of the Festival is sold at 2.50 Francs which is enough to pay one delegate's travel expenses for about 12 miles.

THE PREPARATION OF FESTIVAL RELAYS

During the preparations for the Festival, a youth relay will go through many countries of the world.

FINLAND

The Finnish Festival Committee will organise four national relays which will run nearly two thousand miles through the country. 90 youth galas will take place in honour of this occasion and signatures will be collected to the World Peace Council Appeal.

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TREASON TRIAL, 1956 1961

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