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WORLD COUNCIL OF PEACE
VIENNA SESSION, 23rd - 26th November, 1953

RESOLUTION OF THE CULTURAL COMMISSION

The last session of the World Council of Peace correctly demonstrated the need and the possibility of widely developing cultural exchanges, a valuable factor in achieving and consolidating a relaxation of international tension.

We are happy to see that in spite of the still too numerous obstacles, appreciable results have been obtained since then.

At the same time, we repeat that many greater successes could be achieved at present. Vast prospects will open up if every organisation and every human being interested in the culture of their own country, as well as world culture, decide to enter into contact and work for fruitful international relations on the basis of reciprocity.

The full support of the Peace Movement is assured for the various activities already achieved or planned, such as: visits; exchanges of delegations, works of art, literary and scientific publications; international exhibitions, congresses and the meetings and interchange of scientists, intellectuals, artists and sportsmen.

We call on every organisation and person interested in the development of cultural relations between the peoples. We appeal to them to increase such activities and to secure co-operation on a still wider basis so that this work will be even more effective.

Vienna, 28th November, 1953

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WORLD COUNCIL OF PEACE
VIENNA SESSION, 23rd - 28th November, 1953.

A MESSAGE FROM THE WORLD COUNCIL OF
PEACE TO ALL ORGANISATIONS AND
PERSONALITIES WHO DESIRE A RELAXATION
OF INTERNATIONAL TENSION

The armistice concluded in Korea has given an uneasy world the hope at last of seeing a decrease in tension between the Great Powers. Negotiations which were opened, however, have come up against renewed obstacles.

Agreement is proving difficult on other questions vitally important for the peace of the world.

Nevertheless, the peoples long for a relaxation of international tension. Economic barriers and political pressures accompanying this tension are becoming increasingly difficult to bear.

We believe it is possible to rescue the world from this condition.

Today, a wide range of political and social forces in all countries are working for an improvement in international relations.

New voices among eminent scientific, religious and political authorities are condemning the use of weapons of mass extermination. Public opinion is becoming alarmed at the growing accumulation of armaments of all types.

All people of good sense realise that it is not possible to settle problems of world importance or guaranteed fulfilment of any agreement made without the participation of the Government of the Chinese People's Republic.

Responsible representatives of all political groups in most West European countries have made a public stand against the rebirth of German militarism in any form.

In these conditions, we think an opportunity should be given for all organisations or personalities, who are striving for the relaxation of international tension, to concentrate their efforts on this question. The resolution, passed in Vienna by the World Council of Peace on 28th November, 1953, is an expression of our point of view on this matter.

The joint preparation for a meeting allowing the free exchange of all viewpoints and the examination of possible solutions is now necessary.

An International Meeting of this nature, held as soon as possible would in itself be an important factor in the relaxation of international tension.

Vienna, November 28th, 1953

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GENERAL RESOLUTION OF THE WORLD COUNCIL OF PEACE

The Budapest Appeal for negotiation, launched by the World Council of Peace, has had profound repercussions and has won the widest support. As a result of this campaign, the idea of settling international differences by agreements acceptable to all is daily winning ground and bearing fruit.

In Korea, the ending of hostilities was a victory for the cause of Peace.

On Germany, the latest exchange of Notes between the Great Powers proves that the holding of a Four Power Conference in the near future is possible.

On Indochina, the idea of a cease-fire and a peaceful settlement is making progress both in France and Viet-Nam.

But the forces opposed to the easing of international tension are using the word "negotiation" to veil plans for prolonging the Cold War. It is not employing negotiation, for one side to confront the other with accomplished facts; it is not desiring negotiation, to seek to create conditions which must make it fail.

In both Asia and Europe there are situations and conflicts which represent a special danger to World Peace.

In Korea, negotiations are in danger. The attempt to exclude neutral nations, especially India, from a Political Conference dealing with specifically Asian interests, can wreck the negotiations. The peoples will not allow hostilities in Korea to be resumed.

The interests of European security demand the earliest possible settlement of the German problem. This settlement is only possible by agreement between the Four Powers - the United States, the USSR, Great Britain and France. The main obstacle which stands in the way of this agreement is the intention of one side to rebuild German militarism and to bring Germany into a war coalition directed against the other.

The World Council of Peace calls upon the peoples of Europe to prevent the ratification of the "European Army" treaties and the revival of German militarism in any shape or form. This would open the way to a Four Power agreement on the German problem - an agreement that would offer the German people the prospect of a peaceful future and give all the peoples of Europe a guarantee against the revival of aggressive forces in Germany.

The war between France and Viet-Nam, which has been raging for seven years, can only be ended by direct negotiations between the belligerents.

The World Council of Peace welcomes the proposal made in this direction by the Vietnamese delegation and supported by the Chinese delegation. This proposal, to which the French delegation made a favourable reply, could serve as a basis for a settlement.

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The World Council of Peace has always maintained that foreign interference, occupation by foreign troops and the establishment of military bases on foreign soil, constitute a threat both to the peoples' independence and to Peace.

Such a policy is being extended in the Near and Middle East, Latin America and Africa. In Europe it is exemplified particularly in the plan for the European Defence Community and the installation of atomic bases in Spain; in Asia, in the shape of foreign occupation, in the intensified re-armament of Japan and in the attempts of the United States to set up military bases in Pakistan. This latest effort threatens to create a war psychosis amongst hundreds of millions of people in yet another part of the world.

The armaments drive and the manufacture of ever more powerful weapons of mass destruction impose an intolerable burden on the world and constitute a terrible menace.

The World Council of Peace has drawn the attention of the world to this problem by its campaign for the Stockholm Appeal and its Warsaw resolutions. It regrets that the United Nations Organisation has not yet reached agreement on these matters and hopes that efforts to bring about the absolute prohibition of atomic and biological weapons and a substantial reduction of all armaments under effective control will continue.

Finally, the World Council of Peace emphasises that, whilst negotiation must be applied to each particular problem, it considers, as it always has, that a Five Power Conference is still the best method for achieving a relaxation of international tension.

The Conference would be able, on the initiative of any of the Powers, to take up any problem felt to be a cause of international tension and to seek general agreements acceptable to all.

The persistent refusal to grant the People's Republic of China her rightful place in the councils of the world is an obstacle to this Five Power Conference. This refusal is contrary to the interests of all States and is judged more and more severely by world opinion.

The Charter of the United Nations gives the peoples an instrument able to bring about a lasting Peace and it is for the peoples to see that it is respected. The infringements of the Charter have plunged the world into great difficulties. A return to the letter and the spirit of the Charter would help the peoples to ensure their security and independence. It would allow real co-operation between the nations in developing their economic resources, their wellbeing and their culture.

The anxiety and fear, the poverty and the difficulties of everyday life inflicted upon the peoples by the Cold War and the armaments drive, can and must be eliminated by the action of the peoples.

In the last resort, Peace depends upon the people.

Vienna, November 28th, 1953.

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RECORDS RELATING TO THE 'TREASON TRIAL' (REGINA vs F. ADAMS AND OTHERS ON CHARGE OF HIGH TREASON, ETC.), 1956 1961

TREASON TRIAL, 1956 1961

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