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E. 74

CAPE TOWN PEACE CONFERENCE.

For the information of delegates, the text of the principal resolutions adopted at the conclusion of the Second World Peace Congress at Warsaw on November 22 are reproduced below.

P R E A M B L E

(Adopted by the delegates of 80 countries by the following vote: For 1,655, Against 3, Abstentions 2. Delegates claimed to speak in the name of the 500 millions who have signed the Peace Petition).

When the peoples of the world created the United Nations, they endowed it with their hopes. The greatest of these was the hope of peace.

But war today already disturbs the peaceful life of many peoples and threatens tomorrow to disturb the peace of all mankind.

If the United Nations has not fulfilled that dearest hope reposed in it by all the peoples of the world - both those whose Governments are represented in it and those not yet represented - if the United Nations has not guaranteed to mankind security and peace, this is because it has been influenced by forces which have disregarded the only path to universal peace, the search for general agreement.

If the United Nations is to realise the hopes that the peoples have always reposed in it, it must return to the path marked out for it by the peoples since its foundation.

And, as a first step in this direction, it must call as soon as possible a meeting of the Five Great Powers, the Chinese People's Republic, France, Great Britain, the U.S., and the U.S.S.R., to discuss and iron out their joint difficulties.

The Second World Congress of Defenders of Peace, comprising delegates of 80 countries and expressing the true voice of a humanity longing for peace, demands that immediate consideration be given by the United Nations and by the parliaments to which the Governments of the various countries are responsible, to the following proposals, designed to restore confidence among all countries, regardless of their respective social systems, and to maintain or re-establish peace:

E 74

NINE-POINT PEACE PROGRAM

KOREA

1. In view of the fact that the war now raging in Korea is not only bringing incalculable disaster upon the people of Korea, but also threatens to become a general war, we demand the immediate cessation of hostilities, the withdrawal from Korea of foreign armies, and the peaceful settlement of the internal conflict between the two parts of Korea, with the participation of the representatives of the Korean people.

We demand that the problem be dealt with by the Security Council as properly constituted - that is including the people of the Chinese People's Republic.

We call for the termination of the intervention by American forces on the Chinese island of Formosa and the cessation of hostilities against the Republic of Viet Nam - operations which both carry a latent threat of extension on a world scale.

PEACE TREATIES

2. We categorically condemn every move made and measure taken to violate the international agreements that forbid the rearmament of Germany and Japan.

The attempts constitute a grave threat to peace. We demand the conclusion of a peace with a united and demilitarised Germany, the conclusion of a peace treaty with Japan, and the withdrawal from both these countries of the forces of occupation.

RACE DISCRIMINATION

3. We consider the violence employed to hold peoples in a state of dependence and colonial subjection operates as a powerful menace to peace, and proclaim the right of those peoples to freedom and independence.

At the same time we raise our voices against every form of racial discrimination, for it promotes hatred among the nations and is dangerous to peace.

4./Definition....

DEFINITION OF AGGRESSION

4. We consider it necessary to expose the attempts made by the supporters of aggression to confuse the very meaning of what constitutes aggression and to intervene under one pretext or another in the internal affairs of other nations.

We declare that no political, or economic consideration, no reason arising from the internal situation or any internal conflict in a State can justify armed intervention by any other State.

That State commits the crime of aggression which first employs armed force under any pretext whatever against any other State.

WAR PROPAGANDA

5. We hold that propaganda for a new war constitutes a grave threat to the peaceful co-operation of peoples, and we therefore hold it to be a crime of the deepest gravity against humanity.

We appeal to the parliaments of all countries to enact a "Law for the Protection of Peace," which shall render all those who conduct propaganda for a new war, whatever form it may take, liable to criminal prosecution.

MASS DESTRUCTION

6. As all decent people, whatever their political colour, regard ruthless mass destruction of populations as a crime against humanity, we demand that an international court shall be appointed to examine the crimes committed during the war in Korea, and in particular the question of the responsibility of General MacArthur.

DISARMAMENT

7. Voicing the demands of the peoples, who bear upon their shoulders the burdens of military budgets, and firmly resolved to guarantee to the whole of humanity firm and stable peace, we present for the consideration of the United Nations, of all parliaments and of all peoples, the following proposals:

Unconditional prohibition of all manner of atomic weapons and of bacteriological, chemical, poisonous, radio-active, and all

other/.....

other devices of mass destruction (this prohibition being ensured by rigorous international control), and a declaration that the government that first henceforth employs such means shall be considered guilty of a criminal act.

Reduction by the Five Great Powers, in the course of the year 1951-52, of all their armed forces on land, on the sea and in the air, by the same proportions and by simultaneous stages, to one-half or one-third of their present size.

Organisation of an international central body within the framework of the Security Council, with the authority to inspect and supervise the carrying out of the prohibition of atomic, bacteriological, chemical and other weapons of mass destruction and the reduction of armaments, with the right of checking not only declared weapons but also those the existence of which is suspected and have not been declared.

These proposals constitute a first stage on the road to general and complete disarmament, the final goal of all Defenders of Peace.

They would result in no military advantages to any country. They would call a halt to the drive to war. They would advance the wellbeing of every people.

ENCOURAGEMENT OF TRADE

8. We emphasise that in certain countries the passage from a peace economy to a war economy is increasingly disturbing normal economic relations and the exchange between countries both of materials and industrial goods.

It is our view that this exerts a pernicious influence on the standards of living of many peoples, that it is raising obstacles to economic interests and business relations, and that this situation is a source of conflict endangering the peace of the world.

Taking into consideration the vital interest of the populations of all countries and with the desire to improve conditions throughout the world, we urge the restoration of normal trading

relations/.....

relations between the various countries on a basis of mutual interest, satisfying the requirements of the peoples concerned, excluding economic discrimination in any form and safeguarding the development of each national economy and the economic independence of all States, large and small.

CULTURAL EXCHANGE

9. We hold that obstruction of cultural relations among the peoples leads to quarrelling and loss of mutual understanding and creates a kind of distrust favourable to propaganda for war.

We consider, on the other hand, that the strengthening of cultural relations between peoples creates conditions favourable to mutual understanding and strengthens their trust in the general struggle for peace.

Accordingly, we appeal to all governments, urging them to contribute towards bettering cultural relations among the peoples, to enable them to become better acquainted with their respective treasures in the field of culture.

We appeal to them also to facilitate the organisation of international conferences of persons active in the field of culture, the mutual exchange of visits, and the publication and wide distribution of the literature and art of other countries.

678

(2)

RESOLUTIONS.

1. This Conference welcomes the success of the Geneva Conference in bringing about a peace settlement in Indo-China as a positive step forward and further proof that outstanding differences can be settled by negotiation.

We support the world-wide demand that all other disputes and differences endangering peace should be approached and settled in the same way. These include a peace for Korea, unity of a peaceful Germany and the ending of the Colonial wars in Malaya and Kenya.

To call on the great powers to sign a binding and eternal declaration that they will never use atom or hydrogen bombs and weapons of war in any circumstances, and we support the demand for a total ban and international inspection to prevent the manufacture and storing of such weapons. To believe that atomic energy used for peaceful purposes will open up a new era of progress for Humanity.

Believing in the peaceful co-existence of Communist and non-Communist states, we call on the South African Government to honour the purpose and spirit of the United Nations Charter and to support the admission of all states applying for membership. In particular we call upon our Government to limit the use of uranium to the peaceful development of natural resources. We call for South Africa to take advantage of the tremendous opportunities of East West Trade and other peaceful relations including cultural exchanges.

2. This Conference condemns the unfair actions of the Government at present directed against the non-European peoples of this country. Such action as the removal of the people of the Western Areas from their homes breeds suspicion, friction and disharmony amongst our people and is not in the interests of peace for the people of this land. Peace at home is the first need if there is to be peace abroad. Discrimination anywhere is a threat to peace. We therefore call upon this Government to direct its energies towards the improvement of the conditions of our countrymen, the building of homes for the homeless, the building of schools, the feeding of the under-nourished, the providing of hospitals, and all other projects which will help this become a prosperous and happy land for all.

3. This Conference condemns the action of the British Government in Kenya in its closing down of schools, and the shooting down and bombing of people indiscriminately. We demand the cessation of hostilities in Kenya and the right of its people to live in peace.

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