

WORLD COUNCIL
OF PEACE

Prague, 15th April, 1954.

SECRETARIAT

South African Peace Council
(South Africa)

PALAIS SIA PRAGUE

Bewysstuk No.....

Gekry by *S.A. Peace Council*

Deur *NR 2009(1) 15/4/54 - J.K. King*

Te *Somerset House, 110 Fox St, JNB*

Datum *28 - 9 - 1955*

Dear Friends,

Verwysings No. *Lys NR 2 - 8(46)*

We have written to you on several occasions about the International Meeting for the Relaxation of Tension proposed by the World Council. We are now in a position to give more details.

The recent Bureau meeting in Vienna received information relative to the Meeting from various countries. It appears that many political figures who up till now have had no contact with the World Council would like to take part in it. This is also true of a number of pacifist and religious organisations and various persons from cultural, commercial and trade union circles.

Further, Preparatory Committees have been, or are being, formed in countries such as Japan, India, France, Brazil, Chile and the Argentine, and several of them have already started to form delegations to the Meeting.

Lastly, a Welcoming Committee is being formed in Sweden composed of important cultural, pacifist and religious figures in that country. After receiving permission from the competent authorities, they intend to write to the National Preparatory Committees that have already been formed proposing that the Meeting be held in Sweden.

It is clear that the idea of the Meeting is no longer that of the World Council alone but has now become the common property of all the elements which want to see it held. The Bureau of the World Council has therefore approved various proposals from public figures and organisations relative to the character of the preparations and the way in which they are to be carried out. They can be summed up as follows:

- It devolves upon the persons and organisations in each country who are interested in the Meeting to set up a body (Initiating Committee, Preparatory Committee or any other grouping) which will speed the formation of delegations.
- Information on the Meeting can only be published or reproduced with the permission of those concerned or of the Preparatory Committees.
- About 250 people will take part in the Meeting. In order to facilitate discussion, it could be divided into several sections: a political section, an economic section and a cultural section.

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E 330

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- The delegations will, of course, have to be restricted in numbers, since not more than 250 persons will take part; but they must be genuinely representative of the political, cultural and religious circles by whom they are mandated. Wherever possible they should be jointly formed. On this point, the Bureau considered it desirable that, according to the size of the delegation, one or more members of the World Council should be on it with the agreement of the other forces involved.
- There must be no refusal to admit to the Meeting persons or organisations who are taking effective action for the relaxation of tension. The World Council, like the other organisations taking part, reserves the right to be represented by persons of its own choice.
- The Meeting must be held as soon as possible. The Bureau considers that June 20th, which has been proposed by several persons and organisations interested, should be kept in mind.
- All forces taking part must have their share of activity and responsibility in the preparations for the Meeting. To this end, a provisional Secretariat for the preparations will be formed, with an office in Stockholm. The national preparatory bodies, or the organisations taking part, must naturally have the right to send a representative to this Secretariat, if they so desire. The World Council will also be represented on it.
- The agenda for the Meeting and the way in which it will be run can be discussed in the national initiating or preparatory committees. Any proposals arising from these discussions should be sent to the provisional Secretariat, which should then inform the other national committees. However, the final settlement of these questions will be the responsibility of the Meeting itself.
- The cost of the preparation and holding of the Meeting must be shared by the forces taking part. Payment could, for example, be made in the form of a subscription the amount of which can be fixed as soon as the estimates drawn up by the provisional Secretariat are known.
- The travelling expenses of those taking part in the Meeting, and the cost of their stay in Stockholm, will be met either by the national preparatory committees, by the delegates themselves or by the organisations which send them.

These arrangements, which have been approved by the Bureau of the World Council, are likely to facilitate the conversations and contacts necessary for the formation of delegations in the different countries. The National Peace Movements can also make an important contribution to this work.

We would ask you to communicate to us, as soon as possible, all information relative to the preparations for the Meeting in your country. We should particularly like to have:

- 1) The address of the preparatory body or of persons acting on its

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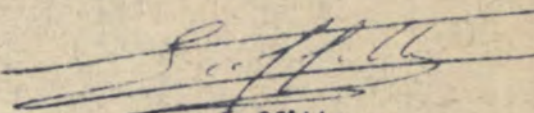
behalf, with whom the provisional Secretariat could communicate;

2) The names and addresses of persons or representatives of organisations who have agreed to take part in the Meeting.

We, for our part, will send you the address of the provisional Secretariat as soon as it is formed.

With good wishes,

Yours sincerely,
For the Secretariat of the
World Council of Peace


Jean Laffitte
General Secretary

54(73)

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~~A~~ 121.

20th April, 1955.

The Secretary,
National Council of Women,
94, High Road,
Grahamstown.
CAPE PROVINCE.

Dear Friend,

We wish to remind you of our letter of the 24th February, 1955 in which we suggested that you might want to send a representative of your organization to the World Assembly at Helsinki.

This Assembly will take place from the 22nd May and all those interested in peace in particular the prevention of nuclear weapons will be welcome.

We would be grateful if you would let us know whether anyone will represent your organization at the Assembly and whether we can assist you in any way.

For your convenience we attach hereto a copy of our letter of the 24th February.

Yours sincerely,

(SIGNED) REV. D.C. THOMPSON.

①

E 161

21st April, 1954

To Sisulu + Cachalia

Dear Friend,

Regarding the H - Bomb and other weapons of mass destruction. There is no doubt the the recent American experiments have aroused the fear and horror of the people throughout the world. The determination of the U.S. Government to forge ahead with the development of ever more frightful weapons can only lead to a situation in which, in the words of Professor Juliet Curie, "All Life on our globe would become impossible. The criminal irresponsibility of the US Government constitutes a frightful threat to the future of all mankind.

The demand for the outlawing of weapons of mass destruction is a matter of life and death to every man, woman and child in every corner of the globe. This is an issue therefore on which everybody can be rallied. All that is required is that the facts and our demands be brought to the people. We must organise a gigantic campaign so that the voice of every South African is raised in protest.

The South African Peace Council as a first step has issued a leaflet. The heading of this leaflet is "We want to live," for this is simply and clearly the issue involved. We request your organisation to assist us in printing further copies of this leaflet. We are determined to make the facts of this horror weapon known to every South African, and we hope to receive your co-operation by sending us a pound for every thousand copies of leaflet you are able to dispose of.

We further request you to take measures, in order that every single branch or group of your organisation take resolutions condemning the actions of the US Government and demanding the banning of atomic weapons. Please send copies of resolutions to S.A. Peace Council. Encourage branches of your organisation to set up emergency committees consisting of both members and non-members of your organisation, to carry out an urgent campaign on this issue. These committees could serve as a basis of future branches of the Peace Council. It could assist in organising house meetings and meetings in the various localities wherever it is possible for your organisation. Our Council could assist in providing speakers for these meetings. We request you to personally write to your Branches making the above suggestions.

E. 161

Finally, we ask you to personally issue a statement on this question.

Looking forward to your co-operation,

Thanking you,

H. Welpe
SECRETARY

Business No.

City of

Dept.

T.

P.O. BOX 10528,
Johannesburg,
23rd April, 1954

A PERSONAL LETTER TO MY BRETHERN OF
ALL CHURCHES AND FAITHS

Dear Brethern,

"ONE WORLD OR NONE" is the title of a book, the work of the leading atomic scientists of the United States in 1947. The reader is left in no illusion, for they make it clear that another war means the end of civilisation, and the possible end of physical existence.

In this personal and covering letter enclosing the leaflet "THE H-BOMB - WE WANT TO LIVE" I issue an appeal for your sincere and earnest co-operation and to give THE CHRISTIAN RESPONSE to this ATOMIC CRISES IN HUMAN AFFAIRS.

THIS CHRISTIAN RESPONSE however, must be asserted, strongly and intelligently and without fear.

The Christ himself did not leave his followers without guidance in these matters (See Luke Chap 21) when he said:-

"When you see ----- distress of nations ----- mens' hearts fainting for fear and for the expectation of the things which are coming on the world ----- look up, and lift up your heads, because your redemption draweth near".

Christians in co-operation with all other lovers of man, should be in the vanguard of the fight for peace, and the pursuit of the conditions of peace.

The South African Peace Council in contact with World Movement for Peace is able to persue the conditions for the Peaceful adjustment of the problems inimical to Peace in our time.

In this particular appeal we want you to endorse the Call to the people of South Africa in the three demands set out on page three.

We appeal for your active support that in all our churches we deal with the subject of the outlawing of the H - Bomb, and emphasize the peaceful use of atomic energy for the benefit and creation of the New Society of Mankind. This, I believe, is Gods will for us at this time.

Further, we seek your active support of the work of the South African Peace Council, both by your moral support and your financial gifts, so that we may fall into line with the peoples of all the countries of the World, in the will to live in Peace, so that this may be felt in all the Councils and Governments of the Nations.

Hoping to hear of your active response and co-operation in these urgent matters,

I remain,

Yours confidently,

D.C. Thompson

(D.C. THOMPSON)
PRESIDENT OF THE SOUTH AFRICAN
PEACE COUNCIL

3 letters

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E. 159.

P.O. Box 10528,

JOHANNESBURG,

Transvaal.

(A)

23rd. April, 1954.

A PERSONAL LETTER TO MY BRETHERN
OF ALL CHURCHES AND FAITHS.

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E. 159

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Hoping to hear of your active response and ^{co-} operation in these urgent matters,

I remain,

Yours confidently,

D. C. Thompson

(D. C. THOMPSON)

President of the South African
Peace Council.

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E. 262

SOUTH AFRICAN PEACE COUNCIL



P.O. BOX 10528

JOHANNESBURG

14(11)

Bank No.
 by *S.A. Peace Council*
Mr. 2019 (11) / Rev. H. Wolpe
 T. Somerset House 110 Fox Str. J.H.P.
 D. 28 - 7 - 1955
 Verwysings No. *Lys Mr. 2 - 14(11)*

23rd April, 1954

TO CHURCHES OF ALL FAITHS AND LEADING CHURCHMEN

Dear Sir,

We are enclosing a personal letter from our President Rev. D.C. Thompson together with certain other material regarding the H - Bomb, which we are sure will be of interest to you.

We would very much appreciate an indication of your opinion on the matters dealt with and we would be very pleased to receive copies of any sermons delivered by you on the subject as well as other information concerning activities organised by you in regard to the H - Bomb.

Looking forward to your co-operation,

Yours sincerely,

Harold Wolpe

H Wolpe
SECRETARY

E 331

8(65) (A)

TOGOLAND YOUTH MOVEMENT,
P.O. Box 7,
AMEDZOFE,
BR. TOGOLAND

①

W. AFRICA
25.4.54

Dear friends,

As comrades-in-arms fighting for a common cause—Friendship, National Independence and World Peace—we greet you peace fighters of South Africa with our slogan "Peace & Friendship".

We must inform you that the Youths of Togoland are in a critical moment, as the British war mongers backed by the reactionary C.P.P. government of the Gold Coast are feverishly carrying out callous plans to integrate Br. Togoland with the Gold Coast because of a recent discovery of Aluminium and Uranium in Togoland.

As you might well know, Togoland is a former German Colony near the British Colony of the Gold Coast; but after the defeat of Germany in the First World War it became a mandated territory partitioned between Britain & France.

The people of Togoland led by the glorious Togoland Youth Movement have repeatedly registered their protest and dislike for the wicked plan of Integration sponsored by Nkrumah's baby government of the Gold Coast through petitions and delegations to the United Nations Organisation and the Gold Coast Government.

* Please let your organisations and other democratic organisations whose address you know send protests Condemning Integration of British Togoland with the Gold Coast to:
① The Governor, Gold Coast, Accra.



Togoland Youth Movement
 P.O. Box 7, Lomé
 AMEDZOFÉ

£ 331

W. Togo
 West Africa
 19/6/54

Dear friends,

I have the honour to inform you that the executive committee of the Togo Youth Movement has decided that a meeting of the four West African Trust Territories be summoned to take place here in January or February 1955 to discuss common matters affecting the youth and broader masses in these territories.

② The four Trust Territories are:

- (a) French Cameroon
- (b) British Cameroon
- (c) French Togoland
- (d) British Togoland

③ It was also decided that other Trust Territories in Central & South Africa should be included.

④ As we do not know any democratic Youth or Peoples Organisation in the

*Cameroons, Central and South-west Africa, we shall be grateful to your organisation if you can make any ~~contacts~~ ^{contacts} with these organisations and send us their addresses in order that we can communicate with them directly.

⑤ As soon as we can get their addresses, we expect to form an Inter-territorial Preparatory Committee to which your organisation will be invited.

With fraternal greetings,

Yatsa (YANOWI DATSA)
 Secretary-General

- ② Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth, London
- ③ Secretary-General, U.N.O. Lake Success
- ④ Fenner-Brockway, M.P. London.

Now, what about convening a conference of all organisations in Africa who are fighting for Peace at a place where you may suggest either in November or December or January.

Hoping to receive from you soon.

Yours fraternally
 Yatsa (YAWOVI DATSA)
 for Secretariat

Bewyastuk No.
 kry by A.A. Peace Council
 No. 20819(1) / 1st / 1955
100 West Street, 110 Fox St. STB
28 - 9 - 55
 No. 1902 - 2(65) (A)



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E. 160.

28TH APRIL, 1954

Unity Conference &
Council of N.E. Trade Unions

Dear Friend,

We are enclosing certain material regarding the Hydrogen Bomb which we are sure will be of interest to you.

The threat of war and the use of the H - Bomb if a war were to break out is of concern to every person and in particular to the Trade Union movement.

The future of mankind, the hopes for a better life, for a higher standard of living and security for the working people depend in the first glance on the preservation of peace.

It is, therefore, the duty of all people to raise their voices in favour of the peaceful settlement by negotiation of all international disputes including the problem of outlawing weapons of mass destruction.

We ask your Conference to join with our Council and peace loving people the world over in support of the three demands set out in the enclosed leaflet.

Hoping to hear from you,

Yours sincerely,

for H WOLFE
SECRETARY

P. O. Box 700

Phone 23297

E332

NATAL PEACE COUNCIL

3 Pembroke Chambers - 472 West Street - Durban.

May 1, 1964.

The Secretary,
South African Peace Council,
P. O. Box 10528,
JOHANNESBURG.

Dear Friend,

Many thanks for your letter of 22nd April.

H-Bomb Campaign

The leaflets are not being distributed indiscriminately, but are being sent to factories and handed out at meetings. Considering the small quantities of material of this nature being sent to us, this is the best method of distribution. If, however, mass distribution is required it will be necessary for you to send us between 5,000 and 10,000 copies.

It is noted that another letter addressed to clergymen and religious organisations is being prepared and we look forward to receiving copies in due course. With regard to the leaflets in Zulu, Sotho, English and Afrikaans, will you please let us have 5,000 copies in Zulu and English.

Finance

We appreciate your difficulties in this matter. Whilst we are doing our best to assist, it must be understood that we have our own difficulties. Almost every person in the Peace Council who might be able to raise funds is engaged in similar work for other organisations and, as indicated in a previous letter, it would help us considerably if you could send down some prominent member of the Council for a week or so. Provided such assistance is forthcoming, we are confident of raising a considerable sum.

With regard to the badges, these are being disposed of at meetings and you may rest assured that every penny collected in this way will be forwarded to you with as little delay as possible.

Yours sincerely,

J.A. Suda
SECRETARY.

PS Received Telegram. Have replied by gram today

DM

Handwritten notes in the left margin:
8/5
Gentry by ...
No ...
1964



E 333.

Bewysstuk No.....

Gekry by *S.A. Peace Council*

Deur *NA 20379(1) / 5/5/54 - H.A. Kruys*

Te *Somerset House, 110 Fox Str, S.A.*

Datum *28 - 9 - 1955*

Verwysings No. *Lyo NA 2 - 8 (57)*

3rd May, 1954

8(57)
9

World Peace Council,
Estate Haus,
Wien 4,
Moelwals Platz, 5,
Oesterreich

Dear Friends,

a) Extra ordinary meeting of World Peace Council

We have received your letter in this connection. The matter is being considered and the names will be submitted to you by cable.

b) International Peace Meeting

I have to acknowledge your letters on this subject. The South African Congress of Democrats, Somerset House Fox Street, Johannesburg, the Natal Indian Congress, Box 2299, Durban and Mr Yussuf Cachalia, Secretary of the South African Indian Congress, Box ~~2222~~ 2948, Johannesburg, have also signified their approval and support for the meeting. We will keep you informed of further developments.

c) H - Bomb Campaign

We are enclosing a copy of a press statement given through our Council by Professor Bleksley, professor of applied Mathematics at the University of the Witwatersrand. We are also sending under a separate cover other documents issued by us in this connection.

Yours sincerely,

H Wolpe
SECRETARY

S.A. CONGRESS OF DEMOCRATS.

HEAD OFFICE. ①

E. 122

~~53(31)~~
37(19)

P.O. Box 4088,
Johannesburg.
11th May, 1955.

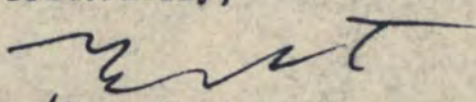
The Secretary,
S.A. Peace Council,
Johannesburg.

Dear Friend,

I have been asked by the National Executive Committee of this organisation to ascertain from you the best manner in which we could draw our membership into assisting with your campaigns. We are anxious to help with your work on a national basis, and we could advise our regions in other centres as soon as we hear from you.

With best wishes,

Yours fraternally,


National Secretary.

8(48)

E. 337

20TH MAY, 1954

Workers Action Committee,
C/O T & E C.,
Union Centre,
Fritchard Street,
Johannesburg

Dear Friends,

My Council is very anxious to improve both its contact with and peace work among the Trade Unions and workers generally.

We feel that a discussion with your committee could be of great value. We would therefore like to propose that two or three of our executive members should meet your committee to discuss this question.

My committee is sure that your Committee understands the importance of peace to the working people and the great need to mobilise the support of the workers in the struggle for peace.

Looking forward to your favourable and early reply,

I am,

Yours sincerely,

HAROLD WOLPE
SECRETARY

Newspaper No.
Gekry by A.P. Pearce Council
No. 20719 (1) 1/5/54 H.P. King
General House, 110 Forest St. J.B.
28-9-1955
Verwysings No. 1/5/54 8(48)

①
CAPE TOWN PEACE COUNCIL E 334

P. O. BOX 2706,
CAPE TOWN.

17th May, 1954.

8(23)
The Secretary,
S.A. Peace Council,
P. O. Box 10528,
JOHANNESBURG.

Bewysstuk No.....
Gekry by..... *S.A. Peace Council*
Deur..... *De. 20091/1/54*
Te..... *Saner House, 110 Fox St JHB*
Datum..... *28 - 9 - 1954*
Verwysings No..... *Lys NR. 2 - 8(23)*

Dear Friend,

Thank you for your letter of the 22nd April, 1954.

We are very sorry we have not written earlier but some difficulty has been experienced in getting our Committee to function owing to the many calls made upon members during past weeks. We hope the organisational problem has now been solved.

We are glad to inform you that arrangements have now been made for the distribution of material which you have sent us, mainly your circular letter of the 12th April and Professor Bleksley's statement. Unfortunately we have not yet had copies of the leaflet on the H Bomb which you promised. We are eagerly awaiting these. We have, however, distributed copies of the leaflet "This Could Have Been Your Child".

We had looked forward to meeting Leon Levy and our acting Secretary was on the station on Sunday morning the 2nd May. To our great regret he did not arrive and we were subsequently informed he was not chosen to represent his trade union at the Trade Union Conference.

We note that you are preparing a new leaflet on the H Bomb with captions in four languages. We would very much like to see a copy, if possible, before placing an order as the number ordered will depend partly on whether Xhosa is one of the languages.

We must thank you for the twenty copies of the letter directed to clergymen, with enclosures. These letters have been sent out to a very representative list of clergymen, but we are not yet in a position to know how the documents have been received.

We are awaiting your statement on the H Bomb, and shall certainly try to get as many signatures as possible when we receive it. We are awaiting further information in this matter.

Referring ^{to} your letter of the 3rd May, and for which we thank you, we would like to see a copy of the Peace Bulletin. We will probably be ordering a couple of hundred, but we will let you have details later.

We must apologise for irregularities in correspondence, and we hope that our relationship will be on a sounder basis.

Our finances are in a critical position, and we therefore regret that we are unable to contribute towards your deficit.

Yours sincerely,

Sonia Bunting

Secretary.

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E 335

Registry No.
 Copy by S.A. Peace Council
 Date MR. 20019(2) 18/5/54
 To Somear House, 10 Forth St, 5th B.
 Date 28-9-1954
 Sendings No. Lya MR. 2(49) 19th May, 1954

8(49)19

The Secretary,
 World Peace Council,
Vienna

Dear Friend,

This letter serves to introduce Ruth First who has been appointed by the South African Peace Council executive to represent the South African Peace Movement at the extra-ordinary meeting of the World Peace Council and at the forthcoming International Peace Meeting.

Ruth First is a foundation member of the Peace Movement in South Africa and was the first secretary of the original Transvaal Peace Council. She is at present a member of the South African Peace Council Executive and also of the Secretariat.

She is in a position to provide you with full information on the present position of the South African Peace Movement.

We hope that you will give her all possible assistance.

With best wishes,

Yours sincerely,

HAROLD TOLP
SECRETARY
ON BEHALF OF THE SOUTH AFRICAN
PEACE COUNCIL

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E 336

19th May, 1954

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN

Dear Friend,

This serves to introduce Ruth First who is a member of the South African Peace Council Executive and its Secretariat.

She has been a member of the South African Peace Movement since its inception and she was the first secretary of the Transvaal Peace Council. She has been appointed as a representative of the South African Peace Council to the extra-ordinary meeting of the World Peace Council and the forthcoming World Peace Meeting.

She has also been appointed to act generally on behalf of the South African Peace Council in all matters affecting the Peace movement.

We hope that you will give her all assistance necessary.

Thanking you,

Yours sincerely,

HAROLD VOLPE
SECRETARY
ON BEHALF OF THE S.A. PEACE
COUNCIL

Collection Number: AD1812

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

TREASON TRIAL, 1956 1961

PUBLISHER:

Publisher:- Historical Papers, University of the Witwatersrand

Location:- Johannesburg

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