

1) FIRST SESSION (THE WORLD TODAY)

We delegates, at the foundation Congress of the South African Peace Council, affirm our resolute conviction that mankind can avert the horrors of a third world war.

We declare that there is no problem of international relations that cannot be resolved by negotiation, given the overriding recognition by all parties of the necessity of peace, and determination to arrive at a settlement without resort to force.

We believe that the existence of different social and economic systems in various countries in no way constitutes a barrier to friendly and mutually advantageous relations between them.

We resolve to strive with all our might to win the majority of people of South Africa to become conscious partisans of peace; a section of the world-wide union of the peoples against war.

We call on all South Africans of goodwill to join with us in this task.

2) SECOND SESSION (AFRICA, COLONIALISM AND WAR.)

Congress recognises the affirmation of the United Nations Charter that racial discrimination and the employment of force to hold peoples in dependence and colonial subjection operates as a powerful menace to peace.

We affirm that recognition of the fundamental human rights of all peoples, without distinction as to race, colour, sex, language or religion, to self-government and self-determination, is the only stable basis for the establishment of lasting peace and international harmony.

We condemn the use of force to settle disputes, not only between major states, but also to impose and maintain foreign domination on the peoples of Africa.

The use of Africa as a warbase, the territorial ambitions of outside powers, and the exploitation of Africa's peoples and material resources, presents a constant threat to stability and peace.

The cause of world peace would be greatly strengthened by the participation of the peoples of Africa in the World Peace Movement.

Congress declares that the policy of race-discrimination in the Union of South Africa pursued by the South African Government constitutes a breach of the Union's obligations under the United Nations Charter, and a threat to world peace. We believe that ⁱⁿ the interests of peace the South African Government should adhere to the spirit of the Charter and implement the resolutions of the United Nations General Assembly concerning South Africa; should renounce threats to incorporate the Protectorates against the wish of the inhabitants; should end the policy of diplomatic, commercial and cultural isolation which contributes to the continuation of tensions, restricts our economy, and prevents friendly relations between South Africans and the peoples of other countries; ensures, in cooperation with other Governments, the production of uranium for peaceful and constructive purposes, not for atomic warfare.

3) THIRD SESSION (THE PEOPLE AND PEACE)

Congress declares that the intolerable burden of war preparations and the inflation of prices arising from these preparations constitutes a grave threat to the living standards of the people.

We call on the South African Peace Council, in cooperation with all organisations whose support can be enlisted, to implement a vigorous Union-wide campaign to bring home to the people of our country the close relationship between war preparations and declining living standards, and to win public opinion for a policy of peace and disarmament; so that bread and social benefits may replace the diversion of men and national resources to war preparations.

4) FOURTH SESSION (THE PEACE MOVEMENT IN SOUTH AFRICA TODAY)

Conference resolves that the South African Peace Council be established

- to express and organise the aspirations of all sections of the South African people for world peace
- to represent the peace-loving people of South Africa in building unity of the movements of the peoples for peace in all countries of the world.

We delegates from many organisations pledge our fullest support to the South African Peace Council and promise to work with our full might to broaden and strengthen it.

DECLARATION

One problem today faces all mankind with overwhelming urgency. The threat of total warfare, fought with atom bombs, hydrogen bombs, napalm and germs, confronts us not simply with the issue of peace or war, but with the very survival of the human race.

There are no differences of system outlook or policy between nations which could justify such terrible slaughter.

There are no differences which cannot be settled by negotiation.

This is the world-wide demand of people everywhere: existing wars must be brought to an end; at all costs the Korean conflict must not be allowed to break out again; nations must come to the conference table to settle their differences in a spirit of concession and compromise in the cause of peace. Intransigent stands can only lead to new conflicts.

The use of violence, not only between sovereign states, but to suppress subject peoples, is a factor of peril leading to expanding wars.

Negotiation must triumph over attempted solutions by force, not only between the Great Powers, but in Africa and other parts of the world.

South Africans! Peace is within the grasp of each one of us! Let us act now for peace!

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

©2012

LEGAL NOTICES:

Copyright Notice: All materials on the Historical Papers website are protected by South African copyright law and may not be reproduced, distributed, transmitted, displayed, or otherwise published in any format, without the prior written permission of the copyright owner.

Disclaimer and Terms of Use: Provided that you maintain all copyright and other notices contained therein, you may download material (one machine readable copy and one print copy per page) for your personal and/or educational non-commercial use only.

People using these records relating to the archives of Historical Papers, The Library, University of the Witwatersrand, Johannesburg, are reminded that such records sometimes contain material which is uncorroborated, inaccurate, distorted or untrue. While these digital records are true facsimiles of the collection records and the information contained herein is obtained from sources believed to be accurate and reliable, Historical Papers, University of the Witwatersrand has not independently verified their content. Consequently, the University is not responsible for any errors or omissions and excludes any and all liability for any errors in or omissions from the information on the website or any related information on third party websites accessible from this website.

This document is part of a private collection deposited with Historical Papers at The University of the Witwatersrand.