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CAPE TOWN PEACE COUNCIL.

P.O. Box 2706,
Cape Town.

To all interested organisations:

Dear Friend,

Our Conference of Sunday August 8th, on Peace and National Liberation, was highly satisfactory. The 47 delegates who attended found it enjoyable as well as instructive. Many took part in the discussion, and all expressed a keen desire that more of such events should be arranged.

A special feature of the conference was the varied nature of the proceedings. To begin with, an attractive display of photographs, posters and pictures was arranged, illustrating various phases of the peace movement. These, together with the Council's banner and an illuminated woodcut of the peace doves, gave the proceedings a stimulating setting.

The chairman opened the conference with a talk on the terrible threats that the new weapons of war presented to all humanity. He went on to describe the great achievements of the World Peace Movement, the greatest international force that has ever been developed. He showed that the struggle for peace was an integral part of the movement for national liberation.

There followed a reading of poems expressing the deep-seated desire for peace. These readings made a deep impression and left a conviction that literature can be a vital means of developing an awareness of peace.

We then listened to a clear analysis of recent international events by an acknowledged authority. He traced the course of events in Korea and Indo-China, and explained the significance of the settlements that had brought the conflicts there to an end. He warned, however, against over-optimism and stressed the importance of developing a powerful peace movement.

The next item aroused great interest and made a visible impression. Some delegates indicated in the subsequent discussion that only after seeing it had they become fully convinced that war was an unmitigated evil against which the full force of the national movements should be mobilised. The feature consisted of the projection of a number of slides depicting the fateful effects of the two atomic bombs dropped on Hiroshima and secondly, the methods used by police and military units to break up a great May Day demonstration for peace and national independence in Tokyo.

Conference then heard an African member of the Council on why the women had a special interest in the peace movement. She spoke on the hardships of the people and appealed for Africans to come forward to build the peace movement.

Discussion followed during which three resolutions were moved and unanimously adopted. Copies of these are attached.

The Peace Council is satisfied that people are interested in the work of the peace movement. Your organisation is therefore invited to ask for a speaker to address your members. A suggested list of items from which you may choose. You are free to arrange a house gathering of friends and neighbours to which one of our speakers will go on invitation.

Suggested items for discussion: Peace and the National Movements.
What is happening in Kenya?
Was the Indo-China Settlement in the interests of Peace?

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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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