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peace. All of this must come together in one great movement towards the Festival. The programme must reflect the diverse aspects of the many activities and aspirations of the youth. Today young people and all peoples in Europe and throughout the world are called upon to undertake a great responsibility. The London and Paris agreements which threaten us with the rebirth of an aggressive militarism in Western Germany and the engulfing of humanity in a new war, must be repulsed. For just as in Europe, the youth of the world are struggling to avoid this threat, ranging themselves more and more against aggressive military blocs, against intervention in domestic affairs, for the peaceful solution of all international problems in dispute, for collective security and for peace. There is no doubt that the preparations for the Festival will help to give still greater importance to these activities through many demonstrations, campaigns, border meetings, exchanges of delegations between countries and so on. Thus the struggle for the rights of the working and student youth will grow. The young people are more and more determined to improve the conditions of their life, developing the most varied activities and enriching their life by their own activities..."

APPEAL OF THE INTERNATIONAL PREPARATORY COMMITTEE OF

THE 5th WORLD FESTIVAL OF YOUTH AND STUDENTS FOR PEACE

AND FRIENDSHIP

Vienna, December 17-18, 1954

Young men and women of the whole world!

The 5th World Festival of Youth and Students for Peace and Friendship, traditional event of the young generation, will take place in Warsaw from July 31st to August 14th, 1955.

The preparations for the festival take place under circumstances which make it indispensable for all young people to unite even more with all peace-loving people to widen international co-operation, to achieve better reciprocal understanding, for national independence and peace.

Dear friends! The festival is your festival, the festival of friendship among all young men and women, regardless of political opinions, religious beliefs, race or nationality.

The programme of the festival corresponds to all the interests of young people. It enables you to express all your hopes, to show the wealth of your national heritage, your cultural, artistic and sports achievements. In the programme, we have planned great friendship demonstrations, meetings between workers, farm youth and students of the same trade. There will also be entertainments, literary competitions, music and other contests, different sport contests, many meetings between delegations, a film festival, exhibitions, and various other events. The festival will also give you the chance to get to know young people from different countries as well as the Polish youth, who have so hospitably invited us to hold our festival in the rebuilt capital of their country.

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Young men and women!

We, the representatives of international, national and local youth and student organisations, of trade unions, rural, women's, religious, cultural, and sports organisations, we, the representatives of culture, artists, sportsmen holding different religious and political convictions, at the first meeting of the International Preparatory Committee for the 5th Festival, call on you to:

PREPARE FOR THE 5th WORLD FESTIVAL OF YOUTH AND STUDENTS

POPULARISE THE FESTIVAL, and its noble aims by all possible means.

BROADEN existing preparatory and sponsoring committees for the Festival, and form national, regional and local committees in factories, offices, universities, colleges and schools, in the villages and the countryside, wherever you live, drawing in all organisations and public figures.

ORGANISE mass festivals, gatherings, youth rallies, competitions, concerts, entertainments, relays, and sport contests. Elect your delegates for the festival.

TAKE PART in fund-raising to send your delegates to Warsaw, contribute to Solidarity Funds to help young people of the colonial, dependent and under-developed countries go to the 5th World Festival of Youth and Students.

In order to strengthen friendship and unity between all young people, we appeal to all international, national, regional and local youth and students organisations to take an active part in the preparations and in the Festival itself.

Writers, scientists, artists, sportsmen! You enjoy great popularity and respect among young people; they expect your help and support. Give us the benefit of your knowledge, experience and talent in the preparations and during this great World Youth Festival.

The International Preparatory Committee is convinced that all young people will heed this appeal, and that they will make the 5th World Festival of Youth and Students a great demonstration of all young people who want a better life, happiness, friendship and peace between nations.

The success of the 5th Festival depends on you, on your participation, on the part you play in the preparatory work.

Forward to the 5th World Festival of Youth and Students for Peace and Friendship!

GREETINGS AND MESSAGES FOR THE 5th WORLD FESTIVAL

During the constitutive meeting of the International Preparatory Committee for the 5th World Festival of Youth and Students for Peace and Friendship, eminent people and different organisations have sent hundreds of messages of greetings.

The telegrammes and letters express the profound desire

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that the International Preparatory Committee may have a great success in its work for the preparations of the 5th Festival, the greatest international event of 1955 for the youth of the world.

Below we publish the extracts of some of these greetings:

Extract of the letter sent by the World Peace Council:

"... We are convinced that the discussion of questions on the agenda and the decisions which will be taken there, will greatly contribute to the fine realization of the 5th Festival which is a great demonstration assisting the cause of peace and friendship between the peoples to progress."

Professor DuBois, Doctor of Philosophy of Harvard University, member of the National Institute of Arts and Letters, winner of the International Peace Prize 1952, wrote:

"... I should like to extend to your committee and particularly to the participants in the 5th World Festival, my assurance of sympathy and co-operation in every way with the work which they are carrying on. There is one hope in this distraught world, and that is the determination on the part of the youth to fight against war and for international friendship and to be willing to make any sacrifice for this great end."

THE LEAGUE OF RED CROSS SOCIETIES wrote:

"... We would be glad to receive the resolutions adopted at the Festival and we can assure you that they will be studied with interest."

The President of the CHURCHES OF GERMANY, Doctor Martin NIEMOLLER has sent the following letter:

"... I wish with all my heart that the 5th Festival of Youth and Students for Peace and Friendship, planned for next summer in Warsaw, may be a real and positive contribution for understanding and world peace. Therefore, with all my heart I wish many successes to the Preparatory committee..."

D.D. SHOSTAKOVITCH, famous composer from the Soviet Union wrote:

"... I thank you for the great honour you have done me, and which I greatly appreciate, for the activities of the World Federation of Democratic Youth have won the respect of all of progressive mankind, and the festivals it organises have become the festivals of friendship and peace between the peoples of all countries."

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The Union Franc Jeu from Martinique wrote in a letter:

"... In the present conjunctures when the retrograde forces under the pretext of pacifism, want to rearm the revanchist Germany, we, who are forced to live under colonialism, racial discrimination, unemployment, prostitution, have the right to join in greater number those who are no longer content with appeals, but who take action, those who already enjoy freedom, equality, and help those who are now achieving them in a universal struggle against the oppressors who attack peace, threatening the world with a new war.

Therefore we are convinced that the 5th Festival of Youth will be a wonderful proof of our determination to have peace and our rights.

That is why we greet the Preparatory Committee in its session on December 17th."

Mr. Jiichiro MATSUMOTO, former Vice-President of the House of Councillors, Member of the World Council of Peace, Highest Advisor to the Socialist Party of Japan, said in his message:

"... I am sending my heartfelt congratulations for the preparatory movement, which has been becoming broader and more active day by day, for the World Festival of Youth and Students for Peace, friendship and unity.

I myself fully support the convocation of the World Festival and want to help in the preparatory work.

In the past, when we were still young, there was no international contact among the youth and students of the world. Consequently this situation was utilised by those who wanted to spread enmity among youth and students and to unleash war. Therefore I sincerely wish that you obtain the greatest success in the struggle for the establishment of peace..."

SRI SRI, Indian poet wrote:

"Greetings to the World Festival of Youth and Students. You are the future. In you I greet the future of humanity. The ideal of one world has today become reality. I gladly associate myself with the International Preparatory Committee for the organisation of this Festival. I consider this an important occasion to bring about unity and friendship amongst the youth of all the nations of this earth and an opportunity to secure a continuous exchange of cultural values among the youth and students of the whole world."

The first ballerina of the modern artistic dance, Dora Hoyer, from Hamburg, Germany, said: "To speak, to dance, to sing together, is much better than to kill each other. Wishing fruitful results to the meeting, I send you my greetings."

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LARGIO ARREDONDO, Professor of Architecture from Chile, wrote,

... I heartily greet the meeting of the International Festival Committee which will organise the World Festival of Youth and Students and I wish it full success. I think that the year 1954 must be finished with a demonstration of the possibilities of the youth and students in the achievement of effective strengthening of friendship and understanding not only between young men and women but particularly between the peoples to which they belong.

I think that the strongest and widest possibilities are that of the youth, because their young strength and enthusiasm allow the expression of science, art and sports

I hope that each delegation brings to Warsaw the best of cultural and sports achievements of their respective countries. Then the world of peace will be worthily represented there. "



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FIGHTINGTALK
C/O SOMERSET HOUSE 110 FOX STREET
JOHANNESBURG
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PARAVION-IMPRIME

PPN II ①

Information Service

verwysings No. 15-3
19.
Special Supplement No. 1
FACT SHEET

AGAINST THE PREPARATION OF AN ATOMIC WAR AND
GERMAN REARMAMENT

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DECLARATION OF THE W.F.D.Y. SECRETARIAT ON THE DECISIONS OF THE BUREAU
OF THE WORLD COUNCIL OF PEACE

The World Federation of Democratic Youth, in the name of 85 million young members, takes as its own, the decisions of the Bureau of the World Peace Council for the continuation of the fight against the remilitarisation of Germany and the organisation of a broad campaign against the preparation of atomic war. We call upon the youth of the whole world to do their utmost in order to ensure the full success of these decisions.

Youth cannot resign themselves to the perspective of seeing their own lives destroyed. They want to live, to advance securely towards the future, and to work in peace in order to make it always more beautiful.

The decisions of the NATO Council, those of certain governments on the use of atomic weapons, the rearming of German militarism and the conclusion of aggressive pacts such as SEATO, are in contradiction to these profound aspirations. These are actions aiming at the preparation of atomic war which would involve mankind in frightful annihilation. They want the preparation for the unleashing of an atomic war to be accepted as inevitable.

The united actions of the peoples and the youth for the development of a powerful world movement can stay the hands of the organisers of atomic war and German rearmament, and can thus assure to all peoples and youth, the way of peaceful development, freedom, national independence and prosperity for all countries.

It is for these noble aims that the World Federation of Democratic Youth appeals to all young people the world over to support and to develop the great signature campaign against the organisation of atomic war, for the destruction of atomic bomb stocks in all countries, and an immediate stop to their manufacture.

The World Federation of Democratic Youth appeals to all local, national and international youth organisations, their leaders, and all those who have a responsibility to the lives and futures of the youth, to support this campaign.

Responding to this urgent situation, the Secretariat of the World Federation of Democratic Youth has decided to convene the Executive Committee of the W.F.D.Y. from February 25th to 26th, 1955, in Berlin, at the center of which will be the struggle of the youth against the danger of atomic war.

THE DECISIONS OF NATO

At the conclusion of its meetings, in the middle of December, the North Atlantic Council (N.A.T.O.) issued a communiqué, in which the participants, after having expressed satisfaction at progress in the different political and economic fields, point out:

(6) The council considered the report by the military committee on the most effective pattern of N.A.T.O. military defensive strength over the next few years, taking into account modern developments in weapons and techniques. It approved this report as a basis for defence planning and preparations by the N.A.T.O. military authorities, noting that this approval did not involve the delegation of the responsibility of Governments to make decisions for putting plans into action in the event of hostilities.

(7) The council considered the report on the annual review for 1954 which sets forth the coordinated N.A.T.O. defence programmes for the next three years. The review was based on the council directive adopted in December, 1953, that it would be necessary for member countries to support over a long period forces which, by their balance, quality, and efficiency, would be a major factor in deterring aggression.

The Ministers considered and accepted as military guidance a report by the military committee giving its comment on the 1954 annual review. This report stressed that the level of forces for the defence of the N.A.T.O. area should be maintained as planned.

The council noted that there had been an increase in the strength of N.A.T.O. forces and further steady improvement in their efficiency over the past year. This improvement in quality resulted primarily from the large-scale combined exercises held by N.A.T.O. land, sea, and air forces, from the increases in operational and support units, from the supply of large quantities of new equipment.

The council expressed its satisfaction at the expansion of European production of defence equipment as well as the continued provision of North American equipment, and urged continued cooperation in research and development.

Following the recommendations made in the annual review report, the council adopted firm force goals for 1955, provisional goals for 1956, and planning goals for 1957. The force goals agreed upon for 1955 are of about the same numerical strength as those for 1954, but further improvements in training, equipment, and effectiveness are provided for. The German defence contribution under the Paris agreements remains, in the opinion of the council, an indispensable addition to the defence effort of the west.

M. SPAAK'S STATEMENT AT THE CLOSE OF THE N.A.T.O. COUNCIL MEETING

"Commenting on this decision (the N.A.T.O. Communiqué - Ed.) M. Spaak said that it met exactly the wishes of the military, by authorizing them to prepare for an atomic war, but kept in civil hands the responsibility for deciding on the use of the atomic weapon. The means by which that political decision could be arrived at was a subject for discussion within the permanent council of N.A.T.O., but in any case it could never be made public because it would be a military secret of the greatest importance. While the decision ought to be a common one, there might in practice be difficulties in communicating with Governments, and in the event of an atomic aggression against the west the question of a "veto" would become somewhat theoretical."

(From THE TIMES, 20. 12. 54.)

STATEMENT BY MR. DULLES

Mr. Dulles indicated the fact that the United States, in conjunction with its allies, will fight in Europe with tactical atomic weapons, leaving the concern to the statesmen to determine if reprisals, in the form of strategic bombardments, will be adopted.

(From the NEW YORK POST, 28. 12. 54.)

STATEMENT BY MR. EDEN TO THE HOUSE OF COMMONS

"With a view to accomplishing this defensive position which discourages any idea of aggression, we impatiently await, in the coming years, an important contribution from the German Federal Republic. The new weapons with which N.A.T.O. forces are beginning to be equipped will have an even more important effect. The result will be that the Western military forces will achieve in the coming years, - and I quote the words used yesterday in Washington by Mr. Foster Dulles: 'A form of security which seeks to safeguard peace as its first aim, but which, in case of a war will not put the continent in a situation of 'having to be liberated'.' I give my full support to these words.

I know that public opinion is interested in the fact that a report was presented to the North Atlantic Council by the military committee 'on the most efficient system for the N.A.T.O. military force to adopt for the coming years'. Before the Ministers' meeting, all sorts of rumours circulated on the difficulties and disagreements on this question between the governments or between the civil and military N.A.T.O. authorities. These rumours were without foundation. As the communiqué stated, the North Atlantic Council approved the report of the military committee which will serve as a base for the defence plans and preparations of the N.A.T.O. military authorities. It has noted, however, that this approval does not imply delegation of the responsibility incumbent on the governments to take decisions relating to putting plans into work in case of armed conflict. The responsibility in this field remains entirely the concern of the governments. It will not be possible, for evident reasons, to publish the details of the arrangements which were finally decided."

(Taken from THE TIMES, 23. 12. 54.
retranslated from the French.)

WHAT ARE THE LONDON AND PARIS AGREEMENTS

On October 3, 1954, the London Treaties were signed by the following nine Ministers:

- | | |
|-----------------------------------|---------------------|
| - for Belgium | : Mr. SPAAK |
| - for Canada | : Mr. PEARSON |
| - for France | : Mr. Mendès-FRANCE |
| - for the German Federal Republic | : Mr. ADENAUER |
| - for Italy | : Mr. MARTINO |
| - for Luxemburg | : Mr. BECH |
| - for the Netherlands | : Mr. BEYEN |
| - for the United Kingdom | : Mr. EDEN |
| - for the United States | : Mr. DULLES |

These agreements, just like EDC, have as their explicitly stated aim the rearmament of Western Germany. They were completed by a series of other texts signed October 23, 1954, in Paris, by the Ministers who had participated in the London Conference and by the representatives of other member countries of the North Atlantic Treaty Organisation: Ireland, Norway, Denmark, Portugal, Turkey and Greece.

The application of the London and Paris agreements, like the EDC, is a threat to the security of Europe and to world peace.

Essential contents of the Final Act of the London Conference

The London treaties, in the principal points, establish the following:

Point II, section (A)

"The German Federal Republic and Italy will be invited to accede to the treaty, (Brussels - Ed.) suitably modified to emphasize the objective of European unity, and they have declared themselves ready to do so."

Point II, section (C)

"The activities of the Brussels Treaty Organisation will be extended to include further important tasks as follows: The size and general characteristics of the German defence contribution will conform to the contribution fixed for EDC (the European Defence Community).

(EDC planned 12 German divisions, Ed.)

Point II, section 3

"As regards the weapons referred to under Paragraph 2 (A) above, when the countries which have not given up the right to produce them have passed the experimental stage and start effective production, the level of stocks that they will be allowed to hold on the Continent shall be decided by the Brussels Treaty Council by a majority vote."

(Paragraph 2 (A) refers to the atomic, chemical and bacteriological weapons provided for by EDC treaty, Ed.).

Point II, section 15

"It (Germany) undertakes further not to manufacture in its territory such weapons as these detailed in Paragraphs IV, V and VI of the attached list. Any amendment to or cancellation of the substance of Paragraphs IV, V and VI can, on the request of the Federal Republic, be carried out by a resolution of the Brussels Council of Ministers by a two-thirds majority, if in accordance with the needs of the armed forces a request is made by the competent supreme commander of N.A.T.O."

(Paragraphs IV, V and VI of an attached list indicate "long-distance missiles, guided missiles, warships of more than 5,000 tons displacement, submarines of more than 350 tons displacement and bomber aircraft for strategic purposes." But the pledge not to manufacture these weapons has no value as the quoted clause permits its cancellation. - Ed.)

Point IV, section (A)

"All forces of N.A.T.O. countries stationed on the Continent of Europe shall be placed under the authority of SACEUR, with the exception of those which N.A.T.O. has recognized or will recognize as suitable to remain under national command."

Point IV, section (C)

"The location of such forces shall be determined by SACEUR after consultation and agreement with the national authorities concerned."

(The London Agreements establish the inclusion of the German Federal Republic in N.A.T.O.; just as was set forth in FDC, according to the above sections, SACEUR (Supreme Allied Command, Europe) can decide the stationing of German troops in France, Italy and elsewhere. - Ed.)

Point V, Joint Declaration by the Governments of France, United Kingdom and United States of America

"...

Declare that

1. They consider the government of the Federal Republic as the only German Government freely and legitimately constituted and therefore entitled to speak for Germany as the representative of the German people in international affairs."

(To proclaim the Bonn Government as the "only" one existing in Germany, is to want to impose Mr. ADENAUER's Government on the whole of Germany, which means hindering negotiations for its reunification and enflaming a hotbed of war in the heart of Europe. - Ed.)

In point IV, section (C), the London records declare that "the North Atlantic Treaty should be regarded as of indefinite duration". On the other hand, the Brussels Treaty is of a 50 years duration. And these are the two organisations to which West Germany is admitted by the London accords.

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WHAT THE REARMAMENT OF WESTERN GERMANY REPRESENTS

A picture that makes one think

The American magazine TIME gives the following details on the future German army:

MEN:

Ground forces	400,000
Air force (of which only 2,000 pilots)	80,000
Coastal navy	20,000
Total number of officers	20,000

COMPOSITION:

Land army - 12 divisions, of which 4 armoured (with 1,200 cannon each); 2 mechanised (almost as many cannon and more mobile artillery); 6 motorised (with 60 to 80 cannon each)

In peacetime the divisions will have about 13,000 men each. The services will be composed of 180,000 men.

Air force - 1,500 tactical squadrons, divided into 20 groups, half fighter-bombers, half interceptors. No strategic bombers.

Navy - 180 ships, each at least 2,000 tons.

Strategic conception - The accent will be put on mobility. Each armoured division will have twice as many tanks as the Panzerdivisionen of the last war, and the firing power incomparably superior. Conceived as before to operate as a single force, but being able to divide itself into small units, thus constituting a poor objective for atomic attack.

Armament - The United States has already stocked 500 million dollars worth of weapons, munitions, planes and cannon. The Germans hope to produce light arms beginning in 1956, and from 1959, cannon and jet aircraft. Bonn previews a budget of 2,7 billion dollars for the first year.

Recruiting - 150,000 volunteers, the majority veterans, will be trained to become the cadres. Soldiers will also be recruited through conscription. 18 months service.

Time-table - The first soldiers should be in uniform in spring 1955.

The German Army as a Force for Territorial Conquest

"Western Germany's entry into NATO is capable of changing the Atlantic Organisation's character. The fourteen other member states have no significant territorial claims..... The Germans, however, have a burning territorial grievance. They are pledged - explicitly, in the London agreements - not to use force to redress that grievance; but the feeling that an army exists to lend weight to a policy is a deep-seated one."

(Extract from THE ECONOMIST, October 23, 1954)

Experience Teaches Us Where German Militarism Leads

"The effects of the creation of a new army in Western Germany on the internal political plan, create for us very serious concern. The Germans forget quickly. Few people seem to recall the development of the internal situation in Germany between 1920 and 1933. At that time, we had a Reichswehr of 100,000 men. And despite this, this relatively small armed force was enough to create a climate of internal policy which, not only could not stop, but assisted the ascension of national-socialism and finally permitted Hitler to achieve power. The army, if supposedly apolitical, was nevertheless the most important point of crystallisation for all the nationalist, revisionist and reactionary forces."

(Translated from an article in
STUTTGARTER ZEITUNG of 20.10.54.)

In 1958, Germany Will Have the Most Powerful Military Machine in Western Europe

"The designs for bringing the force (armed - Ed.) into actual being have been largely left to German-experts, whose plans indicate that by 1958 their country will have the biggest, best paid, most powerful military machine in Western Europe."

(Extract from an article by Mr. Thomas
F. BRADY, in THE NEW YORK TIMES,
24.10. 54.)

THE GERMAN ATOMIC PERIL

The decisions of NATO bring to the fore a new danger, "the German atomic peril", for in fact, the Paris Treaties permit Western Germany to possess nuclear arms.

In fact, the first article states:

"The distinguished contracting parties of the Western European Union, in acting, agree to the statement of the Chancellor of the German Federal Republic, in terms of which the German Federal Republic undertakes not to manufacture ON ITS TERRITORY, atomic, bacteriological and chemical weapons." (Translation)

And Mr. Anthony GREENWOOD, Labourite M.P., on October 25, 1954, stated:

"We have been informed that Krupp armaments firm is in the process of looking for sites in the Middle East where it may produce heavy arms, the manufacture of which the Germans have nominally renounced, according to the terms of the agreement of the Nine Powers."

(Retranslated from French.)

In addition, the "Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung" indicated:

"Professor HEISENBERG, specialist on atomic questions, and advisor to Adenauer, estimates that three or four years from now, three or four hundred scientists will be working in the atomic center which will be installed at Munich or Karlsruhe."

*

WHAT AN ATOMIC WAR MEANS

What Hiroshima Was

"The true figure of the deaths at Hiroshima is certainly more than 200,000. It will never be definite. The first figures published were less than 90,000, but it was necessary to add the number of deaths resulting from the bomb. Up to now generally differing totals have been given, but they have not been more than 130,000. These figures are far less than reality.

Whole families have disappeared with no one there to know that they were no more. The exact number of garrison soldiers was not counted. There were the movements of troops and civilians, and an unstable population because of the war, one that was not registered. The most optimistic census figures have been chosen. But reality, that is the total which will never be exactly calculated, has been greater, I repeat it, 200,000...

The zone of total death was one mile in diameter. That of almost certain deaths was two; in this area almost all perished, with a few exceptions, such as those people whose underground shelters held fast. Almost all the young people from our primary and secondary schools were outdoors, most of them boys and girls from 13 to 16 years old, occupied by the army in clearing vast trenches which were organized to protect the city against the effects of incendiary bombs. All were annihilated.

Three miles from there, in a flash of light, followed an instant later by devastating puff, my house collapsed on me and mine. Beside us there were farms, the roof of each one already flaming as if it were a torch ..."

(Translation of a statement by the Mayor of Hiroshima - from LE MONDE, July 17, 1950.)

What a Hydrogen Bomb Can Do

Contrary to the fission bomb, there is no maximum limit to the power and dimensions of a hydrogen bomb. It has been announced that a hydrogen bomb which should be used for the present series of experiments will have an explosive power 2500 times superior to that of the bomb dropped on Hiroshima, and equivalent to 50 million tons of T.N.T. (The bomb dropped on Hiroshima killed 247,000 people.)

The deflagration of such a bomb, it is estimated, would raze any important city; within a zone of 16 miles, it would annihilate everything; the zone of serious damage caused by the deflagration would extend about 40 miles. The intense heat unleashed by the bomb could, in cloudless weather, cause fatal burns and great fires in a 60 mile zone. Thus, those sections of the large suburbs of important cities which would not be immediately razed by the deflagration would be, in all probability, completely destroyed by devastating fires.

But the deflagration would have even more horrible and more widespread effects. A great part of the city affected by the bomb would be vaporised and blown out in the form of a very radio-active dust which would fall on the countryside within a zone of several hundred miles and would produce effects similar to those of which the Japanese fishermen have been the victims, but on an infinitely greater scale.

While the radio-active effects would be very serious and would kill a great number of persons after having made them suffer for months and months, the contamination itself would not last very long, and human beings could again inhabit the bombed sector very quickly without being in danger. One could, however, increase and prolong deliberately the radio-active effects for a long period, by enclosing the hydrogen bomb in a large envelope of a certain metal, cobalt.

In this case, instead of disappearing at the end of several days, radio-activity would persist for several years. Everywhere that the radio-active cobalt dust would be deposited, all life would become totally impossible. All that lives - men or beast, bird or insect, grass or tree - and which did not or could not leave this sector, would be annihilated.

A bomb of this power and this model, enclosed in cobalt, would create conditions of total devastation within a zone of about 320 miles from the center of the explosion.

After the Hydrogen Bomb

If a hydrogen bomb of the power of that described above were dropped on London, there would be hardly any survivors of the 5 or 6 million persons living within a 16 mile zone from the center of the explosion. Even those who survive the deflagration would be blockaded under mountains of ruins.

It is practically certain that terrible fires would ravage the site of the deflagration, eliminating any possibility for aid, even if the necessary aid teams were available. In any case, the intensity of the radio-activity would be such that, during a certain time, it would make the devastated zone equivalent to a suicide for aid teams.

However, around this region of about 750 square miles, millions of people would survive the initial deflagration. A number of them would be severely burned by having been directly exposed to the heat of the explosion. Others, in the enormous fires which would ravage the region up to a distance of about 40 miles from the centre of the explosion, would inevitably be severely burned. Numerous persons would be injured by shattered glass and the collapse of houses. All, because of their exposure to it, would suffer from the effects of the intense radioactivity carried by the dust spreading from the centre of the explosion.

Large numbers of people would perish in trying to flee. As to aged, infirm or blind persons as well as children, their chances of surviving the explosion, if they find themselves within a zone of 40 miles from the centre of the explosion, would really be very small. But numerous persons would, no doubt succeed in fleeing, reaching a distance where they consider themselves "safe". According to that which has been shown on the subject of the distances in which the radio-active dust can spread, this "safe" area would have to be situated at least 16 miles from the centre of the explosion.

If the hydrogen bomb were enclosed in an envelope of cobalt, and if three or four such bombs were dropped at the same time in other parts of the United Kingdom, there would exist no region in the British Isles which could be considered as being outside of the danger zone. Our great country would cease to exist.

Let us suppose, however, that cobalt was not used and that a single bomb was dropped on the London region. Several million wounded would need care. Numerous would be those who would have fractured and smashed limbs and deep cuts. Still more numerous would be those having severe burns, who would need transfusions of blood and plasma in order to avoid nervous shock, antibiotics, in order to stop infection, and important skin grafts. All would suffer in a certain measure from the effects of the radio-active waves, although many would not notice them at first. The effects of radio-active waves are insidious, they do not involve immediate trouble, even if the patient has been exposed to a fatal quantity of radio-activity.

But after a certain time, the following symptoms begin to appear: vomiting, diarrhea, falling hair. Two or three weeks after having been exposed to the radio-active waves, the most serious cases would be affected by throat infections, internal hemorrhages, extremely painful ulcers, severe anemia and nutritive troubles. Death can follow in a lapse of time which varies from ten days to three months after the patient had been exposed to the rays.

If the patients, at the end of three months, survive the effects of the radio-active rays, they will probably be cured. But many will afterward be stricken by skin cancers, and if they have breathed the radio-active dust, by cancers of various internal organs.

Pregnant women would give birth to stillborn infants, and men and women would lose their reproductive power for a certain time.

But, in addition the radio-active dust can have incalculable effects on generations of infants yet to be born. What will the extent of these effects be? Geneticists can not yet know, but all are in agreement in saying that there will be effects. This can mean 40 to 50 generations before they reach their culminating point, but they would have as their consequence an accumulated proportion of monstrous births and of unimaginable abnormalities.

(Retranslated from a brochure by
the British atomic scientist
Dr. R.H.S. BURHOP.)

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