

APPEAL OF THE CONGRESS OF THE PEOPLES FOR PEACE

By proposing the convocation of the Congress of the Peoples for Peace, the World Peace Council showed its desire to unite the noble efforts of the various movements, organisations and viewpoints which, though they differ on many matters, long for agreement between the peoples and desire to struggle jointly against war and to build peace.

Free discussion has demonstrated a unanimous desire to put an end to the policy of force that has brought so much misery to mankind and risks leading mankind to catastrophe.

We hold that there are no differences between states that cannot be settled by negotiation.

Enough of destroying towns and countries, enough of piling up weapons of slaughter, enough of preaching hate and calling for war! It is high time to discuss, high time to agree!

We call on the governments of the Five Great Powers, the U.S.A., the U.S.S.R., Great Britain, the People's Republic of China, and France, on whom so largely depends the peace of the world; we call on them at once to start negotiating to conclude a pact of peace.

A tremendous responsibility rests on the governments of the Five Great Powers. The peoples await their answer. The peoples will do their uttermost to make the spirit of negotiation prevail.

We call for all hostilities in Korea to cease immediately.

While towns are shattered and blood flows, agreement becomes impossible. When hostilities have ceased, the parties will more easily reach agreement on the questions at issue between them.

We are convinced that this impartial, just and humane call will evoke support from every person of goodwill.

We call also for the immediate ending of hostilities in Viet-Nam, Laos, Cambodia and Malaya, with unqualified respect for the right to independence of the peoples concerned.

We call for an end to the violence employed to stifle the lawful national aspirations of peoples to independence, as in Tunisia and Morocco.

The Congress of the Peoples for Peace proclaims the right of all peoples to self-determination and to choose their own way of life without any interference in their internal affairs, whatever motive be invoked in justification. The national independence of every state constitutes the essential condition of peace.

We protest against all racial discrimination which, an insult to the human conscience, aggravates the danger of war.

We are convinced that military pacts whereby the stronger involves the weaker, the presence on one nation's territory of the bases and troops of another, constitute a serious danger to the security of that nation, which might find itself involved in a war against its will. We hold that a state which takes no part in a coalition and accepts no foreign troops on its territory must be guaranteed against the threat of aggression, declared or hidden.

The ashes of the last war risk bursting into flame in both Europe and Asia. However, negotiation can and must achieve a peaceful solution of the German problem and the Japanese problem. We consider that a peace treaty, excluding its participation in any military alliance directed against any country whatsoever, must be concluded at the earliest possible moment with a united, democratic Germany, a Germany where there shall be no room for the nazism and militarism that have brought such woe to Europe. We propose the conclusion of a peace treaty with Japan that shall end its occupation and allow the Japanese people to return into the fellowship of peaceful

nations. We hold that negotiations must be resumed on a state treaty for Austria which shall free the country from foreign occupation.

We have heard the reports on the use of bacteriological warfare, made by famous experts from different countries, who went to Korea and China. Deeply concerned by these reports, we categorically demand the immediate prohibition of biological warfare and the adherence of all states to the Geneva Protocol of 1925. The great achievements of science must not become a means to destroy millions of defenceless human beings. At the same time, we demand an absolute ban on atomic, chemical and all other means of exterminating civil populations.

We criticise the short-sighted who claim that the arms drive is capable of strengthening a country's security. We are convinced that the arms drive strengthens, on the contrary, the threat to all countries, great and small.

Interpreting the will of the peoples, we urge the immediate opening of negotiations for a disarmament that shall be fair and not unilateral. We are sure that effective international control would make possible the carrying out of general, simultaneous, progressive and proportional disarmament.

We support the desire of the representatives of the peoples, who urge that exchange of material and cultural values between states

be renewed as soon as possible. The obstacles to international trade, to the exchange of the achievements of science, literature and the arts, place in jeopardy the well-being and progress of mankind.

We hold that the Charter of the United Nations offers a guarantee of security for all the countries of the world, but this Charter is being infringed in spirit and letter. We urge that the People's Republic of China be enabled to take its rightful seat at the United Nations. We urge likewise the admission of the fourteen nations who have as yet been unable to raise their voices there.

We urge, finally, that the United Nations become once more a place for finding agreement between the governments and not disappoint for much longer the hopes reposed in it by all the peoples of the world. The peoples long to live in peace, whatever their regimes or loftiest ideals. War is hated by every people, war throws its shadow over every cradle. It is in the power of the peoples to change the course of events, to give back to mankind its confidence in a peaceful tomorrow.

We call on the peoples of the world to struggle for the spirit of negotiation and agreement, for the right of man to peace!

Vienna,
December 19, 1952

ADDRESS TO THE GOVERNMENTS OF THE FIVE GREAT POWERS

The necessity of renouncing the use of force as a means of settling international conflicts becomes daily ever more urgent.

Six hundred million men and women throughout the world have already put their names to a demand that the Five Great Powers should negotiate and conclude a pact of peace.

The representatives of important sections of opinion have also expressed their desire that resort to force should be abandoned in favour of negotiation. The Congress of the Peoples for Peace, meeting at Vienna, December 12, 1952, expressing the will of mankind, solemnly invites

the Governments of the United States of America, of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, of the People's Republic of China, of Great Britain and of France to open the negotiations on which peace depends.

Agreement between the Five Great Powers, the conclusion of a pact of peace will put an end to international tension and will save the world from the greatest misfortune.

This is the demand of all the peoples.

Vienna,
December 19, 1952