

'Peoples of the USSR stand up for peace' from Izvestia (12 October 1951)

Caption: On 12 October 1951, the Russian daily newspaper Izvestia emphasises the positive action taken by the Soviet peoples and their leader, Joseph Stalin, to uphold peace in the world, and emphasises the determination of the Socialist States and the USSR to adhere to the commitments made in the Stockholm Appeal.

Source: Izvestia. 12.10.1951, n° 240. [s.l.]. "Narody SSSR otstaivaiut delo mira".

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Peoples of the USSR stand up for peace

The peoples of the great Soviet power have unanimously signed the Stockholm Appeal of the World Peace Council. The campaign to gather signatures for the Peace Covenant has extended across all the regions and republics, reaching the farthest corners of our multinational homeland. This gathering of signatures across the USSR is a powerful demonstration of the Soviet peoples' desire to avoid yet another conflict and to defend and consolidate peace.

The great family of Socialist nations that is developing in a peaceful way and is unwaveringly striving for friendship and cooperation between all nations has added its powerful voice to those who are trying to defend peace, demanding that the five Great Powers who have an enormous responsibility for international security conclude a Peace Covenant.

Millions of Soviet voices can be heard all around the world. The voices of the Soviet defenders of peace have inspired millions to join the brave and resolute fight against the Anglo-American aggressors. The honest citizens of the world see our country as a powerful bastion of peace, a real stronghold against war.

'Since the Soviet republics were formed,' says Comrade Stalin, 'the world has been split into two camps: Socialism and Capitalism. In the Capitalist camp, an imperialist war is underway; there is enmity, oppression, colonial slavery and chauvinism. In the camp of the Soviets, the camp of Socialism, we find the opposite: mutual trust, equality between nations, peaceful co-existence and fraternal cooperation.'

The Soviet peoples' inviolate unity and fraternal cooperation, which emerged and thrived during the Socialist struggle and survived the trials and tribulations of the Great Patriotic War, are a powerful source of strength and prosperity for the Soviet state. It is thanks to the friendship and Socialist mutual assistance that we have achieved such a remarkable level of economic and cultural success in such an extremely short period of time.

Ordinary people throughout the world who are struggling for peace and against a new war see the embodiment of their dreams and their future in our united and happy family.

The Soviet country has, for some 35 years, been tirelessly fighting for world peace, resolutely and persistently advocating peaceful solutions to all international issues.

The October Revolution was the first of its kind to rip the shroud of secrecy from foreign policy, something which our country conducts openly and honestly. The USSR has no need to seize foreign lands. It does not threaten anyone, nor does it intend to attack anyone. Comrade Stalin, replying to a *Pravda* correspondent about atomic weapons, once again stressed that '... the Soviet Union does not harbour dreams of attacking the USA or any other country'.

The Soviet Union's foreign policy is based on acknowledging the equality of all nations, large and small, and on respecting their freedom and independence. The Soviet people have based their lives on equality and cooperation and, in so doing, show by example that such relations between nations are possible and indeed that that is how international relations ought to be.

The Soviet Government's peace-oriented foreign policy expresses the vital interests of all Socialist nations and enjoys universal and fervent approval. The tireless Soviet worker and creator, having fought for peace for himself and for other nations in the cruel struggle against the evil enemy of mankind, Fascism, cannot even conceive of war. Whilst implementing the majestic plans for building Communism, he thinks only of peace and strives for it with all his heart.

'We know all too well about war and peace,' says Vasily Kirillov, a Russian worker from Leningrad. 'We have experienced the horrors of war for ourselves and know what horrors it brings. We also know how good it is to live in a peaceful world.'

The great advantages of the Soviet system and the fraternal cooperation and mutual assistance between equal Socialist nations have enabled our country to heal the wounds it suffered during the war in a very short space of time and to drive the economy and culture forward, whilst increasing the material well-being of the toiling masses.

The ultimate goal to which the Soviet people is striving is to build and to create whilst living in peace with all the nations of the world.

‘Peace,’ says the Kazakh academic Nailia Bazanova, ‘means new factories, mines, power stations and canals, which will be built to give the country and its people a more peaceful means of production. It means millions of hectares of crops, millions of heads of cattle, an abundance of consumer goods. It means thousands of new schools, higher education institutions, sanatoria, cultural palaces, theatres and research institutions, and millions of new books.’

Our homeland is gripped with enthusiasm for building a peaceful world. All the nations of the Socialist motherland are involved in constructing huge power stations and canals and transforming the countryside that covers the vast Soviet land.

The people of the USSR, governed by the great party of Lenin and Stalin, strive for peace both in their work and in all their great and patriotic undertakings. They know only too well that the best guarantee of peace is the economic power of our Socialist state, and they do all that they can to increase and consolidate this power.

Machine builders in Moscow are working towards strengthening peace in the world and increasing the might of the motherland; the Ukrainian collective farmers and oil workers in Baku are doing likewise; so are the gardeners in Moldavia and the foresters in Karelia; in fact the entire friendly family of Soviet nations is working towards the same goal.

Each day brings more good news on the progress made by the builders of Communism, those standing guard over peace with a vigilance that would make Stakhanov proud. Drill operators from the Kirovsky region inform us from Baku that they have completed their eleven-month project by employing rapid drilling techniques. Miners at the Zhdanov mine — the first in the basin of operations using the continuous-cycle method — have completed their ten-month programme. The fishermen of Soviet Estonia, ever watchful over peace, have fulfilled their planned annual catch ahead of time.

The collective enterprises in Moscow, Leningrad, the Urals, Ukraine, the Caucasus, the Baltic States and Central Asia are all carrying out the orders of the heroic builders of Communism with patriotic fervour. Whole trainloads of machinery and materials are coming out of the most diverse Soviet republics to the banks of the Volga, the Don, the Dnieper and the Amu Darya in a never-ending flow, all bearing the label: ‘Made during the peace watch’.

Those working in Socialist agriculture continually report positive progress to Comrade Stalin.

In the heroic work carried out in the name of world peace and Communist integration in our country, friendship and fraternal cooperation between the Socialist nations are growing and becoming stronger, the economy and culture of each Soviet republic is prospering ever more and the material and spiritual wealth of all the peoples of our country is on the rise.

Soviet workers unanimously approved the Peace Covenant, as they firmly believe that peace will be preserved and consolidated only if the people learn from the great standard-bearer for peace, Comrade Stalin, and take the business of preserving peace into their own hands and protect it to the very end.