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The Permanent Mission of the Czechoslovak Socialist Republic to the United Nations presents its compliments to the Secretariat of the United Nations and has the honour to enclose the Declaration of the Czechoslovak Government to the decision of the Government of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics to carry out nuclear weapons test explosion and to request it that this Declaration be circulated as a document of the United Nations.

Declaration of the Czechoslovak Government to the decision of
the Government of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics to
carry out nuclear weapons test explosions

The Government of the Czechoslovak Socialist Republic discussed in all seriousness and with full responsibility the decision of the Government of the Union of the Soviet Socialist Republics to carry out nuclear weapons test explosions. The Czechoslovak Government regards this serious step taken by the Government of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics as a completely unavoidable measure. It is so because the Western Powers refuse to take any effective step towards disarmament, although they are bound to do so by resolutions passed by the United Nations, sabotage the conclusion of an agreement on the cessation of nuclear tests and in fact have not stopped their test explosions. The growing aggressive policy of the NATO Pact has grown into open threats of war in response to the efforts of the Soviet Union and the socialist countries to liquidate the vestiges of the Second World War and to conclude a peace treaty with Germany.

Under these circumstances the Government of the Czechoslovak Socialist Republic regards the decision of the Government of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics as necessary from the point of view of safeguarding not only the security of the Soviet Union but also the security of the other socialist countries and in ultimate consequences also from the point of view of eliminating the threat of war and securing peace throughout the world. Voicing the opinion of all the Czechoslovak people the Government of the Czechoslovak Socialist Republic expresses full support to this decision of the Soviet Government.

The Czechoslovak Socialist Republic, whose people bitterly experienced the horrors of both world wars, is well aware what sufferings for mankind would bring about the third world war which would, perforce, be a general thermonuclear war. Therefore, in the spirit of its peaceful policy, since the very end of the Second World War, it has unstintingly and actively supported the proposals and acts of the Government of the USSR directed at the prohibition of nuclear and thermonuclear weapons, the cessation of tests of these weapons and the realization of general and complete disarmament and thus also at the elimination of the threat of a new war.

The Czechoslovak people highly appreciated the initiative of the USSR which unilaterally stopped nuclear weapons tests in 1958 and gave impetus to the

negotiations of the three Powers on the conclusion of a treaty on the cessation of nuclear weapons tests.

Unfortunately these negotiations, now held for almost three years, have had no result. Guilty of this fact are the Western Powers which rejected the proposal of the USSR for an immediate conclusion of a treaty on complete cessation of all nuclear weapons tests. They even renounced the unanimously approved conclusions reached by the experts for which their own representatives had cast their votes. The negotiations had only to serve them as a means to secure for themselves the establishment of such an organ of control which would make it possible for them to carry out espionage on the territory of the USSR. At the same time they did their best to include in the treaty on the cessation of nuclear weapons tests such provisions that would enable them to continue in carrying out test explosions in order to perfect their atomic weapons.

The Czechoslovak people, along with all the world public opinion, followed with concern the policy of the leading Powers of NATO in the recent years when the United States of America and the United Kingdom participated in the Geneva talks while France continued in testing its own nuclear weapons. Despite repeated appeals of the Government of the USSR, the United States of America and the United Kingdom did nothing to make France, their ally in NATO, stop conducting the tests. On the contrary, they actually gave their support to France in this issue, paying no respect to the serious warnings of the Government of the USSR that it would be forced to resume testing if France did not stop its nuclear weapons test explosions.

The Western Powers and the United States in particular pursued a double-faced policy for the whole time when the Geneva talks on the cessation of nuclear weapons tests were in progress. On the one hand, the United States delegation prevented the reaching of an agreement acceptable to both sides. On the other hand, the most reactionary militaristic quarters and official political representatives in the United States intensified the pressure in order to bring about the resumption of tests by the United States. The United States militarists direct their effort to produce and test the neutron bomb which would cannibalistically destroy all living creatures but enable the aggressors to get hold of the property of his victims.

It was again the Soviet Union which showed how the Geneva negotiations could be led out of the difficult situation created by the attitude of the Western Powers. It proposed that the solution of the question of the cessation of nuclear weapons tests should be sought in connexion with the question of general and complete disarmament which would do away with the obstacles in the way of reaching agreement on the cessation of tests. It is becoming evident that under the prevailing circumstances the cessation of nuclear weapons tests does not in itself eliminate nuclear armaments and accumulation of nuclear weapons which at present is being rapidly intensified by fault of the Western Powers.

The Czechoslovak Socialist Republic fully stands for the proposal of the Soviet Union to realize general and complete disarmament under effective international control. The Czechoslovak Government emphasized this position both at the United Nations General Assembly and in the Ten-nation Committee in Geneva. The deliberations of the latter finally collapsed in view of principal opposition of the Western Powers to a complete solution of the disarmament issue.

General and complete disarmament which would lead to general liquidation of the means of waging wars would do away with the danger of any war, and therefore also of a nuclear war. However, the Western Powers rejected even this proposal as they did the just proposals for securing equal rights of all parties to the treaty in the control of the cessation of nuclear weapons tests. They misused all negotiations on disarmament as a smoke screen to intensify armaments and to gain fictitious or real military advantages.

The Western Powers evidently endeavour to push the USSR and the other socialist countries into an unequal position and endanger their security. Therefore, the declaration of the Government of the USSR on the resumption of nuclear weapons tests represents a firm reply to the doings of those aggressive circles which intentionally aggravate international tension. It is not possible to witness inactively the war hysteria roused by the United States of America, the United Kingdom, France, the Federal Republic of Germany and other NATO Member States. The United States continues to step up its feverish armaments and its leading representatives do not hesitate to threaten openly with war in connexion with the efforts of the socialist countries directed at a speedy settlement of the German question.

As a result of the policies pursued by the Western Powers a grave hotbed of war was created again on the western frontier of the Czechoslovak Socialist Republic. The West German militarists systematically and shamelessly demand atomic weapons. In his recent speeches Chancellor Adenauer again openly demanded atomic equipment for the Bundeswehr. There is no doubt that the aggressive circles of the Federal Republic of Germany want to use these weapons in order to realize their aggressive designs aimed especially against the Eastern neighbours of the Federal Republic of Germany. In the past the Government of the Czechoslovak Socialist Republic drew many times attention to these dangerous developments and called for measures to check them effectively. It gave its full support to the proposals for the creation of atom-free zones in Europe as well as to all measures which could contribute to the consolidation of peace and which could frustrate the realization of aggressive plans of the ruling circles of the Federal Republic of Germany.

The danger presented by the aggressive policy of the Government of the Federal Republic of Germany is even more serious, because a part of the people in West Germany is badly influenced by the poison of revanchism and enables the new fuehrers to drag them on the road to war. This is evidenced by revenge-seeking speeches against Czechoslovakia which call for the revision of the Czechoslovak frontiers. Moreover, the leading representatives of the Federal Republic of Germany who follow Hitler's example do not attempt to conceal that they intend to drag all NATO States into a war conflict in the interest of their aggressive designs.

It is imperative that all NATO Member States that during the Second World War experienced themselves the horrors of Hitlerite aggression, as well as all other nations of the world, most resolutely stand up against the danger of war in Europe created by the aggressive policies of the Government of the Federal Republic of Germany and other NATO Member States. Indifference to such a vital question could be fatal even to them.

The security of the Czechoslovak Socialist Republic is linked inseparably with the security of the Soviet Union and all the countries of the world socialist system. As a result of the aggressive policies of imperialistic Powers, the Soviet Union took those serious measures which are prompted exclusively by the interest of preserving peace. The Government of the Czechoslovak Socialist

Republic highly values this decision, fully agrees to it and supports it. This is another evidence of the care of the Government of the USSR for ensuring the security of the States belonging to the world socialist system, whose firm part is also our country, as well as for the consolidation of peace in the world.

The measure taken by the Soviet Government warns the aggressor that in the world there are forces able to frustrate their designs, which have all necessary means to hit them on their own territory. The peaceloving intentions of the Soviet Union are confirmed by the solemn declaration that the armed forces of the USSR will never be the first to take up arms.

In the same way as in the past, the socialist countries will continue to do their utmost that disputes be settled peacefully in harmony with the principles of peaceful coexistence. In harmony with the will of our people, the Government of the Czechoslovak Socialist Republic will contribute its utmost to the realization of general and complete disarmament which would lead to the destruction of all nuclear and thermonuclear weapons and thus settle definitively also the question of stopping tests of these weapons. It expresses its willingness to sign in this sense an appropriate agreement without delay.

Unanimous response in all places of our country is an evidence that the Czechoslovak people agree with and will actively support the measures taken by the Soviet Government for safeguarding international security. It is a confirmation of its unity and patriotic determination to back these steps by action and still greater successes in the construction of the country by consistent fulfilment of the tasks of the Third Five Year Plan.

The Czechoslovak people, along with the peoples of all the socialist countries, now start elaborating new grandious prospects of their life in happiness. In order that we may realize our plans, we need lasting peace. To secure it, both the people and the Government of the Czechoslovak Socialist Republic will exert even in the future all their power. They believe that the will to safeguard peace will in the end unite the efforts of all nations throughout the world.