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Moscow Uses Atomic Issue  
To Stress "Peaceful Policy"



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(Preliminary Report)

The USSR has continued to exploit the popular anxiety over the future use of atomic energy in an attempt to garner support for its policies and discredit those of the US. Following is a summary of the major points of the treatment of this issue:

(1) The Soviet Council of Ministers announced on June 1, 1954, that a 5,000 kilowatt atomic power plant had been placed in operation at a previously disclosed site in the USSR on June 2, and "produces electricity for use in industry and agriculture in the neighboring region." Work was also being done under way to set up atomic power stations "with a capacity of up to 100,000 kilowatts." A lack of a permanent correlation between the current agreement and earlier Soviet propaganda treatment of the subject of atomic energy for peace suggested, however, that Moscow had a plan to announce the end of May to announce a specific agreement on this subject.

(2) Although Soviet spokesmen, especially in the UN Disarmament and Security Committee took steps to play down the threat of retaining a monopoly of stress on the need for an unconditional ban on the use of atomic weapons, Moscow continued to use direct and indirect threats against the West.

(3) The USSR continued to show sensitivity in the UN Disarmament and Security Committee of the UN Trusteeship Council, to any proposal which would have the effect of prohibiting or stigmatizing nuclear tests in general, or in the context of a general ban on use of nuclear weapons.

(4) At the same time, there were indications that the USSR might be planning to blame US nuclear tests on the continued development of atomic energy in Eastern Europe.

(5) In UN Disarmament talks in Geneva, the USSR, along with the Western Powers proposing a conference in Europe in October, 1954, spoke of the "exceptional importance of agreeing to a general ban on atomic and hydrogen weapons and the cessation of arms races." The USSR reiterated that an agreement necessary to start at Geneva would be an important step forward.

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These developments represent a partial effort to reconcile its propaganda line with conflicting policy considerations of interest beginning last December in expecting that the Soviet atomic attack was clearly not consistent with Soviet propaganda of the use of nuclear weapons. Nevertheless, Moscow has typically avoided the contradiction and has continued to stress its "leadership" in the field of the peaceful use of atomic energy, but has been careful not to encourage its people to hope for any resulting improvement in their standard of living. The USSR has not wanted to exploit agitation in the West for a ban on tests, but has done so in terms which would not inhibit its own freedom of tests. Soviet interest in making disarmament a symbol of Soviet freedom has been hampered by Moscow's unwillingness to offer a free international control scheme. The Soviet leaders have ignored this possibility simply avoiding any detailed discussion of the mechanism of such a control while focusing on the beguiling prospect of harnessing the atomic energy for peace.

Peaceful Use of Atomic Energy. The latest Soviet propaganda in applying atomic energy for peaceful purposes recalled a long and expansive claims in 1940 in response to the report of the first atomic explosion (which TASS ascribed to "bombing" with the most up-to-date means.") Although the satellites in 1949 gave credence to the claim that the USSR was using atomic energy to divert the Ob and Yenesei rivers, the Soviet press appeared to place this action in question. In a report to the General Assembly, Vishinsky stated that atomic energy was used in the USSR for blowing up mountains and that received by the Pravda on July 2, with the assertion that the first bomb test explosion took place in the Kara Kum desert and was used to generate electricity for the sake of industry. In the light of the recent announcement of a greater interest to recall the claim made by Radio Moscow in 1949, that "in the future the Soviet atomic power industry will take the form of a single high voltage grid connecting the American and Soviet atomic power stations."

Soviet spokesmen have continued to speak generally of the importance of the peaceful use of atomic energy. In April and May, however, Moscow was urging that attention be devoted to the peaceful use, warning that the application of atomic energy was a "matter of life and death" and apparently seeking to discourage hopes of imminent progress in the peaceful application of atomic energy independent of progress in the use of nuclear weapons. The effort of Pravda on May 11 to place the blame for the breakdown of the talks on the peaceful use of atomic energy was particularly noteworthy. Pravda noted that they had tempt to divert a small part of atomic material for peaceful purposes.

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"deception" but explicitly demanded repressive policies to supply electric power -- the need in which it now rather possibly because they ignored the fact that mining this power from 'atomic raw materials' are converted into explosive fissionable materials constitute the basis for the production of atomic and hydrogen weapons. Beginning on June 5, however, several Soviet newspapers attacking the Soviet Union of competition from atomic industries and distribution of power. It is thought may have been intended to forestall the announcement of the Soviet Union to the quest for atomic industrial power.

Soviet propaganda suggests in its report that Moscow was concerned at the end of May lest the US proceed unilaterally to reestablish a world-wide electric pool and blame the USSR for lack of cooperation was behind the power plant announcement. The modesty of the plant's output appears to be little more than a trial to test capacity of serving only 1,000 families) suggests that it is sufficient to meet completely for the current requirement. Conceivably, it is intended to be a prototype of a type which is ultimately to be incorporated into a large atomic grid.

Moscow has differed in the character of the power plant announcement for domestic and foreign audiences. Whereas Soviet newspapers have resorted in glowing terms of changes 'in our electric technology' and 'the abundance of energy' making "unnecessary hard on electric work," the Soviet press people generally emphasized the existence of Soviet electric plants, comparing the West in terms designed to foster a sense of inferiority. The latter is an early improvement in living conditions.

UN Disarmament Talks The UN Disarmament Commission, which met in restricted session in London from May 25 to June 2, and which is part of the full Commission, confirmed that there has been no substantial progress in disarmament in Soviet thinking since the Commission's last meeting. It is to review the report of its Sub-Committee on Preparation for Disarmament. It will report to the UN General Assembly on the subject. The Commission has seriously to discuss either a US or Soviet paper on the new proposals for an international control organ or a British-French compromise proposal during the stages in a disarmament program. The USSR insists on discussing what it termed its 'next' disarmament proposals in detail. These proposals provided for the signature of a convention banning family appeals for banning the use, production and storage of atomic weapons and 'fishing' control" (i.e. inspection mechanisms) reducing nuclear weapons to a third within a year of signature of a convention, and banning nuclear bases on foreign territory as well as 'war' propaganda. The latter two proposals as they relate to these issues in the period of July 24, 1954. The Commission continued to form the basis for the Soviet proposal for the disarmament program of relaxation of tension.

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specifically urged the US to withdraw from the non-aligned territories, citing the Soviet example.

Natural Disasters to be Blamed on Testing. In addition to its broadcasting abroad on July 5 a letter to the level of the Hydro-Meteorological Service of the USSR from the President of the Japanese Meteorological Society, Moscow appeared to have approved a program of international ban on the testing, manufacture and use of weapons of mass destruction and urging the publication of "experimental data on the pollution of the atmosphere and other weather phenomena which might follow by hydrogen bomb testing." The letter suggested that pollution of the atmosphere by such tests could cause "cold spells in summer" and "heat waves in winter" and that such pollution through the poisoning of sea water could affect the atmosphere and cause similar "scientific" analysis was published in the Soviet press on July 17 signed by four Soviet meteorologists. The letter stated that the scientists were sufficiently cautious, since they were charging only with the possibility of precipitation, while permitting the USSR to continue its experiments, but making the USSR the scapegoat for flood and drought throughout the world.

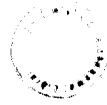
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Atomic Information

An atomic-powered rocket will cost between \$100,000,000 and \$1,000,000,000 and will expend not more than 20% to 25% as much as ordinary rockets. According to the "Pioneerskaya Pravda" article of July 1954, the USSR is planning to build an atomic power plant in the near future. The purpose of this plant is to provide energy "rearranging the planet" and to provide the means for interplanetary travel which will enable man to leave the atmosphere of the earth, and later the only way to return.

Information received subsequent to a copy of paper from the Soviet broadcast to Brazil dated July 1954.

The Soviet delegation to the World Health Conference in Rio de Janeiro told the press that the USSR plans to build, by 1955, a 5,000 kilowatt atomic energy plant and that by 1960 it will have built atomic plants which will be placed in a satellite country. The USSR also plans to build a 100,000 kilowatt atomic plant by 1960.

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