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DEAR FRIENDS — SPORTSMEN,

It is a fine feeling for a man to know that he has friends even in far away lands. There is sincere friendship between us sportsmen and our cordial relations are not hampered even by the hundreds and thousands of kilometers dividing us.

I personally believe in the strength of friendship. And that such lasting friendship exists between us sportsmen has been proved innumerable times, last not least at the Olympic Games at London, Helsinki and Melbourne. I sincerely believe that we shall see proofs of this friendship also at this year's XVII Olympic Games at Rome as well as at the II National Spartakiad which takes place in Prague this June.

Many of you I know personally from my frequent participations in international sports events. Well dear friends, how about coming to Czechoslovakia this summer and thus also come to know my country and its inhabitants?

Allow me to invite you cordially to take part in this year's festival of the Czechoslovak physical culture movement and to attend the main days of the II National Spartakiad. Many of you have watched performances of gymnasts already at the I Spartakiad and will come again this year without waiting for a special invitation. You may rest assured to find a hearty welcome which will show that you have not been forgotten.

This year's Spartakiad forms part of the celebrations of the 15th anniversary of Czechoslovakia's liberation in 1945. You will find the Strahov stadium in Prague literally packed with onlookers and the grounds transformed into a colourful field of flowers by jubilant gymnasts. How glad we would be if we could already welcome you here, dear sports friends and fellow-countrymen living abroad!

Let us meet again this June when nature shows itself at its best and Czechoslovakia's green meadows and blue sky form a fitting frame for the palette of colours formed by red shorts, blue jerseys, many-coloured balls and hundreds of thousands of tanned faces of those who will march into the Strahov stadium in well disciplined lines.

There will be 500 000 gymnasts, sportsmen and tourists, each of them knowing that success of the whole festival depends on every single one of them. Every afternoon you may watch performances of some 80 to 90 thousand participants. During the fortnight's duration of the Spartakiad they will show the audience a total of 19 different gymnastic performances, five of which form a selection of intricate and difficult feats. Besides these gymnastic performances you may watch the final competitions in 14 sports disciplines, all of them with international participation.

The special evening programmes at the Strahov stadium will unite selected sportsmen from Czechoslovakia as well as from abroad.

In the name of all sportsmen and gymnasts taking part in these performances — and there will be represented members of the youngest generation as well as grown-ups — I beg to invite you once more cordially and send you my sincere greetings!

E. Zelinger



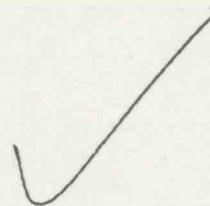


FEDERATION MONDIALE DE LA JEUNESSE DEMOCRATIQUE
WORLD FEDERATION OF DEMOCRATIC YOUTH
ВСЕМИРНАЯ ФЕДЕРАЦИЯ ДЕМОКРАТИЧЕСКОЙ МОЛОДЕЖИ
FEDERACION MUNDIAL DE LA JUVENTUD DEMOCRATICA
世界民主青年聯盟

21^{me} RUE DE CHATEAUDUN PARIS

NOUVELLE ADRESSE : BUDAPEST, VI., BENCZUR-U 34. HONGRIE
TELEPHONE : 425 - 551 - ADR. TELEGR. : DIVSZ - BUDAPEST

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PRESS RELEASE

The World Federation of Democratic Youth has often expressed its solidarity with the democratic forces in the Argentine Republic. The WFDY Secretariat has decided to join the campaign for a "Christmas and a New Year without political or trade union prisoners", launched by the United Workers' Movement, the University Federation of Argentina, the Argentine League for the Rights of the Man and other bodies. Youth and peoples all over the world follow with great attention the fight of the Argentine people in which the heroic activity of youth distinguishes itself. This world interest manifests itself in the demand to release immediately the political and trade union prisoners, whose only crime is to have fought for democracy, national independence and peace. In the framework of this campaign the WFDY has sent the following telegramme to the President of the Argentine Republic.

PRESIDENCY OF THE REPUBLIC
BUENOS AIRES

ON BEHALF OF 87 MILLION YOUNG MEMBERS WE JOIN THE DEMAND OF THE ARGENTINE PEOPLE AND THE WORLD TO RELEASE THE POLITICAL AND TRADE UNION PRISONERS BEFORE THE NEW YEAR

THE SECRETARIAT OF THE WFDY

Budapest, 30th December 1959.



FEDERATION MONDIALE DE LA JEUNESSE DEMOCRATIQUE
WORLD FEDERATION OF DEMOCRATIC YOUTH
ВСЕМИРНАЯ ФЕДЕРАЦИЯ ДЕМОКРАТИЧЕСКОЙ МОЛОДЕЖИ
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TELEPHONE: 425-551-ADR. TELEGR.: DIV5x - BUDAPEST

P R E S S C O M M U N I Q U E

Christian Echard, General Secretary, Viktor Kinecki Polish and A. Heikkilä Finnish delegates of the WFDY Secretariat visited Finland in January on the invitation of the Finnish Democratic Youth Union for the celebration of its 15th anniversary.

During their stay our delegates met different youth organizations in Helsinki. Notably the Council of Finnish Youth Organization and the Rural Youth (from the governmental party).

Members of the Council of the Central Committee, representing the following Finnish youth organizations were present at the friendly reception:

Mauno M. Merilinna, Vice-President of the Council of the Central Committee; Miko Järvenranta, General Secretary of the Central Committee's Council, Union of Social Democrat Youth in Finland; Union of Rural Youth; Union of Sports Workers; Movement of Finnish Scouts; Union of Democratic Youth in Finland; Union of Finnish Youth; Union of Young Conservatives; Pioneers' Union in Finland; the Movement of Work in favour of culture among the workers.

Our delegates informed the members of the Council of the WFDY's activities in 1960. They offered, in the name of the Secretariat, to the Council of Finnish Youth Organizations to participate organizing its principal initiative for 1960, to dedicate 1960 for the international education of youth.

Christian Echard, the WFDY's General Secretary, presented an article on the WFDY's activities to the Council to be published in their magazine. "World Youth" will dedicate several pages to the activities of the Council of Youth Organizations in Finland.

In the meeting with rural youth the participation was follows:

Silvola, President; Mäki-Reinikka, General Secretary; Vanhanen, Editor of "Kyntäjä" of the central organ of the Union of Rural Youth.

After an exchange of ideas concerning the main problems of the international youth movement, our delegates submitted different proposals to rural youth on our future co-operation. The magazine of rural youth will also publish an article by C. Echard concerning the WFDY.

.../...

Helsinki radio interviewed the WFDY delegation at the end of their visit: Below is the text of that interview.

* * *
*

Answers of C.Echard General Secretary of the WFDY to the questions of the Helsinki Radio on the occasion of a WFDY delegation's visit to Helsinki.

Q: Could you tell us how many members are in the WFDY?

A: The WFDY has 87 million members in 97 countries. I would like to add that the WFDY is the only international organization which includes youth movements of all the world comprising of countries with different social systems.

Q: To what do we owe the honour of receiving you in Helsinki?

A: We came here on the invitation of the Union of Democratic Finnish Youth, our member organization, which is celebrating its 15th anniversary.

On this occasion we met different Finnish youth movements. We had cordial discussions with the leaders of the Council of Finnish Youth Organizations. We are very much interested in the initiatives of the Council, which carries out activities to dedicate 1960 to international education of youth. We wish to contribute to the success of this activity according to our possibilities.

Q: The different movements which you represent are they very homogenous?

A: Our Federation includes over 200 national youth organizations. Their affiliation to the WFDY expresses a unity of views and interest on some essential questions, as for instance: peace and friendship among youth; people's right to independence; better living conditions for youth. This is expressed in common activities.

But our relations spread over a greater number of youth movements with which we co-operate on different occasions.

We carry out many sided activities. Our member organizations carry out or support national or regional activities of international interest. We help them. On the other hand, the WFDY makes every effort to develop activities corresponding to the interests of its organizations, not only international, or regional but also in special fields as for instance: sports, tourism, children, culture, etc...

The WFDY gave its support in the last period to organize in Vienna the VIIth World Festival of Youth and Students for Peace and Friendship.

.../...

Over 1,200 youth organizations participated in it. This fact expresses the large and solid ties which unite not only our member organizations, but also numerous other forces of youth the world over.

Q: Are you optimists concerning youth and their future?

A: Yes, we are optimists! Youth have many reasons to be optimistic. The development of the international situation; the retreat of cold war; relaxation, disarmament, are among others, the factors to favour the better education of youth and better living conditions of youth in all countries.

It is necessary to give more information to youth on these problems, to contribute to their education in an open spirit taking into account the present circumstances.

The WFDY dedicates the essential part of its efforts to develop understanding between East and West. We wish to do our best for this purpose in the future.

The Executive Committee Meeting of our Federation will take place in Conakry, Guinea, next March. There, we will discuss quite a series of activities in this sense.

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A LETTER OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE OF THE WORLD FEDERATION OF DEMOCRATIC
YOUTH TO THE INTERNATIONAL YOUTH ORGANIZATIONS

Dear Friends,

The Executive Committee meeting of the WFDY was held in Conakry, in the capital of the young Guinean Republic, from March 26th to 30th, with the participation of many observers and guests from most of the African youth organizations, public figures of Guinea and leaders of the African movement for national liberation.

The Executive Committee of the WFDY discussed the most important questions affecting international youth movement and particularly the movement on the African continent:

- 1) The role and activity of the WFDY in the new international situation for the development of co-operation between the youth organizations to increase the contribution of the young generation to the cause of general disarmament and peaceful co-operation.
- 2) The strengthening of international solidarity of youth and the fight of African youth for the victory and consolidation of national independence and the unity of Africa.

The Executive Committee reaffirmed the traditional line of the WFDY for co-operation between all national and international youth organizations. You are already aware of the fundamental basis. We consider that even the taking into account the different tendencies, conceptions and general principles, it is possible and necessary to work for mutual understanding between all sections of the international youth movement in every country. With full respect for the sovereignty of every organization, following the principle of non-interference in their internal life, it is possible to reach the open confrontation of the view points of each, as well as to reach an agreement of a minimal joint programme, on the basis of the existing common points, in the interests of world youth.

You already know on which particular points the WFDY thinks it possible to reach an agreement between all national and international youth organizations.

The Executive Committee considers that the repeated proposals for co-operation, for the development of international relaxation, the realisation of general disarmament, for real anti-colonialist activity; effective and harmonious proposals put forward on many occasions to international organizations; in the letters that the WFDY Secretariat has sent to you, particularly after the 5th Assembly of the member organizations of the WFDY as well as during the following months, are up to date and of great importance.

.../...

The favourable repercussions that these proposals met in the wide sections of the youth movement, irrespective of the international affiliation of different organizations, confirm the opportunity for an exchange of views between all international youth organizations.

The Executive Committee considers that this exchange of opinions can be carried on during a meeting of all international youth organizations.

Replying to the previous suggestions of the WFDY, certain organizations have declared that they would not oppose their participation in such a meeting, provided that it be held under the sponsorship of the UNESCO.

The Executive Committee declares itself for this proposal. The WFDY is ready to support to the UNESCO this request. In view of the demands concerning the present situation, the necessity for the support of youth to the further development of international relaxation, the E.C. of the WFDY considers that the realization of this meeting is urgent. Thus, we propose to you to take immediate necessary common steps with the UNESCO, so that this meeting may be held as soon as possible within the next three months.

The Executive Committee decided to charge the Secretariat of the WFDY to carry out in a practical way this new suggestion made in order to further mutual understanding and the development of international co-operation.

Looking forward to your reply,

Yours sincerely,

For the Executive Committee

President

The First Vice Presidents

Piero PIERALLI

Mahmoud GAAFAR
Sergueï PAVLOV
Orlando CANTURIAS

Conakry, March 28 1960.



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FEDERATION MONDIALE DE LA JEUNESSE DEMOCRATIQUE
WORLD FEDERATION OF DEMOCRATIC YOUTH
ВСЕМИРНАЯ ФЕДЕРАЦИЯ ДЕМОКРАТИЧЕСКОЙ МОЛОДЕЖИ
FEDERACION MUNDIAL DE LA JUVENTUD DEMOCRATICA
世界民主青年聯盟

21^{me} RUE DE CHATEAUDUN PARIS

No.: 0568
Ref.: BM/mo

NOUVELLE ADRESSE: BUDAPEST, VI., BEMZUR-U 34. HONGRIE
TELEPHONE: 425 - 551 - ADR. TELEGR.: DIVSZ - BUDAPEST

11th April 1960

Dear Friends,

We are attaching herewith the copy of a letter addressed to all international youth organizations by the Executive Committee of the World Federation of Democratic Youth from its meeting held in Conakry - Republic of Guinea - from March 26th to 30th 1960.

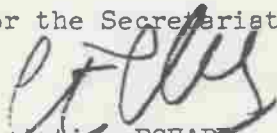
In this newly independent Republic in Africa, African youth organizations of various trends and structures shared their views and experiences with the Executive Committee members of the WFDY and arrived at a common conclusion - the need to intensify the struggle for disarmament and peace, and to fight in a united way against colonialism and imperialism. For that purpose to make every possible effort towards reaching understanding and joint activities between the existing international youth organizations.

Our letter symbolises this spirit. In it you will find concrete suggestions including a proposal for a meeting at the earliest possible date between the representatives of all international bodies. We believe that member organizations of all international youth organizations should actively support such a proposal so as to create the necessary conditions everywhere. Therefore, we consider it useful to send you a copy of our letter.

Please accept our best wishes,

Yours sincerely,

For the Secretariat


Christian ECHARD
General Secretary



FEDERATION MONDIALE DE LA JEUNESSE DEMOCRATIQUE
WORLD FEDERATION OF DEMOCRATIC YOUTH
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GREETINGS OF THE WFDY'S SECRETARIAT TO WORKING YOUTH THE WORLD OVER
ON THE OCCASION OF 1st OF MAY.

The World Federation of Democratic Youth salutes the young workers, young peasants and all working youth the world over on the occasion of 1st of May, the international commemoration day of workers. The celebration of May 1st became a traditional demonstration of workers fighting for peace, liberty, independence and for the rights to better life; it became a solidarity manifestation of workers all over the world.

Youth of different countries has to face numerous problems which are not yet solved; low salaries and discrimination in payments, unemployment, limited possibilities for professional training, the very difficult conditions of accommodation and others still remain.

The exploitation of millions of young workers in cities and villages is inseparably tied to the well-known imperialist policy which hinders international relaxation of tension. The armaments drive of the USA, British, French and Federal German Governments which is carried out against the wishes of the large masses the world over and lays a heavy burden on working youth. This policy resulted in the continuous increasing of taxes and prices and the lowering of the workers' income. The policy of cold war created a permanent danger of a world catastrophe, that is to say the threatening of the life of millions of young workers and young peasants.

English, French, Belgian, Dutch, Spanish, Portugese colonialism and the neo-colonialism of the American and German imperialists continue to oppress millions of young men and women in Asia, Africa and Latin America. It deprives the people of their undeniable right to national independence.

The Secretariat of the WFDY warmly salutes the struggle of young workers in the colonial and newly independent countries for gaining and safeguarding their independence and for the total abolishment of colonialism.

The reactionary, semi-fascist or openly fascist governments in Korea, Soudan, Spain, Portugal, Jordan and in other countries persecute the progressive movements of youth. These governments deprive youth of their most elementary democratic rights, imprison and send to concentration camps the best young patriots who fight for freedom, for peace and for the success of youth.

The Secretariat of the WFDY appeals to all working youth the world over to join together with all the workers to celebrate the day of 1st of May as a day of great demonstrations of the young generation for peace, peaceful co-existence, general and total disarmament, against colonialism, for independence, for democracy and freedom, and for a happy life.

Young workers, young peasants, all the working youth!

Fight to realise these noble aims on which depends the solution of all urgent problems.

Budapest, the 27th April 1960.

THE SECRETARIAT OF THE WORLD
FEDERATION OF DEMOCRATIC YOUTH



FEDERATION MONDIALE DE LA JEUNESSE DEMOCRATIQUE
WORLD FEDERATION OF DEMOCRATIC YOUTH
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APPEAL TO WORLD YOUTH

YOUNG PEOPLE OF THE WORLD!

You are gravely concerned at the breakdown of the Summit Conference and the worsening of the international situation.

During the past years, the democratic youth of the world have not spared any effort to promote the policy of peace, and friendship in a world free of tension where international understanding prevails. They are, more than ever, convinced of the need for every possible action to be taken, particularly in our day when great hopes have been frustrated by the unspeakable attitude of the US Government, which is responsible for the failure of the Summit Conference.

THE WORLD FEDERATION OF DEMOCRATIC YOUTH

- vigorously protests at the action of the US Government,
- demands the official renunciation of these aggressive actions by the US.

YOUNG PEOPLE OF THE WORLD!

- Protest against the policy pursued by the American leaders.
- Express your protest by organizing meetings, gatherings, demonstrations, marches and other activities which correspond to your national traditions.
- Make an appeal to UNO asking it to adopt all measures for the cessation of the American policy of provocation.
- Strengthen unity in the fight for peace and general disarmament, against the cold war, for the peaceful solution of all international differences, for peaceful co-existence, national independence and happiness.

.../...

2.

The road to peace is not free of obstacles. It is only by the vigilance and constant effort of the masses of youth and peoples that we can achieve success.

YOUNG PEOPLE OF THE WORLD!

It is the essential and immediate task of all organizations, of all young people who want to live in a peaceful world, to fight in massive and powerful movements for international relaxation, general disarmament, peaceful co-existence and for peace and a happy tomorrow. The forces for peace in the world today are the most powerful, they will triumph over war and the idea of war.

Budapest, May 19, 1960

WORLD FEDERATION OF DEMOCRATIC YOUTH

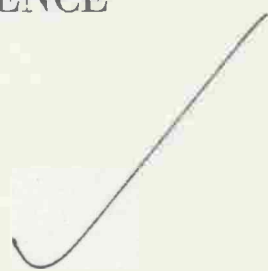
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FOR PEACE

FOR PEACEFUL COEXISTENCE

FOR DISARMAMENT

FOR NATIONAL INDEPENDENCE



(Declaration of the WFDY)

The WFDY expresses the alarm of large sections of world youth at the breakdown of the Summit Conference, resulting in the worsening of the international situation.

During the years of the cold war, the democratic youth of the world lead an active struggle for peace and international understanding. Tens of millions of signatures to demand the banning of nuclear weapons, hundreds of thousands of demonstrations, gatherings, marches, meetings for peace and friendship, the strengthening of exchanges between young people from different countries, numerous international events for peace and friendship among youth, the successful development of co-operation among youth; all this has been a contribution of youth to the struggle of the peoples for peace, peaceful co-existence, national independence, freedom and happiness. In recent months after the success of Mr. Krushchey's visit to the United States and the pledges taken in the name of the Soviet and American Governments during the meetings at Camp David between President Eisenhower and Mr. Krushchov, young men and women throughout the world hoped that a new period of peace and co-operation had begun between all the States. Young men and women of all countries, independent of their religious or political views, race or nationality lived in an atmosphere of hope for the success of the Summit Conference. Youth looked upon this meeting as a great victory for peace. They hoped that this Conference would be a turning point in international relations, and that it would help in solving the most outstanding problems of our time, such as total disarmament and the German question. Youth got together delegations, made petitions, and sent messages to the Statesmen of the Four Great Powers for the successful solution to the problems on which depend peace and the life of millions of people.

But the United States Government dealt a shameful blow at the hopes of the young generation. Their aim has been to bring about the collapse of the relaxation of international tension and also the Summit Conference in Paris. On the very eve of the Conference they have committed an act of aggression against one of the participants at this meeting — the Soviet Union, violating its sovereignty, and its national territory by sending an aeroplane on a mission specially aimed at diversion and espionage.

After being caught in the very act, the American Government through its Secretary for Foreign Affairs, Herter, and later by President Eisenhower, declared that it would continue to carry out these acts of espionage and diversion against the Soviet Union in the future, accordingly instead of condemning these provocative actions by warlike American circles, President Eisenhower and the Secretary of State have openly proclaimed this espionage, diversion and aggression against other countries, as a principle of the foreign policy of the United States.

By this premeditated action against the Soviet Union, the United States Government has torpedoed the Summit Conference in Paris, even before it could begin. The obstinate refusal of the United States Government to declare before the whole world that it would not continue its policy of aggression shows that this Government is against a policy based on mutual understanding, on the respect of rights, on the sovereignty and the interests of other peoples.

That shows that the U.S. Government and President Eisenhower at its head are responsible for the miserable failure of the Summit Conference. Besides it must be stressed again that, with the increase in their military budget, their declaration that they now consider themselves free to resume atomic tests, the new military pact with Japan, the positions adhered to in the meetings of the aggressive NATO and CENTO blocs, etc., the US imperialists have already made it clear in recent months they that were ill-disposed to having a serious discussion, and an agreement on general disarmament.

The World Federation of Youth in the name of 97 million young people expresses its solidarity with Soviet youth and upholds the position taken by the Soviet Government which has every right, based on international law and human morals, to demand an end to these aggressive provocations against the Soviet Union.

At the same time the WFDY protests energetically against the US Government, considering it as responsible for the failure of the Summit Conference. The WFDY demands that the US Government officially renounces these acts of aggression and its cold war policy.

The WFDY considers it a very grave fact that the Government of Pakistan, Turkey, Iran, Norway and other countries should have put at the disposal of the United States Air Force their territory to carry out provocative measures against neighbouring countries.

The WFDY draws the attention of the youth of all countries which have on their territory American military bases to the danger that this represents to world peace, and in the first place, to their own lives and the future of their peoples.

Today, more than ever, the WFDY considers it an essential and immediate task for all organizations, for all young people who wish to live in a world at peace, to struggle resolutely and courageously for a relaxation in international tension, general disarmament and peaceful co-existence.

The attitude of the US Government, its retrograde step into the most gloomy period of the cold war, shows that peaceful co-existence cannot be won without permanent and widespread mobilization of the masses of youth and people of the world. The imperialists wish to pursue their policy of subjection of the peoples. The WFDY calls on the youth of all countries to strengthen the struggle against imperialism and for peace and independence.

The WFDY expresses its confidence that, in this moment, which entails the responsibility of us all, new forces and organizations of youth,

until now separated from the great world movement of fighters for peace, who recognize the necessity to mobilize themselves for a positive development in the international situation and for the victory of peaceful co-existence.

The WFDY appeals to youth all over the world, to youth organizations, to all men of good will, to protest against the present policy of the US Government. We call on all young people to express their protests, through gatherings, meetings, demonstrations, marches and other means which correspond to their national character. The WFDY calls on youth to appeal to UNO in different forms, asking it to take immediate steps against the American policy of provocation which draws us nearer to world catastrophe.

At this decisive hour we call on all young people to strengthen their unity in the struggle for general disarmament, the peaceful solution of the German problem and all other international differences, against the cold war, for peaceful co-existence.

The peoples, the forces in favour of peace, the democrats and anti-imperialists are stronger than the instigators of war. Peace will be victorious!

Youth of the world! Be vigilant! Our common struggle for the causes of peace and national independence is the best guarantee we have for a happy to-morrow.

WORLD FEDERATION
OF DEMOCRATIC YOUTH.

Published by the World Federation of Democratic Youth
Benczur u. 34. — Budapest, Hungary

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Se desea la reproducción, con indicación de la fuente, como también las eventuales mejoras lingüísticas de traducciones de los textos originales

June 1960

To: PERFORMERS UNIONS, affiliated
and unaffiliated to the F.I.A.

I N F O R M A T I O N

PERFORMERS ' RIGHTS

COMMITTEE OF EXPERTS AT THE HAGUE

(9th to 21st May 1960)

The Committee's work was extended over two weeks in an atmosphere rendered less propitious by the fact that a considerable number of experts, in spite of their nomination to the Committee being on a personal basis, were unable to forget their official functions in their countries of origin or the fact that they were specialists in the field of copyright. This is what really explains the fact that in the end the draft convention which was drawn up is very close its principles to the so-called " Monaco Draft".

The new draft Convention which is to be effective only in respect of states already members of the Berne Union or of the Universal Copyright Convention (Article 1, Para. 2 & 3 of the Monaco Draft) applies only to international situations (Article 2, Para 1 of the Monaco Draft).

The protection given to performers is roughly that provided in Article 2 of the Monaco Draft. However :

- a) While protection is still tied to the performance of a "literary or artistic work", it will be open to national legislation to extend the protection to artists not performing such " works".
- b) Everything concerning protection against radio or T.V. relays and the use of radio and T.V. recordings by Radio and T.V.Stations, is left to national legislation .
- c) The right to equitable remuneration for the use of commercial gramophone records by a broadcasting organisation or for their public performance is expressly stated. The task of naming the beneficiary or beneficiaries (record manufacturer and/or artists) and the conditions of distribution is left to national legislation.

.../...

- d) As in the Monaco Draft (Article 6) the draft excludes from the Convention everything visual when it is a question of reproduction. (The artist is therefore protected against the visual recording of his performance)
- e) The period of protection is extended from 10 to 20 years

It is to be noted that a state signing the future Convention would be able to reserve entirely the protection of radio and T.V. organisations .

In the course of the work, the help of those of our colleagues who had been appointed as experts, namely, Dr CELAKOVSKY (Czechoslovakia) HAUSER (Switzerland), V. JUNCO (Mexico) SIEKIERKO (Poland), J.TUBBAX (Belgium), was particularly valuable to us. The entire work was at one time thrown into danger by a proposal to the American, British, Japanese and Indian experts. This proposal was in favour of presenting two drafts, draft A/ which would have been very brief (A simple undertaking by states to guarantee to foreigners, on a basis of reciprocity, the same protection as they give to their own nationals)

draft B/ which would have been the draft voted by the committee.

Ultimately this proposal received no more than a simple mention.

IN CONCLUSION, it is clear that the performers' organisations will have to work with great vigour and without losing time, before the diplomatic conference which is to be held in the Spring of 1961,

- 1°/ To put pressure on their governments for the improvement of the Hague draft at the diplomatic conference. (The governments will in any event be consulted) .
- 2°/ In undertaking action to achieve agreements or promote legislation in order to establish on the national plane, and before the diplomatic Conference begins, a level of protection higher than that granted by the Hague Draft.

N.B. A report jointly drawn up by FIM, FIA and FIAV, as well as the text of the Hague Draft will shortly be sent to the Actors' Unions.



FEDERATION MONDIALE DE LA JEUNESSE DEMOCRATIQUE
WORLD FEDERATION OF DEMOCRATIC YOUTH
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No.: 1566/a
Ref.: GP/mo

24th August 1960

Information on the result of the Dortmund trial
against the Festival.

Dear Friends,

News has just reached us about the incredible verdict of the Dortmund Tribunal (GFR) which tried the leaders of the former Festival Committee in the GFR (1953 to 1956). Our friend Günter Hillmann (former secretary of the Committee) has been sentenced to two years' imprisonment, Klaus Steffen (his deputy) to one and a half years' imprisonment. Only Walter Fischer (former member of the Leadership of the Committee) was acquitted for "the want of conclusive evidence".

These extremely severe sentences shed light on the political character of this verdict. Obviously, the forces of the cold war in the GFR proceeded with this trial with the aim not only of punishing our accused friends for having worked for the Festival in the past, but also of intimidating especially the young people in the GFR who, to an ever increasing extent, declare themselves in favour of participation at the next Festival, for the establishment of contacts between East and West, between youth organizations, for the policy of peaceful co-existence and for international relaxation instead of the policy of atomic armament which is pursued by the GFR Government.

A whole series of facts showed during the trial that the Dortmund Tribunal was neither objective nor impartial. For example, it was discovered during the trial that the President of the Tribunal was an active member of the Christian-Democrat Party, (the Governmental Party) a fierce adversary of the Festival and of all East-West contacts. It is evident that such a

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President, tied to the political opinions of his party, could not pass an objective and impartial sentence on such a political question as the Festival.

This also showed itself in the fact that the Tribunal during the process accepted, without studying the evidence of the defence, a series of political theses included in the bill of indictment on the Festival and the WFDY. Thus, for example, the Tribunal declared that the Festival was well known by everybody and obviously it was not necessary to determine whether the WFDY was "an international communist organization which aimed at winning over non-communist organizations in the West for the foreign political campaigns of the Soviet Union against the Western world and for the objectives of world communism in general", and that the Festivals were "organized by the WFDY to achieve these aims". It is evident that this falsification of truth exactly corresponds to the slanders cast by the fomenters of the cold war on the WFDY and has nothing to do with the objective statement of the aims and the character of the WFDY and the Festival. However, the Tribunal rejected all the evidence and proof put forward by the accused to show the falsity of these hypotheses.

Instead of studying objectively the real activity of the Festival Committee in the GFR from 1953 to 1956, the Tribunal endeavoured to "prove" the "disguised unconstitutional intentions" and the "illegal relations" of this Committee with the FDJ ("Free German Youth") and the prohibited Communist Party in the GFR, which in reality never existed. For this purpose a great number of doubtful witnesses were summoned such as: police-constables, agents provocateurs, criminals, even witnesses whose names were not given, but the evidence of irreproachable people on the real aims of the Festival, on equality and freedom for all political convictions within the Festivals was deliberately ignored.

Nevertheless it is a very interesting and important fact that the judges of Dortmund did not dare to declare the activity for the Festival "illegal". The Attorney-General felt obliged to concede that the "pure work for the Festival" was not punishable in the GFR, and even the Tribunal had to recognize this truth. It was impossible for them to deal a blow at the lawfulness of the Festival movement in the GFR by this trial. This is due to the fact that the Festival movement both on an international scale and in the GFR itself is today too strong and universal to be attacked. Undoubtedly the great number of letters of protest sent to Dortmund against the trial also contributed - as the Tribunal itself had to confess - to

preventing the forces of the cold war from carrying out their original intentions.

Nevertheless, in order to condemn our accused friends the judicial authorities of Dortmund were obliged to resort to made-up evidence. The two accused were not condemned - said the Tribunal - because of their activities for the Festival, but because they would have continued carrying out the prohibited and unconstitutional activity of the FDJ under the pretext of the activity for the Festival.

The evidence? The Attorney General himself had to say that it would be very difficult to provide convincing evidence to prove this theory. The pretended "disguised unconstitutional intentions" of the accused were expressed, in his opinion, not in the open activity and in the publications of the Festival Committee, but "in what we can read between the lines", as he said literally. And he pointed out as an example of these "unconstitutional intentions" the fact that the publications of the Festival Committee in the GFR issued, among other things, articles against the rearmament of the GFR, against EDC (European Defence Community), against atomic weapons and for contacts with the youth of the German Democratic Republic, points of view taken by the great majority of youth organizations in the GFR, Socialist Youth, Trade Unions, Friends of Nature, etc.

Thus, if the forces of the cold war in the GFR were obliged - owing to the strong ideas of the Festival - to renounce dealing a direct blow at the lawfulness of the Festival movement, the Dortmund trial and verdict represent, however, a heavy blow at the democratic freedom of youth in the GFR and a verdict of intimidation against the Festival movement.

This verdict is all the more revolting if we consider that at the same time former nazi leaders and war criminals, such as the SS General Simon, were acquitted. One week before the end of the trial against the Festival this SS General was acquitted by the Ansbach Tribunal (Bavière), although he himself could not help confessing that he was responsible for the murder of three German citizens in April 1945, who were sentenced to death by a Nazi Tribunal because of their resistance to continue the fascist war already lost. To release war criminals and the condemned leaders of the Festival Committee is the real policy of Federal Germany, it is the line of the policy pursued by militarist forces. It is evident that this tendency is closely linked with the atomic armaments drive in the GFR and with the military adventures of a "sudden war" against the German Democratic Republic, planned by the re-established military forces

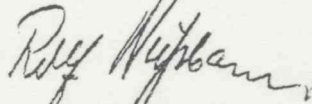
in the GFR and recently denounced by the authorities of the GDR and by the officers of the "Bundeswehr" who took refuge in the GDR.

Thus, we have every reason to oppose more energetically this policy of the GFR, to strengthen our solidarity with the democratic forces in this country and to raise our voice against the Dortmund verdict.

We are attaching to this letter the statement of the Secretariat of the WFDY and call upon you to express your protest against the Dortmund verdict. Please inform us of all your activities and the measures you are taking in this connection. We also propose to you to denounce vigorously the Dortmund verdict in your press and before the people as well as to express your solidarity with the accused by sending letters to them. Their address is as follows: Klaus Steffen, Hagen, Lutzowstrasse 72.

With best wishes,

For the Secretariat



ROLF WEISSBACH
Secretary