General Assembly

Thirty-sixth session
Agenda item 51 (j)

REVIEW OF THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE RECOMMENDATIONS AND DECISIONS ADOPTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY AT ITS TENTH SPECIAL SESSION

Disarmament Week

Report of the Secretary-General

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I. INTRODUCTION

1. At its thirty-third session, the General Assembly, under the item entitled "Review of the implementation of the recommendations and decisions adopted by the General Assembly at its tenth special session", adopted resolution 33/71 D of 14 December 1978, the operative part of which reads as follows:

"The General Assembly,

...

"1. Invites all States to carry out, through the dissemination of information and organization of symposia, meetings, conferences and other national and international forums, effective measures to expose the danger of the arms race, propagate the need for its cessation and increase public understanding of the urgent tasks in the field of disarmament and in particular of the provisions of the Final Document of the Tenth Special Session;

"2. Requests the Secretary-General to prepare a model programme which may assist States that so desire in developing their local programmes for Disarmament Week;

"3. Invites governmental as well as non-governmental organizations to undertake annual activities to promote the objectives of Disarmament Week and invites Governments to inform the Secretary-General of such activities not later than 30 April of each subsequent year;

"4. Requests the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its thirty-fourth and subsequent sessions on the information obtained by him in accordance with paragraph 3 above."

2. Pursuant to paragraph 4 of the resolution, the Secretary-General submits herewith the report on the information received from Member States concerning the activities undertaken to promote the objectives of Disarmament Week.

II. REPLIES RECEIVED FROM GOVERNMENTS

BYELORUSSIAN SOVIET SOCIALIST REPUBLIC

[Original: Russian]

[2 December 1980]

1. United Nations Day was widely observed in the Byelorussian Soviet Socialist Republic. A meeting of representatives of the public in the Republic's heroic capital, Minsk, was addressed by A. P. Obukhovich, Secretary of the Trade Union Council of the Byelorussian Republic and Chairman of the Commission on Foreign Affairs of the Supreme Soviet of the Byelorussian SSR.

2. The meeting unanimously adopted a letter to Kurt Waldheim, Secretary-General
of the United Nations, which emphasized the need to eliminate the threat of nuclear war, to halt the growth in armaments, and to enhance the role of the United Nations in strengthening peace and international security. In this letter those participating in the meeting — representatives of trade unions, young people, war veterans, committees for the defence of peace, and other public organizations — declared their whole-hearted support for the new Soviet proposals put forward for consideration at the thirty-fifth session of the United Nations General Assembly.

3. It was emphasized at the meeting that the Soviet Union and the other countries of the socialist community were in the forefront of the struggle for peace and disarmament and for the adoption by the United Nations of constructive and progressive decisions. This is shown by the many initiatives recently submitted by the socialist countries: the proposal for the holding of a summit meeting of Heads of State from all the regions of the world to discuss problems connected with the elimination of hot-beds of international tension and with the prohibition of war; the measures to curb the arms race and to bring about disarmament and to strengthen peace in Europe and throughout the world contained in the Declaration of the States parties to the Warsaw Pact (May 1980); the new proposals of the socialist countries at the Vienna talks; and the USSR initiative with regard to talks on medium-range nuclear weapons in Europe in close co-ordination with American forward-based installations.

4. At meetings of representatives of the public on the occasion of United Nations Day and Disarmament Week, it was also noted that imperialist circles had abandoned the policy of détente in favour of the arms race and the attempt to secure an ephemeral military superiority over the USSR.

5. The documents adopted by the World Parliament of Peoples for Peace, which was held at Sofia in September 1980, met with widespread support in the Republic. The documents contained a call for resolute action to free mankind from the threat of nuclear war.

6. United Nations Day and Disarmament Week were given comprehensive coverage by the mass media in the Byelorussian SSR. The periodical press, television and radio provided wide circles of the public with information regarding the messages of the Secretary-General of the United Nations on the occasion of United Nations Day and the observance of Disarmament Week. The proposals of the USSR and other socialist countries on questions strengthening peace and international security, preserving and deepening détente and ending the arms race were the focus of attention in all the mass media.

7. Events in the Byelorussian SSR in connexion with the observance of United Nations Day and Disarmament Week contributed to a general mobilization of efforts on the part of the public in the Byelorussian SSR in the struggle for the strengthening of peace, the preservation and deepening of détente, disarmament and the ending of the arms race.
Annex


1. We, representatives of the public of the heroic city of Minsk, capital of the Byelorussian Soviet Socialist Republic, meeting today on the occasion of United Nations Day and the opening of Disarmament Week, support the people of all countries in their demand for the safeguarding of peace, the end of acts of aggression and military blackmail, the elimination of the threat of nuclear war, the halting of the growth in armaments and the cessation of sabre-rattling.

2. In the course of its 35 years of existence, the United Nations has shown that it can make a useful contribution to the strengthening of peace and international security, the curbing of the arms race, the struggle against colonialism and racism, and the establishment of new and truly equitable international economic relations.

3. The greatest success of recent decades has been the fact that, thanks to the untiring efforts of the Soviet Union and all peace-loving forces, it has been possible to escape from the tragic cycle in which peace is merely a breathing space between world wars and to extend as far as possible the struggle to attain the great goal enunciated in the Charter of the United Nations, i.e. "to save succeeding generations from the scourge of war".

4. However, there has in recent times been a deterioration in the international situation and a significant increase in the threat to peace and disarmament, as a consequence of the further intensification of the imperialist policy of force, confrontation and hegemonism and acceleration of the arms race.

5. In this difficult international situation, the Soviet Union and the other countries of the socialist community are pursuing a resolute policy of principle aimed at strengthening peace and guaranteeing international security and at maintaining détente as the dominant trend in world politics. In furtherance of these ends, the Soviet delegation to the current thirty-fifth session of the United Nations General Assembly submitted a proposal on "Urgent measures for reducing the danger of war", the Memorandum of the Soviet Union entitled "Peace, disarmament and international security guarantees", and the draft resolution on the historical responsibility of States for the preservation of nature for present and future generations.

6. We warmly welcome the important new initiatives of the USSR and call upon States Members of the United Nations to contribute in every way possible to ensuring that they are constructively discussed and effective decisions taken. The Byelorussian people and all the peoples of the world expect from the United Nations an active contribution to the struggle for peace, international security, the cessation of the arms race and the preservation and deepening of détente. We express the hope that the role of the United Nations in solving these crucial problems will continue to grow.

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FINLAND

[Original: English]

[9 September 1981]

1. To promote the objectives of the Disarmament Week, the Government of Finland continued in 1980 its activities of previous years to focus public opinion on and to increase public understanding of the urgent tasks in the field of disarmament. Although great emphasis was given to the observance of the Disarmament Week, the Government of Finland considered it advisable not to restrict activities to one week only, but to spread them throughout the year. This applies particularly to the increasing information activities. The Government of Finland has by several means supported the dissemination on information on disarmament as well as research work in the field of disarmament. I.a., the Comprehensive Study on Nuclear Weapons (A/35/392) and the Study on All Aspects of Regional Disarmament (A/35/416), undertaken by the United Nations, will be published in the Finnish language.

2. A broadly-based civic committee was established in order to organize and co-ordinate activities related to the Disarmament Week in 1980. The committee arranged, i.a., a one-day conference and several seminars, the most important of which were a seminar for non-governmental organizations and a seminar for labour unions. Furthermore, the Disarmament Week was observed widely through various activities arranged or supported by the Government, political parties, labour unions, the church, non-governmental organizations, associations and the mass media. In connection with the Disarmament Week, a number of booklets, pamphlets, posters and articles were published and distributed.

3. In addition to the above activities, the Government of Finland has arranged - usually jointly with the Advisory Board for Disarmament or in cooperation with the Finnish Institute of International Affairs - a number of seminars and meetings on disarmament in 1980. The Government has also encouraged various organizations to undertake similar activities and has contributed to several of them. Special attention has been paid to youth organizations and schools.

GERMAN DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC

[Original: English]

[15 September 1981]

1. In response to the appeal issued by the tenth special session of the General Assembly the Week Devoted to Fostering the Objectives of Disarmament was observed in the German Democratic Republic from 24 to 30 October 1980. In preparing the Week and determining its content account was taken of the elements of a model programme for Disarmament Week (A/34/436) and of the Declaration of the 1980s as the Second Disarmament Decade (Res. 35/46).

2. The continued pursuit of détente, the cessation of the arms race and agreement on effective disarmament measures are primary foreign-policy objectives of the German Democratic Republic which it pursues unswervingly and with persistence.

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This was reaffirmed by the leading representatives of the USSR and the German Democratic Republic, L. I. Brezhnev and Erich Honecker, at their meeting on 3 August 1981, on which occasion the following was stated: "In the early 1970's Europe was the cradle of détente, and also today it is able to stimulate détente and to initiate a moderation of the political climate in the world. Rather than a replenishment of military arsenals with weaponry from overseas, Europe needs a limitation and reduction of the arms race in all fields, especially in respect of nuclear weapons. Instead of a higher level of military confrontation Europe requires a lessening of such confrontation and the development of mutually advantageous, peaceful cooperation."

3. On the occasion of the thirty-fifth anniversary of the United Nations and the international Week Devoted to Fostering the Objectives of Disarmament, the League for the United Nations of the German Democratic Republic, on 24 October 1980, invited for a festive event which was also the prelude to further activities in the German Democratic Republic. In his address during the ceremony Dr. Michael Kohl, Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs, emphasized that never before had there been a greater danger of a period beneficial to peace coming to an end and giving way to another cold-war era. What we were experiencing now, he said, was the reaction of anti-détente forces to the strengthening and consolidation of the positions of peace and progress around the world.

4. In a declaration issued by the National Council of the National Front on behalf of the social forces of the German Democratic Republic active in that framework the UN-proclaimed Disarmament Week is welcomed and the unshakable will expressed to join other social organizations all over the world and all people of goodwill in making a still more determined stand, as the new decade begins, for the cause of disarmament and world peace. The Declaration urges the intensification of combined efforts along the lines of the serious appeal launched by the World Parliament of the Peoples for Peace in Sofia on 24 September 1980 in order to avert the danger of a nuclear war, prevent a relapse into cold-war times, enable the détente process to be effectively continued and give rise to an atmosphere of confidence and fruitful co-operation among States. It calls for combined efforts to grow into an invincible force which will contribute to preserving and protecting life and peace on our globe also in the decades to come.

5. The National Executive of the Democratic Women's League of Germany also issued a statement on the occasion of Disarmament Week, stressing the firm resolve not to slacken in the struggle for peace.

6. In the course of the Week Devoted to Fostering the Objectives of Disarmament many social organizations of the German Democratic Republic organized special events at which people from all sections pointed to the urgent need for effective disarmament measures to preserve peace.

7. In an interview granted on the occasion of the Week, Professor Max Schmidt, Chairman of the German Democratic Republic Peace Council's Disarmament Commission, voiced the expectation that the Week Devoted to Fostering the Objectives of Disarmament initiated by the United Nations and observed around the world would recruit new champions of mankind's basic right to peace. In view of the new United
States nuclear strategy, NATO's long-term armament concept and the intention to deploy new nuclear medium-range weapon systems in Western Europe, he continued, the call of the World Parliament of the Peoples for Peace held in Sofia had been taken up in numerous countries, leading to concrete programmes of action in many places. It was the clear-cut position of the socialist countries in this matter, he said, that measures to reduce the danger of war must be taken without delay. The further pursuit of détente accompanied by a turn toward disarmament was the chief concern of the 1980s.

8. As for the mass media, they were inspired by Disarmament Week to provide wider coverage of the disarmament proposals submitted by the socialist states and to point to those forces that are bent on preventing military détente from making headway because of their interest in spurring the arms drive. In so doing, the media made reference to national and international activities undertaken to mark Disarmament Week.

9. The German Democratic Republic holds that the increasing mobilization of world public opinion is a sine qua non in the struggle for the objectives of disarmament. Therefore, the concern of the UN-proclaimed Week Devoted to Fostering the Objectives of Disarmament will have the backing of the German Democratic Republic also in the future.

MONGOLIA

[Original: Russian]

[20 March 1981]

1. In pursuance of the decision of the tenth special session of the General Assembly, devoted to disarmament, International Disarmament Week and the thirty-fifth anniversary of the founding of the United Nations were widely observed in our country from 24 to 31 October 1980. As before, the Government of the Mongolian People's Republic was sincerely anxious to do everything possible in the effort to mobilize world public opinion on behalf of a speedy solution to the problems of disarmament. This is becoming ever more urgent as a result of the continuing arms race, which represents a growing threat to international peace and the security of peoples. The Mongolian Government endeavours to explain, and gives comprehensive coverage to, the aims and principles of the United Nations and the fundamental policies behind its activities.

2. As in previous years, the schedule of events in connexion with Disarmament Week and the thirty-fifth anniversary of the United Nations was discussed and decided at the highest levels of Government in the Mongolian People's Republic. In accordance with this schedule, the following specific events took place in our country on the occasion of International Disarmament Week and the thirty-fifth anniversary of the United Nations. Ministries, departments and various public organizations took an active part in organizing and carrying out these activities.

3. On 24 October, at the opening of Disarmament Week, a meeting of representatives of the public was held in Ulan Bator, the capital. Those

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participating in the meeting unanimously called on world public opinion to support the appeal made by the World Parliament of Peoples for Peace, held at Sofia in September 1980, on behalf of the important new proposals put forward by the Soviet Union at the thirty-fifth session of the United Nations General Assembly and to promote the adoption of concrete and effective disarmament measures.

4. The Mongolian Committee for the Defence of Peace and the Mongolian Association for the United Nations issued a joint declaration. This document, published by the central organs of the Mongolian press and information media, refers to the unswerving and consistent support of the Mongolian people for the peace-loving foreign policy of their country's Party and Government, a policy which is aimed at deepening international détente, strengthening détente in the military sphere, ending the arms race and achieving disarmament, and at maintaining and strengthening world peace and security. The declaration also expresses support for the Soviet Memorandum entitled "Peace, disarmament and international security guarantees" and the proposal on "Urgent measures for reducing the danger of war", which were submitted at the most recent session of the General Assembly and support for the protest against the nuclear explosion in the atmosphere carried out by China on 16 October 1980.

5. A mass meeting of workers of the Mongolian capital held during Disarmament Week was addressed by many public figures. The speakers noted the vital necessity and urgency of solving disarmament problems, stressed the importance and timeliness of the peaceful and constructive initiatives of the Soviet Union and the other Socialist countries aimed at limiting the arms race and at disarmament, and voiced legitimate anxiety with regard to the continuing arms race and particularly the nuclear arms race and the build-up of armaments and military preparations by the United States, its allies and China.

6. The workers' collective of a wool-scouring plant belonging to the combine of wool-processing enterprises also held a meeting, in which many public representatives and workers of the capital took part and made speeches.

7. Disarmament problems and the activities of the United Nations were given wide coverage by the mass media. The newspaper Uuden, the central organ of the Mongolian People's Revolutionary Party and of the Government of the Mongolian People's Republic, published articles entitled "Thirty-five years of the United Nations" and "The peoples focus their attention on disarmament questions". These articles once again affirmed the position of principle of the Government of the Mongolian People's Republic in matters relating to disarmament. The press organs of the Central Council of Mongolian Trade Unions, of the Central Committee of the Mongolian Revolutionary Youth League and other central and local organs of the press published a total of 15 articles and other features devoted to United Nations Day and to disarmament problems. Roundtable discussions involving specialists and political commentators were organized and shown on Mongolian television, while many prominent representatives of Government and public organizations made radio broadcasts.

8. During the week, several thousand people participated in lectures and discussions on United Nations activities and on disarmament problems in various institutions and enterprises. In addition, special lectures entitled "Thirty-five
years of the United Nations" and "The Mongolian People's Republic in the United Nations" were prepared and distributed in all Party, Government, public and other organizations.

NETHERLANDS

[Original: English]

[24 September 1981]

1. The activities of the Netherlands Government undertaken in 1980 to promote the objectives of the disarmament-week have been a continuation of the activities in previous years as was reported in notes no. 3950 of 16 May 1979 and no. 2268 of 15 April 1980.

2. The Netherlands media have published numerous articles in newspapers and magazines of all kind, where as on radio and television many programmes have been devoted to questions related to disarmament.

3. Also non-governmental organizations and ad hoc groups of citizens contributed during 1980 to the promotion of the objectives of the disarmament week in the Netherlands.

UKRAINIAN SOVIET SOCIALIST REPUBLIC

[Original: Russian]

[26 November 1980]

1. In accordance with General Assembly resolution 168 (II) of 31 October 1947, and pursuant to the decision of the special session of the General Assembly devoted to disarmament and to the call by the World Peace Council, United Nations Day and Disarmament Week have been widely observed in the Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic. In this connexion, a series of activities has been organized in the Republic with the basic purpose of demonstrating the vital importance of a speedy solution to the problems of strengthening peace and security and of disarmament and highlighting the role and responsibility of the United Nations in efforts to attain these objectives.

2. In 1980 United Nations Day and the opening of Disarmament Week coincided with the introduction of new peace initiatives by the Soviet Union aimed at reducing the risk of war and improving the international situation. These initiatives are contained in the USSR proposal entitled "Urgent measures for reducing the danger of war" and the Memorandum of the Soviet Union entitled "Peace, disarmament and international security guarantees", which were proposed for consideration at the thirty-fifth session of the United Nations General Assembly.

3. A meeting of representatives of the public to celebrate United Nations Day and the beginning of Disarmament Week was held on 24 October 1980 at Kiev, the capital...
of the Soviet Ukraine. The meeting was opened by I. F. Poida, Secretary of the Ukrainian Trade Union Council.

4. A speech was made by G. I. Udovenko, Deputy Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Ukrainian SSR. He apprised those present of the contents of a message from Kurt Waldheim, the Secretary-General of the United Nations, on the occasion of United Nations Day, and stressed the role and tasks of the Organization in strengthening peace and security, in curbing the arms race and in promoting international co-operation. He also pointed out the continuing importance of the Charter of the United Nations in present-day conditions.

5. V. P. Prokopenko, Chairman of the Commission on Assistance to the Soviet Peace Fund and director of the "Molod" publishing house for young people's literature, made a speech to mark the opening of Disarmament Week. He emphasized the importance of organizing mass action for disarmament, appealed for an end to the arms race contrived by the imperialists, and urged that mankind should be freed from the danger of thermo-nuclear war.

6. Representatives of the public who spoke at the meeting voiced the need to enhance the role of the United Nations in strengthening peace and security and in preserving détente and halting the arms race.

7. The participants in the meeting unanimously adopted a letter to Kurt Waldheim, the Secretary-General of the United Nations, in which they stressed that the United Nations had no more important task than that of eliminating the threat of war, strengthening peace and security and achieving disarmament. They called on the United Nations to justify the hopes of the peoples through new concrete and effective measures to attain those noble objectives.

8. On the occasion of United Nations Day and the opening of Disarmament Week, the central and local press of the Republic published a number of articles and commentaries devoted to the thirty-fifth anniversary of the founding of the United Nations and to the goals and tasks of the struggle for peace, détente and disarmament. Much attention was also paid to these questions in Ukrainian radio and television programmes. The mass media in the Ukrainian SSR are providing extensive coverage of the work of the current thirty-fifth session of the General Assembly.

9. The observance of United Nations Day in the Ukrainian SSR helped to acquaint the population of the Republic more fully with the goals, tasks and activities of the United Nations and its role in solving the most important problems of the present day. It convincingly demonstrated the Ukrainian people's desire for peace and friendship with the peoples of the world, and for the elimination of the threat of war, the preservation of détente and the achievement of disarmament.
Annex

Letter dated 24 October 1981 to the Secretary-General of the United Nations from the public of the City of Kiev, adopted at the meeting in observance of United Nations Day

1. We, representatives of the public of the City of Kiev, the capital of the Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic, meeting on the occasion of United Nations Day and the opening of Disarmament Week, note with satisfaction that, in the 35 years of its existence, the United Nations has made a noteworthy contribution to the cause of strengthening peace and international security, the elimination of the shameful system of colonialism, racism and apartheid, and the development of broad international co-operation.

2. The virtual universality of the United Nations offers broad possibilities for uniting and mobilizing the efforts of States in the struggle for peace and international détente in the interest of humanity as a whole.

3. At the present time the agenda of the United Nations embraces practically all the major issues affecting mankind in the political, economic, social, cultural and humanitarian fields. It is obvious that solutions to those problems primarily depend on the maintenance of peace and the strengthening of security.

4. The United Nations has no more important task than that of eliminating the threat of war, halting the arms race and achieving genuine disarmament. We feel that the Organization's effectiveness, authority and prestige are to a large extent dependent on its contribution to progress in this field.

5. We are convinced that, despite the difficult international situation brought about by the actions of imperialist and hegemonistic circles, the peoples of the world will succeed in upholding détente and will halt humanity's drift to a catastrophic nuclear war.

6. A wide range of measures to eliminate the threat of war is contained in the new Soviet proposal entitled "Urgent measures for reducing the danger of war", which was submitted by the USSR delegation at the thirty-fifth session of the United Nations General Assembly. The proposal provides for the adoption of a number of concrete measures which would help to reduce international tension. Many other disarmament proposals are mentioned in the Memorandum of the Soviet Union entitled "Peace, disarmament and international security guarantees", which has been distributed at the current session of the United Nations General Assembly. At the same time, an appeal for the preservation of nature for present and future generations has also been made. The people of the Soviet Ukraine believe that the adoption in the United Nations and subsequent implementation of the Soviet proposals will help to reduce the risk of war created by imperialism.

7. We maintain that the United Nations should become a still more effective instrument for preserving peace and strengthening international security. We consider that the United Nations should make every effort to ensure that the noble ideals and principles of its Charter - ideals and principles which are still fully valid in present-day conditions - are given practical implementation.

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8. It is our firm conviction that world-wide observance of Disarmament Week will highlight the desire of peoples to end the arms race and will encourage a solution to the most urgent task of the present time, i.e. disarmament, including general and complete disarmament.

9. We call on the United Nations to justify the faith of peoples by taking new, concrete and effective measures to attain this noble aim.

UNION OF SOVIET SOCIALIST REPUBLICS

[Original: Russian]

[24 September 1981]

1. It has become a tradition in the Soviet Union, which consistently advocates the prevention of nuclear war and the safeguarding of international peace and security, to organize a week devoted to promoting the aims of disarmament from 24 to 31 October each year in response to the appeal of the United Nations and the World Peace Council.

2. In the United Nations anniversary year of 1980, the Soviet public widely observed United Nations Day and Disarmament Week. These important measures were carried out against a background of new constructive initiatives by the Soviet Union aimed at consolidating peace and international security, preserving détente and limiting and halting the arms race. The proposals submitted by the Soviet delegation to the United Nations General Assembly at its thirty-fifth session on "Urgent measures for reducing the danger of war" and on the "Historical responsibility of States for the preservation of nature for present and future generations", together with the Soviet Union's memorandum "For peace and disarmament, for guarantees of international security" which was presented at that session of the General Assembly, met these objectives.

3. On the initiative of the all-Union Central Trade Union Council, the USSR Parliamentary Group, the Soviet United Nations Association, the Soviet Committee for the Defence of Peace and a number of other organizations, a public meeting to celebrate United Nations Day and the beginning of Disarmament Week was held at Moscow on 24 October 1980.

4. The meeting was opened by A. P. Shitikov, Chairman of the USSR Parliamentary Group, who observed that in the thirty-five years which had elapsed since the Charter of the United Nations came into force, that international forum had become an important instrument for promoting peace and the security of the world's peoples. The United Nations bears a special responsibility for solving the crucial problem of the present day, that of disarmament.

5. V. N. Kudryavtsev, Director of the Institute of State and Law of the USSR Academy of Sciences, declared in his report that the role and responsibility of the United Nations in matters involving the effective guaranteeing of international peace and security, avert the threat of thermo-nuclear war and developing international co-operation were constantly growing. The Soviet Union had always
wished and continued to wish to see the United Nations an effective, authoritative and universal organ directing its efforts towards accomplishing the main objective for which it had been created 35 years earlier.

6. The participants in the meeting unanimously adopted the text of a letter to the Secretary-General of the United Nations in which they expressed profound concern at the fact that, in spite of the efforts undertaken, the threat of war, including war involving the use of weapons of mass destruction, still had not been removed; the letter also declared their support for increasing the role of the United Nations in strengthening peace and security and for the new Soviet initiatives aimed at curbing the arms race and improving the international political climate.

7. Similar meetings were also held in the capitals of the Union Republics. Information about these meetings was published in the Soviet Press.

8. On 24 October, the first day of Disarmament Week, Soviet central newspapers published articles devoted to these measures. In particular, the newspaper Pravda carried a commentary entitled "United Nations Day", which noted that the history of the United Nations showed that this organization was in a position to make a constructive contribution to negotiations and agreements on the limitation of armaments and to the peaceful settlement of conflicts.

9. In addition, information on disarmament problems is regularly disseminated in the Soviet Union and symposia, meetings, conferences and other national and international forums on such problems are regularly organized there. These are aimed at showing the danger of the arms race and the need to halt it and avert nuclear catastrophe and to mobilizing the public in support of the efforts of States to solve current problems in the disarmament sphere.

10. In the present international situation, complicated by the actions of warlike militaristic circles in the United States and other NATO countries which have developed the arms race on an unprecedented scale, the all peace-loving forces and peoples have an even greater responsibility for preserving peace and preventing a nuclear war. In this regard, the participation of broad strata of the international public in Disarmament Week has positive significance. It is extremely important today to strengthen the active work of all peace-loving forces in the name of peace and international security and the adoption of specific measures to curb the arms race and promote disarmament. For peace is the common property of mankind, and, in or time, the primary condition of its existence. It can and must be preserved and reliably guaranteed only by joint efforts.

UNITED KINGDOM OF GREAT BRITAIN AND NORTHERN IRELAND

[Original: English]

[15 September 1981]

1. The British Secretary of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs, Lord Carrington, addressed a special meeting of the United Nations Association on United
Nations Day, 24 October 1980, to mark the beginning of Disarmament Week. His subject was "Arms Control and International Security". He called for progress in the multilateral arms control negotiations, and pledged that his Government would vigorously pursue efforts to achieve agreement on specific measures. Copies of his speech were made available to delegations at the General Assembly of the United Nations.

2. The Government of the United Kingdom also marked United Nations Day by the publication of a leaflet, "Conserving Our World", for mass circulation through non-governmental organisations. The leaflet contained a section on the preservation of world peace, drawing attention to Disarmament Week.

3. On 27 October 1980 the Leader of the United kingdom Delegation to the Committee on Disarmament, Mr. David Summerhayes, addressed the First Committee of the thirty-fifth General Assembly. In his speech - on the theme of "The Need for Balanced Arms Control Measures" - he referred to the opportunity which Disarmament Week provides to improve public understanding of the dangers of the global arms race and of the efforts being made to curb it.

4. A number of non-governmental organisations concerned with arms control and disarmament matters held meetings during Disarmament Week in Britain. The forthcoming Second Special Session of the General Assembly on Disarmament provided a particular focus for discussion. Copies of the "Arms control and Disarmament" newsletter published by the Foreign and Commonwealth Office were supplied to the organisers of these meetings, as a guide to developments in the international negotiations.