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GENERAL AND COMPLETE DISARMAMENT

REVIEW OF THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE DECLARATION ON THE
STRENGTHENING OF INTERNATIONAL SECURITY

Letter dated 24 December 1982 from the Permanent Representative of
the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics to the United Nations
addressed to the Secretary-General

I have the honour to transmit the text of an Appeal from the Supreme Soviet of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics and the Central Committee of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union "To the parliaments, Governments, political parties and peoples of the world", adopted on 22 December 1982.

I request you, Sir, to have the Appeal circulated as an official document of the General Assembly under the agenda items entitled "General and complete disarmament" and "Review of the implementation of the Declaration on the Strengthening of International Security".

(Signed) O. TROYANOVSKY

ANNEX

APPEAL TO THE PARLIAMENTS, GOVERNMENTS, POLITICAL PARTIES,
AND PEOPLES OF THE WORLD

We, the representatives of all the peoples of the USSR, assembled at Moscow for the solemn observance of the sixtieth anniversary of the formation of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, on behalf of the 270 million Soviet people, send this message of peace to the parliaments, Governments, political parties, and peoples of the world.

What the finest minds of mankind have dreamed of for ages - the ending of national hostility and discord and the attainment of genuine equality and friendship between different nations - has become a reality in our country thanks to the Leninist policy pursued by the Communist Party and the Soviet Government, the implementation of the Socialist principles of national and social freedom, and the abolition of all forms of oppression and exploitation.

The USSR's foreign policy is likewise determined by the new relations between people and between nations in our Socialist State. Our ideal, our unchanging aim and our constant concern are that there should be universal peace, friendship, and co-operation among peoples. The Great October Socialist Revolution marked the beginning of a new era in history. Having shaken off social and national oppression, working people created the Land of the Soviets, a State that has affirmed fraternal friendship and relations of equality among peoples, ensuring true freedom, progress, and prosperity to all nations.

Durable, dependable, and stable peace is the first and most compelling need of all people, all nations and all mankind.

The need for peace takes on special significance today, when States possess weapons capable of destroying human civilization and all life on earth and when the threat of war, which had been made appreciably more remote in the 1970s, has again begun to intensify and international tension is growing visibly more severe.

All the efforts of States, the activities of Governments, organized political forces and all citizens of every country should now be addressed to preventing a nuclear catastrophe. Nothing is or can be more important than this.

We, the authorized representatives of the Soviet people, solemnly declare that, in keeping with the Leninist policy of peace and international co-operation, the Soviet Union will do all in its power to avert war.

We reaffirm that, in accordance with the commitment it has undertaken, the Soviet Union will not be the first to use nuclear weapons, and we call once again upon the other nuclear Powers to undertake a similar commitment.

We declare that the Soviet Union is prepared, on a basis of reciprocity with the United States of America, to freeze its arsenal of nuclear weapons.

We urge the speedy and productive completion of the Soviet-United States talks on the limitation and reduction of strategic arms and on the limitation of nuclear arms in Europe, and we urge the early conclusion of an agreement on the reduction of armed forces and armaments in Central Europe.

We propose reaching agreement without delay on a complete and general prohibition of nuclear-weapon tests, so that no more new kinds and types of nuclear weapons may be developed.

We urge the prohibition and destruction of chemical weapons.

We call for the early resumption of suspended negotiations on all other matters relating to the limitation and reduction of armaments.

We call upon the legislative bodies and Governments of all States of the world to contribute actively to the settlement of conflict situations and to the extinguishing of hotbeds of tension exclusively by political means.

We favour strengthening the United Nations and enhancing its role in consolidating international peace and security.

In furtherance of these aims, the Soviet Union is prepared to co-operate with all States of the world irrespective of their political and social systems.

All the States of the world today bear a great and historic responsibility for the present and the future.

Soviet citizens are convinced that if States and peoples join forces, they will be able to eliminate the threat of war, preserve and consolidate peace on earth and ensure the human right to life. It is for such a joining of forces that we call upon the parliaments, Governments, political parties and peoples of the world.

SUPREME SOVIET OF THE
UNION OF SOVIET SOCIALIST REPUBLICS

CENTRAL COMMITTEE OF THE
COMMUNIST PARTY OF THE
SOVIET UNION
