### Soviet International Fronts: Spotlight on the "Peace" Campaign (U)

A Research Paper

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#### A Research Paper

Information available as of March 1983 was used in this report.

This paper was prepared by

Office
of Global Issues. Comments and queries are welcome
and may be directed to the Chief,

OGI, or

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This paper was coordinated with the Directorate of Operations. (U)

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#### Soviet International Fronts: Spotlight on the "Peace" Campaign (U)

#### **Soviet International Front Organizations**

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Soviet international front organizations are a key element in the implementation of Moscow's foreign policy. Among the 10 major fronts, the best known are the World Peace Council (WPC) and the World Federation of Trade Unions (WFTU). First formed in the 1950s, the fronts have proliferated, adding regional and national affiliates. There are several hundred minor fronts controlled, some covertly, by Communist interests.

Soviet front organizations are directed and controlled by the International Department (ID) of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union, according to reliable sources and press reports. The ID, responsible for conducting CPSU foreign relations, directs the activities of the fronts to mold Western and nonaligned public opinion on highprofile international political issues.

The fronts are giving priority in their 1983 programs to Soviet disarmament initiatives. The World Peace Council, the leading front and the coordinator of a large share of all front activities, has published the following agenda for 1983:

- Oppose deployment of Pershing II and cruise missiles to Western Europe.
- Accuse the United States of making preparations for a protracted nuclear war through a massive arms buildup of the MX, Trident, and other weapon systems
- Support and encourage the nuclear freeze movement in the United States.
- Obtain support for Soviet disarmament proposals through participation in UN deliberations on world disarmament.
- Promote nuclear-free zones for the Balkans, the Baltic region, and the Indian Ocean.

Other major Soviet fronts have targeted selected professions and are organized to attract and influence lawyers, journalists, scientific workers, trade union members, women, and youth. All these groups have similar peace movement agendas in 1983.

#### The 1983 "Peace" Campaign

Reports from reliable sources indicate that Soviet international front organizations and their affiliates in Western Europe are well advanced in preparing for mass demonstrations and propaganda in 1983 to oppose US deployment of intermediate-range nuclear forces (INF). The Soviets sponsored two conferences in January—one in Moscow, the other in Vienna—to rally support for Soviet peace and disarmament initiatives. The Women's International League for Peace

and Freedom, which has cooperated in the past with the World Peace Council, held a demonstration in Brussels in March to protest deployment of Pershing II and cruise missiles. The WPC itself is giving priority to preparations for the World Peace Assembly scheduled for Prague in June.

priority to preparations for the World Peace Assembly scheduled for Prague in June.

The CPSU Central Committee has instructed its departments and Soviet embassies to collect informa-

The CPSU Central Committee has instructed its departments and Soviet embassies to collect information to be used in the current propaganda battle over INF. In the West European countries where INF missiles are to be based, Soviet front affiliates have been secondary factors in the peace movement, but the Soviets continue to urge them toward greater activity. There is a genuine grass-roots concern among local populations on INF deployments, and many of these concerns can be exploited by the front groups.

One of Moscow's principal aims is to discredit the positions of Western peace movements. The Soviet Peace Committee—an arm of the International Department of the CPSU—has requested the front organizations to initiate a campaign against the Brussels-based European Nuclear Disarmament (END) movement. END is critical of the defense postures of both the Warsaw Pact and NATO, opposes the current regime in Poland, and wants to reopen the East-West pacts of the 1970s recognizing the division of Germany. Yuri Zhukov, Soviet Peace Committee chairman, recently sent a letter (which has since been published in the West European press) to leading personalities in other West European peace movements in a direct attempt to discredit END. He asserted that END includes Eastern Bloc emigres who seek to denigrate Soviet domestic and foreign policies. Zhukov's tactics have been ineffective, however, and, in boosting END's reputation for independence, may enhance the organization's prestige.

The global scope of Moscow's anti-INF campaign is apparent in the WPC's preparations for conferences outside Europe. The World Peace Council and its local affiliates in Mexico and Nicaragua held conferences in those two countries during March and April. These conferences not only promoted Soviet political objectives in Central America but also publicized Soviet disarmament initiatives in Europe. The two meetings were part of the events leading up to the WPC's top-priority project for 1983, the Prague World Peace Assembly. The rhetoric and resolutions emanating from Mexico City and Managua included emphasis on the danger of nuclear war resulting from US deployment of Pershing II and cruise missiles in

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(b)(3)	Europe. The WPC probably is hoping to engage in a worldwide effort similar to its campaign in 1977-78 to ban the neutron bomb	WPC's influence. It has complained that the WPC schedules international conclaves in rapid succession, leaving little time for adequate preparation or follow-up. Chandra has been criticized for his "one-man"	•
	In countries where there is no pronounced indigenous peace movement and where a nonruling Communist	shows" and underutilizing his 26 vice presidents.	(b)(3)
	party is not strenuously promoting Soviet disarmament initiatives, Soviet fronts tend to be ineffective. For instance, the peace movement in Italy, an INF-basing country, is in disarray at the moment. The Italian Communist Party is avoiding a close associa-	Soviet affiliates of the major fronts serve as channels for ID direction and control. In the case of the WFTU, currently headed by Hungarian Sandor Gaspar, reliable sources relate that the ID provides policy direction and the Soviet All Union Central	
(b)(3)	tion with the peace fronts in order to maintain broad voter appeal. The Communist Party of France, according to a generally reliable source, will give moral support to the French peace movement but will not divert resources from local election efforts.	Council of Trade Unions (AUCCTU) exercises detailed control. The AUCCTU is directly involved in WFTU regional and national operations, its training schools, and its publications. AUCCTU personnel sit on the WFTU general council, executive bureau, and	
(b)(3)	Soviet Control  Moscow exercises administrative and financial control of the fronts through Soviet personnel at front head- quarters and Soviet affiliates within the front mem-	secretariat. According to a defector, the Soviet Afro-Asian Solidarity Committee is a clearinghouse for funds going to the Afro-Asian People's Solidarity Organization (AAPSO), and works directly with the ID Third World departments in bringing officials of front groups and national liberation movements to	
	berships. According to several reliable sources, Aleksandr Lebedev administered the World Peace Council and controlled its finances during his term in the late 1970s as a member of the WPC Secretariat. We believe that Tair Tairov, his successor, now performs these functions. Tairov's superior is Oleg Kharkhardin, first deputy chairman of the Soviet Peace Committee in Moscow and general secretary of the International Liaison Forum of Peace Forces. Kharkhardin is in the ID and presumably is subordinate to ID	Moscow.  We estimate, on the basis of partial budgets and reliable sources, that the major fronts cost the Soviets \$60-70 million in hard currency annually. The WPC receives at least half of these funds. Money is disbursed from the Soviet Peace Fund to the WPC directly. The WPC's principal expenditures go to sponsoring conferences, assemblies, and seminars to promote its action program.	(b)(3)
(b)(3)	Deputy Chief Vitaly Shaposhnikov and Section Chief Yuri Kharmalov, the two officials responsible for the WPC. Romesh Chandra of India, currently President of the WPC, is apparently a protege of Kharkhardin.	Soviet fronts are relatively well-heeled organizations by "socialist" standards. The WPC plans at least eight conferences in 1983 as well as attendance at United Nations meetings and trips to the Soviet Union by WPC officials. Aeroflot airfare and accom-	(b)(3)
	The Soviet Peace Committee has on occasion criticized the WPC for neglecting grass-roots work with national affiliates and peace movements, the mass base which the Soviets regard as the source of the	odations at front conferences are provided to delegations, an attractive inducement for participation.	(b)(3)

Romesh Chandra (India), President of the World Peace Council. A master at political maneuvering and lobbying, he has promoted Soviet global political objectives through the WPC. He cooperates closely with the Soviets, and has survived several periods of apparent disfavor. Chandra, 63, is a journalist by training. His wife, Perin, is general secretary of the All India Peace and Solidarity Organization, an affiliate of AAPSO, also a Soviet



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Vitaly Sergeyevich Shaposhnikov (USSR), a Deputy Chief of the International Department of the CPSU Central Committee. He has primary responsibilities for CPSU relations with Communist parties of Scandinavia, and appears to have a secondary area of responsibility for Latin America and Southern Europe. Shaposhnikov is a member of the World Peace Council's Presidential Committee. He plays a major role in Soviet interaction with the West European peace movement.



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Sandor Gaspar (Hungary), President of the World Federation of Trade Unions (WFTU). Member of the Hungarian Socialist Workers (Communist) Party Politburo and General Secretary of the Hungarian National Trade Union Council. He is also a member of the Presidential Council of Hungary, a ceremonial state body. In 1977 he was awarded a medal of the Soviet Order of the October Revolution.



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#### **Major Soviet Front Organizations**

#### **World Peace Council**

Headquarters: Helsinki. President: Romesh Chandra of India.

Over 135 affiliates; publishes New Perspectives and Peace Courier; leads the other fronts and coordinates peace agendas among them.

#### World Federation of Trade Unions

Headquarters: Prague. President: Sandor Gaspar of Hungary.

90 affiliates; publishes World Trade Union Movement; has training schools in the USSR, Bulgaria, East Germany, Guinea, and Cuba; consists of 11 Trade Union Internationals organized along craft or trade lines.

#### Afro-Asian People's Solidarity Organization

Headquarters: Cairo. President: Abdel Rahman Al-Sharkawi of Egypt.

Affiliated with 90 solidarity committees and liberation movements; publishes Solidarity; has an Afro-Asian Development Center in Baghdad and information centers in Geneva, Nicosia, and Hanoi.

#### World Federation of Democratic Youth

Headquarters: Budapest. President: Walid Masri of Lebanon. 210 affiliates; publishes World Youth and WFDY News.

#### International Union of Students

Headquarters: Prague. President: Miroslav Stepan of Czechoslovakia.

118 affiliates; publishes World Student News.

#### Women's International Democratic Federation

Headquarters: East Berlin. President: Frieda Brown of Australia.

129 affiliates; publishes Women of the Whole World; has 11 training centers for women in the Middle East, Africa, and Latin America.

#### International Organization of Journalists

Headquarters: Prague. President: Kaarle Nordenstreng of Finland.

114 affiliates; publishes Democratic Journalists.

#### **Christian Peace Conference**

Headquarters: Prague. President: Karoly Toth of Hungary.

86 affiliates; publishes Christian Peace Conference; has regional affiliates for Asia, Africa, and Latin America.

#### World Federation of Scientific Workers

Headquarters: London and Lyon. President: Pierre Biquard of France.

Publishes Scientific World; regional centers in Algiers, New Delhi, and East Berlin.

#### International Association of Democratic Lawyers

Headquarters: Brussels. President: Joe Nordmann of France.

64 affiliates; publishes Review of Contemporary Law.

Most of these fronts have single-issue subsidiary commissions and committees. Nearly all are represented on the Presidential Committee of the World Peace Council. The Afro-Asian Women's Organization, the Arab People's Congress, the Asian Buddhist Conference for Peace, the Berlin Conference of European Catholics, and the International Confederation of Arab Trade Unions also have representatives on the Presidential Committee.

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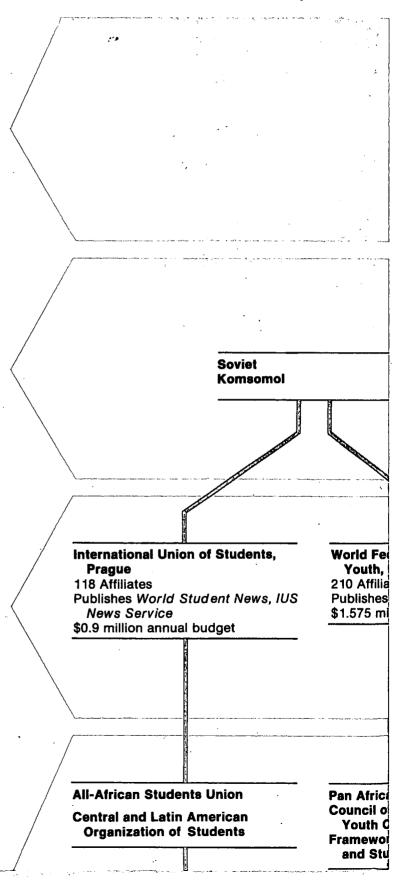
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Moscow control

Soviet affiliates

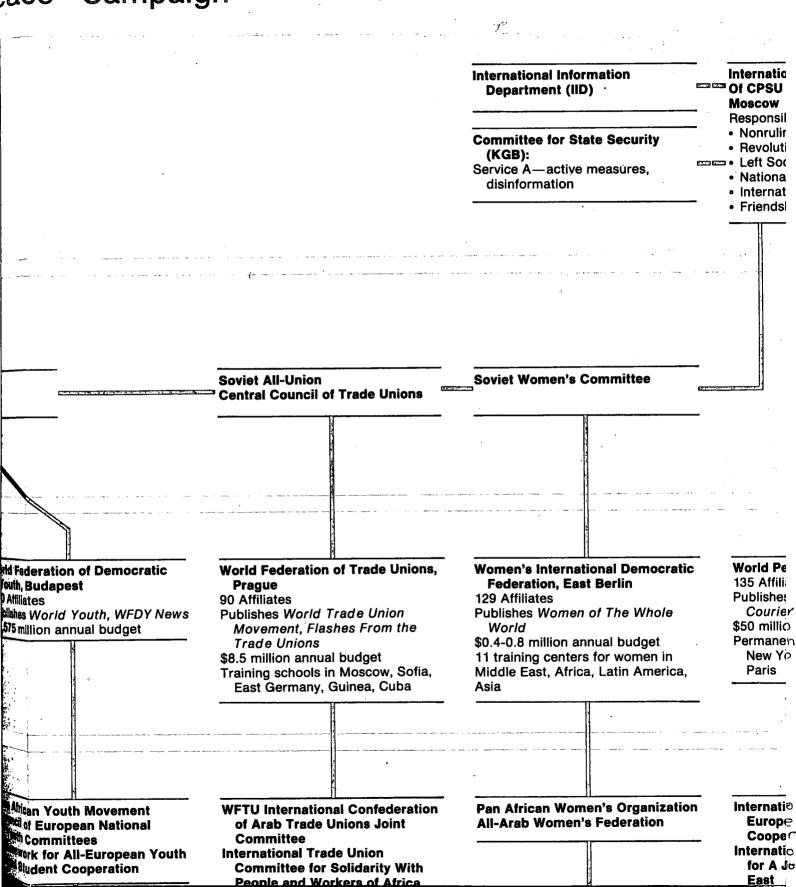
Ten major fronts



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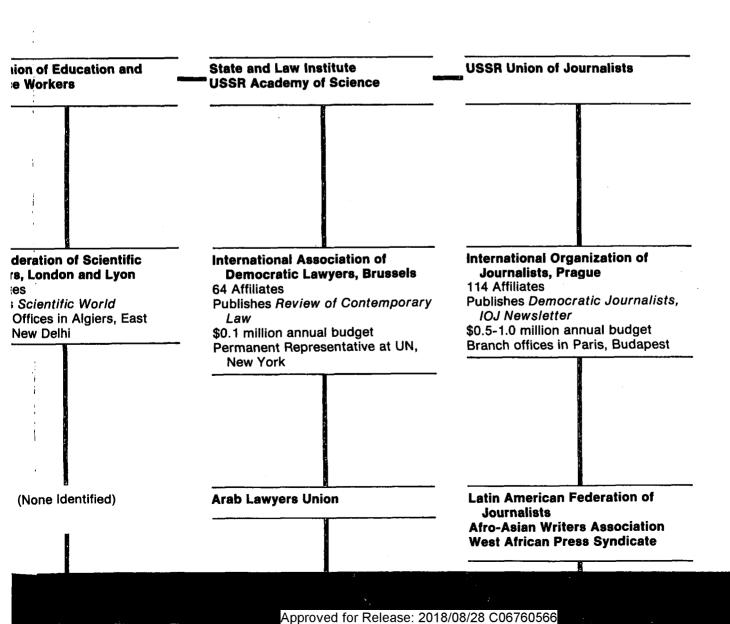
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 $, \ \mathcal{T}^{\circ}$ onal Department (ID) **Soviet Committee For Defense of Novosti Press Agency** Central Committee, Peace, Moscow =TASS **Soviet Peace Fund** Izvestia ble for CPSU relations with: Aeroflot ng Communist Parties Soviet Life (Published in ionary Democratic Parties Washington, D.C.) cialists New Times I Liberation Movements World Marxist Review: ional Fronts Sponsors Problems of Peace and hip Societies **Democratic Organizations** Commission Soviet Committee for Solidarity **USSR Union** with Asian and African Countries Science W ace Council, Helsinki Christian Peace Conference, Afro-Asian People's Solidarity World Federal Prague Organization, Cairo Workers, Lo New Perspectives, Peace 86 Affiliates 33 Affiliates Publishes Christian Peace 91 Affiliates, Solidarity Committees Publishes Sci€ n'annual budget Conference and Liberation Movements Regional Office t Representatives at UN, Regional Offices for Middle East, Publishes Solidarity Berlin, New rk and Geneva; UNESCO, Africa, Latin America \$1.25 million annual budget Development center in Baghdad Information centers in Geneva, Nicosia, Hanoi hal Committee for **Conference of European Churches** Afro-Asian, Latin American (Non an Security and **Ali-African Church Conference** Solidarity People's Oganization ation, Brussels Asian Buddhist Conference for nal Campaign Committee **Peace** st Peace in The Middle **Asian Christian Peace Conference** Approved for Release: 2018/08/28 C06760566



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#### Regional organizations

National affiliates represented with officers on front executive committees and secretariats



Lebanon
Argentina (Chile (2)
Vietnam
India
Sudan (2)
North Kore
Soviet Unic
Cuba
Hungary
Sierra Leol
Colombia (South Yem
Italy
Iraq

National Union of Ghana Students, Accra African Youth Command, Accra General Union of Palestinian Students, Beirut

Union of P
Internation
Friendsh
Internation
Exchang
Internation
Children
Moveme
Youth Wor

## Fronts of fronts; subsidiary organizations <sup>b</sup>

<sup>a</sup> Numbers in parentheses indicate the number of representatives to the front executive committees and secretariats.

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<sup>b</sup>Dotted line indicates indirect relationship or control.

Internation
Committ
Leisure
Internation
Solidarit
Workers
Internation
Committ
People &
Internation
Committ
Disarma

