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Here's Balance Sheet On U. S. -Soviet Relations

Two questions frequently asked of American diplomatic officials concerning the overshadowing issue of Russo-American relations are these:

What, concretely, has the United States done to show its real desire to cooperate with the Soviet Union? What, in acts rather than words, has been the Russian response to cooperate with America?

The following is a listing of official acts by both governments:

I. Summary of acts from United States side evidencing desire for cooperation with Soviet Union.

A. War aid:

1. Military and civilian supplies to a value of over \$11,000,000,000 were supplied the Soviet Union under lend-lease.

2. Military and technological information was furnished through United States military mission in Moscow.

3. Substantial medical supplies and civilian goods were sent to Soviet Union by American agencies such as Red Cross and Russian War Relief.

B. Postwar aid:

1. UNRRA supplies to the value of \$250,000,000 were sent to Byelorussia and the Ukraine. Seventy-two per cent of the cost of the UNRRA program was borne by the United States.

2. The United States was prepared to discuss extension of large credit to Soviet Government to assist in postwar reconstruction.

C. Decisions made at meetings of heads of states:

1. At Yalta:

a. United States agreed to cession of Kurile Islands and southern Sakhalin to U. S. S. R.

b. United States agreed to recognize independence of Outer Mongolia.

c. United States agreed to recognize paramount Soviet interests in Dairen, Port Arthur, and the Manchurian railways.

d. United States agreed to fixing of Curzon Line as western border of Soviet Union, thereby incorporating in Soviet Union a sizable area of prewar Polish territory.

e. United States agreed to participation of Byelorussia and Ukraine in United Nations thereby giving Soviet Union three votes.

f. Agreement was reached with Soviet Government for exchange of nationals liberated by Soviet and American armed forces.

2. At Potsdam:

a. United States agreed to Soviet annexation of northern portion of East Prussia.

b. United States agreed to provisional Polish administration of eastern Germany.

c. United States agreed that postwar conditions required modification of Monreux Convention on the Dardanelles.

d. Recognition was given to Soviet claims for preferential reparations from western Germany.

D. Peace treaties:

1. Concessions were made to Soviet claims for reparations from Italy.

2. Compromises were made with Soviet and Yugoslav viewpoints on boundaries and administration of Trieste.

3. Soviet Union was offered 25-year mutual guaranty pact against Japanese and German aggression. Period of proposed agreement was later extended to 40 years at Soviet suggestion.

4. Secretary of State Byrnes publicly recognized special security interests of U. S. S. R. in Central and Eastern Europe.

E. United Nations:

1. United States has displayed considerable patience with Soviet use of veto in Security Council.

2. Generous United States offer on atomic energy is unprecedented in world history.

F. International Organizations:

United States has advocated Soviet participation in all specialized international organizations and has made direct efforts to obtain Soviet participation.

G. Cultural:

United States has constantly tried to arrange for the exchange of publications, natural scientists, artists, students, etc. between United States and Soviet Union.

H. Civil Aviation:

United States has sought, persistently to negotiate agreement with Soviet Union for reciprocal civil air traffic between the two countries.

II. Soviet response to United States efforts toward cooperation.

A. War aid:

1. Slow Soviet recognition of extent and value of lend-lease aid and

long delay in agreeing to begin negotiations for a settlement.

2. Lack of reciprocity in exchange of military and technological information.

3. Little publicity given in Soviet Union to nongovernmental aid received from United States.

B. Postwar aid:

1. Refusal of Soviet Government to discuss settlement of outstanding economic questions between the two countries in connection with credit negotiations. Constant reiteration that United States was threatened by imminent economic crisis which would oblige it to grant large credits to Russian market.

C. Political and territorial questions:

1. Failure of Soviet Government to observe Yalta commitments for free elections in Poland, Bulgaria, and Romania.

2. Encouragement by Soviet Union of obstructionism and truculence in Governments of Poland, Romania, Bulgaria, and Yugoslavia.

3. Non-cooperation by Soviet Union in implementing occupation policies in Germany, Austria, and Korea.

4. Widespread Soviet removals from eastern Europe, Manchuria, and Korea, thereby seriously interfering with resumption of industrial production.

5. Obstructionist Soviet tactics in negotiations for Italian and Balkan peace treaties in meetings of both deputies and foreign ministers. Negotiations on those treaties extended from September, 1945, to end of 1946.

Soviet Union likewise has delayed consideration of proposed guaranty pact against German and Japanese aggression.

6. Soviet Union has refused to agree to Anglo-American plans for organization of Germany as an economic unit, thereby preventing a more rapid return to a self-sustaining German economy, and the recovery of Europe.

7. The Soviet has rejected overtures directed toward an agreement on international civil aviation.

8. Freedom of navigation on the Danube has not been restored because of Soviet opposition.

9. Soviets refused to permit access by American repatriation teams to American citizens liberated by Soviet armed forces. For their part, the Soviets have insisted strenuously that all Soviet citizens, including persons coming from areas incorporated into Soviet Union since outbreak of war, be turned over forcibly to Soviet repatriation authorities regardless of their individual desires.

D. United Nations:

1. Soviets have used United Nations as an instrument for political maneuvering and propaganda purposes.

2. Soviet attitude has hampered the work of Military Staff Committee.

3. As a result of Soviet tactics, U. N. has made little progress for a year in solving problem of control of atomic energy.

4. On 10 occasions, Soviets have utilized veto in Security Council to prevent U. N. action. These occurred four times regarding Spain, three times concerning admission of new members, and once each regarding the Syrian and Lebanon case, the proposal for a commission of investigation in Greece, and the British charges against Albania in the matter of mining the Corfu Channel.

E. Propaganda:

Since the war ended, Soviet propaganda, both for internal consumption and as distributed through controlled outlets around the world, has been violently and abusively anti-American. United States is pictured as imperialistic, reactionary, fascist and striving for world domination. United States Government is alleged to be in hands of small group aiming at imposing its will on world by force and as being entirely out of step with desires and aspirations of American people.

F. Cultural:

United States efforts for cultural exchanges have not been reciprocated. On the contrary, Soviet Government has made strenuous efforts to further isolate Soviet people from any cultural contact with outside world except such as occurs under auspices of Soviet Government agencies.

Judge: "Mr. District Attorney, why do you bring this defendant before me when he says his only crime is that he robbed his kid brother's bank?"

District Attorney: "Your Honor, he forgot to explain that his kid brother is cashier of the First National Bank."

Farmville Negro Band Wins Sectional Contest

At the East Carolina Band Contest, staged at Tarboro by the state convention of Independent, Benovolent and Protective Order of Elks of the World and concluded Thursday, May 22, the Farmville Negro Band was awarded first place.

As far as could be learned, every Negro band in the eastern division of the state was present and participated. There was music galore and the thousands of people who thronged the streets and band stand showed the interest that had been taken in the occasion.

However, the most impressive feature of the entire session was the oratorical contest staged by the educational department. There were 12 contestants representing every part of the state, all highly trained in the modern arts of persuasion and technique of the stage. These were contending for the \$1,000 scholarship offered annually by the grand lodge. Carlene Barfield represented the local lodge and made a fine showing but lost to the Charlotte representative.

During this program, statistics were produced to show that during the quarter century life of this department, it had spent more than \$500,000 for the education of worthy Negro boys and girls. At this time the National Grand Order has 36 youths in colleges scattered over the country. These facts may serve as an eye opener to those who think the Elk Lodge is only for fun and frolic.

JUNE 30 DEADLINE FOR AMPUTEES TO FILE FOR CARS

Arthur E. Corey, Pitt county service officer, advises that World War II amputees have no later than June 30 to make application for automobiles. Veterans who lost use of one or both lower extremities should make application to the Veterans Administration on an application blank prepared especially for this purpose.

Veterans eligible for automobiles should get in touch with the service officer in their home county if they desire to make application for one of the cars.

RESOLUTION OF RESPECT

WHEREAS: Our esteemed friend and fellow Rotarian, Carl W. Blackwood, has departed this life; therefore, be it resolved that the Farmville Rotary Club has lost a valuable member, a man whose service was truly, that above self.

Resolved further, that the Farmville Rotary Club will continue to cherish his memory as a true friend, and hereby extends to his wife, Nell, and his son, Carl, Jr., a most heartfelt sympathy in their hours of bereavement.

FARMVILLE ROTARY CLUB
Resolutions Committee:
Ed Nash Warren,
Manly Liles,
Walter E. Jones.

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