

Title: PEACE AND ENERGY (USSR, USA, Sweden, Canada and England) by
Prof V. Golubtsov

Source: Literaturnaya Gazeta, No 96, 17 October 1950

SECRET

SECRET

Peace and Atomic Energy

by Prof V. Golubtsov

I recently came across the following just statement: "... We can control atomic energy, and the rate of its production and utilization depends mainly on the acting social stimuli."

This is a quotation from the book Atomic Energy and Society, recently translated into Russian. It is stated in the book that in the United States of America there are no social stimuli which would promote the mastering of atomic energy for peaceful purposes or in the interests of the people. The author, James Allen, a progressive American economist, bases his work only on facts and on official materials. It becomes all the more clear to the reader what is actually hindering the peaceful utilization of atomic energy in America, and one gains a clearer view of the wolfish face of the transoceanic bosses of atomic industry and science.

James Allen states that "current experiments for the use of atomic energy for peaceful purposes in the United States are being made on a pitifully small scale and are progressing at a snail's pace, as compared with the efforts spent on the production and improvement of atomic bombs, for which purpose all available resources of raw material and the best scientists and technicians are being used. It is difficult to find anywhere else, except

-1-

SECRET

SECRET

in the United States atomic industry in its present state, such a vivid example of the degeneration of science and the suppression of a people's efforts to improve living conditions through the help of new discoveries."

In this connection, we are reminded of the 4th World Congress on Power Engineering, which took place in London in July of this year, and which I attended as a member of the Soviet delegation. Among other questions discussed at the congress were three reports on the peaceful utilization of atomic energy. These reports were submitted by Sweden, Canada and the United States.

While the Swedish delegation came to the conclusion that atomic energy was not profitable and too expensive for peaceful purposes, and the Canadians stated that they were just beginning to do research in this field, the American scientists tried to determine whether this enterprise would pay commercially (business above all!) and stated directly: it is profitable to use ^{not} atomic energy as such, but its waste products remaining after the production of atomic bombs.

In other words, the American delegation declared at this scientific congress: if we were not preparing for a terrible destructive war and if we were not producing bombs of enormous power (assuming, of course, that these bombs are to be used to answer their purpose - a bomb is a bomb!), there would be no profit in using atomic energy in peacetime. It is too expensive!

-2-

SECRET

SECRET

That would be the same as heating a stove with mahogany. It is much more profitable to use the atomic forces for military purposes.

These statements are based on frankly cannibalistic arguments. Thus, for example, the American atomic scientist Lawrence R. Hafstad has calculated the effectiveness of atomic energy from the standpoint of the value of property which can be destroyed by an atomic bomb. The huge losses connected therewith made this learned gangster draw the conclusion that the production of atomic energy for military purposes was undoubtedly superior to production for peacetime purposes.

American monopolists are not in the least interested in the latter pursuit. As a matter of fact, the wide utilization of atomic energy could disturb the welfare of a large number of monopolies; there would be a dangerous possibility that the capital equipment of electric power stations and other industrial enterprises might become obsolete, it might be unprofitable in many cases to use coal and petroleum as fuel, a large amount of transport would be eliminated, etc. Capitalism is consciously retarding the development of productive forces, when the latter can be directed towards peaceful aims.

In discussing the above mentioned reports, we pointed out the narrowmindedness and incorrectness of the question formulated by the Swedes in regard to the peaceful utilization of atomic energy. Their report discusses only the methods of producing electric energy, and that only on the basis of existing electric power stations, merely replacing steam boilers by boilers operating on

-5-

SECRET

SECRET

atomic energy. It is assumed that the same production cycle will remain in force as before and the same technique will be used, with the exception of the method of steam production.

If we place a motor on a tarantass, we can make the tarantass move, but this will not change it into an automobile and it is doubtful whether the speed attained would exceed the pace of a dray horse.

Soviet scientists have found other technological systems and other technical possibilities for a peaceful utilization of atomic energy, transforming the latter directly into heat or into electricity. Soviet science is far ahead of other countries in the field of atomic power engineering. We see the solution of the problem in a complete utilization of atomic energy for peaceful purposes.

Thus, it becomes clear that the calculations of the learned lackeys of imperialism regarding the unsuitability of using atomic energy in peacetime production are merely a crude form of manipulation, intended to convince innocent people of the necessity of war preparations and to justify the intensified production of superbombs.

Atomic scientists are afraid of the truth, which includes scientific truth. Therefore it is understandable that they wish to weaken the effect of our success in all branches of science. This is the reason why foreign imperialistic newspapers try ^{ied} to

SECRET

SECRET

ignore or to discredit the statements of USSR Foreign Minister A. Ya. Vyshinskiy, which he made last year at the United Nations General Assembly:

"We have placed atomic energy in the service of the great tasks of peaceful construction; we want to use atomic energy ~~for~~ to blast ~~the mountains, change the course of rivers,~~ irrigate deserts, and open up new living areas in regions formerly inaccessible to mankind..."

For us, atomic energy is a means of improving the life of millions; for them, it is a new instrument of mass destruction, a new deadly weapon. And of course, as long as science remains in the service of ~~exploitation~~ the capital, no progress will be made in any field of peaceful construction.

We could cite numerous examples to confirm the above statement. Thus, at the Power Engineering Congress, we became familiar with the theories and construction of gas turbines in foreign countries. We found nothing new from the standpoint of ordinary power engineering or the use of these turbines in stationary installations, but we were able to establish that all scientific thinking in this field was directed towards the service of war, that is, the use of gas turbines in military aviation and by armored troops.

One of the basic problems of Soviet power engineering is the construction of gas turbines for peaceful purposes; such turbines are to operate not on liquid or gas fuel (this problem may be

SECRET

SECRET

considered as practically solved), but on solid fuel. From what we gathered after examining the work of foreign scientists, we are also far ahead of capitalistic countries in this particular field of power engineering.

But there is one branch of power engineering in which, as far as natural resources are concerned, the Soviet Union is approximately equal with the United States of America. I am speaking of hydroelectric power engineering. It is well known that during the war large-scale construction of electric power stations ^{started} was ~~interrupted~~ by the Americans. But the war came to an end, and many of the plans remained on paper; others had been partially put into practice, and construction was halted. There is sufficient energy available in America for the production of atomic bombs, but of course no one thinks about the welfare of the people. The main thing is profit.

For the sake of profits, monopolies forced the government to cease construction work. The production of generators for tanks is much more profitable than the production of standard electrical machinery and generators, which do not yield sufficiently high dividends.

In addition, cheap hydroelectric power provides too much competition for electric power produced by steam-electric power stations which are controlled by powerful concerns. We are well acquainted with the sad, long story of sabotaging by the Morgan

-6-

SECRET

SECRET

group in connection with the construction of hydroelectric power stations on the St. Lawrence River. The American people never got their cheap electric power.

The gigantic hydroelectric power stations now being built on the Volga, Amu-Dar'ya, Dnepr and other rivers of our country, will greatly expand the use of electricity in national economy. We are planning widespread electrification of agriculture, such as electrical plowing, irrigation with the help of electricity, electrical machinery for harvesting and for performing most of the other types of work on the farms and in everyday life. In creating hydroelectric power stations, we do not limit ourselves merely to the production of energy. All our new power projects will provide for the irrigation of large areas, they will improve navigating conditions, and will further the development of the fish industry. All of this reveals the fundamental difference between our way of life and that of the so-called western "democracies."

All American hydroelectric power stations are built only to produce electric power. No effort has been made to plan their construction so as to meet other purposes, as for instance, the irrigation of arid regions. The bosses are not interested in this matter. England calls itself a country of complete electrification. It is true that many English families have electric vacuum cleaners, teapots, coffeepots, etc. However,

-7-

SECRET

SECRET

electricity is hardly used at all in agriculture. And we can see why: the small, scattered fields and small farmsteads do not make this possible.

The economy of bourgeois countries is not adapted to a peaceful life. The monopolies crave for war, which is beneficial to profits. Our peaceful construction frightens and maddens them; they are alarmed at the fact that the people of all countries can see our real success and the realization of our peaceful plans. We could observe how enviously we were regarded by the honest scientists of England, France, America and Sweden, as we, the Soviet scientists, are currently solving problems which not a single capitalistic country is able to cope with. We were questioned regarding our plans for transmitting power of 400,000 volts over enormous distances, our principles and technical plans for creating a single high-voltage network which is to unite all electric power systems of the European USSR, and many other problems which had never been solved before.

The problems which we are handling successfully at this time are so tempting for these progressive scientists, in whose countries there are still large numbers of disconnected electric networks; in America there are power systems which are obliged to build auxiliary steam-electric power stations, while the hydroelectric power stations of other systems are not making full use of their turbines.

-8-

SECRET

SECRET

Power engineering in bourgeois countries is completely in the hands of industrialists and bankers. Its purpose is to serve war and to produce profits. This is the reason for the one-sided development^{of}/power engineering science in foreign countries and its clearly militaristic character. Progressive people in all the world are beginning to understand more clearly on which side they can find truth and ~~win~~ to whom the future belongs. James Allen, whom I quoted above, has estimated the development of science in this way: science, he says, "can attain its development only under socialism, as only under this social order socialistic planning is possible, which in turn will permit the utilization of productive forces for the welfare of the people."

Increasing numbers of scientists in foreign countries are beginning to understand this and have joined the ranks of the partisans of peace. The development of science and culture in the Soviet Union, the country of victorious socialism, is proof of the justice of our cause, the cause of peace and happiness of all peoples.

- END -

SECRET

-9-