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Misc. Conferences: UN - United Auto Workers Symposium (13 June 1970)

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United Nations, N.Y.

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Note No. 3607

13 June 1970

NOTE TO CORRESPONDENTS

An International Symposium on the Impact of Urbanization on Man's Environment opened at United Nations Headquarters, New York, today, and will be resumed on Monday, 15 June, at the UAW Family Education Center in Onaway, Michigan.

Philippe de Seynes, Under-Secretary-General for Economic and Social Affairs, and Victor Reuther, Director of the International Department of the United Auto Workers (UAW), made opening statements at the meeting.

The Symposium is being sponsored by the United Nations jointly with UAW, and will last through 20 June. At the seven-day meeting, Government officials, international experts, industrialists and trade union representatives will review a number of central issues affecting human environment as a result of urbanization and growth of urban settlements throughout the world.

Twenty-five of the participants were invited by the United Nations from some 20 countries of Africa, Asia, Middle East, Latin America, North America and Europe. Five of these are consultants invited to prepare papers on substantive agenda items. In addition, 10 leading world trade union leaders were invited by UAW.

About 25 of the participants attended the opening meeting.

Work Programme

According to a work programme, announced at the meeting, all participants will leave New York at 10 a.m. on Sunday, 14 June, by chartered plane for Onaway, Michigan, where they will be welcomed by Leonard Woodcock, President of UAW.

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The Symposium will begin its substantive work there on Monday, 15 June, when it will hold two plenary sessions, one beginning at 9 a.m. and the second at 2 p.m. At the morning meeting, it will hear a paper by Robert Crooks, Director of the United Nations Centre for Housing, Building and Planning, on "Major Trends in World Urbanization and their Environmental Implications".

The Symposium will also establish two main committees: one will prepare a draft of Conference Statement and Conclusions; and the other will prepare a Draft Statement on Human Settlements which the Symposium will adopt for submission to the 1972 United Nations Conference on the Human Environment.

The Symposium will hold its closing meeting at United Nations Headquarters, New York, on Friday, 19 June.

Under other work programme arrangements, announced at the opening meeting subject to revision as appropriate, the Symposium will hold two plenary sessions in Onaway on Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday, 16, 17 and 18 June.

Tuesday morning, it will begin discussion of a paper on "National Settlement Policies: Experience in a Centrally Planned Economy". Tuesday afternoon, it will begin discussion of a paper on "National Settlement Policies: Experience in an Industrially Developed Country".

The paper which will form the basis of its discussion in the morning of Wednesday is on "National Settlement Policies: Experience in a Developing Country". The discussion in the afternoon will be based on a paper on "Ecological Aspects of the Human Environment".

Thursday morning, the Symposium will begin discussion of a paper on "The Human Stake in Environmental Improvement", and of a paper on "Approaches to Comprehensive Planning for the Human Environment" in the afternoon of the same day.



## A Compromise Is Reached in Matter Of Soviet Labor Leader Denied Visa

By Robert Estabrook  
Washington Post Staff Writer

UNITED NATIONS, June 5—Question: What do the planners of a U.N.-sponsored conference in Onaway, Mich., do when the United States declines to grant a visa to a Soviet trade union official?

Answer: They transfer the opening session to U.N. buildings in New York, where the United States is required under the headquarters agreement with the

United Nations to grant visas to persons invited to U.N. functions.

Second question: How does the United States save face in light of the longtime State Department assurance to AFL-CIO President George Meany that no visas will be granted to Soviet trade union officials whom he does not regard as bona-fide labor leaders?

Answer: It accepts a tacit understanding that the Soviet official, initially invited

by the United Auto Workers to the Onaway Conference on the Human Environment, is on a world tour and would not attend anyhow.

Result: The U.N. announced today that the jointly-sponsored conference on the impact of urbanization of man's environment will open here a day early, on Saturday morning, July 13, with some 40 participants from around the world now invited directly by the U.N.



UNITED NATIONS

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5 June 1970

NOTE TO CORRESPONDENTS

The United Nations and the United Auto Workers Union will co-sponsor an international symposium on The Impact of Urbanization on Man's Environment. Those attending will include experts from developed and developing countries, internationally prominent labour leaders, consultants who have prepared background papers for the meeting, and a number of other participants including students.

All participants have been invited by the United Nations. The Symposium will be held at United Nations Headquarters. It will be officially opened on Saturday, 13 June 1970 at 10:30 a.m. The first working session will be held on Saturday afternoon.

The participants will fly to Michigan on Sunday morning at 10:00 for a field trip to the United Auto Workers Family Education Center, a unique educational facility recently completed by the union, and will hold sessions there on Monday and Tuesday. On Wednesday the group returns to United Nations Headquarters to continue meeting throughout the week. The concluding session will take place Friday afternoon, June 19.

Among the objectives of the Symposium are to prepare recommendations covering a wide range of urban environmental impacts, and to draw up preliminary drafts of a future United Nations declaration on the problems of human settlements which can be offered to the 1972 United Nations Conference in Stockholm.

A preliminary announcement was made concerning this Symposium at a press conference held on Tuesday, 26 May.

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