



DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS OF RUSSIA WITH CHINA AND JAPAN AT THE BEGINNING OF THE 19TH CENTURY

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Annotation: At the beginning of the 19th century, Russia made many successful foreign policy actions. Through his diplomacy with surrounding countries, he first approached them and then colonized them all at once. Relations with Japan and China are of particular importance in such processes. Since relations with Japan were severed due to the intervention of England and the United States in the affairs of the Far East, this led to a rapprochement with China and the formation of an alliance. This topic provides valuable information about Russian diplomacy with China and Japan at the beginning of the 19th century.

Key words: Russian diplomacy, Far East, Japan, China, foreign policy, SyrDarya and Siberian military lines, international isolation.

Introduction

Even in the 19th century, Russia actively continued the policy of expanding the territory of the empire and exerting its influence on the surrounding countries, which began from the time of Peter I. In 1801, according to the manifesto of Emperor Alexander I, Georgia was annexed to Russia and the ruling Bagration dynasty was deposed. In 1803-1804, the entire territory of Georgia was included in the Russian Empire. The annexation of Georgia brought Russia into conflict with Iran and the Ottoman Empire. As a result of the war between Russia and Iran in 1804, the main part of Azerbaijan was annexed to Russia in 1804-1806. The war ended in 1813 with Iran's recognition of the part of Azerbaijan annexed to Russia. In addition, Russia also acquired the right to have warships in the Caspian Sea.

Main Part

In 1806, a war broke out between the Ottoman Empire and Russia. In the same year, Russian troops occupied Moldavia and Wallachia. In 1812, a peace treaty was signed in Bucharest, according to which the eastern part of Moldavia was annexed to Russia, and autonomy was given to Serbia. The western part of Moldavia remained a vassal principality of the Ottomans. One of the main reasons for Russia's truce was the worsening of the situation in



Europe, and the start of Napoleon's wars of conquest. After the defeat of the Napoleonic Empire, Russia's position in Europe increased and it had the opportunity to expand its territory at the expense of European countries. In 1832, Poland was declared a part of the Russian Empire. In 1848-1849, Russia took an active part in suppressing the revolutionary and liberation movements that started in the Danubian principalities. In 1849, the revolutionary movement in Hungary was suppressed by 150 thousand Russian troops. At the beginning of the 19th century, the annexation of Transcaucasia to Russia created the problem of subduing the entire North Caucasus.

Tsarism's desire to subjugate the Caucasus was strongly opposed by the peoples of Dagestan, Chechnya and Adygea. The Caucasian War, which began in 1817, ended in 1864 and cost Russia dearly. The Crimean War (1853-1856) and the Treaty of Paris (March 1856) practically destroyed all of Russia's foreign policy successes. The country lost southern Bessarabia, as well as Kars and other territories occupied by Russian troops in the Caucasus. Russia (as well as Turkey) was forbidden to have a military fleet and build coastal fortifications in the Black Sea. Although the terms of this truce were not harsh, they were humiliating for Russia and severely damaged her international reputation, which had been achieved with great difficulty for a century and a half. The country fell into a state of international isolation. Getting out of this state of isolation is the main content of Russia's foreign policy in the 1960s and 1970s. Russia colluded with Prussia against England and France, who were the guarantors of the Crimean system, which forbade Russia to have a military fleet in the Dead Sea.

Fighting for the unification of Germany, Bismarck agreed to revise the terms of the Paris Peace Treaty in exchange for Russia's neutrality in the war against Denmark (1864) and Austria (1866). In 1870, a conference in London approved that Russia would not fulfill the terms of the Paris Peace Treaty. After the annexation of Kazakhstan to Russia in the first half of the 19th century, preparations were started for the conquest of three countries in Central Asia - the Khanates of Kokand and Khiva and the Emirate of Bukhara.

In 1854, the SyrDarya and Siberian military lines and the Verny fortress (now the city of Almaty) were established. As a result, a fortification was created for the invasion of Central Asia in the 60s and 70s. In 1895, an agreement was concluded between Russia and England on the delimitation of the spheres of influence in the Pamirs.

This agreement defined the border between Bukhara Emirate and Afghanistan. The government of Tsarist Russia undertook to "abstain from any political control or influence" south of this border. England, on the other hand, made a similar commitment to the territories north of this border. Relying on the "Union of the Three Emperors", Russia tried to restore its position in the Balkans. This led to the Russian-Turkish war of 1877-1878. The war ended with the victory of the Russians. The armistice signed in San Stefano on March 3, 1878 was beneficial to Russia and the independent Balkan nations. The capture of Siberia and Baikal gave the Russians the opportunity to annex the Amur region. The Crimean War showed the need for the defense of the Far East and a more serious settlement in it. The Amur region and



the Primorye region were part of the Chinese state of Sin. But there were almost no ethnic Chinese living there. The local population, that is, Edeges, Nanays and Bashkirs, were very sparsely populated and lived a patriarchal life. The Chinese government, which was in a difficult situation due to British and American expansion, agreed to the proposals made by the tsarist government.

According to the treaty signed between the two countries in 1858, its left bank (that is, the Amur River) from the Argun River to the foot of the Amur became Russia's property. Assyria was declared the joint property of Russia and China until the border was determined. Free trade relations were established between Russia and China. The Sakhalin problem was settled in 1875 by the Treaty of Petersburg between Russia and Japan. Taking advantage of the threat of war between France and Germany and Russia's weakness in the Far East, the Japanese government agreed to cede the Kuril Islands to Japan on the condition that it renounce its claim to South Sakhalin. The problem of Russian lands in North America was resolved in 1867 in accordance with the treaty signed between Russia and the United States.

According to him, Alaska was sold for 7.2 million dollars in gold, which is a pittance compared to the existing wealth in it. Neither economic nor military power of Russia was enough to save these lands. As a result of the sale of Russian lands in America, he strengthened his position in the northern part of the Pacific Ocean and acquired an extremely valuable territory.

This was Russia's defeat in the Pacific Ocean, which weakened Russia's position in the region. In general, the policy of the Russian Empire in the Far East in the 60s and 80s of the 19th century cannot be considered very active. Very little money is allocated by the government to encourage the economic development of the Far East. Concluding the description of Russia's foreign policy in the 19th century, it should be said that the military-political alliances that emerged in Europe at the end of the century had a great impact on Russia's foreign policy. After Germany, Austria, and Italy formed the Triple Alliance in 1882, Russia moved away from them and became closer to France.

In 1891, a defense agreement against the Triple Alliance was signed between Russia and France. This changed the direction of Russia's policy in Europe. In the foreign political arena, Russia could not compete with the Western countries, which had overcome the difficulties of capitalist modernization. This situation forced the Russian Emperor Nicholas II to come up with unprecedented peace initiatives. On August 12, 1898, the Minister of Foreign Affairs of Russia M. N. Muravyov appealed to the foreign countries and called on them to "provide a lasting peace to all nations through negotiations and, first of all, to prevent the unlimited proliferation of modern weapons." Thanks to the diligent efforts of Russian diplomacy, the Hague Peace Conference was held in May-June 1899. Due to the position taken by most countries, no practical decisions on arms reduction have been made. However, declarations were passed prohibiting the use of exploding (explosive) ammunition, the launching of explosive projectiles from balloons, and the use of asphyxiating projectiles.



The Hague International Court was established. Most importantly, international agreements on peacebuilding and arms reduction have become traditional. In 1907, the second Hague Conference was held. The Washington Conference on Naval Armaments of 1921 also emphasized the Russian Emperor's ties to peace initiatives. At the end of the 19th century, the goal of Russian diplomacy to establish control over the Bosphorus and Dardanelles straits leading to the Mediterranean Sea and a strong position in the Balkan Peninsula was not realized due to Russia's military weakness. As a result, Russia turned its sights to the Far East. A number of people close to the emperor preferred economic and political penetration into Manchuria and Korea, rather than entering into agreements with Japan, which had its own goals in relation to these countries.

As a result of the active foreign policy conducted in the Far East, agreements were signed with China on a defensive alliance against Japan and on the vision of the East China Railway (1896), on the lease of a naval base in Port Arthur (1898).

Japan, which was competing with Russia in mastering Manchuria and Korea, formed an alliance with England in 1902 and went to war against Russia in 1904, relying on the support of the United States. The Russo-Japanese War of 1904-1905 led to a series of defeats of Russian land and sea forces. The surrender of Port Arthur in December 1904, the defeat of the Pacific squadron in the battle near the Susima Strait in May 1905, and the revolutionary events inside the country made Russia's defeat inevitable. Losses, including the dead and wounded, totaled 400,000 people. Russia was almost without a naval force in the Pacific. In September 1905, S. Yu. Witte, who led the Russian delegation in the negotiations that began in Portsmouth (USA), managed to conclude a peace truce with relatively easy conditions. Korea was recognized as Japan's zone of influence. The troops of both countries were to be withdrawn from the territory of Manchuria.

At the same time, Russia kept its fleet, did not lose national territories except for the southern part of Sakhalin Island, and did not pay contributions. The consequences of the war had a great impact on the general foreign policy of Russia. His rapprochement with England took place. In August 1907, a Russo-British treaty was signed defining spheres of influence in Iran, Afghanistan and Tibet. This treaty, taking into account the agreements of Russia and England with France, practically formalized the Entente and completed the process of dividing Europe into two military and political camps. Russia began to conduct a cautious foreign policy in agreement with England. According to the chairman of the Council of Ministers, A.P. Stolypin, such a foreign policy was necessary in Russia to implement a program of large-scale development of the armed forces. Not only the reform of the army, but also the reconstruction of the navy was planned. For this purpose, 820 million rubles were allocated to the shipbuilding program, and 433 million rubles were allocated to the defense strengthening program. But until the outbreak of the First World War, these programs were not fully implemented.



Conclusion

Armament in Japan, especially the construction of a powerful naval fleet, was vigorously pursued in direct connection with the war of aggression being prepared against China. The first object of the invasion was Korea. As early as 1872, during the negotiations between Russia and Japan on the issue of Sakhalin, the Japanese government expressed its readiness to give up its claim to southern Sakhalin in exchange for Russia's neutrality in the Japanese-Korean War and the transfer of Japanese troops to southern Korea through Russian territories. This proposal was rejected by the Russians, so among the samurai there were calls for war not only against China and Korea, but also against Russia. However, the Japanese ruling circles were still afraid to oppose Russia. In 1896, a Chinese delegation led by Li Huang Zhang arrived in Russia. This delegation attended the coronation of Emperor Nicholas II. During the visit, a secret agreement was signed between the two countries. In it, it was agreed to form a military alliance with Russia in the event of an attack by Japan on China or Korea. In addition, China agreed to the construction of a railway through the territory of Manchuria near Vladivostok. If necessary, they were given the right to transport Russian troops through this railway, as well as to use Chinese ports.

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