

# Basic Detail Report

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## First Decree On Peace

### Date

1985

### Primary Maker

Volodymyr Fedorchenko

### Medium

Oil on canvas

### Description

"First Decree on Peace" takes us back to the events of the Bolshevik Revolution. On the second day of the

Revolution, Lenin's Bolshevik Party held a Congress of Soviets in Simony, Petrograd (now St. Petersburg) and issued a decree on peace proposing "to all warring peoples and their governments to begin at once negotiations leading to a just democratic peace." These are the words Fedorchenko's soldiers are reading, published in the Izvestiya newspaper of October 27, 1917. Cutting across the middle of this canvas are the slogans: "Down with War!" and "Peace to Nations!" The steam locomotive in the background brings to mind one of the most famous revolutionary songs: "Our Locomotive, fly forward! Our next stop is Communism!" The song is the underlying broader theme of the painting, adding a confident vision of the Communist future, well in accord with the tenets of Socialist Realist style.

### Dimensions

54 in x 59 in