SOVIET LIFE

JOURNEY FOR PEACE

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Front Cover: Every summer Moscow students head for the Valtu Collective Farm in Estonia to enjoy the country life and help make hay. *Photograph by Alexander Grashchenkov.*

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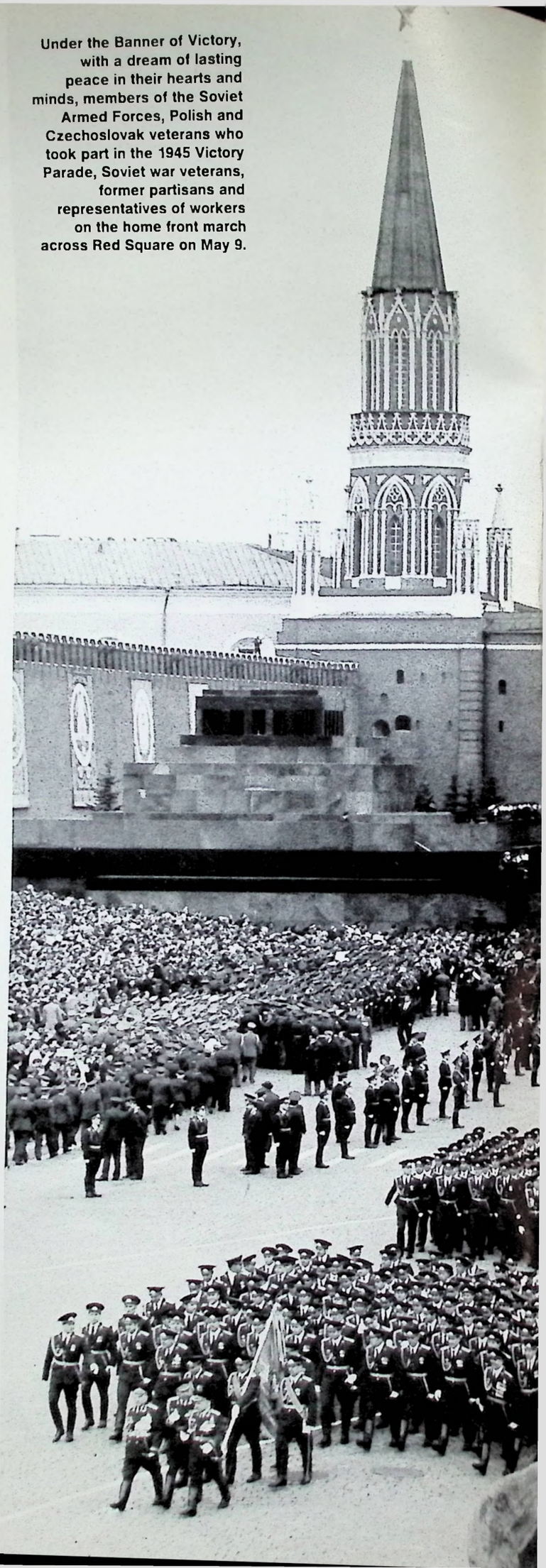
Under the Banner of Victory, with a dream of lasting peace in their hearts and minds, members of the Soviet Armed Forces, Polish and Czechoslovak veterans who took part in the 1945 Victory Parade, Soviet war veterans, former partisans and representatives of workers on the home front march across Red Square on May 9.



VICTORY DAY–85

The USSR Pays Tribute To its Heroes

A ceremonial meeting to celebrate the fortieth anniversary of the Soviet people's victory in the Great Patriotic War of 1941 to 1945 was held in Moscow on May 8, 1985, and a parade was held in the Soviet capital on May 9, which is celebrated as Victory Day by the Soviet people.

The meeting took place in the Kremlin Palace of Congresses. It was attended by Heroes of the Soviet Union and Heroes of Socialist Labor, recipients of the Order of Glory and the Order of Labor Glory of all classes from throughout the country, as well as by the working people of Moscow and its suburbs, and members of the Soviet Armed Forces.

Foreign guests who came to the Soviet Union to take part in the celebrations, the heads of diplomatic missions accredited in the Soviet Union and Soviet and foreign journalists also attended the meeting.

Mikhail Gorbachev, General Secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, read a report titled "The Soviet People's Immortal Feat." He said, in part:

"The Soviet people and their valiant armed forces inflicted a crushing defeat on fascist Germany, defended the nation's freedom and independence and brought liberation to the peoples of Europe. The defeat of fascism and the victorious ending of the war became a turning point of international historic importance, opening before humankind, which was saved from peril, new roads of social progress and the prospect of a just and lasting peace on Earth. Our victory has not been diminished by the years. The victory lives on, showing the way for the present and the future.

"Many countries and peoples came out in a united front against the aggression of German fascism and Japanese militarism. The Soviet people remember and greatly appreciate the contribution made by all who fought in World War II to defeat the common enemy and pay tribute to their feat of arms in the struggle for freedom, peace and justice."

The parade in Red Square on May 9 was made up of members of the Soviet Armed Forces, Polish and Czechoslovak veterans who participated in the 1945 Victory Parade, Soviet war veterans, former partisans and representatives of workers from the home front, most of whom had been women.

General Secretary Gorbachev and other Soviet leaders and prominent military men watched the parade from the Lenin Mausoleum.

Numerous foreign guests were in the stands to pay their respects to the feat of the Soviet people, who made the decisive contribution to the rout of fascism. The heads of diplomatic missions of foreign countries accredited in the Soviet Union also attended the parade.

The Banner of Victory that was hoisted over the captured Reichstag building in Berlin on April 30, 1945, was carried across Red Square.

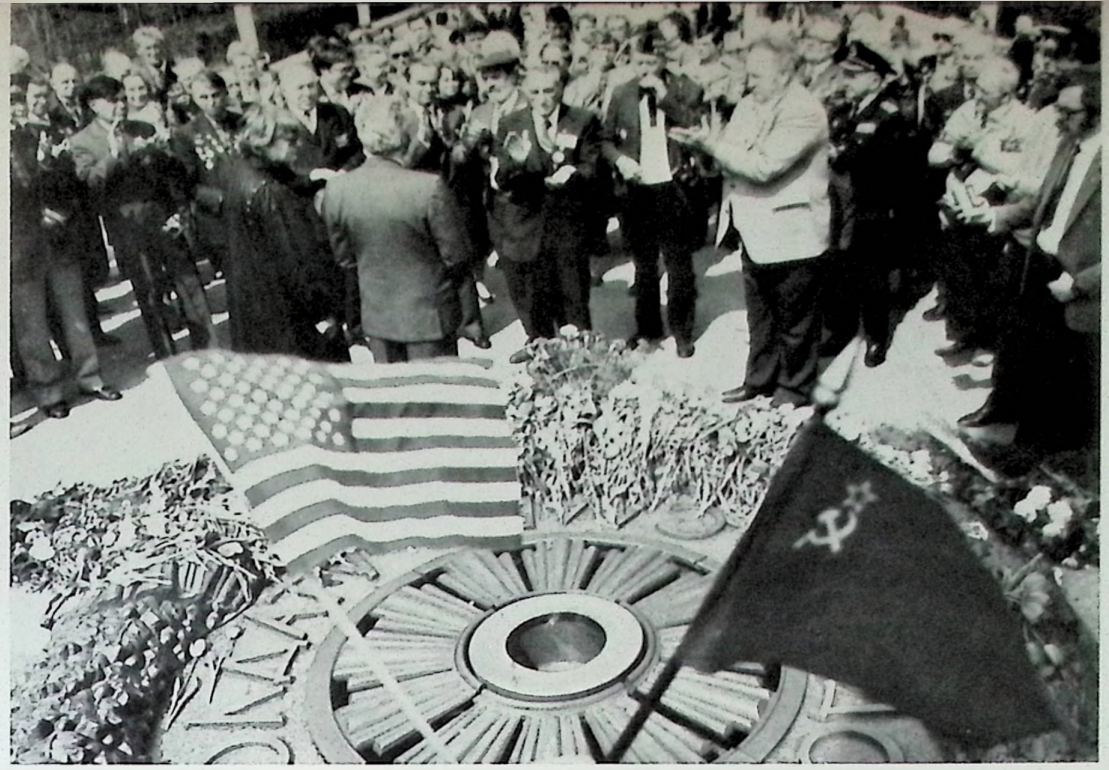
Another parade in Red Square is now history. Those men and women who marched under the Victory Banner marched with a dream of lasting peace. ■

The Great Patriotic War (1941–1945) took the lives of 20 million Soviet people. If the memory of each one of them was honored with a minute of silence, the silence would last for nearly 40 years—which is how long the guns have now been silent. The living must continue to maintain peace. We owe it to the war dead.

Mikhail Gorbachev at the Victory Parade on May 9. Far left: Soviet leaders and prominent military men watch the parade from the Lenin Mausoleum. Below: Columns of war veterans march through Red Square. The flag in the middle is the Victory Banner that was raised over Berlin.

April 25, 1945, was the culminating point of Soviet–American relations. On that historic day Soviet and American forces met at the Elbe River near the old German town of Torgau. There soldiers of the 1st Ukrainian Front and the U.S. 1st Army vowed to do everything they could to ensure that in the future all nations would live in peace. Forty years later, Soviet and American veterans met again in Torgau's main square to reaffirm their loyalty to the "Elbe spirit." From Torgau the American veterans went on to tour the Soviet Union.

American veterans placed a wreath at the Babi-Yar Memorial near Kiev, where the Nazis shot 100,000 Soviet citizens in 1941.



Soviet and American veterans of World War II observed a minute of silence at the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier in Kiev's Park of Glory.

AMERICAN VETERANS MAKE 40TH ANNIVERSARY JOURNEY FOR PEACE

By Boris Alexeyev
Photographs by Igor Mikhalev,
Yuri Abramochkin and Rudolf Kucherov

It was early May in Kiev. From Vladimir Hill overlooking the Ukrainian capital on the right bank of the Dnieper, you could see the broad and mighty river, which cuts the city into two parts, impetuously carrying its water to the Black Sea. Up on the hill Soviet and American veterans of World War II stood together.

Yuri Kondufor, a Ukrainian, had been a tankman.

Peter Sitnik, an American, a former Timber Wolves 104th Division sergeant, was in the initial linkup on the Elbe River on April 25, 1945.

Next to them stood the three Rodys, father Joe, son Dennis and grandson Brian. On Victory Day 1945 the father was 28, his son had just turned two, and no one even thought of a grandson.

The American veterans, Elbe-meeting participants and representatives of peace organizations toured Moscow, Volgograd, Kiev and Leningrad, the cities where the major battles of the war had been fought.

The 43-member delegation came from 20 states.

Henry Rautborth was the oldest member of the group. In 1937 and 1938, as a member of the Abraham Lincoln Brigade, he had fought against General Franco in Spain.

Eighteen-year-old Brian Rody, a student, was the youngest member of the group.

Visiting an Academician

Former Sergeant Yuri Kondufor has become a historian and an academician. A 10-volume history of the Ukraine and a four-volume history of Kiev have come out under his editorship.

He has been to the United States several times, and each time he was warmly received by World War II veterans. Kondufor promised that someday he would entertain them at his home.

The delegation's arrival was a good occasion, and the academician invited the group.

His wife Nina is a retired schoolteacher. She taught history and never failed to tell her students about the meeting on the Elbe, which heralded the imminence of victory.

Kondufor told the guests: "Our veterans share their war reminiscences in schools and colleges. A sad and painful narrative it is. But how many more days do we have? We all have children and grandchildren. And we must use this time to its best advantage, telling them about our hatred for war, telling them about our love for peace and about our firm belief that there is no people in the world that wants war."

John Gillman, the leader of the American delegation, replied. He had fought in the ranks of the 39th Regiment of the 9th Infantry Division and met with Soviet soldiers at the Elbe. That meeting was still vivid in his mind, he said. Soviet soldiers played accordions and balalaikas, young Russian women danced, the Americans and Russians exchanged whiskey and vodka—it had been exhilarating and great. Gillman said he thought then that the "Elbe spirit" would live forever. That it hadn't was regrettable, he added. Everything must be done to restore this spirit, to do away with the arms race and to avert a nuclear catastrophe, he said.

Kondufor was totally supportive. "I very much want our two countries to get along together, to compete only in peaceful areas," he said in a toast.

The Spirit of the Elbe On the Volga

The main square of Volgograd, a city on the Volga River 1,000 kilometers southeast of Moscow, is called the Square of the Fallen. It was here, in the basement of a department store, on February 2, 1943, that Field Marshal Paulus was taken prisoner by Soviet forces. With the 6th Army, Paulus had been trying to capture Stalingrad, as the city was called during the war. More than 91,000 German soldiers and officers surrendered with him. That was all that was left of the 330,000-man Wehrmacht army that had reached the outskirts of Stalingrad in the fall of 1942.

The rout of the German Army near Stalingrad 18 months before D-Day and the invasion of Normandy marked the beginning of the end of Hitler and his huge war machine.

A bronze plaque on the massive five-story department store building, similar to those you will find on the main street in any American city, serves as a reminder of those horrible events.

Alexander Tsygankov is a 65-year-old veteran of that battle on the Volga. He was born and grew up in this city, and he defended it with arms. He returned after the war.

"Forty years ago we met at Torgau," he said in his address to the Americans. "We met back then with Peter Sitnik and Joe Polowsky and Ken Jemre and Charles Forrester and John Gillman, and we will never forget them."

Of all the Elbe-meeting participants that were mentioned, only Joseph Polowsky was missing. The former Chicago taxi driver died on November 26, 1983. He was buried, in accordance with his will, in Torgau. He spent the rest of his life after the war lobbying to have April 25 celebrated as Elbe Day. The delegation included his 25-year-old son Ted.

Peter Sitnik, 68, stood out from the rest of the members of the group. On his chest gleamed the Order of Glory, the highest decoration for valor given to soldiers and sergeants in the Soviet Army. Marshal Ivan Konev had presented this silver order (No. 275585) to him in May 1945.

Forty years ago we were comrades in arms, he said. Later we had differences. Still, we must live in peace and friendship, Sitnik continued. We must not forget what war is. A people that remembers that will never raise the sword, he said.

This was Sitnik's second visit to the Soviet Union. He had been here in 1959. He said that he thought the Soviet people now looked much better off, that they were happy and wanted to live in peace.

Mamayev Hill in Volgograd is a sacred spot for every Soviet citizen. It symbolizes the courage and heroism of the people who defended the city. No more than 30 meters separated the Russians from the Germans in the battle for the hill, the highest point in Stalingrad. But they proved impassable for the 125,000 men of Hitler's army who died there.

For a long time nothing grew on the hill. The soil, littered with ▶

The ceremony in Torgau, the German Democratic Republic, commemorating the April 25, 1945, linkup of Soviet and American soldiers.

pieces of shells, mines, bombs and grenades, refused to bear anything.

The Rody family brought an oak sapling. The Americans planted the small tree, from the state of Kansas, at the foot of Mamayev Hill as a sign of the friendship that had developed between Soviet and American soldiers during the war.

The senior Rody explained that they had purposely chosen a tree from Kansas because Kansas is the heart of America, because Dwight Eisenhower, the commander of the Allied Forces, is buried there and because the state has good economic ties with the Soviet Union.

It was quite a task to plant the little tree. The shovel hit numerous shell fragments, and the soil was as hard as a rock.

"We have gathered here to plant a tree of friendship," Colonel Vasili Smirnov told an impromptu mass rally. "I hope that our friendship will grow and become strong like this sapling."

"Today this tree of friendship is only a twig carefully planted in the soil. But don't forget that an oak lives for hundreds of years," an American added.

The planting of the friendship tree concluded the Americans' stay in Volgograd. The delegation left, but the young oak is there. It will grow up next to a mountain ash planted by Soviet cosmonaut Yuri Malyshev.

In Our Hands

The American veterans' final meeting was in Moscow, at the Central Museum of the Armed Forces of the USSR.

John Gillman read a message to Soviet veterans. He addressed them as "Dear Comrades in Arms" and suggested that Elbe Day should become an official day on both Soviet and American calendars.

"We propose," he stated, "that on April 25 of each year, beginning in 1986, both countries celebrate together the meeting at the Elbe and the great promise for friendship and cooperation that this historic date still represents.

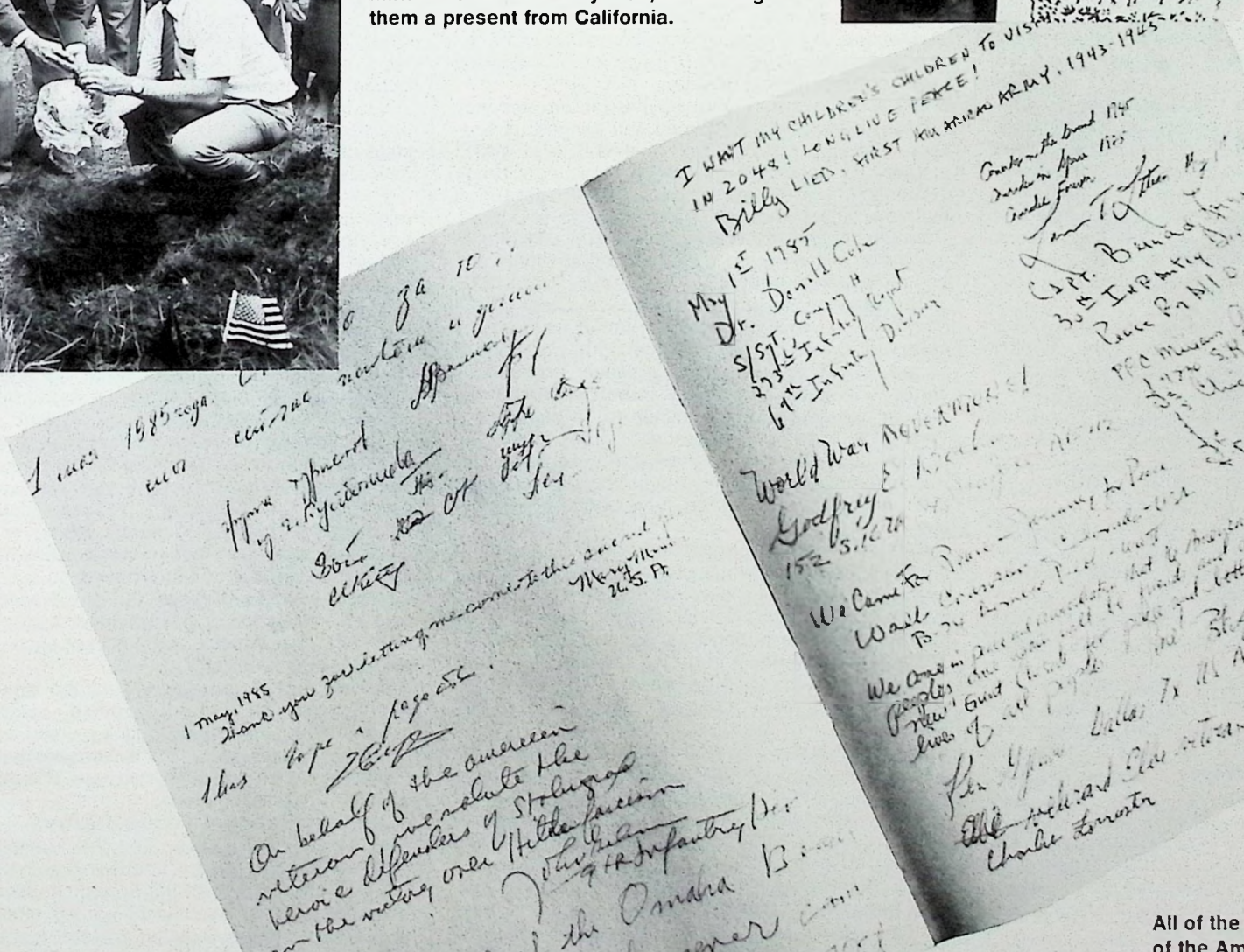
"We are also confident that the American people will enthusiastically support the creation and commemoration of April 25 as Elbe Day to be celebrated jointly with the Soviet people.

"In the United States 15 governors and six senators, including Senator Ted Kennedy, have already endorsed an annual Elbe Day."

In response, Colonel General Ivan Katyshkin, deputy chairman of the Soviet War Veterans Committee, said: "We veterans and comrades in arms have not forgotten the oath that we took on the Elbe. You want to have a special Elbe Day instituted. We support this idea. We were comrades in arms. Let us be fellow fighters for peace."

From top to bottom, above: American veterans, participants in the meeting on the Elbe and representatives of peace groups pose for the camera in Red Square. Lamir Subrt (left) and Charles Forrester in Volgograd. Members of the American delegation in Leningrad near the monument erected in honor of the heroic defense of the city. Academician Yuri Kondufor (standing) invited the veterans to his home.

Billy Lieb (above right) and Major Sergei Smirnov exchange photos. The Rody family (left) brought an oak sapling, which they planted at the foot of Mamayev Hill in Volgograd as a symbol of the friendship between the Soviet and American soldiers on the Elbe 40 years ago. Peter Sitnik (top right), a former sergeant of the Timber Wolves 104th Division, from Alexandria, Virginia, first met the Russians 40 years ago on the Elbe. Women veterans (from left to right) Katerina Stopova, Alina Kursova and Miriam Canter with Billy Lieb, who brought them a present from California.



All of the members of the American delegation signed the Honorary Visitors Book at the Mamayev Hill Memorial.

MESSAGE

To the Peoples, Parliaments and Governments of All Nations On the Occasion of the Fortieth Anniversary Of the End of World War II

FOUR DECADES AGO the freedom-loving peoples victoriously crowned the battle against fascism, which had set out to gain world domination.

The history-making victory over Hitler's fascism and Japanese militarism was won by the joint efforts of the peoples and armies of the anti-Hitler coalition, partisans, resistance fighters, antifascists, democrats and patriots—millions of freedom fighters.

It has been generally recognized that the decisive contribution toward routing the forces of fascism and aggression and saving humanity from enslavement was made by the Soviet Union and its Armed Forces.

Hitler's fascism posed a threat to the very existence of European and world civilization. World War II claimed 50 million lives. The war, which was forced upon the Soviet Union, took the lives of 20 million of its sons and daughters. There was not a family that escaped the flames of war unsinged. Our pain and grief will never subside. The anguish of soldiers' widows, mothers and orphans is inconsolable. The aggressor destroyed one-third of our national wealth.

Both the tragedy of the war and the happiness of the great victory will remain forever in the memory of the people. The harsh and instructive lessons of the war cannot be forgotten.

One of the main lessons is that aggression must be fought jointly and decisively before the flame of war catches hold.

That was what the Soviet Union was persistently pressing for on the eve of World War II.

The means of warfare have since undergone qualitative change. While the wars fought so far in history have claimed hundreds of millions of lives, a third world war would spell general destruction. A nuclear holocaust, should it sweep across the planet, would not leave so much as an oasis of life on it.

Faced with the mortal fascist threat during World War II, nations with different social and political systems succeeded in uniting against the common foe and proved the possibility of effective political and military cooperation for the sake of a goal common to all humankind—freedom and peace. Today, too, the united strength of the peoples can become a formidable obstacle in the way of those who are pushing the world toward a nuclear catastrophe. The forces of peace and progress are incomparably more powerful today than the forces of reaction and aggression.

Since the end of the war the Soviet Union has spared no effort in working to prevent another disaster, to achieve disarmament and to ensure that disputes are settled peacefully at the negotiating table. The peoples of Europe have been living in peace since the spring of 1945. The principle of peaceful coexistence of states with different social systems has been increasingly gaining ground in international relations.

On August 1, 1975, the nations that participated in the Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe signed the Final Act in Helsinki, in which they outlined ways "to overcome confrontation stemming from the character of their past relations and to achieve better mutual understanding." The foundations of détente, which demonstrated its indisputable advantages and benefits for all, were laid by the collective effort of states.

The peoples are celebrating the fortieth anniversary of the victory in a strained and dangerous situation that has resulted from the U.S. and NATO ambition to upset the military-strategic equilibrium and obtain military superiority over the Soviet Union and the other Warsaw Treaty member countries. However, hopes to dominate the world and dictate to others, including the Soviet Union, are futile and dangerous for all peoples.

The situation in Europe, which was swept by the holocaust of two devastating world wars, gives cause for grave concern. Tremendous numbers of armed forces and weapons arsenals are directly confronting each other here. American first-strike nuclear missile systems continue to be deployed in Western Europe; and revanchist forces, intent on calling in question the outcome of the war and postwar development, primarily the postwar political and territorial realities in Europe, have become more active.

Certain forces in Europe and outside it have not given up their dangerous plans to subvert the historic agreements of Yalta and Potsdam, which laid the foundations of postwar peace. These agreements have been dependably serving the interests of European security and deterring militarist and revanchist ambitions for 40 years now. Any attempt to encroach upon these agreements is doomed to failure.

The Earth is the common home of all peoples, of all humanity. The Soviet people do not need land belonging to others. We do not impose our outlook and our way of life on anybody else. The heralds of the "crusade" and "psychological warfare" are wasting their time trying to misguide the international community with stories about a "Soviet military threat." The record of history and the hard facts of today speak of something entirely different. The Soviet Union has never attacked anybody, but it has itself had to repel aggression more than once. The Soviet people need to have a peaceful environment for their creative work and for the continued advancement of their society of developed socialism. General and complete disarmament, a lasting and just peace are our ideal and our unfailing concern.

The maintenance of peace has been the supreme objective of the Communist Party and the Soviet state all along. The peaceful foreign policy initiated by V. I. Lenin has been enshrined in the Constitution of the USSR. It stems from the very nature of socialist society.

It is our conviction that war is not fatally inevitable. There can be no ends that could justify starting a nuclear war. Nor are there any international issues that could not be settled at the negotiating table. The easing of tension and constructive cooperation can and must be a natural and invariable state of international relations. Reason must prevail over recklessness and insanity.

The Soviet Union is calling upon the peoples and nations, their parliaments and governments to do everything possible to prevent an arms race in space and to terminate it on Earth, and to limit, reduce and then totally scrap nuclear arms.

There can be no agreement on nuclear arms limitation and reduction with space militarized. The militarization of space would precipitate an uncontrolled arms race in every area, bring about yet another and still more dangerous round, and cause strategic stability to be drastically reduced.

It is sensible for relations between the powers that possess nuclear arms to be governed by certain rules. These must, in our view, provide for the prevention of a nuclear war, for renunciation of its propaganda and for a commitment not to use nuclear weapons first, not to allow them to spread, and to press for nuclear arms to be reduced and eventually scrapped altogether. The Soviet Union is prepared to come to terms with the other nuclear powers at any time to jointly accept such rules and to make them mandatory.

On the fortieth anniversary of the great victory over fascism, the Soviet Union is reaffirming the commitment it has unilaterally assumed not to use nuclear weapons first and is once more calling upon the other nuclear powers that have not done so to assume similar obligations.

The Basic Provisions of the Treaty on the Mutual Nonuse of Military Force and the Maintenance of Relations of Peace, the document that the Soviet Union has submitted to the Stockholm Conference, responds to the objective of easing tension. This initiative has been directed toward achieving the principal aim of the conference. The proposed treaty would be keynoted by an obligation not to be the first to use either nuclear or conventional arms against each other and, consequently, not to use armed force against each other in general.

We call upon the governments of the nations of Europe, the United States and Canada to take effective steps to completely clear the continent of Europe of both medium-range and tactical nuclear weapons. Europe must also be rid of chemical weapons. The creation of nuclear-free zones in the Balkans, in Northern Europe and in other parts of the continent, and a pledge not to increase but to reduce military spending would contribute toward strengthening peace and security here.

The Soviet Union calls upon the states participating in the Stockholm Conference on Confidence- and Security-Building Measures and on Disarmament in Europe as well as in the Vienna talks on mutual arms and force reductions in Central Europe to take the requisite measures without delay toward achieving mutually acceptable accords.

Our country is speaking out for the situation in the Middle East, in Central America, in Southeast Asia and other regions to be settled by peaceful means and for the seats of tension and conflicts among states to be stamped out without intervention in their internal affairs. In common with other peoples, the Soviet people emphatically demand the granting of independence to Namibia and the abolition of racism in South Africa.

Together with the other states concerned, we will press for a restructuring of international economic relations in keeping with fair and democratic principles, for exploitation in every shape or form to be ended, and for trade and economic links to be no longer used as a means of political pressure. The Soviet Union will continue to consistently support all those who are fighting against social and national oppression, racial discrimination and genocide, and for true democracy and equality, for real human rights and freedoms without discrimination on the grounds of race, sex, language or religion.

It is in our common interest to contribute in full measure to the continued enhancement of the role and effectiveness of the United Nations as an international instrument of peace and security in pursuance of the great goal enunciated in its charter—"to save succeeding generations from the scourge of war" and to "live together in peace with one another as good neighbors." We welcome the UN Appeal to the Peoples and Nations to mark the fortieth anniversary of the victory over fascism. That will be a tribute to the memory of the millions who died in World War II.

It is the sacred duty of those who participated in the war against fascism and those who were born after it to uphold man's right to live.

Considering the high mission of all nations, their parliaments and governments to safeguard world peace, and conscious of the responsibility for the destiny of peace and humanity, the Soviet Union is calling upon all peoples, parliaments and governments to heed the voice of reason and—by full-scale common action—to stop the slide into the abyss of nuclear disaster, to bar the way to another war and to work for the complete elimination of nuclear arms. The Soviet Union is prepared to consider any initiative and any proposal made for the benefit of peace.

Let the fortieth anniversary of the great victory give yet another powerful impetus to the common efforts of the peoples and nations toward making the international situation healthier and peace stronger. Humanity can and must have confidence in its future as it lives through the rest of this century and enters the twenty-first century.

The Central Committee of the CPSU
The Presidium of the USSR Supreme Soviet
The USSR Council of Ministers

THE SOURCES OF OUR VICTORY

By Gennadi Pisarevsky

THE GREAT Patriotic War lasted 1,418 days and nights—from June 22, 1941, until May 9, 1945. The Soviet-German front was the main front and the decisive front of World War II. The world will never forget the resolute courage of the defenders of Moscow, Leningrad and Stalingrad, the victory at the Kursk Bulge, in the Ukraine and Byelorussia, and the great liberation mission of Soviet soldiers, who routed the nazi occupationists from many nations of Europe and captured Berlin.

The sources of the victory lie in the nature of socialism, in the Soviet way of life, in the nationwide character of the Great Patriotic War, noted General Secretary of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union Mikhail Gorbachev in his report at a meeting in Moscow commemorating the fortieth anniversary of the victory. "The greatest of all trials, the war confirmed most vividly and clearly that it is the popular masses that are the decisive force in history." In their life or death battle against the Nazis, the Soviet people displayed selfless devotion to the ideals of their socialist country as well as courage and combat skill.

The tremendous war efforts on the battlefield and on the home front were guided by the Communist Party and the State Defense Committee, which was headed by Joseph Stalin. The party of Lenin became a fighting party. It was the lifeblood of a people at war. The members of the Communist Party went to the most dangerous, the most crucial areas of the struggle. Three million Communists fell fighting the nazi invaders. More than five million people joined the party during those heroic years. "It was not only our weapons, economy and political system that triumphed in the war," Gorbachev said. "It was a victory of the ideas for which the Revolution took place and Soviet people fought and died. It was a victory of our ideology and morality, which are imbued with the lofty and noble principles of humanism and justice."

Creative work and peace—these are the main and the constant goals of the Communist Party. During the past 40 years of peace the Soviet Union has achieved outstanding successes in economic, scientific and cultural development and in improving the people's standard of living. The national income has grown 16 times over the prewar level of 1940, and industrial output has increased 24 times. Soviet industry has been growing twice as fast as that of the developed capitalist countries. The results of the past 40 years clearly demonstrate socialism's vast potential and advantages on the road toward peaceful development.

Our achievements are obvious. However, the dialectics of development is such that life continuously poses more complex and responsible tasks. We must achieve a qualitatively new stage of society, including its economy and the totality of the working and living conditions of the Soviet people.

The main yardstick of the country's economic development today is the achievement of high end results with the best use of resources. The existing economic situation must be evaluated from this point of view. The rate of our advancement is insufficient, and it must be raised substantially. "In a short time we must reach world highs in productivity, quality and efficiency," Gorbachev pointed out. "This is the unavoidable command of the times."

The Soviet people have everything they need to considerably speed up the country's socioeconomic development. We have a highly developed economy, immense resources and a vast scientific and technological potential. The only thing we need is peace. As many as 20 million Soviet people gave their lives for their country's peaceful future, freedom and independence. Their memory is sacred. It was in the name of this memory and in the name of life that we celebrated Victory Day. ■

The Non-Black Soil Zone covers more than 50 million hectares of farmland in the European part of the Soviet Union. A land reclamation program for this poor soil belt has been in progress since 1974. The example of the Lenin Collective Farm in Tula Region of Central Russia illustrates well how this program works.

THE GOOD LIFE

Creative Living on the Land

By Jan Katzer
Photographs by Vladimir Akimov

Fifteen years ago the Lenin Collective Farm was debt-ridden and making no profit. Today the same 6,000 hectares of land produces five times more milk and three times more grain and fodder than it did back in 1970. The farm's books show a turnover of 7.6 million rubles and a work force of 832. It annually makes three million rubles in profit. All of this has become possible thanks to industrialized methods of production, especially milk production. The credit for this dynamic growth, according to most of the farm's experts as well as the rank and file, goes primarily to the chairman, 53-year-old Vasili Starodubtsev.

Chairman No. 17(!)

"Reorganization wasn't easy," Starodubtsev recalls. "But I can't claim to have done it by myself. Everybody helped—the members of the board, the experts, who range from agronomists to architects, and all of the farm members."

Starodubtsev was born not far from Spasskoye, in Tula Region of Central Russia, where the farm's offices are located. During the war, when only old men, women and children were left on the farm, he began to work in the fields. He was only 12 years old. Eventually, as he says, his life came full circle. At 18 he was called up for the army. He became a pilot. After his discharge he returned home, only to leave again for the coal mines. He went to the mines for the money. His family was living in a run-down old house, and they had to build a new one. At the mines he did well and soon became the leader of a team of 80 men. And yet he was drawn back to the soil.

"The longing was strong. I prepared in earnest for a change in career," Starodubtsev says. "First, I took a correspondence course at an agricultural institute. I had to do some diploma work at a farm. There they offered me the chairmanship. I didn't accept, however, until after graduation. The farm was the Lenin Collective Farm."

The offer came in 1964 at a general farm meeting. The farmers had liked the trainee's energy and drive and appreciated his advice. Starodubtsev became the seventeenth chairman of the farm, which was founded in 1929. Since then he has been regularly re-elected.

Industrial Conveyor for Milk Production

During his first years as chairman Starodubtsev suggested to the farm board that an industrialized milking complex be built. According to his calculations, it would make the farm rich. However, there was no design available for such a project in the country at that time.

It was a major undertaking by the farmers. Starodubtsev himself read numerous books on the subject, traveled to several regions of the Soviet Union where milk production was beginning to be industrialized and visited Canada and Sweden.

Why this particular choice?

"Our land is poor. The percentage of humus is only 2 to 2.1. And it's crisscrossed by ravines. Nonetheless, we do have quite a few pastures," Starodubtsev explains. "In the past the farm had as many as 10 branches, which I saw as a scattering of resources. Now it specializes exclusively in dairy farming."

Scientific substantiation and peasant simplicity distinguish this complex. After rejecting expensive concrete buildings, closed television systems and computers, the farmers have built a sturdy, predominantly wooden facility, using the traditional construction material of the area. The scheme was designed for maximum return with minimum cost.

All of the operations at the complex are done with the help of machinery and automatic systems. People come into contact with the animals only during milking. The cows are kept on the premises untethered. There are exactly 1,000 of them. On schedule, they move by instinct and a developed reflex along galleries to the milking area, where milking machine operators are waiting for them. Six operators in the morning and six in the evening can milk all of the cows in three and a half hours. The total strength of the team is 15; it ensures 24-hour feeding, milking and the rest of the tending work. The productivity of the complex is 5,000 metric tons of milk a year. By contrast, the former six livestock buildings of the farm, with a work force of over 100, yielded only 593 metric tons of milk in 1963.

Technology Isn't Everything

The farm's experience in industrialized milk production has aroused great interest among experts at home and abroad. The complex serves as the basis for the design of a livestock unit for the year 2000 that is now being developed by specialists from the Soviet Union and Sweden. The latter is represented by the famous firm of Alfa-Laval, which supplies 60 per cent of the milking machines to the world market.

"It wasn't enough to create a model system, raise performance and ease the labor of workers," Starodubtsev says. "It was also necessary to have highly productive animals that would adapt to a rigid schedule of milking, animals in top condition, and so forth. This has become possible thanks to selection and pedigreed work with the best Holstein-Frisian lines—Soviet and foreign. At our farm we use the domestic black-and-white breed, which is close to them; this breed, by the way, makes up a quarter of the country's herd. It has taken us more than 10 years, but we have proved the feasibility of animals and machines working together smoothly."

Today the farm also obtains several calves from the best cows by transplanting their embryos into other cows. This helps not only to maintain a high level of milk yields in the herd (cows that produce less than 5,000 kilograms of milk a year are banned), but also to make an additional profit by selling pedigreed calves. Some sell for 3,000 rubles and more, which is five times the price of a regular calf.

One of the most complex problems, according to Starodubtsev, was the problem of fodder. Russian winters are long, and so the cattle have to be kept indoors for a considerable period. The story of how this problem was solved is the story of the reclamation of all 6,000 hectares of land, a large portion of which was waterlogged and covered with undergrowth. More than 1,000 hectares were made up of mine drifts that required recultivation. All of this work was completed last year.

Some 5,500 hectares are currently planted with grain and fodder crops, the yields of which are steadily increasing. Before 1964 the farm didn't get more than 12 metric centners of grain per hectare even when the weather was favorable. In 1971 it managed to bring in 30. A major leap forward was made between 1975 and 1980 when stable yields of 45 centners per hectare began to be obtained. The average for the last few years has been 50 centners.

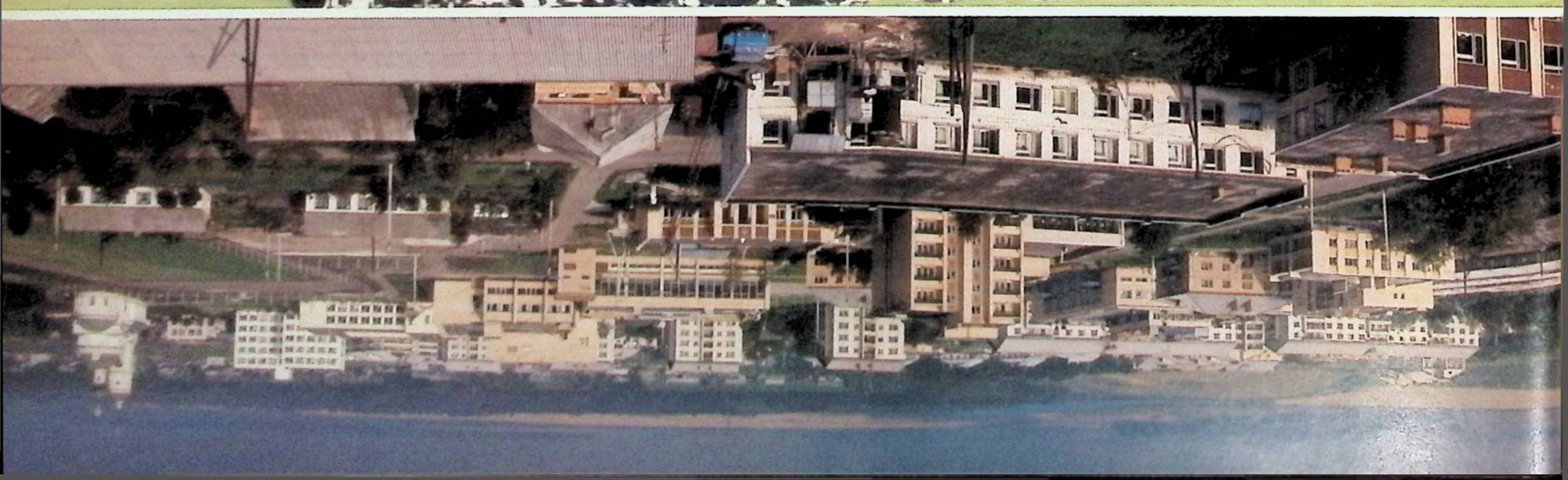
"The current yields, which are extremely high for these parts, absorb masses of nutrients from the soil," says Starodubtsev. "We have to apply mineral fertilizers to make up for the losses. We don't have a fodder problem at the moment, but we do have to take special measures to ensure that the ecological balance is maintained."

Round-the-Year Jobs and Prestige

The problem of an abundance of free time during the long winter and a shortage of labor in the summer remains unsolvable for many collective and state farms in the country. It accounts in large part for the slow growth of farmers' earnings. At the same time that the members of the farm board dealt with the task of industrializing production, they did their best to do away with this problem.

The machine operators, mechanics and repair workers mastered various building trades, and for several years now the farm has not had to resort to ▶

Vasili Starodubtsev, chairman of the Lenin Collective Farm. Facing page, from top to bottom: The village of Spasskoye. Each cow gives at least 5,000 kilograms of milk a year. Milk and cookie time at the day-care center.



the help of construction firms. A special clothing factory has been set up for the women. From fall to spring its 250 workers make children's clothes, which bring in about one million rubles for the farm. In the spring, summer and fall the women grow beets. Over the last few years the farm has been obtaining per hectare yields of 500 centners of sugar beet and 1,100 of fodder beet.

But even more important than the new technology and the solution of economic problems, Starodubtsev says, are the upgraded skills and knowledge of the farmworkers. The greater part of the farm's income now comes precisely from this side of business; the farmers have become real experts in industrialized crop and livestock farming. This has added to the prestige of agricultural trades and to the way rural life in general is viewed.

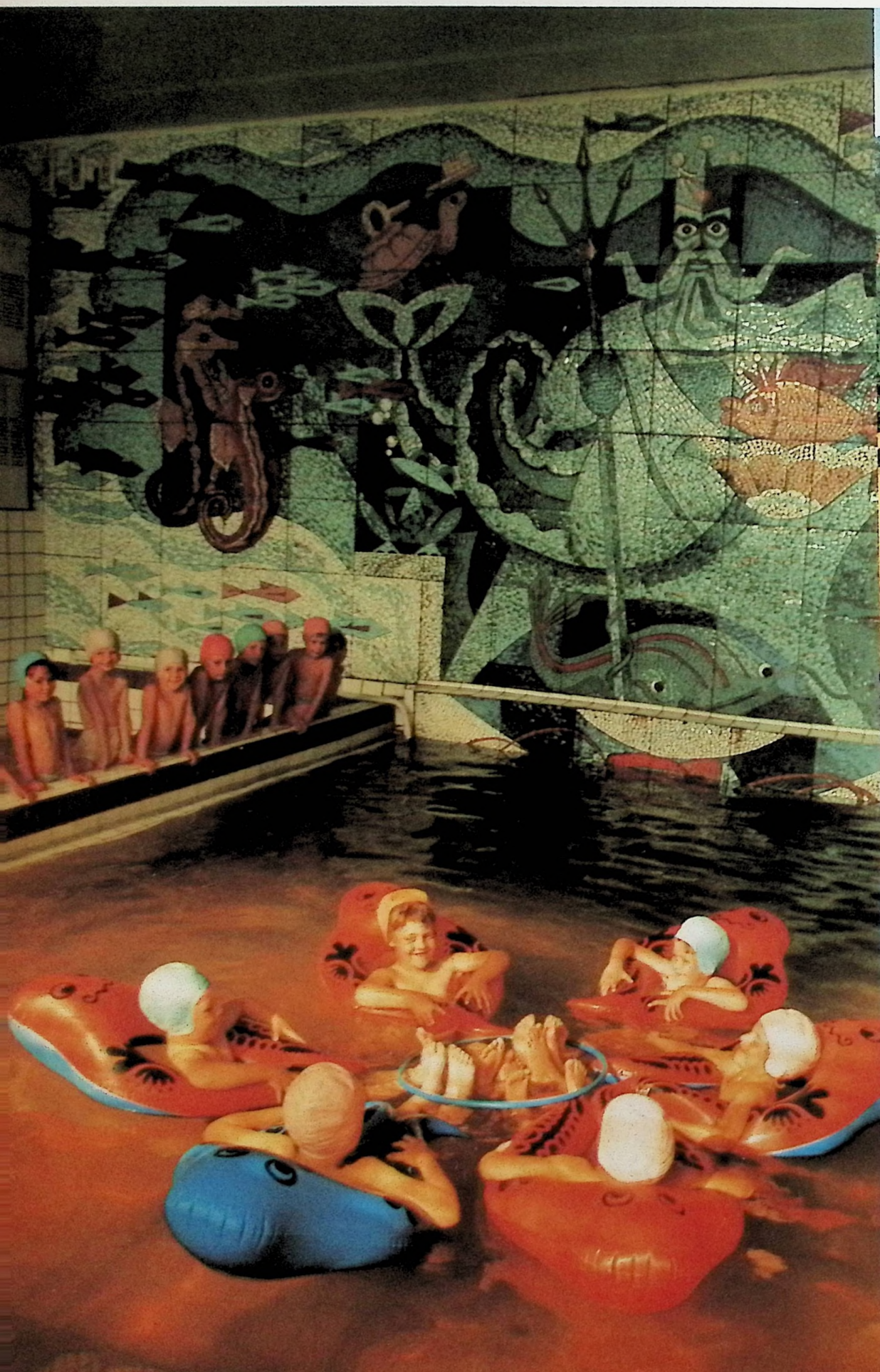
Two decades ago the drift of young people from the farm to the cities reached a crisis point. Nobody leaves Spasskoye today. Young people between the ages of 18 and 45 make up the major part of the work force.

Where Do the Millions Go?

The church in Spasskoye, a monument of early nineteenth century Russian architecture, is the most prominent landmark. It was built by Prince Bagration, a hero of the War of 1812 against Napoleon's troops. The collective farm has spent a considerable amount of money to renovate the building.

The church and the name Spasskoye (which means of the Saviour) are all that's left of the old village with its wooden huts and unpaved streets that were muddy in the spring and the fall. Today it's a township of stone houses with asphalted, tree-lined streets and public gardens. Within no more than a 15-minute walk from each house there is practically everything a farmer needs—a two-story shopping center; a palace of culture; a sports palace that has two swimming pools, one for children and the other for adults; a secondary school; a day-care center and nursery school combination; and a complex for services ranging from TV repairs to tailoring.

In addition, Spasskoye has a canteen and a restaurant. Both are famed for their fine food, comfort and friendly staffs. A four-course meal with numer-



The children's pool at the farm's sports palace. Above: The honey from the farm's apiary is of high quality. Top: The farm grows strawberries for its own consumption. Facing page: It took years to transform the waterlogged and overgrown lands into these high-yielding fields. Visiting Canadian agronomists are favorably impressed by the wheat crops and the dairy operation.

ous vegetable and fruit appetizers costs only 40 kopecks (the price of a pack of cigarettes).

"Construction is proceeding according to plan," says Dmitri Smirnov, the farm's chief architect. "Spasskoye was built around the idea of blending the amenities of city living with the advantages of country life."

All of these social services were almost fully paid for from public consumption funds. As of 1985 the farm has also assumed the payment of the already low rent of not more than one per cent of the family budget and the charges for communal services. All of the farm families have moved into new two-story houses. The homes range in size from five to seven rooms. They have gas stoves, hot and cold water and central heat.

The cost of keeping one child in the day-care center or nursery school runs the farm 600 rubles annually. Parents don't pay anything. The children's breakfasts and lunches are likewise free. These additions from the public consumption funds save a family about 400 rubles per person a year.

Greener Pastures

"Investment in improving the conditions of work, life and recreation of farmers is of very great importance," Starodubtsev says with conviction. "In the country as a whole it now constitutes every fifth ruble of the total investment in agriculture; every third ruble at our farm. But this is still not enough. Sociological surveys show that if you direct 40 per cent of all your resources into comprehensive development and nonproductive construction on the farm, income grows 50 to 100 per cent as fast as when no such construction is conducted. We must take another step forward in this direction."

People don't leave Spasskoye, they move here. The Lenin Collective Farm is indisputably the winner in the challenge to attract more laborers—no small feat in a country where there has not been any unemployment since the thirties.

Milking machine operator Nina Saratova moved to the farm five years ago with her husband. They came from Novosibirsk, where they had worked on an assembly line at a radio parts plant. "It's clear that we have grown in every respect," she says, summing up the results of the change in her life. ■

Canning the tomatoes will be Valentina Kovalchuk's next undertaking. No doubt Zhanna and Victor (at left) will lend a hand.

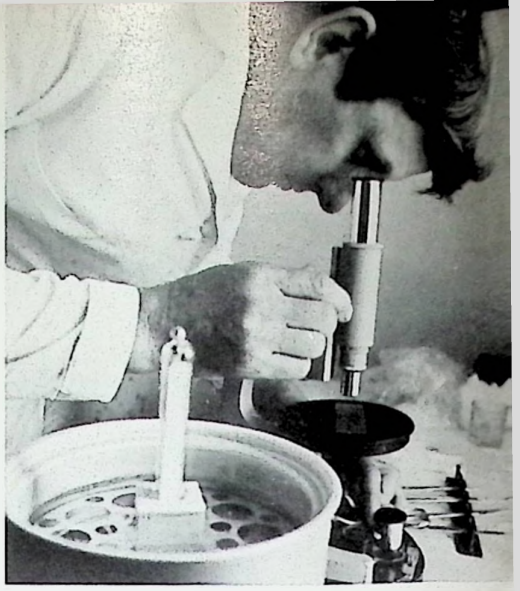
INDIVIDUAL FARMING ON STATE-OWNED LAND

By Grigori Kolobov
Photographs by Yevgeni Koktysh

For six years now Pyotr Kovalchuk, a 43-year-old livestock breeder at the Lomonosov Collective Farm in Byelorussia, his wife Valentina, a dairy worker, and their two children Zhanna and Victor, who are elementary school pupils, have had a small holding, or private plot of land. The plot, which measures half a hectare, was given to the family by the farm free of charge for an indefinite period. The only condition is that the Kovalchuks must cultivate the land themselves. Soviet law prohibits the use of hired labor.

"Everything we raise," Pyotr says, "is ours. We grow onions, garlic, cucumbers, tomatoes, potatoes and all kinds of greens. We also have fruit trees."

One out of every 10 hectares of plowland at the Lomonosov Collective Farm has been set aside for private plots (about the same ratio also exists at other farms in Byelorussia). The plots are used either to grow farm crops that don't require large tracts of land or to raise livestock. (In most cases the fodder for the livestock is provided by the collective farm.) The farms provide help in getting seed, fodder, fertilizer, transport and expert advice.



The Experience of the Farm

"At our farm," says the man in charge, Genrikh Tretyak, 50, Candidate of Science (Economics), "small holdings play a special role in livestock production. Each year we create special fodder and forage stocks for this purpose, which we realize at a small price. Although a farmer can dispose of the meat obtained on his plot as he chooses, he is interested in delivering it to the farm. We maintain our own procurement unit, which buys up livestock products at fixed prices.

"In 1984, for example, we sold the state 30 per cent more meat than the previous year. One-fifth of it was obtained from small holdings. The same percentage also goes for milk deliveries to the state. We expect these figures to rise in the future for the simple reason that the plots are, in fact, part of the farm's agricultural assembly line, which begins on the fodder lands, hayfields and pastures of the farm.

"Or take this example," Genrikh continues. "Our farm is made up of 1,200 members. However, only 400 of that number are active. The rest are pensioners who helped to get agriculture back on its feet after World War II. These people have a strong love for the land and want to stay close to it. So the veterans suggested at a farm meeting that, as an experiment, part of the farm's livestock should be 'transferred' to their plots, into the sphere of individual farming. These were the terms: The farm would turn over a young pig, for example, to a veteran for fattening. The veteran would bring it up to the delivery weight of 100 kilograms and then sell it to the farm at the state purchase price.

"We supported the pensioners and began to sign fattening contracts with them.

"The venture has proved advantageous. The pensioners benefit by obtaining a long-term source of extra income, in cash and in kind; the farm benefits by increasing its meat supplies to the state.

"The state also benefits since it saves the capital investments that are required for the establishment of large-scale production, and so do consumers. They get more products and a wider choice. Thus, a pensioner continues to participate in social production in the form of work at home, in which he also enlists members of his family. The experience of our farm has been written about and discussed all over Byelorussia."

More to It Than Money

The Kovalchuk family's small holding brings in as much as 800 rubles in profits annually, not to mention the fact that their table is graced year round with fresh produce and homemade pickles and preserves.

"The sum may appear not large," Valentina says, "compared with our earnings at the farm—Pyotr makes 3,120 rubles a year, I make 2,000 rubles—but in the family budget it's disposable income. In the past six years that we've had the plot of land, we've furnished our six-room house, bought a car and purchased, in cooperation with neighbors, a minitractor for cultivating our plots. But there's more to it than just money. Our children spend all of their leisure hours on the land. And they like it. Zhanna and Victor have already decided that they want to work on the farm after they finish school."

The Kovalchuks aren't unusual. Small holdings are a characteristic feature of socialist agriculture. Although their role is insignificant in the over-all count of collective farmlands, they play an immeasurable economic and social role.

Shift of Emphasis

"The effect of the integration of small holdings and communal sectors is obvious," says Grigori Goldman, chief of the economics department at Byelorussia's Ministry of Agriculture. "Last year's gross farm output in Byelorussia, without enlisting significant investments, increased by 30 per cent, compared with the previous two years. This, naturally, meant a rise in living standards both for farmers and urban dwellers.

"For this reason the government of the republic is encouraging such experiments and is taking steps to introduce them into practice. A number of decisions have been passed requiring economic agencies to promote the development of private plots. General allocations of investment and material resources from the appropriate ministries and departments are to be used for this purpose. We're now discussing the idea of creating conditions so that practically every rural family can have its own plot and keep livestock and poultry.

"The network of permanent and temporary state purchasing centers, slaughterhouses and processing shops to serve individual farming is now being expanded. Power tools for farmwork are being developed, and the variety of mineral fertilizers is being widened.

"Six per cent of Byelorussia's farmlands is cur-

rently being farmed by individuals. The emphasis is on livestock breeding. But this specialization is only temporary because the communal sector is beginning to produce more meat. People with private plots are gradually reorienting themselves to growing vegetables, fruit, berries, greens and flowers. We can already see this trend in a few districts of Byelorussia.

"The development of small holdings will be further encouraged since there is no conflict of interest between the plot that a Soviet farmer tills completely with his own labor and the communal sector of a collective or state farm where he is engaged for the greater part of the workday. These two sectors have been integrally linked since the first years of Soviet government and are developing hand in hand." ■

Pyotr Kovalchuk (above) is a cattle breeder for a collective farm in Byelorussia. After the day is done at the collective farm, he goes home (his son Victor often rides out to meet him) to work on his own plot of land, which measures about an acre in size. Kovalchuk went in together with a neighbor, Ivan Bortashevich (inset), to buy a small tractor, which makes the cultivating work on his plot a lot easier. No amateur, Kovalchuk (facing page, top) checks on the quality of seeds in his home laboratory.

THE POTSDAM CONFERENCE: CODE-NAMED TERMINAL

By Mikhail Petrov

Like a wise teacher, history seems to have decided this year as we celebrate the fortieth anniversary of the end of World War II not to prompt the answer to the most complex and important question of the times to its students, but to encourage them with a reminder that they have solved a problem of similar complexity once before. Last February, it reminded them of the Yalta Conference, which former U.S. Secretary of State James Byrnes called the high point of the three Great Powers' unity. This July, too, it offered another relevant and encouraging example for all who are searching for an answer to the question of how to achieve successful cooperation between states with different social systems in ensuring international security. For it reminded us how, meeting at the Potsdam Conference amid an extremely complicated international situation exactly 40 years ago, the Soviet Union, the United States and Great Britain were able to lay the foundations of a postwar settlement in Europe, forging the basis for peace on a continent that had been the starting point of two world wars.

However, can the reminders of the accord and cooperation of the former allies in the anti-Hitler coalition really be relevant and encouraging today? It is, after all, the state of Soviet–American relations, which largely determines the atmosphere on the international scene, that worries people the most, making them think of the threat of nuclear holocaust. The anti-Hitler coalition did exist, and the meeting at Teheran and the Yalta Conference did take place, but at that time the Soviet Union, the United States and Great Britain were united by their shared awareness of the danger emanating from their main common enemy, nazi Germany. It was that awareness that formed the basis for the cooperation of the Great Powers, despite the differences in their social systems.

"The invasion of Russia," Winston Churchill said in his radio address on June 22, 1941, the day of Hitler's sneak attack on the Soviet Union, "is only the prelude to an attempt to invade the British Isles. Therefore, the danger to Russia is a danger to us and the United States." These words, it is true, were spoken *during* the war. Nonetheless, this only serves to underline the relevance of the Potsdam Conference, which took place *after* the defeat of Hitler's Germany and which thereby proved the possibility of cooperation between nations with different social systems not only in wartime, when threatened by a common enemy, but also in peacetime, when tackling problems, the first and foremost being that of ensuring international security.

The difficult, but constructive, dialogue at Potsdam during the summer of 1945, followed by 40 years of peace in Europe, in spite of the military organizations of the world's two different social systems standing there face to face, can only be relevant today. The Potsdam meeting of the Big Three, which was able to resolve the most complex problems in a most complex situation, can only encourage those who want to know today if it is possible to remove the obstacles and pool the efforts of countries with different social systems to carry out the overriding task of the times and prevent a nuclear war.

The Last Inter-Allied Conference?

The conference in the Berlin suburb of Potsdam, the third and last summit meeting of the three great allied powers in World War II, was held in conditions that were markedly different from those of the first two summits. After nazi Germany had been defeated and the danger emanating from it eliminated, the centrifugal forces hindering concerted allied actions began to make themselves strongly felt due to the differences in the social systems. U.S. Assistant Secretary of State Charles Bohlen, who acted as an interpreter at all of the conferences of the Big Three, later wrote that by that time Churchill had made a 180 degree turn in his attitude toward the Soviet Union.

However, when Hitler's war machine stalled near Moscow in November 1941—for the first time during the war—while Soviet forces on other fronts started dealing painful counterblows to the Wehrmacht armies, it was none other than Churchill who wrote to Josef Stalin about the need for postwar cooperation among the Allies. "The fact that Russia is a communist state and that Britain and the USA are not and do not intend to be," he wrote, "is not any obstacle to our making a good plan for our mutual safety and rightful interests." In his reply to Churchill, Stalin wrote that "the difference in the nature of the state systems of the USSR, on the one hand, and Britain and the USA, on the other, should not and cannot prevent us from resolving the fundamental questions of our mutual safety and rightful interests favorably."

After the war, however, things changed. New trends emerged not only in the British position but also in relations between the United States and the Soviet Union. In late May of 1945 Harry Hopkins, a personal envoy of President Harry Truman, told Stalin in Moscow that his friends were worried that something was afoot which they could not understand but which threatened to destroy the fiber of relations between the two countries created over the previous three years.

During his conversations with Hopkins, Stalin expressed anxiety as well, in particular over suspended lend-lease shipments. Although Truman's order to suspend the shipments was later rescinded, it had caused the Soviet Government much concern. That concern was obviously prompted not so much by economic considerations as by the awareness of how important it was to continue Soviet–American cooperation in peacetime.

"I should tell Mr. Hopkins candidly," Stalin said, "that if the Russians are dealt with in good faith and on a friendly basis, then very much can be done." Stalin confirmed that the United States had honored its commitments throughout the history of the lend-lease program and that he recognized the right of the United States to limit lend-lease supplies to the Soviet Union after the end of the war in Europe, but he added that if the Soviet Government had been notified about that in advance, there would not have been so much concern.

That meeting, as well as the trips of U.S. presidential envoy Joseph Davies to London and further exchanges of opinions helped to settle the main questions concerning the next conference of the Big Three. The place, Berlin, was proposed by Stalin; the date, mid-July, by Truman; and the code name, "Terminal," by Churchill. The British Prime Minister's choice of words couldn't help but make Moscow wonder if this was a hint that Potsdam would be the end of the cooperation that had developed among the Allies during the war.

Stalin Meets Truman

Stalin arrived in Berlin on July 16, the day that the first atomic bomb was exploded at Alamogordo. Stalin could foresee that the talks would be difficult. He had gotten to know Churchill well over the war years. However, the new American President was terra incognita for Stalin, and he thought it very important to get to know him. Aware of how urgently essential it was to make this new acquaintance, and yet nostalgic for his relationship with the late President Roosevelt, Stalin went to visit Truman at his residence on the day after his arrival.

The Chairman of the USSR Council of People's Commissars, who had steered his country through the grim war years, and the American President,

who had come into office three months before, met at noon on July 17. His gold epaulets glistening on his white tunic, Stalin stepped softly into Truman's office on the second floor of a villa at No. 2, Kaiserstrasse in Babelsberg, one of the most scenic areas on the outskirts of Berlin. It was five kilometers away from the Cecilienhof Palace, where the conference was to take place.

As he greeted Stalin, Truman said he was glad to meet him. Stalin responded that it was certainly good to make a personal acquaintance. Truman said he would like to form a relationship with Stalin that would be just as friendly as the latter's rapport with the late President Roosevelt. Truman added that he was confident of the necessity of it and wanted to be Stalin's friend.

"On the part of the Soviet Government," Stalin replied, "there is full readiness to go together with the United States." Responding to that, however, Truman said there would, of course, be difficulties and differences of opinion during the talks. Yes, Stalin agreed, difficulties could not be avoided. However, he added that the all-important thing was to find a common language. Each of the three sides is willing to do so, Truman summed up.

The subject of the war in the Far East was then broached. Stalin said he felt the British people regarded the war with Japan as a far-off war and showed little interest in it, hoping that the United States and the Soviet Union would fulfill their duty in the war against Japan. Truman remarked, however, that things were not such for the Allies to require active British help in the war against Japan. However, he emphasized that the United States expected assistance from the Soviet Union.

The Soviet Union would be prepared to join the effort by mid-August, Stalin said confidently, looking Truman straight in the eye and adding that he would keep his word. Bohlen later wrote that Stalin had been calm and cordial, his voice soft and friendly.

The conversation was followed by lunch, where the two men continued to size up each other. Stalin's calm, civility and straightforwardness, by Truman's own admission, made a big impression on him, and the U.S. President decided to be candid with the Soviet leader.

What was Stalin's first impression of his American counterpart? Perhaps it can be judged from the following. When the summit began at the Cecilienhof Palace at 5:08 P.M. that same day and Churchill raised the question of who would be chairman of the conference, Stalin said promptly: "I propose U.S. President Truman."

Basic Interests in Common

The question of Germany was the focal point of the Potsdam Conference. That it was a difficult one to discuss and resolve can be seen, for instance, from the fact that as early as the second day of the talks, it was the question that prompted the first disagreements. One problem that arose at the full-scale meeting on July 18 was how to understand the idea of "Germany" and whether it could be understood in the same way it was before the war. Conference chairman Truman asked at once for the Soviet view on the matter.

"Germany is what it has become after the war. There is no other Germany now," Stalin responded. But, Truman argued, Germany had lost everything and was now practically nonexistent. Germany is a geographical notion, Stalin replied, suggesting that it be taken as such. You should not disengage yourself from the results of the war. That was his firm opinion. However, perhaps we should still speak of Germany as it had been before the war, in 1937, Truman observed. "Formally, it can be seen as such. But in fact, it is not," Stalin said in response. He added: "If a German administration appears in Königsberg, we will drive it out, we certainly will."

Truman again asked how the conference would define "Germany." The dialogue went on. Finally, Stalin made this suggestion: "Let us define the western borders of Poland, and then the issue of Germany will become clearer. I find it very hard to say what Germany is now. It is a country which does not have a government and which does not have any definite borders since the borders are not marked by our forces. Germany has no troops, including border guards, and is divided into zones of occupation. So try and define what Germany is. It is a routed country."

No, that judgment did not have the haughtiness of a victor. Back on May 9, the day after Germany signed the act of unconditional surrender, Stalin stated in an address: "The Soviet Union is celebrating victory, although it does not intend to dismember or to destroy Germany." At Potsdam, the Soviet Union reaffirmed that Germany should remain an integral state and proposed forming a provisional Pan-German government. However, because the United States and Great Britain objected, the proposal was not accepted.

Commenting on the Western allies' plans to partition Germany, Stalin said at the conference: "It is imperative not to partition Germany but to make it a peace-loving democratic state." With that aim in mind, the Soviet delegation at Potsdam put forward a concrete proposal concerning the demilitarization, denazification, democratization and decartelization of Germany. It also proposed that Germany repay, at least partially, for the damage it had done to the countries of the anti-Hitler coalition and that the war criminals be punished for their crimes against peace and humanity.

The discussion of policy in regard to Germany was based on a U.S. draft containing many provisions of the Allies' previous agreements on Germany. This allowed for a fast resolution of that question: The political principles of the Three Powers' coordinated policy toward Germany were, for the most part, endorsed as early as the second day. Hammering out the economic principles for dealing with Germany proved to be a much thornier problem. The question of reparations, for example, wasn't solved until the end of the conference.

However the intense discussions on various matters related to Germany did not lead the conference away from the prime issue, that of uprooting and obliterating German militarism so that Germany would never threaten its neighbors or world peace again. The common basic interests uniting the parties were stronger than those separating them. What were the basic interests shared by the conferees? In the opinion of the newspaper *Pravda*, which was voiced at that time, they consisted of "removing the threat of German aggression forever, preventing the revival of German imperialism, and ensuring a lasting peace among nations and international security."

The Fine Art of Compromise

One of the more pointed problems of the postwar territorial settlement in Europe was that of establishing Germany's eastern borders. Whereas it didn't take much time at Potsdam to resolve the question of the transfer of Königsberg and the adjoining area to the Soviet Union, which had also been considered at the Teheran Conference in November 1943, a bitter dispute developed over the western border of Poland.

The Soviet delegation proposed examining that issue in line with a decision taken by the Yalta Conference in February 1945. Arguing, however, that Poland had never made any official declarations concerning its western frontier, Truman, supported by Churchill, spoke out in favor of taking up the issue at a peacetime conference. Nonetheless, the Soviet delegation insisted on inviting representatives of the new Polish Government of National Unity to the Potsdam Conference. During its meetings with the heads of government and the foreign ministers of the Three Powers at Potsdam, the Polish delegation comprehensively substantiated its country's claims to traditionally Polish lands in the West. Those claims were backed by the Soviet delegation.

It took compromises to reach the final decision at the conference. Truman and Clement Attlee, the new British Prime Minister who replaced Churchill, agreed to the Soviet and Polish proposal on the condition that greater account would be taken of their own standpoint on Germany's reparations and the admission of new members to the United Nations. On July 31, Secretary of State Byrnes said that there would be no concessions on the Polish border unless there was agreement on reparations and admission to the UN. After those problems were settled, the issue of Poland's western border was also finally decided. The conference also made a decision to move the German people remaining in Poland, Czechoslovakia and Hungary to Germany, thus confirming the permanent nature of the Polish border.

Sharp debates also ensued on the Three Powers' policy in relation to the former allies of nazi Germany. Truman suggested supporting Italy's request to be admitted to the UN and abrogating the terms of that country's capitulation. For its part, the Soviet delegation insisted that Bulgaria, Rumania, Hungary and Finland be put in no worse a condition when the question of their joining the UN was resolved. On the issue of establishing diplomatic relations with those countries, Stalin made the compromise proposal that each of the powers consider the issue independently. Truman agreed to that proposal.

Controversy continued throughout the conference, though it never escalated into open animosity, while laughter, which rang out more than once at the three-meter-wide round negotiating table, often helped to defuse the tension.

The Will for Mutual Understanding

Even a quick look through the final documents of the Potsdam Conference leaves you impressed by the number and diversity of the problems discussed there. They ranged from the formation of a Council of Foreign Ministers, Germany's future and its boundaries, the prosecution of war criminals and the question of Austria, to the issue of Poland and its frontiers, and the problem of peace treaties with Germany's former allies and their admission to the UN. Although some of the problems raised were deferred for final resolution at later talks, most were settled at the Potsdam Conference.

They were discussed and solved in an atmosphere that differed significantly from that at the Teheran and Yalta summits. According to Bohlen, although outwardly all were friendly, there was reserve on each side, which symbolized the existence of mistrust. It would of course be incongruous to deny this. It showed up, for example, in the fact that the Potsdam declaration, which called upon the Japanese Government to surrender its armed forces without delay, was issued by the United States, Great Britain and China without prior agreement with the Soviet Union. It was sent to the Soviet delegation merely for the latter's information.

However, neither the certain measure of mistrust nor the differences in each side's approach to solving the problems of the postwar world prevented the ultimately successful conclusion of the Potsdam Conference. It was held in a complex situation, but its atmosphere was businesslike and constructive. The will for mutual understanding triumphed over the mistrust. When the conference formulated the decisions reached by the Big Three and its permanent chairman Truman declared it closed on the night of August 1 after two weeks of intensive work, he added that he hoped another meeting would be held soon. "God willing," Stalin said, adding that "the conference may perhaps be summed up as successful."

The significance of events that affect the destiny of a nation, a continent or the whole world is most accurately determined by history. This is precisely the case with the Potsdam Conference. The 40 years of peace in Europe, whose foundations were laid by that meeting, speak better than any words about the fact that what took place at Potsdam in the summer of 1945 is of everlasting significance. The difficult, but constructive, dialogue has demonstrated conclusively that even in the most complicated conditions the Great Powers can and should find a basis for cooperation in the name of security and peace despite the differences in their positions. ■

NUCLEAR POWER: GOOD? OR EVIL?

"When I'm asked how good or bad nuclear energy is, I wonder at the questioner's naiveté. There is no choice in this matter. It's too late to bemoan nature's lack of foresight in providing us with enough conventional energy sources. It's too late to regret that the oil and gas reserves will, sooner or later, be depleted. It's sad, of course. However, the only thing that can save us is nuclear energy," Leonid Ilyin, vice president of the USSR Academy of Medical Sciences, told SOVIET LIFE correspondent Yuri Teplyakov. Academician Ilyin heads the USSR Commission for Radiation Safety. He is in charge of work that is essential to the safety of millions upon millions of people, given the present rate of nuclear development in the Soviet Union and the extensive use of radioactive substances in our economy.

Q: Why is there a tendency to associate the atom with evil and danger? Why is it necessary to prove that this is not the case?

A: I think the answer lies in psychology. The evil side of the atom manifested itself first. And many blame nuclear energy for this.

All of my life, since my student days in fact, I have been involved with nuclear energy. I don't know a greater good that science has ever bestowed upon humanity.

Take today's situation. According to the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA), there are 281 nuclear reactors operating in the world with a total capacity of 161 million kilowatts. They're generating 10 per cent of the world's electricity. By 1990 nuclear power capacities are expected to reach 450 million kilowatts. In another 10 years the 700-million-kilowatt mark will be attained. In the European part of the Soviet Union, one-third of all the electric power will soon be generated by nuclear plants.

All over the world the atom started its peaceful labor by generating power. Now it is more widely used. It has been estimated that 60 per cent of natural energy resources are spent for heating and domestic needs and for producing high temperatures in industry, for example, in the metals and chemicals branches.

However, it won't be too long before the atom will take over this area too. Reactors for supplying cities with heat have already been developed. Nuclear energy will also come to the shop floor.

Q: All of that is fine, but it has no prospects for expansion. The atom's possibilities are likewise limited by the availability of uranium. Reliable estimates put the world resources of relatively cheap uranium suitable for power generation at some four million metric tons. Also, nuclear power plants are almost exclusively burning uranium 235, which occurs in natural uranium less than one per cent of the time. It's unlikely that this fuel will last us a long time at the present rate of consumption. What do you think?

A: You're quite right. However, science is always moving onward. Basic physical research, which has discovered nuclear fuel breeding, has drastically changed the possibilities for uranium. Nuclear reactors can be made to operate in such a way that instead of consuming fuel, they will be breeding it, paradoxical as that may sound. A kilogram of uranium generates 30 to 40 times more energy in a breeder reactor than it does in a thermal neutron reactor, which mainly utilizes uranium 235.

Reactors that are capable of using plutonium and uranium 233 will make available tens of millions of metric tons of uranium in the oceans, in uranium-poor ores, in acid rocks. You can also add here hundreds of billions of metric tons of thorium. These are resources that can be safely called inexhaustible. They will last for millenniums.

As for the rate of development of the nuclear power industry within the near future, the mass of nuclear fuel will be doubled, which is something that should happen within the next five to seven years. During the coming five-year period [1986-1990] the Soviet Union will put nuclear generators into operation that have a combined capacity of 24 to 25 million kilowatts. Virtually the entire increase in capacities in the European part of the country will come from nuclear power.

Q: Does this mean that as the number of nuclear power plants grows, the likelihood of radioactive pollution of the environment and of accidents will grow too? After all, trouble will have a wider choice of places to strike.

A: These misgivings are unfounded. Why? My optimism is based on completely accurate figures. Even with a 40-fold increase in present nuclear capacities their "contribution to global radioactive pollution" will be, at most, one per cent of the Earth's background radiation.

This comparison is now quoted in all of the textbooks, but when it was first published, it created quite a stir. The radiation effects of conventional thermal electric power plants are several hundred times greater than that of normally operating nuclear power plants.

Individual exposure doses are extremely small, just a few millirems, at Soviet nuclear power plants. This compares with the average individual exposure rate of about 400 millirems a year, which come from X-rays and global radioactive fallout. The list could be extended, of course, but the curious thing is that of these 400 millirems, only four are contributed by nuclear power stations.

So you can see that the impact of nuclear power on health is negligible. If discharges from nuclear power plants had any effect on the population's health—in distant and nearby cities and towns—we would take every conceivable and inconceivable measure to change things.

Q: What makes you such a confirmed believer in the harmlessness of nuclear power plants?

A: The Soviet Union began research in the biological effects of radiation, radiation pathology and the uses of radiation in medicine well before 1956, when it built the world's first nuclear power plant outside Moscow. It was at that time that I chose my profession. The regulations in force then were very strict, and it's no wonder. They safeguarded our own lives and our common treasure—the environment. These regulations later became law. There is one point that I want you to note. The National Commission for Radiation Safety is part of the Ministry of Health.

Q: Have there been any changes in the regulations adopted back then?

A: There have been some, of course. Five years ago we adopted new health rules concerning new nuclear power plants. Their maximum values are much higher, which is a result of advanced technology. The new rules deal, in particular, with the health of people living near giant nuclear plants. The requirements are 20 times more stringent. Not long ago we staged an interesting experiment that I want to tell you about. We made level recordings close to a nuclear power plant and 1,000 kilometers away from it, with only background radiation present. Then we asked an expert to tell them apart. The scientist made the wrong conclusion.

Plant personnel in direct contact with nuclear reactors are equally well protected. Instruments show that the annual level of radiation to which they are exposed is five to ten times less than that normally considered safe. We have experts who have years of service at nuclear plants. I have talked to many of them. The only changes they have experienced are the results of aging. Otherwise, their physical condition is excellent.

Individual radiation doses received by people living near nuclear plants are 30,000 times less than the dose you get from a medical X-ray. I don't mean to say that X-ray diagnostics is hazardous, but that the effect of nuclear plants is insignificant.

However, I repeat, this is not the result of technology alone. From the outset, we put safety and reliability first. There was no threat of profits and competition hanging over us.

And this is the reward: Soviet nuclear plants have not had one single accident that has ever threatened the lives of staff or neighboring population, not since they were built.

Q: To hear you speak, humankind can only be grateful to nuclear energy. However, complaints are, nevertheless, made. Why is that?

A: The reason lies in the potential hazards. The atom will be the atom, you cannot deny this. But, I stress, the risk is potential. People, however, try to keep out of the way even when the risk is only potential.

As far as their fuel cycle is concerned, nuclear plants are, indeed, a great radiation hazard, both to the population and to the environment. An accident is theoretically possible in reactors built in the mid-seventies. But it can occur, according to estimates, only once in 20,000 years. This is why the likelihood of death from an accident at present-day nuclear power plants is 10,000 times less than in a moving car. The risk of radiation is closer to the probability of a large meteorite falling on your head—something neither you nor I have ever heard of, I presume.

True, these calculations apply when nuclear safety is seen in a broader context than just the guaranteed reliability of operation of a nuclear plant, but also includes social and even individual aspects, in addition to technological aspects. Radiation protection in the Soviet Union has a three- to four-fold margin of safety and makes up nearly half a plant's cost. Even so, nobody is going to economize here. The mounting scale of the industry—nuclear generating capacities in the socialist countries are expected to reach 100 million kilowatts during the next 10 years—calls for more improved monitoring and control. As a result, we set up the State Committee for Safety in Nuclear Plant Construction.

This is an organization with good brains and strong legal teeth. It follows then that plant reliability will be even greater.

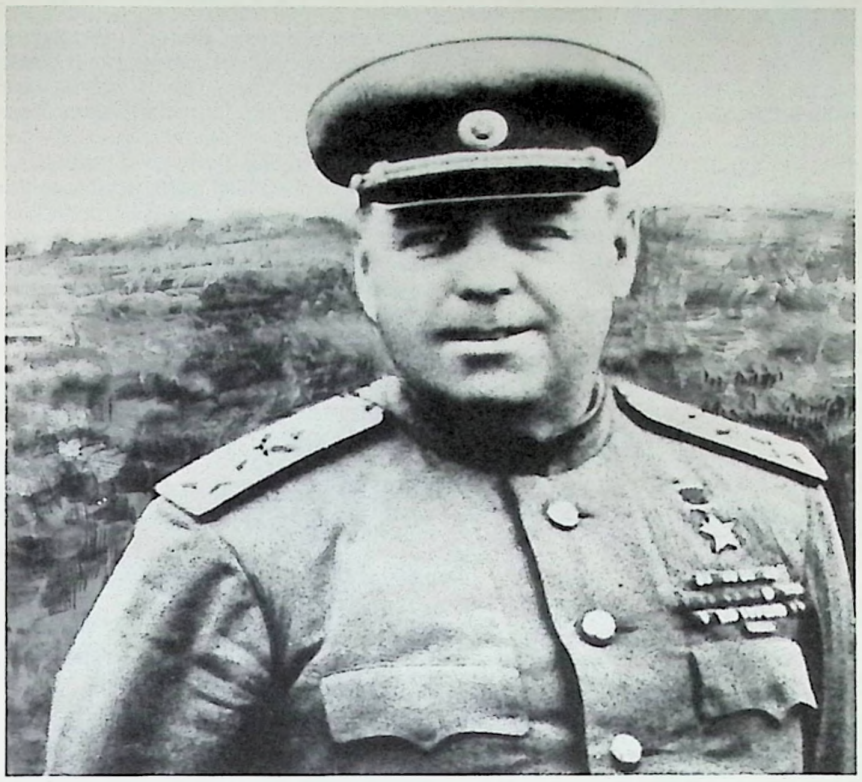
Q: Do you mean to say that the opponents of nuclear power have no arguments other than emotional ones? That there are no cons against nuclear plants?

A: I would love to be able to say Yes, but I cannot as yet. Radioactive waste that needs to be stored in safety and for a long time to avoid polluting the environment casts a shadow over nuclear power. For the moment it's the Achilles' heel of the industry.

There are many methods of storing radioactive waste, but each has its drawbacks. The one considered to be the most technically advanced at present is vitrification and burial in stable geological structures. Glass containers will last for a millennium, and even if they do disintegrate sometime in the future, no danger will result. This is a good method, but it's not the best one, perhaps. The main thing that is clear now is that active waste can be isolated, although in engineering terms this is a difficult proposition. In physical terms, it is possible.

So we need not turn our back on nuclear energy. There is no doubt that it's our future. ■

MARSHAL ALEXANDER VASILEVSKY (1895-1977)



I AM HAPPY AND PROUD that in my country's most difficult hour I could do my part for our Armed Forces and go with them through the bitterness of setbacks and the joy of victory." These words belong to Alexander Vasilevsky, that celebrated Soviet soldier who commanded the Soviet forces in the Far East during the last major action of World War II.

One of Our Most Eminent Soldiers

Our nation will never forget your services in the fight against that vilest enemy of humankind that was nazism. You are rightfully considered one of our most eminent soldiers.

Marshal Georgi Zhukov (1896-1974)
in a letter to Vasilevsky

It would be hard to overrate Alexander Vasilevsky as a military leader. . . . Great erudition, prodigious military talent, devotion to the task at hand, valor, personal charm, a keen sense of honor and integrity—these are the qualities of Vasilevsky the soldier.

Afanasi Byeloborodov,
General of the Army

Alexander Vasilevsky was a combination of grit and extraordinary sensitivity and tact.

Konstantin Simonov,
Writer

I had the opportunity to work under Alexander Vasilevsky for 12 years at various steps on the service ladder. The more I got to know him, the more I respected that valiant and always humble, goodhearted man.

Sergei Shtemenko,
General of the Army

Early Years

Alexander Vasilevsky was born on September 30, 1895, into the family of an Orthodox priest in the country parish of Novaya Golchikha near the city of Ivanovo. He attended a theological school before entering the Alexeyev Military College in Moscow, from which he graduated in 1915. He then went on to fight in World War I.

In his autobiography *Delo vsei zhizni* (*Business of a Lifetime*) Vasilevsky wrote:

My life up until the Great October Socialist Revolution of 1917 wasn't anything remarkable. I came from the clerical class, which made me one of tens of thousands in Russia. I was an officer in the czar's army, a category in no less abundance. The year 1917 was a critically important one for Russia and all humankind. Millions had to choose whom to side with. This was where the seemingly uniform and close-knit band of supporters of the czar's regime was split. Some joined the White Army, and quite a number chose the ranks of the new Soviet government. I was one of the latter.

Military Service

During World War I Alexander Vasilevsky was a captain.

In the Russian Civil War he commanded a battalion and later a regiment in the Red Army.

In 1936 Vasilevsky attended the General Staff Academy. In May 1940 he was appointed deputy head of the General Staff's Operations Division.

In May 1942 he became head of the General Staff, and in October of that same year he was also appointed deputy to the People's Commissar (Minister) of Defense.

In February 1945 he was given command of the 3rd Byelorussian Front,* and in June of that same year he became Supreme Commander of the Soviet forces in the Far East.

From March 1949 to March 1953 Vasilevsky served as USSR Minister of the Armed Forces.

He became a Marshal in February 1943.

Battles

Marshal Vasilevsky helped to prepare offensive operations for Moscow, Stalingrad and Kursk. He was likewise involved in the liberation of the Donets Coal Area, the Ukraine (both left and right of the Dnieper), the Crimea, Byelorussia, the Baltic coast and Eastern Prussia. He led the rout of the Japanese Kwangtung Army in Manchuria.

Decorations

On two occasions Alexander Vasilevsky was awarded the Soviet Union's highest honor—the title of Hero of the Soviet Union. He received two Orders of Victory (the Order of Victory is the highest commander's award), eight Orders of Lenin, two Orders of the Red Banner, an Order of the October Revolution and the Suvorov Order. He also received 14 foreign decorations.

Named After Vasilevsky

The Antiaircraft Defense Academy in Kiev and streets in Moscow, Kineshma (Ivanovo Region) and Krivoi Rog (in the Ukraine) bear his name.

The Defeat of the Kwangtung Army

"On April 27, 1945, I began to plan the campaign against Japan," Vasilevsky wrote in his autobiography. "The main aim was to wipe out the Kwangtung Army, the Japanese militarists' crack force, and free the Chinese northeastern province of Manchuria, as well as North Korea."

In June 1945 Vasilevsky was off to the Far East on a special train. His true identity was kept secret. On his papers he was Colonel General Vasilyev, a deputy of the People's Commissar of Defense. The Marshal's stripes were packed in his adjutant's suitcase.

At the beginning of this final engagement with the enemy Vasilevsky exhorted his men: "Since the great war in the West, our nation and all peoples have a strong desire for peace. We must annihilate the last aggressor as quickly as possible."

The Soviet campaign in the Far East was a brilliant success. History books say that it lasted 24 days, but the actual fighting accounted for only about half of that time. The enemy was routed. The Japanese militarists lost their springboard for aggression and their raw material sources in China, Korea and the southern part of Sakhalin Island. The fall of the Kwangtung Army brought on the capitulation of Japan.

The ending of the war in the Far East saved the lives of hundreds of thousands of American and British soldiers, spared Japanese civilians inestimable suffering and halted the destruction and pillaging by the Japanese occupationists in East and Southeast Asia.

No small part of the credit for this must go to Alexander Vasilevsky, Supreme Commander of the Soviet forces in the Far East. And yet when asked what operations he was responsible for, he simply replied: "Independently, I personally cannot claim that I worked out a single operation from start to finish in the whole campaign. Nor can anyone else. All of the command personnel, all of the officers and all of the soldiers did their part."

Alexander Vasilevsky was an exceedingly modest person, a fine leader and a true soldier.

*Front refers to a group of armies.

victory:1941-1945

THE LESSONS OF WARTIME COOPERATION

This is the first of a two-part series.

By Pyotr Mikhailov

After listening to the text read to him on August 8, 1945, by Soviet Foreign Minister Vyacheslav Molotov, U.S. Ambassador to the USSR Averell Harriman said that the Soviet Government's statement would please every household in the United States.

In the statement the Soviet Government announced that "as of August 9 the Soviet Union will consider itself at war with Japan."

Later that day, on August 8, the statement was read to the Japanese Ambassador in Moscow, Naotake Sato. After rereading the text of the statement, the Ambassador said that, in his opinion, the war would not last long. He was an experienced diplomat, and he knew what he was talking about.

On the next day Japan's Prime Minister Kantaro Suzuki made the following statement: "The Soviet Union's entry into the war this morning puts us in a totally hopeless position and makes it impossible to continue the war."

World War II ended on September 2, the day Japan signed an act of unconditional surrender. The Berlin–Rome–Tokyo Axis was broken at both ends. It should be recalled here that at first some people thought the wars of aggression unleashed by nazi Germany in Europe and by Japan in the Far East were

A naval landing force hoists the flag of the Soviet Navy at Port Arthur in August 1945. Above right, from left to right: Marshals of the Soviet Union Kiril Meretskov, Rodion Malinovsky and Alexander Vasilevsky at the Dairen Airport in September 1945. Below: Citizens of Manchuria welcome Soviet soldiers. Soviet troops routed Japan's main ground forces in the northeastern part of China in August and September of 1945.

not connected. Even when it became clear that Berlin, Rome and Tokyo had formed an axis, many people in the West did not know at which end they should start breaking the axis.

The Lessons of December 1941

The first major defeat inflicted on nazi troops by the Soviet armies was at Moscow in December 1941. It prompted the answer to which end should be broken first. A day after the start of the Soviet counteroffensive at Moscow the Japanese made a surprise attack on Pearl Harbor in an attempt to reduce the possibility of the United States entering the war in Europe at such an unfavorable moment for Germany. Four days later, wanting to support its Far Eastern ally, nazi Germany declared war on the United States.

Stalin thought that Hitler was simply bluffing to show that Germany was still strong enough to fight the war not only against the Soviet Union and Great Britain but also against the United States. The nature and order of events in December 1941 show that the hostilities in Europe and the Far East should be considered together.

President Franklin D. Roosevelt made it clear that he realized the existence of an interrelationship the day after the Japanese attack on Pearl Harbor. He told the newly appointed Soviet Ambassador, Maxim Litvinov, that the U.S. war against Japan would be a long one. At the same time, the President assured the Soviet Ambassador that the new turn of events would not affect American supplies to the Soviet Union.

President Roosevelt spelled out his position at a conference that opened in Washington, D.C., in December. There he said that the United States might crush Japan but lose the war anyway, though it was highly unlikely that after crushing Germany the United States would not be able to defeat Japan.

Defeating the Main Enemy

The Soviet Union also realized this. It had experienced to the fullest extent possible the impact of the German military machine, which had trampled Europe and moved on to Moscow. On December 11, 1941, Molotov sent a telegram to Ambassador Litvinov, saying that the Soviet Government could not declare war on Japan at that time. If it had, its resistance to the German armies would have been weakened, and that would have played into the hands of nazi Germany. Moscow knew that the war could be won only if nazi Germany was defeated first.

When Ambassador Litvinov explained to President Roosevelt the motives behind the Soviet decision, the latter said that although he regretted it, he would have done the same if he were in the Soviet leaders' place. The President asked the Soviet Government not to make the Soviet decision on neutrality public in order to keep as many Japanese troops as possible at the Soviet border. Otherwise, they would have been fielded against the British and American forces. President Roosevelt apparently knew about the strength of the Japanese forces stationed near the Soviet border. By the end of 1941 the Soviet Union faced on its Far Eastern frontier the one-million-strong Kwangtung Army with more than 5,000 guns, over 1,000 tanks and nearly 2,000 aircraft.

Thus, both Moscow and Washington realized that they should start breaking the Berlin–Rome–Tokyo Axis at the "Berlin end."

Neighbors Become Allies

It was at Moscow that the Soviet Army started on its way to victory over nazi Germany. The defeat of Japan was also inevitable. However, to go that way, the Soviet Army needed a lot of war materiel. Aware of this, President Roosevelt ordered that the Soviet Union be given priority over other countries in American military supplies. It was suggested that a new air route be opened over Alaska and Siberia. Journalists wrote at the time that Americans didn't realize the Soviet Union and the United States were neighbors until they looked at the new air map. Molotov once said that Japan would have to reckon with the fact that the Soviet Union and the United States were good neighbors, and Japan did reckon with it.

In spite of the fact that its European ally had attacked the Soviet Union, Japan was waiting for something. It was hard to believe that after nazi Germany had treacherously violated its nonaggression pact with the Soviet Union and Japan no less treacherously had attacked Pearl Harbor, the Japanese would refrain from attacking the Soviet Union only because they had a neutrality treaty with the Soviet Union.

"An Armed Peace"

What were the Japanese waiting for?

Berlin believed that the Japanese, which kept the American and British forces tied up in the Pacific, should not risk a confrontation with the Soviet Union. They were to strike at the Soviet Union after nazi Germany's "victory," for which they were promised the Soviet Maritime Territory.

Since the German "victory" was delayed, a Japanese attack on the Soviet Union was also delayed. When the Battle of Stalingrad began on the Volga in the summer of 1942, Roosevelt sent a telegram to Stalin saying that the Americans had reliable information that a Japanese attack on the Soviet Union had been postponed until the spring of the following year. Meanwhile, the world was watching the Battle of Stalingrad and the defense of the Caucasus with both anxiety and hope. The Nazis needed the Caucasus to reach Asia, which they had already divided between Germany and Japan.

In Moscow, Stalin told Follett Bradley, an American Major General who was in the Soviet capital to participate in military negotiations, that the Soviet Union's relations with Japan were formally regulated by the neutrality pact. The Japanese had repeatedly assured the Soviet Union that they were not going to violate this agreement. "However, you won't find a single person in this country who would believe these assurances," Stalin said. "The Japanese can violate this pact and attack the Soviet Union any time. The relationship that now exists between Japan and the Soviet Union can be called an armed peace."

The Main Factor

Accepting General Bradley's proposal to study the possibility of American aid to the Soviet Union in the event of a Japanese attack on the Soviet Union, Stalin emphasized that at the moment the Soviet Union needed most of its aid for the war effort against nazi Germany. Stalin reiterated this in early January 1943 in his message to President Roosevelt. After thanking the President for his offer to send 100 bombers to the Soviet Far East, he wrote that "at the moment we need help in aircraft . . . on the front of the most fierce war with the Germans, that is, on the Soviet–German front."

The German losses in the Battle of Stalingrad, which ended a month after Stalin had sent the message cited above, confirm the fact that it was, indeed, the main battlefield of World War II and that it was there that the Soviet Union most needed help. The Germans lost nearly 1.5 million men, 12,000 guns and mortars, up to 3,500 tanks and assault weapons and up to 3,000 planes. The bombers that Roosevelt offered Stalin would have been very useful on the Volga.

As soon as the Battle of Stalingrad was over, Hitler told the Japanese Ambassador in Berlin that he wanted Japan to block American supplies to Vladivostok. Hitler knew those supplies were vital for the Soviet Army. However, even if Japan had blocked American supplies, that would not have dramatically changed the course of the war since the Allied supplies to the Soviet Union during the war accounted for about four per cent of the USSR's industrial output.

Hitler was wrong to think that he could turn the tide of the war by blocking these supplies. Aware of this, Roosevelt said that the United States had never considered lend-lease supplies to be the main factor in Germany's defeat and knew that Germany was defeated by the Soviet soldiers who gave their lives in the struggle against the common enemy.

A Common Enemy

The Allies did have a common enemy. American newspapers wrote at the time and Americans said at numerous rallies that the opening of a second front in Europe should be speeded up in order to do away with German nazism and Japanese militarism sooner. The American GIs fighting in the southwest Pacific also realized that. In 1943 American and Australian soldiers sent a message to the Soviet soldiers expressing their admiration for the Soviet Army, which dispelled the myth about the invincibility of the Nazis. They also wrote that the Battle of Stalingrad was a great feat of arms that inspired them to fight their common enemy in the West.

That awareness of a common cause inevitably led to the realization of the need to speed up the opening of the second front. That realization became apparent during a meeting between U.S. Congressman Sol Bloom and Andrei Gromyko, Soviet Charge d'Affaires in the United States. Bloom said that the United States's main enemy was nazi Germany, not Japan, and that the second front should be opened without delay. He added that Japan could be defeated only after nazi Germany was defeated.

That meeting took place in early July 1943, on the eve of the Battle of Kursk, another historic battle of World War II. In that battle in the center of Russia Hitler hoped to make up for his defeat at Stalingrad, but the Soviet Army dashed his hopes. The Battle of Kursk decided the future of the German Wehrmacht.

A Vital Issue

After the Battle of Kursk the Soviet Command seized the strategic initiative, while the Nazis went on the defensive and retreated. It is extremely significant that during the Battle of Kursk, the American side again raised the problem of Soviet participation in the war with Japan.

Talking about a possible meeting between Stalin and Roosevelt, Harry Hopkins, the President's personal envoy, told Gromyko that Roosevelt would not fail to inquire about the Soviet Government's policy on Japan after the defeat of Germany. Hopkins knew only too well that the United States could not expect any change in the Soviet policy on Japan before nazi Germany was defeated. However, President Roosevelt might raise the matter in Teheran.

At the projected meeting in Teheran the Soviet Union intended once again to raise the problem of opening a second front in Europe. At the same time, the Soviet Union knew that it would have to respond to whether or not it would join the war against Japan after nazi Germany's defeat. Although the Soviet Union had won decisive battles in Europe, the enemy was still very strong. In spite of the fact that it was a common enemy, the Soviet Union, so far, had been fighting against it single-handedly. The Soviet Union had already suffered colossal losses, and it knew that many more lives would be lost before Germany was defeated.

Although it had been waiting for the opening of the second front for a long time, the Soviet Union knew from its own experience that the lives of thousands of American GIs who were fighting in the Pacific depended on its answer. ■

environment

Baku, a large petroleum-producing center in the Soviet Union, is one of the most industrial and one of the most ecological-minded areas in the world. The city has poured millions of rubles into environmental programs.

BAKU'S BATTLE FOR THE ENVIRONMENT

By Valeri Grigoriyev
Photographs by Vladimir Kalinin

The jury that was selecting drawings by Baku schoolchildren for a local show disagreed one day about an industrial landscape that had smoke belching from factory chimneys. It was pure fantasy on the part of the young artist. Such a sky hasn't been seen in Baku in the past 20 years," remarked Beibala Adyghezalov, first deputy chairman of Azerbaijan's Committee for Nature Conservation.

"I'm pleased to say," he continued, "that the inaccuracy was spotted not by an ecologist, but by an artist, a most unlikely person in my estimation. Examples like this have increased in recent years. It means that more and more people are beginning to realize that nature can't take all of the punishment that it is subjected to. This ecologically-minded concern is particularly important in Baku, one of the most industrial areas in the world. Judge for yourself—oil production has been going on within the city limits for 112 years now. Nearly one and a half billion metric tons of oil have been extracted here. Large oil refineries and processing plants rise next to city blocks and townships where as many as 1.7 million people live. Add to this the fact that all of this is located in an arid zone, and you can easily imagine how disagreeable the situation could be for Baku.

"It was during the first quarter of the twentieth century that the symptoms became alarming. At that time environmental protection ideas were of mere academic interest. Baku's environment deteriorated considerably during the oil boom years. But since the late fifties, with these ideas gaining worldwide acceptance, the city, although expanding, has continually improved its ecological condition, and this process is still going on.

"I don't think we should overrate our achievements. Ecologists have learned to keep in check, and even cure, abnormal developments and to save ▶

Although the ancient city of Baku has been an oil-producing center for over a century, the local refineries and processing plants, like the Novobakinsky Refinery on the facing page, are thoroughly modern and built to meet strict environmental standards. Left: A recreation area in a new district of Baku. Below: The city sanitation department controls water purity in the Bay of Baku.

urban land from destruction and degradation."

As I listened to Adyghezalov, I recalled the forties—years when I was still a child. Our house was at the edge of the city, on a bald rocky plateau rising above the Bay of Baku. That was our vantage point for watching the oil tankers come in. It never crossed our minds that those 100-meter-long beauties were the main source of the pollution in the bay. Then the tankers disappeared. A new ecologically safe port was built outside the city. But the memory of the tankers remained. The bay had no life in it, not even small fish.

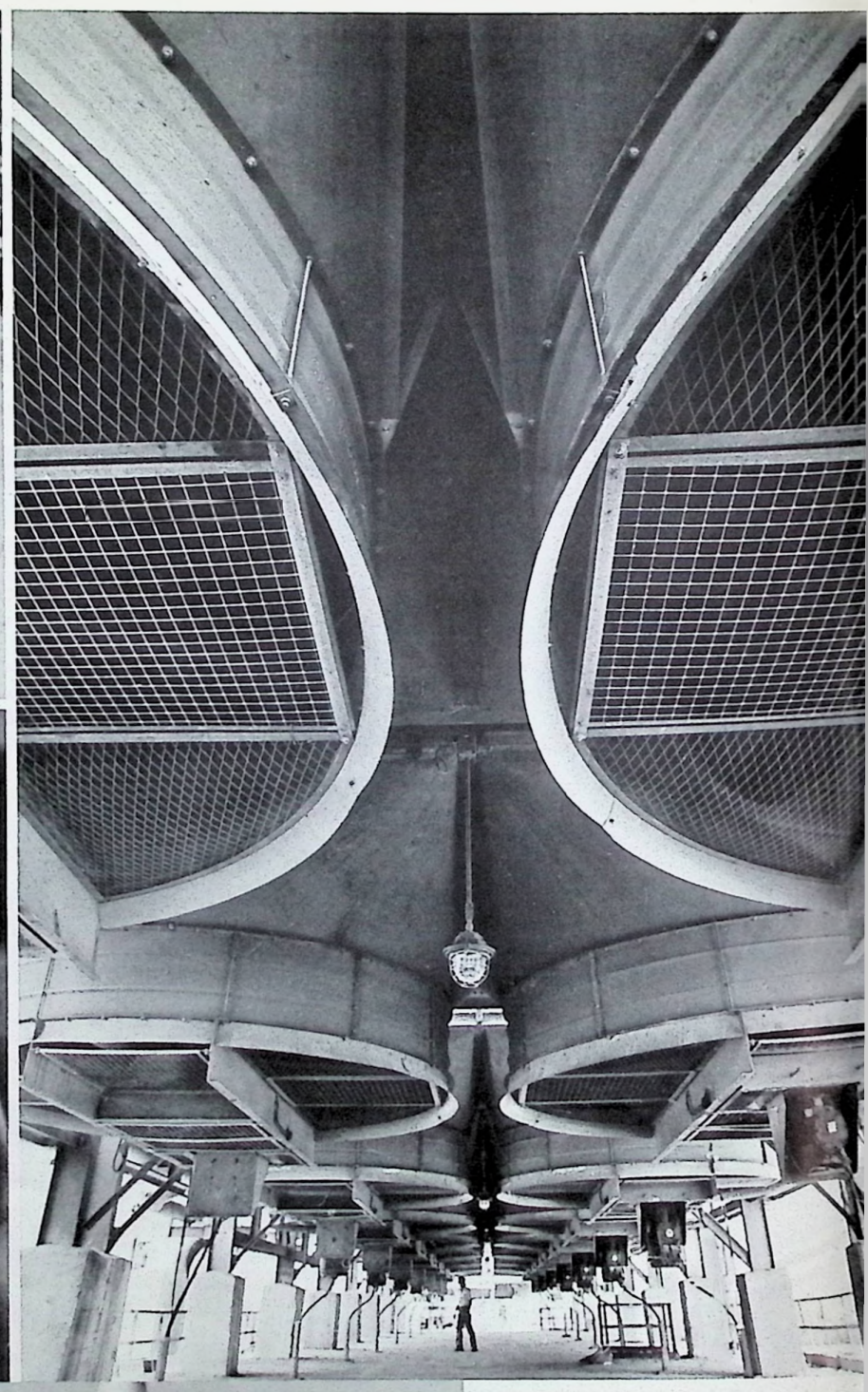
Thirty years later, strolling along the waterfront one day, I noticed that boys were catching prawns.

"All environmental protection work in the republic is done in accordance with the law. Problems of environmental conservation are dealt with directly or indirectly in six articles of the Constitution of the USSR, which was adopted in October 1977.

"The Soviet Union has special environmental safety standards. Maximum permissible concentrations have been introduced for 804 chemicals in water, 446 chemicals and their combinations in the air and 28 substances in the soil.

"I must say that these standards are very strict. In the case of aniline, for example, the concentration allowed is 1/120th of the amount permitted in developed Western countries. These standards can be complied with, naturally, only when the most advanced treatment facilities are built, and they require heavy investments. Each year the Soviet Union spends between two and three per cent of its gross national product on antipollution measures. In Azerbaijan the figure is about one per cent higher. The additional money goes mainly to meet Baku's conservation needs.

"Extensive financing of environmental programs in the industrial region of Baku has made it possible to build purification installations on all of our oil fields, to complete modernization of an oil-refining complex, to close down about 40 old setups, to lay more than 200 kilometers of water mains and to



They weren't catching many, but obviously the bay was recovering.

For many years, red Baku petroleum had defied any processing method and was kept in huge storage tanks. I recall that when the wind blew from the north, the smell of the oil enveloped the city. With time, however, engineers learned to process the oil, and the old tank farm was replaced by a city district.

"I, too, remember examples of Baku's ecosystem changing for the better," Adyghezalov said. "However, it isn't the comparisons that matter, it's the causes that brought these changes about.

The mobile lab unit (left) of the Baku sanitation department takes daily air- and water-quality readings throughout the city. In addition, every plant and refinery in the city has its own specialists who supervise compliance with sanitation requirements. Above: Air purification installations at the Novobakinsky Refinery.

start work on Baku's central sewage system. Once it enters service this year, this system will be able to treat biologically as much as one million cubic meters of industrial and municipal waste water a day."

The environmental protection work in Baku is not without conflicts, however.

Architect Sanan Salamzad, who showed me more than 100 places that are being restored, complained: "Look at Rabochy Avenue in Baku. It's being widened and made into the central traffic artery, yet in the oil boom days it was called the 'Black Town.' In 1983 the last vintage oil-refining installation, which dated from the beginning of the century, was scrapped there.

"It's all very well and good to talk about everyday comforts and the cleanness of the city, but it's bad when we see this installation as the last surviving evidence of the city's oil past. We want an outdoor museum of oil production to be set up in Baku. The 'Black Town' is the best site for it. In the past few years we have been too quick to remove all of its traces. Unfortunately the 'Black Town' is rapidly disappearing."

This isn't the most difficult conflict in the world. The conservationists suggest not only an interesting, but also an ecologically clean solution. It's an altogether different thing when production people use any pretext they can find not to build, and designers not to plan, complexes that are ecologically sound. In such instances the environmental protection administrators are ruthless: Since 1976 the city's environmental protection agencies have killed 192 design projects.

"Today no town development or engineering plan can be adopted without our approval," Adyghezalov said. "No matter what anyone says about conservation projects being nonprofitable, we can always prove the opposite. Baku's water purification installations collect 2.7 million rubles' worth of valuable petroleum products annually, while the city's municipal effluents, after treatment, are used in industry and agriculture.

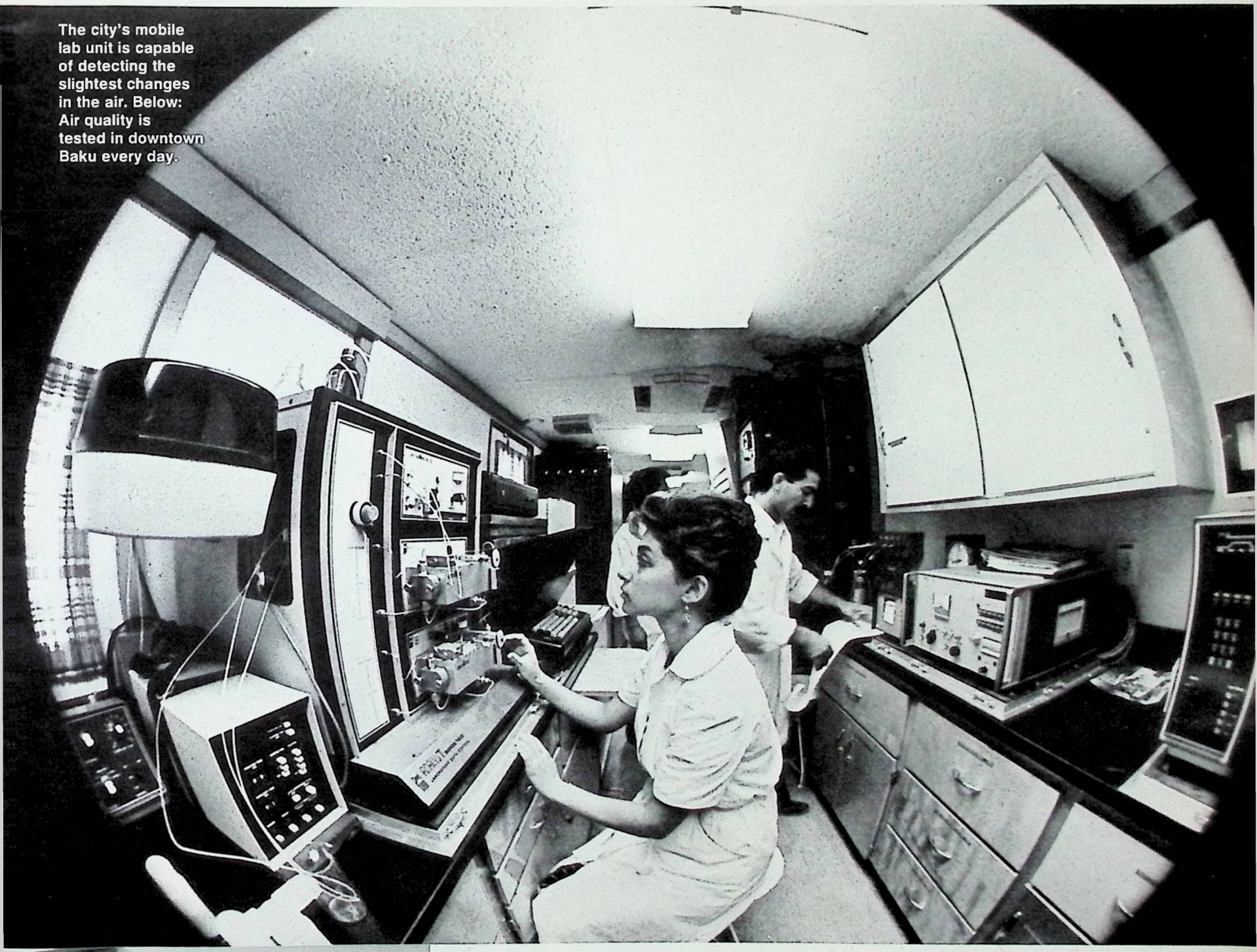
"Not all of the technical projects we rejected were without environmental protection measures. Most of them did not suit us because of where they were located. The City Soviet, in cooperation with us and scientists from the Azerbaijan Academy of Sciences and architects, is planning an artificial ecosystem for Baku's urban areas. The system has no plans for building new production facilities within the city, not even ecologically clean ones."

Ten years ago, one theme ran through all of the speeches made by City Soviet deputies—if we really want to reduce the ill effects of the technological revolution, we must not only build facilities for purifying and sterilizing production waste, but also think about new parks, gardens, flower beds and woods.

The once bare plateau of Chemberekend now boasts the city's first forest park. Acacia, olive trees, poplars, Eldar pine and cypresses are so thick here that the bay is barely visible.

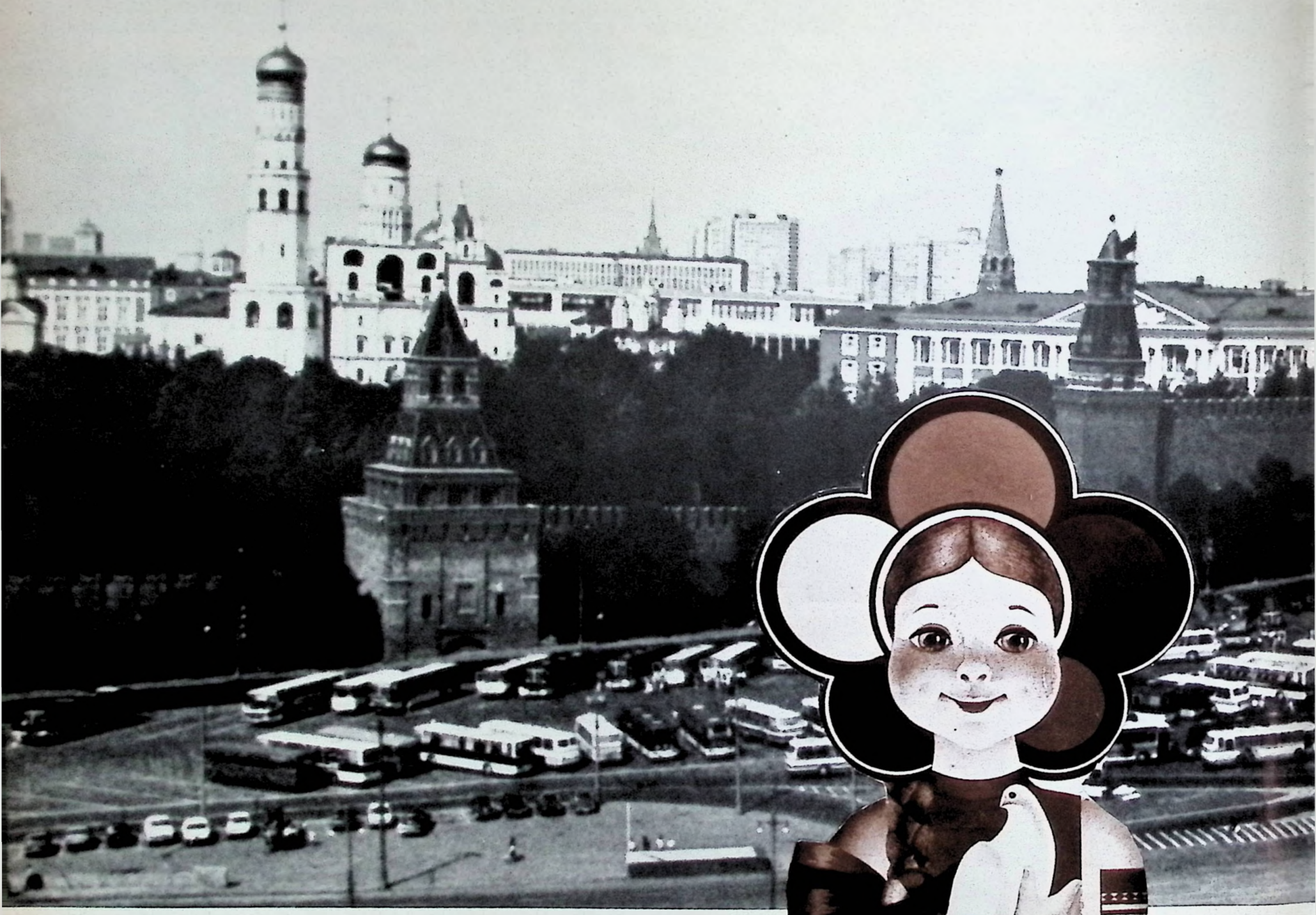
But that's not so bad. I admired the plain song of a turtledove there and watched the intricate movements of tree ants that I'd never seen in our area before.

The city's mobile lab unit is capable of detecting the slightest changes in the air. Below: Air quality is tested in downtown Baku every day.



youth forum

MOSCOW HOSTS 12TH WORLD FESTIVAL OF YOUTH AND STUDENTS



This year offers unique opportunities for young people to multiply their efforts for world peace, for friendship and mutual understanding among the peoples and nations of the world. Under the slogan "Participation, Development, Peace," the United Nations has designated 1985 International Youth Year. This year also marks the tenth anniversary of the signing of the Helsinki accords, the high point of the period of détente. However, it's the 12th World Festival of Youth and Students that's capturing the imagination of millions of young people.

MOSCOW IS READY to welcome the 40,000 young delegates and visitors from 150 countries who will come to the Soviet capital from July 27 to August 3 for the 12th World Festival of Youth and Students. The festival ideals of peace, international solidarity and friendship have encouraged the attendance of representatives of nearly every political and philosophical outlook that exists today in the international youth movement.

The festival is funded by the Soviet Preparatory Committee (SPC) and the International Festival Solidarity Foundation. The SPC fund is swelling with contributions from young people earned on weekends, donations from student building teams, young journalists' fees, bonuses from inventors, engineers and technicians, and contributions from public organizations and individual citizens. The international foundation is receiving registration fees from national preparatory committees and participation fees.

This year the highlight of the extensive festival program will be discussions on the most important issues of the day: peace and disarmament, the rights of young working people, antifascism, economic cooperation, environmental protection, and more. Various commissions will tackle different topics. The International Student Commission, for example, will be headquartered at Moscow State University. High on its agenda will be the role of students in society, student rights, democracy in education and student government.

During the festival there will be children's art shows, exhibitions of applied art, photo shows and stamp exhibits. Activities connected with children will be another highlight of the festival. The Moscow Young Pioneer Palace will hold a conference on children under the motto "Peace, Rights and Happiness for All Children on the Planet." Festival participants will have an opportunity to learn how Soviet youngsters spend their summer vacations and visit Young Pioneer camps in Moscow Region.

Among the major attractions of the festival are sports and cultural programs featuring amateur folk groups as well as celebrated singers, musicians, actors and popular athletes. Moscow's stages and concert halls will open their doors for performances by national delegations, song and dance shows and national rituals. In addition, there will be a film festival of works by young film makers. Moscow's main recreation park will be the arts center of the festival. There the best performers from the Soviet Union's 15 republics will introduce audiences to the folklore of their peoples. In all, there will be about 1,200 meetings, concerts and exhibitions.

One of the most exciting events will be a 1,985-meter race for all of the festival participants.

Soviet publishers have prepared about 100 book titles, booklets, art and photo albums and Moscow guidebooks for the festival. Various souvenirs with the festival emblem—stamps, postcards, calendars, badges, notebooks, and the like—will be available.

The festival's mascot is Katyusha, a fair-haired Russian girl with blue eyes. She was created by 29-year-old artist Mikhail Veremenko, a student at the Moscow Institute of Architecture. ■

OPTIMISTIC DESCRIBES SOVIET YOUTH

Victor Mishin, First Secretary of the Central Committee of the Young Communist League (Komsomol) and a member of the Presidium of the USSR Supreme Soviet, is interviewed by a SOVIET LIFE correspondent.

HAVING PROCLAIMED 1985 International Youth Year, the United Nations, as the documents of that organization repeatedly stressed, underscored its concern for the status of and prospects for the one billion young people on this planet. Do you share the same concern as regards Soviet youth?

The future belongs to the young is an axiom that remains to be proved to the present generation of youth. Humankind is on the edge of a nuclear abyss, and the very life of young people, with all of their present concerns, hopes and prospects, is in jeopardy. It is only natural that such a situation would not leave anyone indifferent.

We support the motto of International Youth Year—"Participation, Development, Peace"—and hope that this campaign will bring about some positive changes and help unite progressive youth on this planet in the effort to promote lasting peace and understanding among nations.

There is a broad range of issues that are of continuing concern to Soviet youth. They pertain to participation in running the government, realization of the Energy Program, the Food Program and other economic programs, development of new territories in the eastern and northern regions of the country and environmental protection. In addition, there are specific youth problems, such as raising the quality of education, improving the system of vocational guidance, preparing high school graduates for work in production, and others. The steady advance of society is not possible unless these problems are solved. And we have the ways and means to solve them on a nationwide scale.

The following are a few facts that testify to the high level of the social activity of our youth and demonstrate the influence of young people and their most prestigious organization, the Komsomol, in the Soviet Union. More than one-fifth of the Soviet Union's lawmakers, that is, deputies to the USSR Supreme Soviet, are young people under the age of 30. Elections to the Supreme Soviets of the union and autonomous republics and local Soviets of People's Deputies were held last February. One out of every three deputies elected in February is a young person. Over 100,000 young people have been elected to leading bodies of trade unions, over 1.5 million Komsomol members take part in the work of People's Control groups.

No matter how concerned we are with problems of youth participating in running the affairs of society and the role of the younger generation in economic and cultural development—and there's no doubt that such problems exist, and quite a few of them—the most important problem by far is still that of safeguarding peace. Today the alternative of "to be or not to be" is confronting humankind as it never has before. Hence, the scaled-up antiwar movement of Soviet youth in the eighties.

Seventy million people took part in the antiwar demonstration with the slogan "I Vote for Peace." Young construction workers on the Baikal–Amur Mainline railroad in Siberia made their mobile club train available to activists of the antiwar movement. The train traveled from the Pacific coast to the western borders of our country. The campaign demonstrated young people's concern about the increased threat of a nuclear war. During the tour antiwar activists collected 20 million signatures for antiwar appeals that were later sent to the UN's headquarters.

When the Komsomol proposed holding the 12th World Festival of Youth and Students in Moscow this summer, which will be the central event of International Youth Year, it was motivated above all by the interests of safeguarding peace.

The festival will require a substantial sum of money. Where will the funds for hosting the thousands of visitors come from?

The second International Preparatory Committee session, which was held in April 1984, decided to establish the International Festival Solidarity Foundation. Its task is to enable delegations from the developing countries to take part in the festival. The foundation funded all of the preparatory information work—the posters, badges and booklets about the objectives and tasks of the festival.

Another foundation, the Soviet Preparatory Committee (SPC) Foundation, was set up in May 1984 to finance the festival. The SPC Foundation received its money mainly from donations. Young people contributed the money they earned working in their leisure time, members of student building teams sent portions of their pay. Young journalists gave part of their earnings, as did young inventors, engineers and technicians rewarded for innovative ideas. Public organizations and individual citizens, predominantly young people, also made donations from their funds and savings.

The foundation received about 40 million rubles earned during the national Komsomol and youth subbotnik* in June of 1984. Also last summer student construction teams donated an additional five million rubles.

Don't you think that the heavy subjects to be discussed during the upcoming youth forum and the packed agenda may affect the atmosphere of the forum and make it less joyous and festive?

The discussions will be combined with extensive cultural and sports programs. In keeping with the traditions of the festival, young entertainers, both professional and amateur, will perform for the participants. A parade, a carnival, beauty contests, singing contests and art shows will be held during the festival. Films by young moviemakers will also be shown.

Then, too, I believe, it will be of considerable interest to the festival participants to simply stroll around the streets of Moscow and see its sights, to see how Muscovites live.

Could you tell our readers how Soviet youth and the Komsomol participate in Soviet economic development?

The Komsomol is involved in the development of key sectors of the Soviet economy, including reconstruction and modernization of industry. What form does this involvement take? We recruit young volunteers to work in those sectors of the national economy that are experiencing an acute shortage of labor. In a dynamically developing society like ours, there is no unemployment. On the contrary, there is a shortage of labor.

The Komsomol is a patron of 62 major national economic projects, notably the large-scale program for land reclamation and social transformation in the Non-Black Soil Zone, a vast agricultural region that includes half of the European part of the country. The Komsomol is involved in the construction of a series of hydroelectric power plants on the Yenisei River, the building of the Balakov power complex on the Volga River and the Atommash nuclear engineering plant in Volgodonsk in Southern Russia. Most of these facilities and the settlements surrounding and supporting them were started from scratch in what were formerly underdeveloped regions. As a rule, the new settlements and cities have a high birth rate. This attests to the fact that the young people who live there are not just building industrial facilities. They are building families, their own future and happiness. ■

*A subbotnik (from the Russian word *subbota*, which means Saturday) is the name given to labor volunteered by workers on their days off.

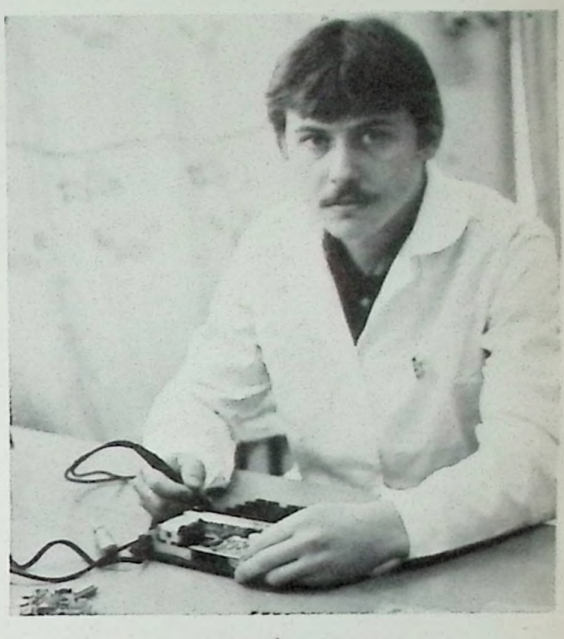
WAR AND PEACE
THROUGH THE EYES OF YOUNG PEOPLE

Shortly before the fortieth anniversary celebration of the end of the war in Europe, SOVIET LIFE correspondent Andrei Pleshchuk interviewed several young people that he met walking along Gorky Street in downtown Moscow. He asked them the following questions:

1. Did World War II affect your immediate family and other relatives?

2. Do you think that it's time to forget the horrors of the war?

3. Do you believe that the peace movement can be effective? Do you think that you yourself can make a difference in whether or not the peace movement is a success?

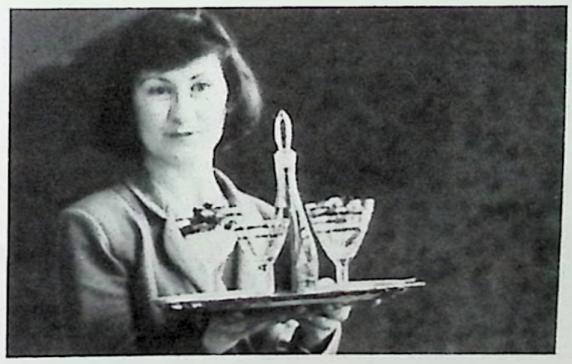


Natalya Yatsenko, 21, a bookshop assistant:

1. Both of my grandfathers fought at the front. One of them was wounded and taken prisoner a few months after Hitler invaded our country. He remained a prisoner at a concentration camp in Norway until the end of the war.

2. No, I don't. We must always remember what the consequences of war, which is the most horrible thing on Earth, could be.

3. Yes, I do. Like many of my friends, I take part in antiwar rallies and marches. Sometimes we work without pay on Sundays. We contribute the money that we would have earned to the Soviet Peace Fund.



Anna Latsenova, 29, a waitress:

1. My dad and his two brothers fought at the front—one of them was killed in action—as well as my mother's brothers.

2. I don't understand how you can forget the crimes that were committed by the Nazis during that war.

Nelly Savochkina, 23, a chef:

1. Both of my grandfathers fought in the war. One of them was killed in action at the very start of it.

2. Of course it would have been much better if our parents had not experienced the horrors of that war. However, the events of the war cannot be erased from their memories. We, their children, who have never been to war, must also remember it.

3. That's what they say at all the antiwar rallies. I, too, attended a few of them.

Andrei Davydov, 23, an actor:

1. My father had just turned 17 when my grandfather was killed in action in 1942. On the day the family received the death notice, my dad went to the recruiting office and volunteered for the front. My father fought during the rest of the war, and he took part in the Victory Parade in Moscow when it was over.

2. Twenty million Soviet people died in that war. How can we ever forget?

3. My drama club performs several antiwar plays. We're currently rehearsing a special concert program for the fortieth anniversary of the victory. The proceeds from it will go to the Peace Fund.

Mikhail Izotov, 21, an electrician:

1. During the war my grandfather was a naval officer. He was seriously wounded in battle and disabled for life.

2. That's what people who don't like to think usually say. Why should we forget it? So there can be another war?

3. You mean, what can I personally, or some other guy in the United States who is a worker like myself, do to prevent war? I would like to have a heart-to-heart talk with him. I'm looking forward to meeting the young people of my age from other countries who are coming to Moscow this summer to attend the World Festival of Youth and Students.

Nina Bogachenko, 28, a telegraph operator:

1. My family is a rare exception. Not one of its members was killed in action.

2. Forgetting is for weak people.

3. By reading the daily papers and listening to radio and television broadcasts, we learn about more and more peace demonstrations being held all over the world. I am sure that the peace movement will overcome all of the obstacles in its way.

Not long ago my colleagues and I decided to contribute part of our monthly earnings to the Peace Fund.

Continued on page 62

SUMMERTIME, AND THE LIVIN' IS EASY

By Yevgeni Topaler
Photographs by
xander Grashchenkov

The last haystack.

Fifteen- and sixteen-year-olds can be hard to please during summer vacation time. The best age to go to camp is 12. But 15- and 16-year-olds have other interests. They're not hot on the idea of spending much time with "little kids." They're equally bored by a holiday with their parents at the beach. Nor are they attracted to sanatoriums, where their noisy laughter and games annoy middle-aged vacationers who are famous for remarks like, "When we were young, we never . . ." At their parents' dachas they don't look forward to weeding the carrots and radishes or talking to their retired grandparents. Trips by car with their parents lose their appeal after a ▶

Left: The welcoming ceremony at Valtu Collective Farm.
Below: Fun in the Sun.

"The young people enjoyed sitting around a campfire and singing along with a guitar. The local teenagers would join them, and the Russian songs would give way to Estonian ones. Then, all together, they would sing modern songs, half in Russian and half in Estonian. That was the beginning of their friendship, warmed by the evening fire."

while, and fishing doesn't give them as much exercise as their young bodies need. Their carefree childhood doesn't make them happy anymore. Fifteen- and sixteen-year-olds need something "real" to do.

Twenty years ago the first summer teams were organized at many Soviet schools. During summer vacation teenage boys and girls would spend a month on a farm, where they would work and have a good time. The teams quickly became popular among teenagers since they made it possible for them to meet other people their own age, get away from their parents for a while, do something real and even earn a little pocket money.

Of course, the older generation was not quite so enthusiastic about the new idea. "All they can do is kick a ball around and dance those horrible dances. Besides, they're too young." (Remember, they're talking about teenagers who have read Dostoyevsky, grasped the essence of the theory of relativity, experienced their first loves and dared to argue with the principal, not to mention their parents.) Nonetheless, the teenagers still had to have their parents' consent.

Luckily, skepticism and lack of trust are not universal shortcomings. The teenagers returning from their first stay on a farm were considered lucky indeed. The typical title of a school composition the next fall was "The Best Summer of My Life." The press and radio reported on the thousands of tons of vegetables and fruit the teenagers had harvested and the many new gardens they had planted. Their tanned bodies and swelling muscles spoke for themselves, and gradually the ice of mistrust melted.

The First Day

Every year on June 2, for 12 years now, the young residents of the township of Valtu and the collective farm of the same name go to the local train station to meet the Moscow–Tallinn Express. They greet the new arrivals from Moscow, give each of them a bouquet of cornflowers, sing a few songs and, after a short welcoming speech, usher their guests to buses. After a 60-kilometer ride, they all get off in the center of Valtu. Tenno Tets, the manager of the collective farm there, invites the teenagers into the local canteen. Hungry after the long trip, they wolf down the meal. Someone invariably asks: "Is the food here always this good? Or is this just a special occasion?"

"It'll be at least this good for the month," the farm manager replies. "You can eat all you want, three times a day. Just don't be late."

After lunch the teenagers settle in at the local school. They're astonished to see that a classroom can be turned into a comfortable dorm with shining clean floors and walls, snow-white sheets and fresh flowers on the night tables.

Then the farm manager invites them to make the rounds of the farm on which they will work. The city kids find a lot that amazes them for many of them know about country life only from their grandparents' stories.

"The barn is so clean! I'd give it an 'A' for neatness!" exclaims Yulia Goriyacheva. "Can I work here with the cows?"

"I think I'll work in the hothouse," Roman Aniyutin joins in. He's famous for his guitar playing and jokes. "I think my calling is tending roses."

"I'll bet your calling is tending strawberries and tomatoes," someone replies.

"There's plenty to do in the hothouse and the fields," Tets promises. "We'll need your help in both places."

"Look, you guys," shrieks Lyonya Tkachenko. "A swimming pool! Can we take a swim once in a while?"

"Of course you can, in any weather, too," the manager replies. "It's heated."

"Is It Supposed to Rain Again Tomorrow?"

"What did you dream about last night?"

"Weeds and cabbages. And you?"

"Cabbages and weeds."

During their first couple of days on the farm the teenagers offered to weed a big cabbage field situated on marshy land. It had rained for several weeks, and the weeds were growing like mad, making it impossible to spray the field with herbicides. The machinery would have gotten stuck in the mud and turned the cabbage beds into a gooey soupy mess.

Those were tough days for the young Muscovites. It's rough going when your boots slip in the clay, clumps of soil stick to your hoe and rain pours down your back. But the difficulties were overcome by humor ("We're not made of sugar. We won't melt."), and enthusiasm gradually turned into determination ("We know it's hard. So what? Your first working days are bound to be hard."). In the end it all produced a spirit of competition. At night the school teams would compare notes on what they had accomplished. Those who lagged behind felt ashamed of themselves, and the next morning they would work harder than before. No one really complained. Only late in the afternoon someone would wonder aloud, "Is it supposed to rain again tomorrow?"

Three weeks later the Sun finally came out, marking the beginning of haymaking season. The fragrance of the freshly cut grasses filled the village, but the farmers looked at the sky somewhat apprehensively. They had learned not to trust it too much. The main thing was to get the hay in on time. A special machine baled the hay, and trucks hauled the bales to the storehouse. The boys were in charge of unloading and stacking the bales. They knew that the storehouse was big enough to hold all of the hay made on the farm if it was stacked right. It turned out that if the piling was efficient, the whole arrangement looked very nice. What is sensible is always beautiful, you know. What is ethical is beautiful, too. Work, if it's good, is both ethical and beautiful. The main thing was that the students who worked in Estonia became aware of that.

At his high school graduation party one young man said that the "summer term" had been the greatest experience in his 17 years.

Touring Estonia

During "the summer term" the teenagers learned to truly appreciate weekends. Saturdays and Sundays are devoted to travel. The farm's drivers go over the buses especially carefully for the weekend trips because they cover a lot of territory. During the month on the farm, the team managed to see all of Estonia. They swam in the Gulf of Parnu, climbed the Väike-Munamägi Hills, visited two old fortresses, Rakvere and Narva, toured the castle in Haapsalu and saw the Kürema Monastery. They walked along the streets of Old Tallinn, where they expected to meet a knight in shining armor every time they turned a corner. History and legend are closely intertwined in that ancient city. Even scholars are sometimes not quite sure where a fairy tale ends and history begins. The pages of their textbooks came alive as the youngsters rubbed their hands over the twelfth century stonework.

After Hours

After hours, when the day's work was done, the local soccer players would challenge the Muscovites to a match. Those who didn't play soccer got together on the volleyball and basketball courts. The ball was usually wet, just like their T-shirts and the ground under their feet.

The best way to get rid of fatigue was to plunge into the pool. Someone was sure to throw a ball, and soon two water polo teams would compete in the pool, the gates marked with chalk along the edge. Next to home (as the teenagers called the school building) was a forest. When the White Nights were over, the young people enjoyed sitting around a campfire and singing along with a guitar. The local teenagers would join them, and the Russian songs would give way to Estonian ones. Then, all together, they would sing modern songs, half in Russian and half in Estonian. That was the beginning of their friendship, warmed by the evening fire.

It's become a tradition now to exchange visits with other teams. Every summer a large number of visitors come to Valtu for sports matches, an amateur concert and, of course, for dances.

But the main thing that kept the teenagers busy last summer was preparations for a meeting of all the school teams working in Estonia.

The meeting consists of three days of competitions: sporting and intellectual, some serious and some not too serious. All of the events usually take place along the river, on the shore of a lake or in a large clearing in the woods.

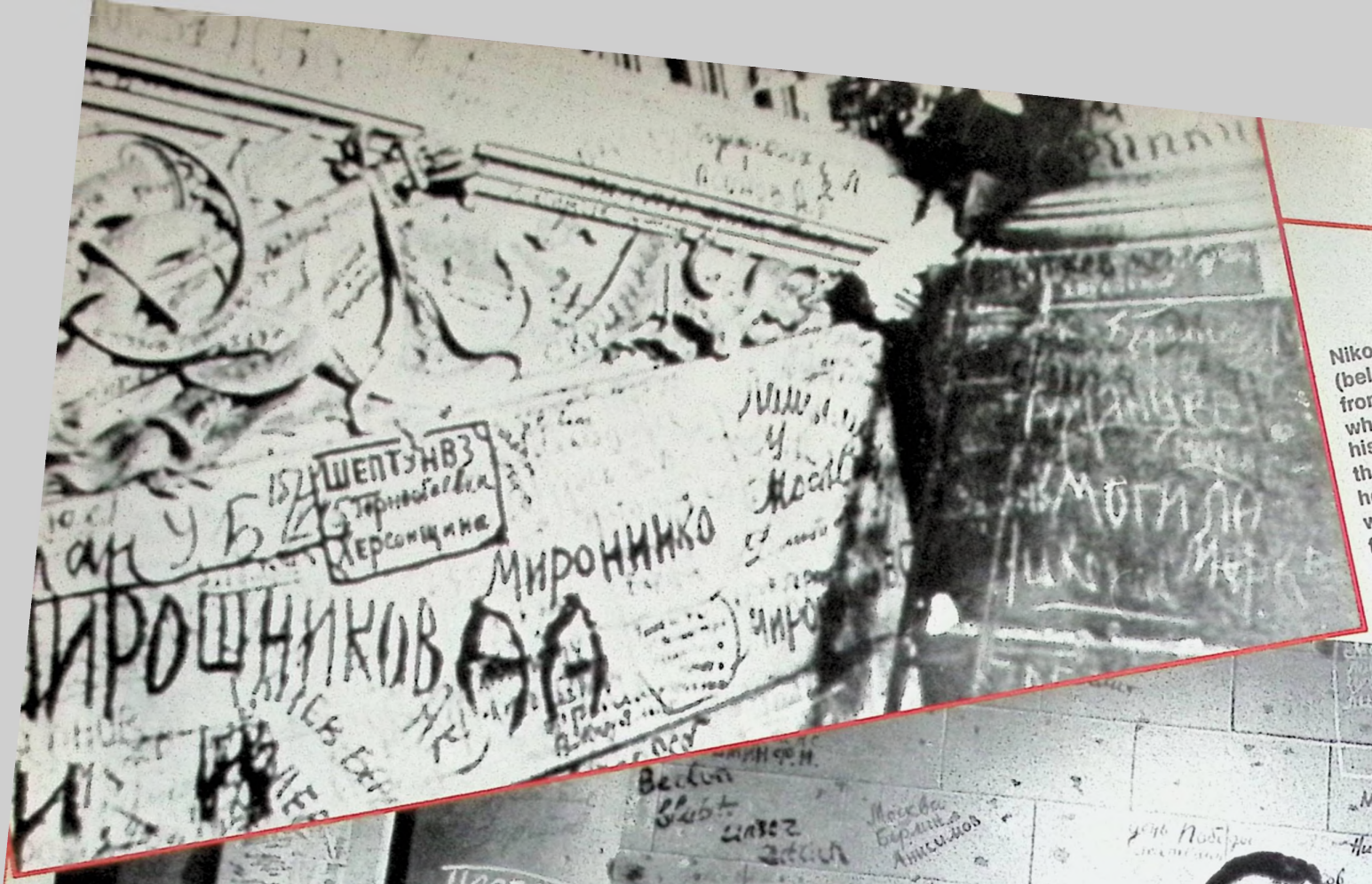
The volleyball courts are filled with teams competing according to the Olympic system. At one end of the clearing two teams are engaged in a tug-of-war competition. Next to them boys sitting on beams try to knock their rivals down with sacks stuffed with hay.

Before lunch everyone takes part in a cross-country event (one kilometer on very rough terrain). The artists are supposed to create a daily news bulletin by 3 P.M. It is scored for prompt and timely news, witty content and illustrations. Later that evening there is a ballroom dancing competition, and at dark, each team puts on a performance written and produced by its members.

In the team song competition the jury gives points for the tune, the lyrics and the performance. The jury also judges the design of the tents that surround the clearing. Last summer several prizes were awarded to the Estonian team that reconstructed an old Estonian farmstead. First prize, however, went to the Muscovites, who remained loyal to the festival flower, the daisy. Their tents were arranged like petals.

The meeting was somewhat of a dress rehearsal for the World Festival of Youth and Students being held in Moscow this summer.

These 15- and 16-year-olds don't think of themselves as children any more. Their month in Estonia marked the beginning of their youth, and so this summer the World Festival of Youth and Students is theirs, too. ■



Nikolai Glushenko (below) poses in front of the wall where he left his signature. On the facing page he is chatting with students from the Pruzhansk State Farm Vocational School.

This photo, taken on May 9, 1945, is from one of Ivan Uronich's albums. Unable to sign his name on the Reichstag walls that day because he was illiterate, he drew a five-pointed star instead.

For many thousands of soldiers, their signatures on the Reichstag building represented the end of a long, weary trek.

GRAFFITI OF VICTORY

By Yuri Sapozhkov Photographs by Victor Drachyov

Of all the photographs taken during World War II that I have seen, there is one picture that has piqued my interest since childhood. It shows the walls of the Reichstag (Parliament) building in defeated Berlin covered with the signatures of Soviet soldiers. On soot-covered stones, on plaster, on steel supports, on every inch of that black building you can make out Russian, Ukrainian, Byelorussian, Uzbek, Armenian and Georgian names. Although the Reichstag was assaulted by several hundred soldiers and officers of the Soviet Army, there were thousands of autographs on its walls from other army groups specially sent there to confirm victory over "Object No. 105," as the Reichstag was called in staff papers.

Few historians, if any, have begun to decipher this unique chronicle that appeared so spontaneously. The first to understand the necessity of such a project was Soviet poet Yevgeni Dolmatovsky. In his book titled *Avtografy pobedy* (*Autographs of Victory*), he told about dozens of Soviet soldiers who reached Berlin and scrawled their names on the scorched, bullet-riddled pages of history.

Considering that there were several thousand inscriptions on the Reichstag, who could have undertaken such a difficult task? However, there is such a group of historians. They are the students at the Pruzhansk State Farm Vocational School in Byelorussia and their teacher, Mikhail Shulman. They have already located 2,500 former soldiers who signed their names on the Reichstag. The students have collected exhibits that testify to the events that took place in Berlin in May 1945 for a unique book they are preparing for publication.

The following are the recollections of two heroes of the future book who signed their names on the Reichstag, with comments by Mikhail Shulman.

Nikolai Glushenko, 61, district inspector for environmental protection: I really regretted that I hadn't reached Berlin. May 9, 1945, found me in the Polish city of Danzig, which is now called Gdansk. I couldn't reconcile myself to the fact that I had gone through the whole war, fought on five fronts, survived the Battle of Stalingrad and not been to Berlin! It was a great disappointment to me. And then the commander of our unit announced that anyone who wanted to see Berlin could go by bus at 9 o'clock the next morning. The only condition was that our appearance be exemplary.

It took us most of the night to get ready, but in the morning, young, smart, dressed in everything new and without the slightest hint of fatigue, we met the two buses. After a ride of several hours with boring tleups on the roads, which hadn't been cleared of smashed and abandoned enemy materiel yet, we found ourselves on the square in front of the Reichstag. Our first impression of the building was that of something enormous and threatening, but at the same time lifeless and powerless. Red flags and pieces of red fabric fluttered in the wind above the façade.... The biggest banner was fastened to the very top of the ribbed dome.

Mikhail Shulman: One banner was raised even higher. On May 1, at the very height of the assault on Berlin, a group of Soviet fighter planes appeared over the center of the city. The lead plane had a red banner attached between its landing flaps. The pilots flew above the Reichstag at a height of only 800 meters. The lead pilot dropped his flaps, and the crimson cloth hung over the citadel. Everyone engaged in the assault on the city could see it there for several minutes.

Nikolai Glushenko: The second impression you got of the Reichstag was created by the writing on it. Graffiti was everywhere—on the columns, on the walls, even on the ceiling, on every spot that was hard to reach. The men probably used ladders, climbed onto each other's shoulders or used ropes. The inscriptions were done in ink, charcoal and chalk, with the tip of a bayonet or a saber. When we arrived, there was a pot of paint and even a brush. Where did they get it? I wonder. After searching carefully for a blank spot, we managed to write "Stalingrad–Berlin. We've made it!" and the number of our military unit.

It probably would have taken a whole day to read everything scribbled on the walls. We spent several hours walking around and reading, trying to find the names of soldiers we knew. People from all over the Soviet Union had been there. Each of them had understood the symbolism of that building. I jotted down several inscriptions that I still have. They are:

"We have come here and destroyed the nazi den!"

"These ruins are a retribution for the suffering of the Russian people. Galaychuk."

"We have come here so that you can never attack us again!"

"May 9. For the blood shed by my father. Ivchenko."

Some of the soldiers, who had just come out of a battle that required superhuman effort, still had enough strength to joke. I saw inscriptions on the walls like, "Home to Ulyanovsk* via the Reichstag.

*Ulyanovsk is a city on the Volga.

Ivan Uronich, 74, from the village of Khorev, Pruzhansk District: I couldn't sign my name on the Reichstag because I couldn't read and write at the time. Up until 1939 the village I lived in belonged to Poland. There was no money in the family to send me to school, so I tended the landlord's cattle instead.

I have never resented my inability to read and write so much as I did on May 9, 1945. I was alive, I had reached the walls of the Reichstag and I couldn't write my name on them! My comrades in arms offered to sign my name for me, but I drew a five-pointed star instead.

Mikhail Shulman: Close to the star drawn by Uronich, there's a signature in German. It belongs to Konrad Wolf, an antifascist. He fought in the ranks of the Soviet Army. He took part in the battle for the Caucasus, forged the Dnieper, liberated Poland and assaulted Berlin. After the war he studied at the Moscow Institute of Cinematography. He returned to Germany after graduation and became a well-known film director.

Nikolai Glushenko: There are signatures, you say. You mean, there used to be signatures. Some time ago one of my boys—I have three sons—visited Berlin. When he came back, he said that there aren't any signatures on the Reichstag anymore. "It's as if you hadn't endorsed our victory," he said to me. "It's a pity. If I had been the one to make the decision, I would have left the Reichstag the way it was in May 1945 as a warning. It's good that at least the photographs have been preserved."

Mikhail Shulman: Up until 1955 the Reichstag stood, covered with graffiti by Soviet soldiers, in the British sector of West Berlin as a memorial to the spring of 1945. Then the Bundestag of the Federal Republic of Germany passed a resolution to restore it.

With the permission of the engineer in charge of the restoration work, workers preserved several facing slabs bearing inscriptions by Soviet soldiers. It was extremely difficult to remove the plaster since it had merged with the stone masonry of the walls. Stonecutter's saws had to be used for the purpose. Today the salvaged pieces are in Moscow. When we began our search for the men who had signed their names on the walls of the Reichstag building, we only had the photographs given to us by the Armed Forces Museum. For those places where the words were indecipherable, we had the photographs enlarged several times and asked cryptographers to help us. In this way we managed to "read" almost the whole Reichstag.

SINGING OF LOVE IN ALL LANGUAGES

Photographs by Vitali Arutyunov and Renat Yunisov

The 17 musicians in the Folk Music Ensemble led by Vladimir Nazarov (facing page) can play close to 150 different instruments. Each song they do is an event. Tamara Sidorova (below), one of the group members, is a singer, dancer and violinist. Nazarov says she's also an excellent actress.

Inset: Soloist Tamara Sidorova and Konstantin Kuzhaliyev play "Fast Train." Inset below: Group members perform a Polish dance. Facing page: The musicians are extremely serious while playing humorous Lithuanian tunes and ditties.

THE 17 musicians can play close to 150 different instruments, including the Russian balalaika, the Bolivian zampogna, or Panpipe, the Lithuanian birbine, the American banjo, the reed pipe and the fiddle. They have an extraordinary collection of Russian, African, Georgian, Latin American, Ukrainian, Greek and other folk instruments.

The moment the performers appear on stage, they take their audience on a two-hour trip around the world, the guide being the Folk Music Ensemble under the direction of Vladimir Nazarov.

The group came to the attention of the public two years ago when it won first prize at the nationwide competition of variety artists. Since then the musicians have made numerous appearances in large cities throughout the country. Audiences of all ages applaud with equal enthusiasm their performance of a rousing Brazilian samba, the drawn-out melody of the Georgian song "Savdagley" and the Tyrolean song "If I Were a Finch," which is full of fun and mischief.

The ease with which the members of the group change character is truly amazing. Before the eyes of the audience, soloist Konstantin Kuzhaliyev goes from a guitar-strumming gypsy to a country bumpkin who does wonders with the banjo. Then in another few minutes he turns into a meditative mountaineer who plays the popular Peruvian melody "El Condor Pasa" on the charango, a 10-stringed guitarlike instrument.

The group is made up of former jazz artists, classical musicians and rock performers. Some of the members of the group didn't even belong to the music world, but once they joined Nazarov, they became enthusiastic about his idea of a folk ensemble and worked to prove that it could be a success.

Every new trip introduces them to new songs and melodies, which they record in the mountains and villages, and new instruments, which they master with the persistence of genuine explorers. The unfamiliar songs mean long hours of hard work with linguaphones because all of them are sung in their original language. A lot of painstaking work is behind the apparently effortless performance.

"With each new trip and each new work we reflect upon how rich and diverse the world of folk music is," Nazarov says. "What we have managed to accomplish so far adds up to only a few dots on the map of folk music. At the moment we're planning to study the music of Scandinavia and Southeast Asia."

Art brings people closer together. And what type of art is better suited for this than music, which knows no language barriers?

Every number that the Folk Music Ensemble performs arouses admiration for the skill of the artists and the culture of the nation that has created such fine music, music that has unlimited room for love and no room for hate. That's why the ensemble has titled its first big concert program "Singing of Love in All Languages." ■

HELSINKI: 10 YEARS LATER

By Vladlen Kuznetsov

The Palace of Nations in Helsinki in the summer of 1975.

TEN YEARS AGO, on August 1, 1975, in Helsinki the leaders of 33 European countries, the United States and Canada signed the Final Act that summed up the Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe. The significance of that forum for the continent and, in view of its international character and role, for the world at large, becomes particularly clear against the backdrop of the events that preceded World War II or occurred during the early postwar period and current developments.

Europe has never enjoyed peace for long. Its history is an unending chain of armed conflicts with respites, some longer, some shorter, between wars. There have been wars in Europe that lasted a few years, 30 years, even 100 years. Most of the wars were wars for the division and redivision of the world. Both world wars began in Europe.

Postwar Hopes

Right after World War II it seemed as though Europe had gone through its worst period, as though it would never again be exposed to a tremendous threat like the one created by German nazism, with its diabolical war machine, misanthropic ideology and mania for world supremacy. For centuries European security hung by a thread. After the war it seemed as though security in Europe was finally developing a solid base. Europe, that long-suffering continent, began to hope for a better future. This hope was fed by the experience of wartime cooperation. This is how that experience was articulated by the leaders of the Soviet Union, the United States and Great Britain in the communiqué of the Yalta Conference, which was held in February 1945: "It is only sustained and growing cooperation and mutual understanding among our three countries and among all peace-loving nations that will allow mankind to implement its supreme aspiration, which is a lasting and durable peace."

This means that, despite the existence of two opposing blocs, much can be done for peace in Europe and elsewhere. It is all the more necessary to work for peace since it is no exaggeration to say that the issue of war and peace is handled by the two most powerful alliances.

Europe saw many alliances, holy and unholy. The history of war—and this is something that should never be forgotten—shows that many alliances resulted from a conflict between opposing coalitions.

Established six years after NATO, the Warsaw Treaty Organization, which recently celebrated its thirtieth anniversary, embodies more than military might. History knows of no other military coalition that is so greatly devoted to peace as the Warsaw Treaty Organization.

At one point the Soviet Union announced that it was ready to join NATO. However, the request was turned down. Moscow proposed concluding a peace pact. That, too, was rejected. The Soviet Union and its allies suggested not spreading the sphere of influence of the two military and political alliances to Asia, Africa and Latin America. Refused again.

Europe has lived without armed conflict for 40 years now, although the fear of confrontation on the continent has been extremely acute at times. Were these years perhaps an exception? Yes, a truly historic exception since it would be difficult to find another war-free period that lasted as long in Europe's history.

Why the exception? I think it's due to the realities in favor of peace in Europe not giving in, for the first time on record, to the realities in favor of war. This is a very important reality. It was confirmed by the Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe. The Soviet Union and other socialist countries had worked for its convocation for 10 years. Europe came to that forum by way of the cold war and acute political confrontation. Once again, as it did during the immediate postwar period, the continent began to hope for a better future.

The Cradle of Détente

The Helsinki conference underscored the political results of World War II, including the new borders in Europe. The world saw this as a triumph for common sense, realism and political good will.

The Final Act, which was a charter for peaceful coexistence, recorded the basic principles of relationships among countries with different social systems and mapped out a long-range and extensive program for international cooperation. The 35 participating nations solemnly undertook to make détente a continuous and increasingly viable and versatile process. The seventies showed that all nations could use a fruitful détente.

Europe became the cradle of détente in the postwar world. It showed, and proved, that despite social, economic and ideological differences, nations can live together and reach a high level of cooperation and coordination in economic, political and humanitarian fields. Having resolved the complicated postwar problems of territorial and political settlement, Europe showed that it can do well without political, never mind military, confrontation. All of the countries of Europe know from experience what the advantages of détente are. Increasing the fruits of détente would be in the interests of all the nations of Europe. Détente in Europe is a major factor in cementing peace throughout the world. A *historic* opportunity, and I want to emphasize "historic," presented itself for moving from political détente to military détente.

Assessing the results of the Helsinki conference and its Final Act, the Soviet leadership stated that, for all the importance of proclaiming correct and just principles of relations among nations, it was likewise important to implement these principles in international relations and make them an inviolable standard of life for the world community.

Whether or not some people like today's Europe, the fact is we have no other home. This should be the starting point for all European policies.

This is precisely where the Soviet Union is starting from. The 1977 Constitution of the USSR reiterates the major commitments that the participants in the Helsinki conference assumed under the Final Act. At the proposal of the Soviet Union and other socialist countries, the final document of the Madrid followup meeting (November 11, 1980 to September 9, 1983), incorporated the recommendation that national laws should reflect, in a manner compatible with the practices and procedures of each nation, the 10 principles of the Final Act that the participants pledged to use in mutual contacts.

The Soviet Program for Military Détente

The unity of the Helsinki conference gave Europe the green light to start moving toward guaranteed security continentwide.

What is it that Europe now needs most to achieve this? The immediate measure is an end to the buildup of nuclear arms, the ultimate goal being complete phasing out of nuclear confrontation on the continent. In other words, in accordance with the Final Act we must move on to military détente.

The Soviet Union and its socialist allies have put forward a comprehensive program for military détente in Europe. The program provides for:

- Removal of all nuclear weapons, medium-range and tactical ones;
- Removal of all chemical weapons;
- Reduction in military allocations for the Warsaw Treaty Organization and NATO;
- Establishment of nuclear-free zones in various parts of the continent;
- Commitment not to be the first to use nuclear weapons (the Soviet Union unilaterally assumed this commitment in June 1982);
- Conclusion of a treaty on the nonuse of military force and the maintenance of peace;
- Successful completion of the Vienna talks on the mutual reduction of military forces and armaments in Central Europe;
- Adoption of a package of political and military confidence-building measures at the Stockholm Conference.

No one will convince us that these proposals are bad or that Europe does not need them. The Soviet Union does not claim to have a monopoly on peace proposals. It expects the other side to advance them too.

Europe is the hub of the East–West system. Developments in Europe and relationships within the USSR–Western Europe–USA triangle determine many things on a European and a global scale. The future of the world depends upon how these relationships develop.

By Acting Together

Moscow is firmly convinced that peace in Europe can be secured only by the joint efforts of the 35 countries that participated in the Helsinki conference. For this reason the Soviet Union does not see its security as something that is separate and apart from that of Western Europe and America. The Soviet Union proceeds from a simple and realistic idea: Although it commands tremendous economic, political and defense capabilities, the Soviet Union, even acting with its Warsaw Treaty allies, would not be able to secure lasting world peace and security. Only through the joint efforts of all countries can this be done.

Acting on its own, the East would not be able to curb the arms race without the West. Together, East and West should work toward this end.

As for preventing a world conflict and keeping the peace by joint efforts, it would be preferable to work together on the basis of peaceful cooperation.

The Soviet Union's strategy for peace calls for uniting all nations to uphold world peace.

Now, 10 years after the Helsinki conference, Europe is not living through the best period in its history. Nevertheless, the process begun in Helsinki is continuing. Although its normal growth has been impeded, attempts to block or undermine it have failed. The forces that want Europe to move ahead along the road mapped out at the Helsinki conference will eventually prevail over those who want to waylay it. This is the main result of the past 10 years.

LITERARY EXCURSIONS
From Edgar Allan Poe To Kurt Vonnegut

Professor Jasen Zasursky, Dean of the School of Journalism at Moscow State University, talks with Svetlana Orekhova about the American lecture program at MSU.

Q: Does the School of Journalism at Moscow State University have any contacts with American universities?

A: We had a lot of contacts in the sixties and seventies. Graduate students of the School of Journalism used to undergo a period of training at Columbia University, Berkeley or Syracuse University. Moscow State University sent its professors, trainees and students to the United States on a regular basis. We have agreements with the State University of New York and the Midwest Universities Consortium for Soviet teachers and trainees to be sent there. Two of our research fellows were at Columbia University and the University of Pennsylvania's Annenberg School of Communications. I, for one, lectured in Philadelphia in 1969, 1971 and 1974. In 1975 I did a month-long course on Soviet journalism at the Annenberg School. In addition, some of our graduate students have attended conferences in the United States.

We have had fairly close contacts with the Association for Education in Journalism. I spoke at its congresses on international information exchanges at Columbia, North Carolina, and Madison, Wisconsin. The Annenberg School, too, has invited us to its conferences. The Annenberg School Press's Journal of Communications publishes articles on the mass media by Soviet specialists.

Richard Cole and Philip Stephenson, of the association, visited our school and discussed the prospects for a regular exchange of journalism teachers between the Soviet Union and the United States. This is still being discussed.

Q: Do you ever meet U.S. educators at international congresses?

A: There was a congress of the International Association for Mass Communications Research in Prague, Czechoslovakia, in August 1984. At one of the symposiums joint work on textbooks, which involved Soviet specialists and representatives of the Association for Education in Journalism, was discussed.

Q: You're an authority on American literature. How do you assess contacts between Soviet and American authors?

A: I have been to six meetings between Soviet and American writers, all of which were interesting and useful because, apart from writing techniques and the status of writers, present-day issues that a true writer always seeks to understand were discussed. In March 1984 in Los Angeles we spoke about the need for better Soviet–American relations, for peace and security the world over. We even adopted an appeal for peace and détente. In this sense the meeting was very productive.

Q: Tell us about the exchange of teachers of literature between Moscow State University and American universities.

A: Richard Bridgeman, a well-known American specialist, has lectured at our School of Journalism. He was followed by other prominent people, such as Burton Paulu, the expert in mass communications. We hope he will come again.

I would particularly like to see Professor Richard Lehan of the University of California at Los Angeles. I think he is very interesting.

William Jay Smith, a popular American poet, has also lectured at our school. In addition, he read his poems for the Soviet poets who had translated his works.

Q: You head the group of authorities on American literature at the Institute of World Literature of the USSR Academy of Sciences. Will you tell us a little about the institute's work?

A: The USSR Academy of Sciences has recently had more active contacts with the United States. A number of Americans came for three very interesting symposiums that I attended. The first was devoted to Walt Whitman. Then there was a symposium devoted to national character and literature. It discussed the literature of ethnic minorities in the U.S., on the one hand, and multiethnic Soviet literature on the other. Last summer there was a symposium on William Faulkner, and Americans came to Moscow. In addition to reports, they set up an exhibition of Faulkner's books and materials related to his work at the Foreign Languages Library, and they later presented them to the library.

Q: What are the prospects for contacts in journalism and literature?

A: These contacts will continue. We are planning a series of lectures by Burton Paulu at our school. There will be symposiums at the Institute of World Literature. I think these contacts are productive and useful. They show that we have a large field for cultural exchanges. It is important that these exchanges promote the high ideals of humanism, progress and peace.

Q: How are students at your school taught American literature and journalism?

A: We have courses in a number of disciplines related to the United States, such as recent world history, which has a large section on the U.S., or a course on the foreign press, which is done in the same manner. There are lectures on the U.S. media. The foreign literature course concentrates on American literature of the eighteenth, nineteenth and twentieth centuries, with special emphasis on the latter. The students get to know the work of just about all modern American writers.

To pass their exams, the students must read books by U.S. writers ranging from Edgar Allan Poe, Washington Irving, Herman Melville, Walt Whitman and Mark Twain to Kurt Vonnegut, and study the techniques used in U.S. newspapers and magazines, such as *The International Herald Tribune*, *The New York Times*, *Newsweek* and *Time*.

GOOD LUCK, LAURA!

By Karen Sumbatyan
Photograph by Iosif Nevelev

Laura Ann Bratoff is presented with a red carnation during graduation ceremonies at the Moscow Medical Institute.

IT WAS graduation day at the Moscow Medical Institute. There were flowers everywhere, and everyone was congratulating everyone else. After six years of study, countless tests and exams, more than 100 textbooks and manuals, plus practical work in hospitals and clinics, the graduates were on top of the world. Twenty-eight members of the graduating class came from foreign countries. One was an American.

To my surprise, Laura Ann Bratoff spoke excellent Russian. Her paternal grandfather, she explained, had come from Russia, and Russian was spoken at home.

Laura and her family moved to the Soviet Union in the mid-seventies, when her parents signed a contract with Progress Publishers in Moscow. She graduated from high school here and then entered the medical institute.

"What was your favorite subject?"

"I think cardiology. I would like to continue to study diseases of the heart."

"What about practical work?"

"In my third year, like all of the other students, I began to assist at operations, and I took a six-week course of practical training at a Moscow clinic."

"Nobody envies a medical student who is supposed to spend 25 hours a day studying. You must have had some leisure time, though, didn't you?"

"Of course I did, and I must say that there was a lot to pick and choose from. I went to parties and took part in competitions and amateur art activities. I particularly enjoyed working in the student theater."

"What are your plans for the future?"

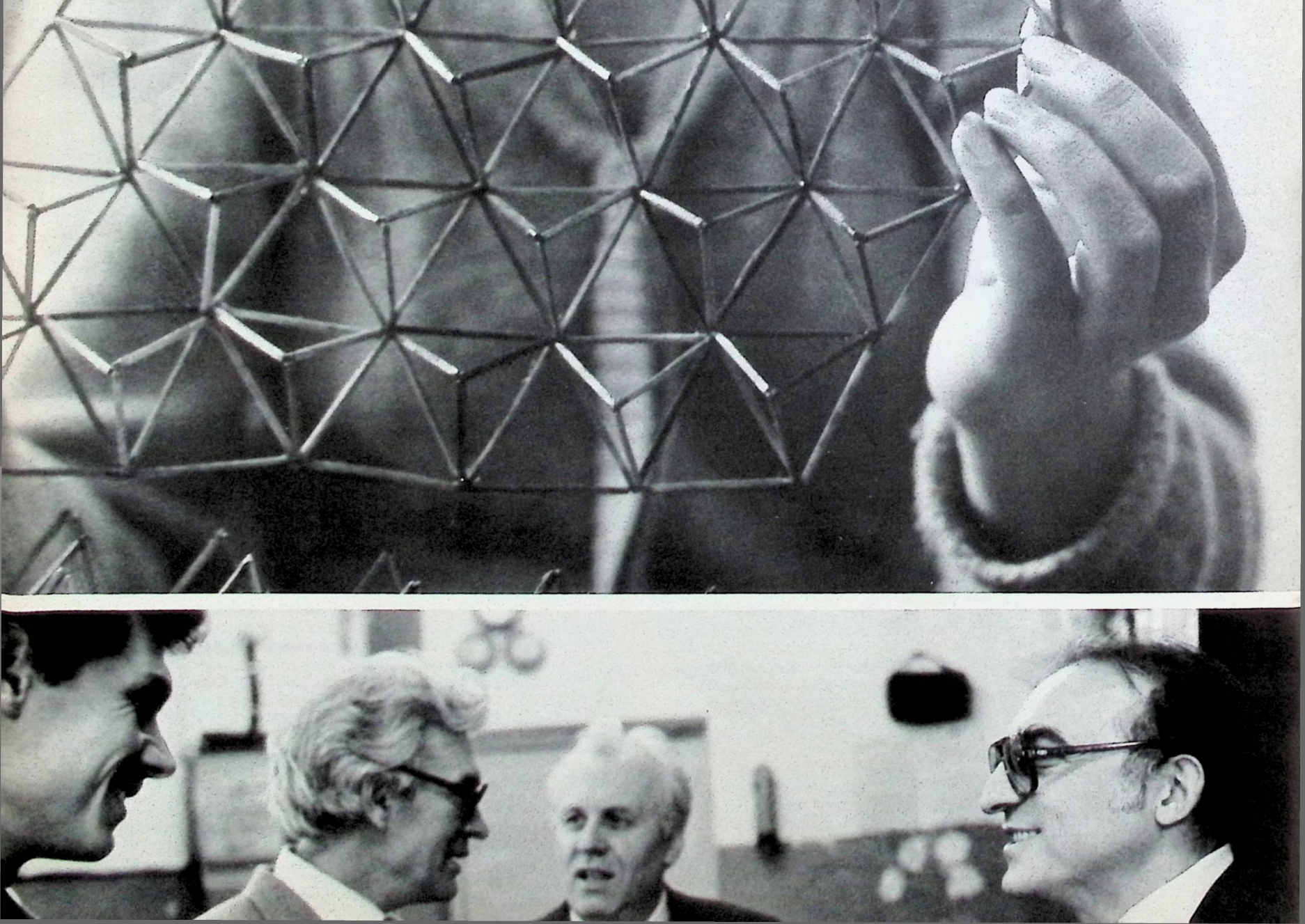
"When I go back home to California, I'll continue my studies for another two years, which is equivalent to what is known here as an internship. After I finish school, I'd like to work for the family health program in California.

"I know it will be hard for me to say good-by to all of my friends, but I'll never forget my years in the Soviet Union."

in focus

Many senior physics students at Kazakh State University are involved in the BATISS project. Katima Sundyukova, a fifth year student, was entrusted with making a model of the placement of neutrino traps in Lake Issyk-Kul. Bottom (from left to right): Valeri Kobrin, a senior engineer in the lab for computation methods for processing experiment data at Moscow State University, and professors Vladimir Murzin, Yevgeni Kolomeyets and Dr. Peter Kotzer.

In the fall of 1983 a daring 10-year experiment in the physics of the microcosm began. Professor Yevgeni Kolomeyets of Kazakh State University is one of the authors of the joint Soviet-American project, known as BATISS. This is what he told Dmitri Dmitriev about the experiment.



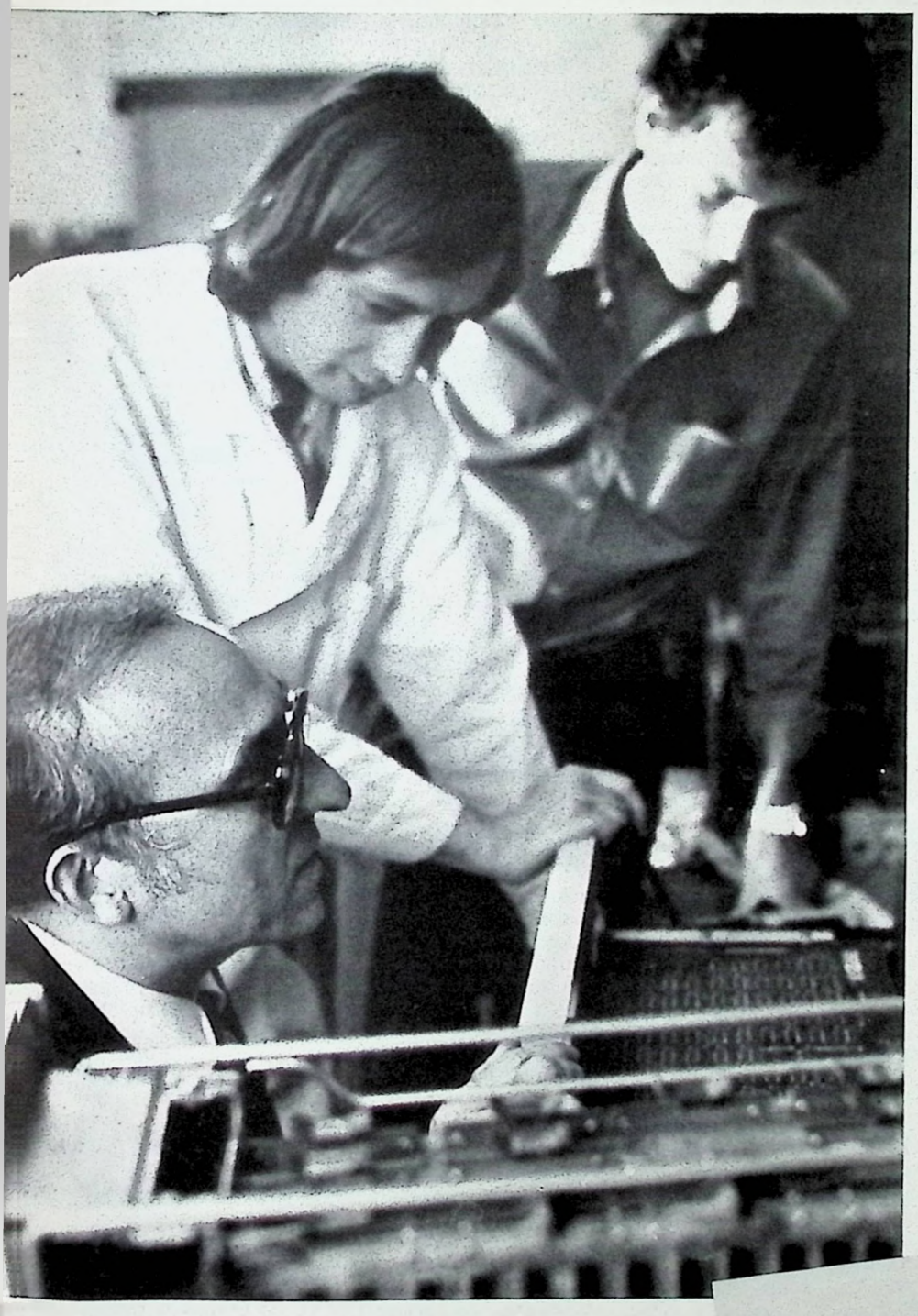
PROBING THE MYSTERIOUS NEUTRINO

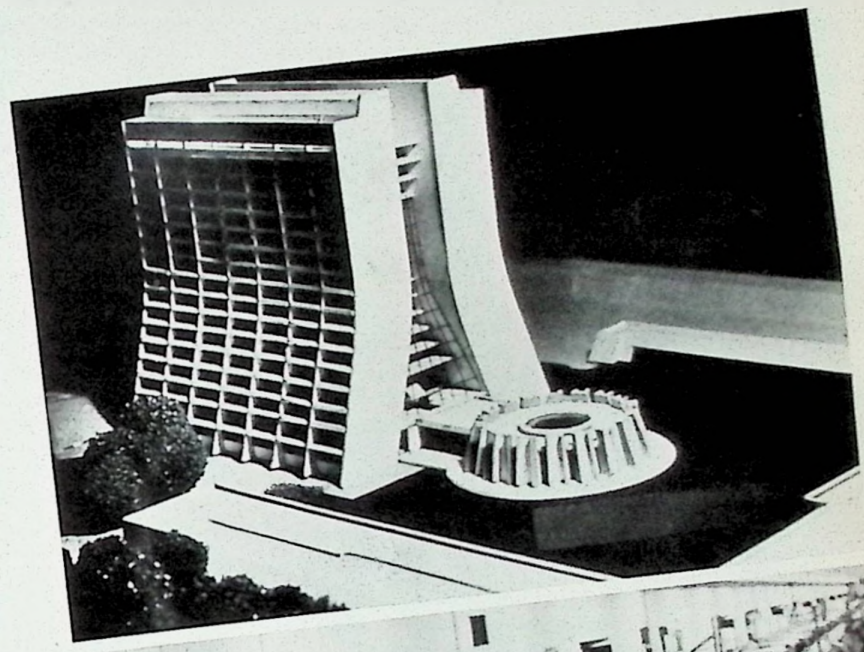
The Batavia–Issyk-Kul Experiment

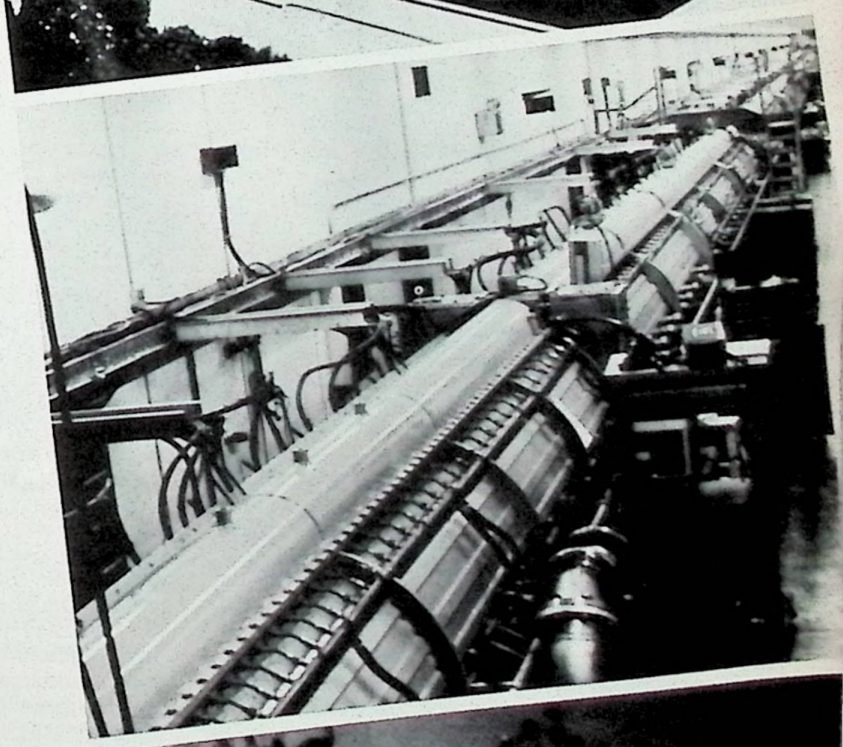
Photographs by Yuri Kuydin

The idea of neutrino bombardment of the globe was suggested back in August 1977 during talks between Soviet and American scientists at the International Conference on Cosmic Rays held in Plovdiv, Bulgaria. The discussion gave rise to a seemingly fantastic project aimed at examining the behavior of neutrinos along a flight path of about 10,000 kilometers under closely controlled conditions knowing the energy, beam intensity, instant of production and direction of travel of each particle.

The idea of carrying out such an experiment grabbed everyone's attention, and a rough estimate of its feasibility was made on the spot within just a few hours. The full theoretical analysis, however, took two and a half hours. It wasn't until 1981 that an agreement was concluded between physicists at Kazakh State University and Western Washington University on cooperation in neutrino bombardment ▶







Clockwise, from right: Participants in the BATISS international experiment meet annually in the Soviet Union and the United States. At the Enrico Fermi Laboratory in Batavia, Illinois (from left to right): Professor Yevgeni Kolomeyets, Dr. Jerry Lord, Professor Sett Nedermayer, Dr. Peter Kotzer (seated), Professor Tosika Nisimura and Dr. Ken Elli. Dr. Kotzer tests a power pack for neutrino traps developed at Kazakh State University. An overview of the accelerator in Batavia, and an inside view.

Alexander Sedov, a leading engineer in the cosmic ray laboratory at Kazakh State University, tests power packs for neutrino traps.

of the Earth. It was decided to aim the beam emitted from the Batavia accelerator in the United States through the Earth's center at Lake Issyk-Kul, in Kirghizia, where the particles were to be recorded by a special installation.

Who were the other originators of the project, and what problems have you encountered in studying neutrinos?

The BATISS concept belongs to four physicists: Professor Vladimir Murzin of Moscow State University, Dr. Peter Kotzer and his colleague Dr. Jerry Lord, a prominent American expert in the physics of elementary particles. I, too, have participated in the work since it began.

The existence of the neutrino was originally postulated in 1931 by the Austrian physicist Wolfgang Pauli, who attributed surprising properties to it. For a quarter of a century this, the smallest, particle was believed to be undetectable though its theoretical substantiation appeared to be absolutely flawless. Now we know that there are six different kinds of neutrinos. The latest findings of Soviet physicists show this electrically neutral particle to have a mass of 5×10^{-32} grams and fantastic penetrating power. It travels easily through the matter of the Earth, the Sun and any other star and spans the stupendous distances between galaxies. However, this holds true only for low-energy neutrinos. High-energy neutrinos are considered to be noticeably absorbed in layers of matter comparable in thickness with the radius of the Earth (over 10,000 kilometers).

Where do these strange ghosts of the microcosm come from?

In nature neutrinos result from the interaction of cosmic particles with matter. They are emitted by the fusion reaction going on in stars and by their explosions. There may also be so-called relic neutrinos emitted in the early stages of the evolution of the universe that still remain in existence. Scientists now produce neutrinos in accelerators. They know quite a lot about them, but not all of the ground has yet been covered. As I mentioned previously, neutrinos do not interact readily with matter. They travel at a speed equal or very close to the speed of light. It is impossible to detect the neutrino directly. Its passage is registered solely by the appearance of electrically charged muons produced in the course of its interaction with protons. In the three years that the underground telescope installed in the North Caucasus has been in operation, it has registered about 50 cases of interaction of neutrinos of natural origin. Before arriving at the detector, the neutrinos passed through the whole Earth. The telescope is meant for registering neutrinos likely to reach the Earth in the event that supernovae explosions should occur somewhere in the universe.

The BATISS experiment has set itself the quite different task of directly studying the behavior of the neutrino over a flight path of 8,000 kilometers under strictly controlled conditions.

Why was Lake Issyk-Kul selected as the finish line for the neutrino?

The effective thickness of the layer of water serving as the detector is determined by its transparency. The registering equipment has to be submerged in water to a depth of 500 to 800 meters to ensure the required conditions. The Soviet Union has only two lakes of that depth—Issyk-Kul and Baikal. Lake Issyk-Kul does not freeze over in winter; its water temperature never drops below plus 10 degrees centigrade. This circumstance made it preferable for the job. You can get a better understanding of how the neutrino is captured by recalling some facts from the history of physics.

In 1934 Soviet scientists Sergei Vavilov and Pavel Cherenkov observed that light waves are emitted from a charged particle when it travels through a transparent material. Cherenkov and two others were awarded the 1958 Nobel Prize for Physics for this discovery, now known as the Cherenkov effect. Over 20 years ago, Soviet Academician Moisei Markov drew attention to the possible interaction—however infrequent—of the neutrino with matter during its transit through a large body of water. The charged particles resulting from the interaction give off Cherenkov radiation, which can be registered with the aid of photomultiplier tubes.

How efficient is this unusual instrument called Lake Issyk-Kul?

After traveling through the mass of the Earth in three-hundredths of a second, the neutrino collides with the atomic nucleus of hydrogen or oxygen in the lake water. According to estimates, Issyk-Kul will trap about 11 neutrinos a day if Batavia sends a beam of one hundred million neutrinos every 15 seconds. The rest of the neutrinos escape the trap set for them in the lake and leave the Earth without a trace unless they run into some obstacle.

We expect to soon have reliable data on the efficiency of the BATISS program. A group from Kazakh State University has set up the first lot of instruments in the southern, the deepest and the clearest, part of Lake Issyk-Kul. The lattice trap is located at a depth of over 600 meters. It has a volume of about two million cubic meters of water and is equipped with 756 optical detectors sensitive to the mysterious particles. Preliminary processing of the collected data will be performed by computer right there on the shore of the lake, and in greater detail by high-capacity computers in Alma-Ata and Moscow.

What are the prospects of the experiment?

The experiment is very promising from the point of view of solving many fundamental problems of the physics of elementary particles, as well as a number of geophysical and astrophysical problems. For instance, should the neutrino prove to possess a certain mass, different types of them are liable to transform into one type or another under specific conditions. Such transformations have not been observed over short flight paths. The BATISS experiment offers a means for studying the behavior of the particles over long paths. At present it is thought that the stars account for most of the mass of the matter contained in the universe. This concept will have to be revised if the experiment shows the neutrino to have a rest mass.

The opportunity to register the flux of neutrinos emitted from flares occurring on the opposite side of the Sun is of great interest. Other charged elementary particles roam for such a long time within the magnetic fields of outer space that they lose a major part of the badly needed information on the nature of the flares and other processes taking place in the Sun. The neutrinos coming straight from their origin carry all of the information intact. The experiment also offers a means of setting and fulfilling unique geophysical tasks. The neutrino beam makes it possible to measure, say, the distance between the source of radiation and the detector to within an accuracy of a few millimeters. Therefore, any slight change in the distance that might occur in the course of 10 years—the duration of the experiment—will be immediately detected. This means we can measure the continental drift, which is estimated to equal one and a half centimeters a year. Some theories claim that the Earth "breathes," that is, varies in size due to the effect of gravitational disturbances. If this is really so, the change in size can also be detected. Similarly, it is also possible to register the shifting of individual sections of the Earth's crust that takes place before or during earthquakes.

It should be borne in mind that the results of long-term and involved experiments often lead to some of the most unexpected and most important discoveries. Even at this stage of the BATISS project there is no doubt that it marks the beginning of a new trend in science and engineering and that it will lay the groundwork for the development of the neutrino industry. Not the least of the factors promoting its growth, the birth of new ideas and the implementation of prospective plans is the participation of students in the BATISS experiment. It's only natural that the experiment be conducted by universities. Mass access of future scientists to this project of major significance, their joint work with prominent Soviet and American experts and the handling of the most up-to-date scientific equipment will have a beneficial effect on their professional activities later on.

Is the neutrino bombardment of the Earth likely to be of any practical use in the future?

The development of accelerators emitting neutrinos of energies scores of times higher than we have at present will make it possible to deal with many important problems in the national economy, say, in exploring for mineral resources. The reason is that a powerful beam of high-energy neutrinos sets up a series of complicated processes producing acoustic vibrations that can be registered by sound receivers. The degree of absorption of the sound depends on the composition of the rock through which the neutrino beam is passed. This offers a means of prospecting for mineral resources over territories several thousand square kilometers in area. In the opinion of scientists, the sensitivity of this method of exploring for oil and natural gas is much higher than that of seismoexploration. When the accelerator sends a flux of high-energy neutrinos, the absorption of the particles in heavy metal ores is especially noticeable, and the outline of their deposits can be established by varying the direction of the beam and the position of the receiver. Of course, this is a job for the next generation of accelerators.

How do your colleagues in the West view the joint experiment?

Scientists from many countries are taking great interest in the BATISS project. For instance, physicists at the Brookhaven National Laboratory in the United States also want to cooperate and plan to aim the neutrino beam of their accelerator at Lake Issyk-Kul. The participation of the European Center of Nuclear Research is just now under discussion. By the way, the Soviet Union also has an installation of the same class—the Serpukhov accelerator for high-energy particles. Its capacity will increase greatly after reconstruction. A decisive factor in neutrino research is the distance between the source and the particle detector. The distance must be approximately equal to the Earth's radius in order for the beam to pass through the Earth's inner layers that are not accessible by other methods. The Serpukhov accelerator is located only 3,000 kilometers from Lake Issyk-Kul. But simultaneous use of the beams of three accelerators could serve to measure the dimensions of the Earth. ■

WITH OPEN HEARTS AND OPEN MINDS

By Andrei Baidak
Photographs by Boris Babanov

Right: Two girls exchange addresses at a meeting between Soviet and American schoolchildren at the Soviet Peace Committee.

Last January the Soviet Union hosted a delegation of 10 American children between the ages of 9 and 14 from Children as Teachers of Peace, a project sponsored by the Round Table Foundation.

"We have come here with open hearts and open minds to bring peace between our countries, our nations, between individuals," said Pat Montandon of San Francisco, who led the delegation. Montandon is executive director of the Round Table Foundation. "We have come with love in our hearts, and we hope that love can be accepted that way. We do not have a hidden agenda. We do not get involved in political discussions. We go directly to the people of every country. We go right from our heart, to your heart, to peace."

The delegation met with Soviet children at Moscow's Young Pioneer Palace. They discussed many things, but the main subject was what they could contribute to the cause of peace.

Everyone enjoyed the experience. There was no language barrier since most of the young hosts have a pretty good command of English, which they study at school. What's more, some of the youngsters had made friends with American guests during the two previous Soviet visits by delegations from Children as Teachers of Peace.

"That was a really nice party," commented Michael White, 14. "I liked it all the more because I had an opportunity to speak to Soviet children. We should come together and bring peace on a personal level, and that would lead up to the national level, so we could bring peace all over the world."

Lev Tolkunov, president of the Soviet of the Union, one of the two chambers of the Soviet parliament, received the American and Soviet participants in his office in the Kremlin. By the light of a symbolic peace candle lit by John Velasquez of California, the American children presented Tolkunov with letters from children from different countries calling for the prevention of nuclear war.

Nguyen Vu Tran, 13, told Tolkunov that the Round Table Foundation is planning to organize another international essay and drawing contest for children. The theme will be: "What I would do to prevent a war if I were head of state." Nine-year-old Star Rowe performed a dance titled "A Peaceful World."

Everyone was impressed by the envoys of Children as Teachers of Peace, who are still so young and naive in their views on many things and yet so earnest about the important goals of their organization.

"Now that even children understand the importance of working for peace, how can we adults fail to understand it?" Tolkunov asked. "We must step up our work for universal peace to keep the world safe for the generations to come."

Tolkunov explained the Soviet leadership's position on the issues of war and peace and answered the American children's questions. "Our leadership is alarmed about the current world situation. International tension is high, with huge amounts of nuclear weapons stockpiled, and this may cause all of humankind to perish," he said, adding that attaining universal peace is no easy task.

He also noted the importance of the work carried out by Children as Teachers of Peace to promote friendship between the young citizens of our two countries.

The foundation is willing to continue such contacts. It plans to send another delegation to the Soviet Union next year. "I like it here," John Velasquez said. "What I have seen seems really nice. I like the people, and I would like to come back someday. I hope that someday we will live in peace."

"BETTER TO LIGHT A CANDLE..."

By Vladimir Brodetsky

Your astronauts have flown with ours around this small planet. It is clear that we live in a global village, but it is equally clear that this global village may destroy itself," remarked Clinton Gardner, president of U.S.–USSR Bridges for Peace.

The organization's aim is to break out of the cycle of fear and suspicion. "Both sides need to develop a new vision of each other and the future," Gardner said.

This opinion is shared by the Soviet public. In April 1983 a delegation from the Soviet Peace Committee met in Norwich, Vermont, with the Americans who advanced the idea of building "Bridges to Peace." That meeting was the first practical step toward realizing the project. It was there that an exchange program between religious groups and other organizations of the two countries was drawn up.

Since then, delegations from the Soviet Peace Committee, the Soviet Women's Committee and several religious leaders have visited the United States. Archbishop Irinei of Kharkov and Bogodukhov, who headed a church delegation, told Soviet journalists after his trip to the United States in September 1984 that it was a real revelation for many of the people he spoke to, including those who seemed to be well informed, to learn about the efforts for peace that are constantly made in our country and about the important peace initiatives advanced by Soviet leaders. Bishop Garegin of Armenia also commented on this.

Excerpts from interviews with members of a delegation from Connecticut made up largely of religious leaders and teachers who visited Moscow and Yerevan last fall and Soviet participants will give the reader an idea of the other problems discussed under the U.S.–USSR Bridges for Peace program.

Reverend Alvan V. Johnson, Jr.: "First, we will work together with all champions of peace in order to prevent space from becoming cluttered with weapons. Second, we must continue our quest for a nuclear freeze. We must reduce the tension between ourselves and our allies."

Oleg Kharkhardin, first deputy chairman of the Soviet Peace Committee: "The freeze formula is not our invention. It was suggested by American peace activists. However, we thoroughly approve of it and support it."

Reverend William Sieburg: "To this day, we harbor many misconceptions about each other. We hope our visit will help to reduce the misunderstanding."

Mary Jenkins, cochairwoman of the American delegation: "Our trip has clearly shown us the extraordinary differences that exist between our countries. Therefore, our approach to problems is very different. I think it is crucial to accept each other as we are."

Academician Galust Galoyan, of the Armenian Academy of Sciences, chairman of the Armenian Peace Committee: "Although we disagree on many issues, our contacts should continue. We remember that the Americans, like ourselves, shed blood fighting nazism. And we remember President Roosevelt's farsighted policy."

Clinton Gardner, president of U.S.–USSR Bridges for Peace: "I'm a veteran. I took part in the landing at Normandy. I was wounded twice. I know what war is like. Let me assure you that the average American also wants peace."

Lawrence Marshall, retired Coast Guard officer: "We are terribly concerned about the economic consequences of the arms race. Our countries should have a joint task force of economists who would address themselves to the economic implications of peace, and then we'd be able to view disarmament in terms of increasing trade potential between the United States and the Soviet Union."

"It's better to light a candle than to condemn the darkness," concluded Reverend T. Guthrie Speers, Jr., quoting Eleanor Roosevelt. He was referring to the search for better understanding that has been started today by many people with a view to emerging from yesterday's prejudice.

This idea is close to and understandable to the broadest circles of the Soviet public. The desire to learn as much as possible about the life of the American people and to understand their way of thinking constitutes an important part of intellectual life in the Soviet Union.

THEY SAVED U.S. FISHERS

Soviet fishers on a mission in the northern Pacific last summer received an S O S signal from the U.S. trawler *Golden Providence* while they were in Bristol Bay.

The huge refrigerator trawlers, which included *The Kontaika, The Samara, The Passionaria* and *The Cape Yegorov*, interrupted their fishing and went in search of the American ship when communication with it was broken unexpectedly. They combed the disaster area at night, using spotlights, with several American ships.

It wasn't until the next morning that four fishers from the sunken ship were found on a raft. Chilled to the bone and in need of medical attention, they were taken on board the Soviet trawler *Cape Yegorov*. The ship doctors did their best to help the Americans recover and regain their spirits.

The American fishers left the Soviet ship after expressing profound gratitude to their hosts. There, on that tiny part of the Soviet Union, they were cared for in a most considerate way.

Courtesy of the newspaper *Trud*

SINGING SONGS OF PEACE

An American choir that called itself "Let's Share a New Song" visited the Soviet Union last summer to sing for Soviet audiences and to learn about our music and cultural traditions.

Organized only a few months before the trip, the 40-member choir was made up of amateur singers of various ages and occupations from the suburbs of Boston.

The amateur singers had only one purpose, and that was to use songs to bring about peace and build confidence among people, to achieve mutual understanding among nations. Peace and understanding—those were the themes of the Boston choir's repertoire.

The U.S. visitors performed in Moscow, Leningrad, Tbilisi and Yaroslavl. They also saw the sights of the cities and met with local residents. The Americans had particularly interesting meetings with Soviet people in Yaroslavl, at the palace of culture and at the amateur film studios of the local locomotive repair depot.

Courtesy of the newspaper *Moscow News*

FUND OF FRIENDSHIP

By Tatyana Frolova
Photographs by Boris Babanov

In the spring of 1984 the USSR Committee of Youth Organizations suggested the idea of setting up an international camp for teenagers as a way to raise money for the 12th World Festival of Youth and Students being held in Moscow from July 27 through August 3. Volunteers for Peace in the United States, the Quakers in Great Britain, International Civil Servants, and the World Federation of Democratic Youth's International Travel and Exchanges Bureau and the International Voluntary Service of Youth Solidarity and Friendship responded to the appeal.

At the end of August about 30 representatives of different countries arrived in the Soviet Union. The

Continued on page 58

"Hold it! Don't anybody move." A group shot during a visit to the famous Artek Young Pioneer Camp in the Crimea.

PRESERVING ANTIQUITIES AND WORKS OF ART

An impressive exhibition on the restoration of museum pieces was recently held in Moscow and Leningrad. Twenty-five of the leading workshops from all over the country displayed more than a thousand exhibits dating from 3000 B.C. to the present that represented almost every country in the world.

By Saveli Yamshchikov
Restoration Expert and Art Historian
Photographs by Vladimir Khetagurov

In April 1918 Vladimir Lenin signed a decree protecting the monuments of the republic; in July he signed another decree on libraries and book collections; in September one prohibiting art objects and relics from being taken out of the country; in October a decree requiring the registration and protection of antiquities and works of art in the possession of private citizens, societies and institutions; in November a decree declaring all scientific, literary, musical and artistic works state property; and in December a decree protecting museum treasures.

Even before that, immediately after the overthrow of czarism in March 1917, the Petrograd Soviet of Workers' Deputies issued an appeal to all citizens of Russia:

> Citizens, the old masters have gone and left behind them a huge heritage which now belongs to the people of the whole country. Take good care of this inheritance, the paintings, statues and buildings, because they are the incarnation of your spiritual power and that of your ancestors. Do not touch a single stone. Remember that this cultural heritage is your history and your national pride. Remember, it is the soil on which the new art of the people will grow.

The development of the Soviet school of art restoration was the result of the government's and people's concern for the safety of cultural monuments.

From the very outset, the Soviet Government was determined that the treasures of art created by humankind through the centuries should become the property of the people.

Work to register and restore cultural relics began immediately after the October Revolution in 1917 although it was a time of Civil War and foreign intervention, and there was nationwide devastation. That was when the plans, principles and methods of restoring art objects were elaborated. The first conference of restorers took place as early as 1918 and formulated the basic rules for the scientific restoration of paintings.

In subsequent years other restoration workshops like the one founded in the capital in 1918 were set up in such centers of ancient Russian culture as Kiev, Novgorod, Yaroslavl and Vologda. The restoration departments of the country's largest museums—the Hermitage and the Russian Museum in Leningrad, and the Tretyakov Gallery and the Museum of Fine Arts in Moscow—were enlarged, and workshops appeared for the first time in Zagorsk and at the Kiev-Pecherskaya Monastery.

These restoration workshops made a great contribution to the theory and practice of preserving objects of art during the postrevolutionary years. Their initial steps in restoration, their physical and chemical analyses, their documentation and methods of training restorers were covered widely by the press in those days, and the development of restoration work throughout the country was stimulated.

During the twenties and the thirties Soviet restorers uncovered, analyzed and saved from decay thousands of art objects. Those were times of truly great discoveries that called for a revision of many pages of the history of Russian and world art. Hitherto unknown works by Andrei Rublyov, Theophanes the Greek, Dionisy, the iconographers of Novgorod, Suzdal and Pskov, and rare eleventh, twelfth and thirteenth century icons were brought to light. Paintings by the great masters of Russia, Italy, Holland, Spain, France, England, Germany and the East passed through the hands of our restorers. Among them were paintings by Raphael and Titian, Rembrandt and Rubens, Poussin and Watteau, Manet and Renoir, Fyodor Rokotov and Dmitri Levitsky, Ilya Repin and Vasili Surikov. Restorers helped to establish the names of the artists of previously anonymous paintings and to correct many erroneous attributions made earlier. Most important of all, however, they halted the process of the paintings' decay.

The efforts of our restorers during World War II and the 10 years after the war were truly selfless. The evacuation of museum collections into the heart of the country, the preservation of collections that remained in battle areas and then the re-evacuation—this tremendous amount of work could not have been done without the participation of restorers.

The nazi invaders did untold damage to our country's cultural heritage. They destroyed thousands of architectural monuments and tens of thousands of art objects. The palaces of Leningrad and the surrounding countryside, the monasteries and cathedrals of Kiev, Novgorod, Pskov and Smolensk were reduced to ruins. The memorial museums of Alexander Pushkin, Leo Tolstoy, and Pyotr Tchaikovsky were not spared either.

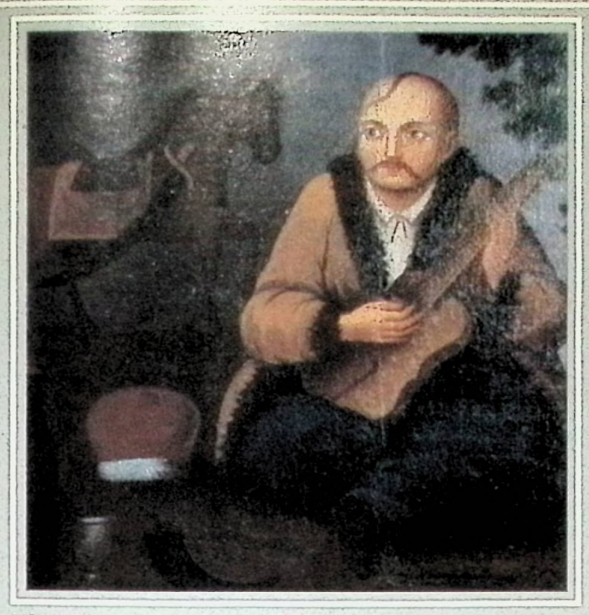
A special commission to investigate the crimes of the Nazis called attention to the fact that the destruction was deliberate and was carried out on personal instructions from Hitler and his generals, those vandals who announced to the whole world that monuments of art on the Eastern Front had no value and were to be destroyed.

After the war, despite the mountains of work to be done in the Soviet Union, our artists and restorers devoted considerable time and effort to saving the treasures of Dresden and other museum collections in Germany, Poland and Rumania. Their work was later described as a feat, and the return of the saved and restored Dresden treasures to the German people in the period from 1956 to 1958 as an act unparalleled in history.

Restoration work in the Soviet Union was stepped up toward the end of the fifties. During the past 15 years it has developed on a particularly wide scale. New restoration workshops have been set up in every republic, and the number of specialists has increased. Workshops have begun to hire physicists, chemists and biologists, who are now introducing the latest achievements of science into the practice of preserving and restoring relics.

Piece by Piece

It took five years to prepare the nationwide exhibition on the restoration of museum items in the Soviet Union. From the thousands of restored museum ▶



*Ukraine. Anonymous eighteenth century artist. **Mamai the Cossack.** The State Museum of Fine Arts of the Ukrainian Republic. Restorers: Elena Sizova and Tatyana Krasnovskaya.*

Russia. Pskov. Anonymous fourteenth century artist. Fragment of a mural in the Church of the Intercession of the Holy Virgin in Dovmontov. The Hermitage State Museum. Restorers: Raisa Belyayeva, Alexander Blyakher, Leonid Gagen and Yekaterina Sheinina.

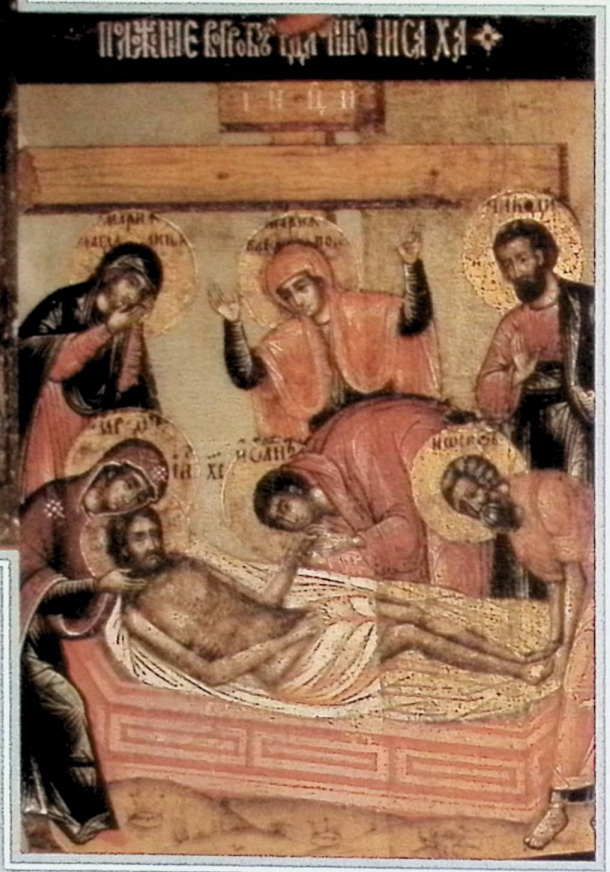
*Russia. Alexander Buchkuri. **Portrait of a Girl.** Early twentieth century. (Pastel). The Andropov Historical Museum of Art. Restorer: Nina Popisova.*

*England. George Dawe. **Portrait of Alexander Tuchkov.** The Hermitage State Museum. Restorers: Zinaida Nikolayeva and Alexei Kolbasov.*

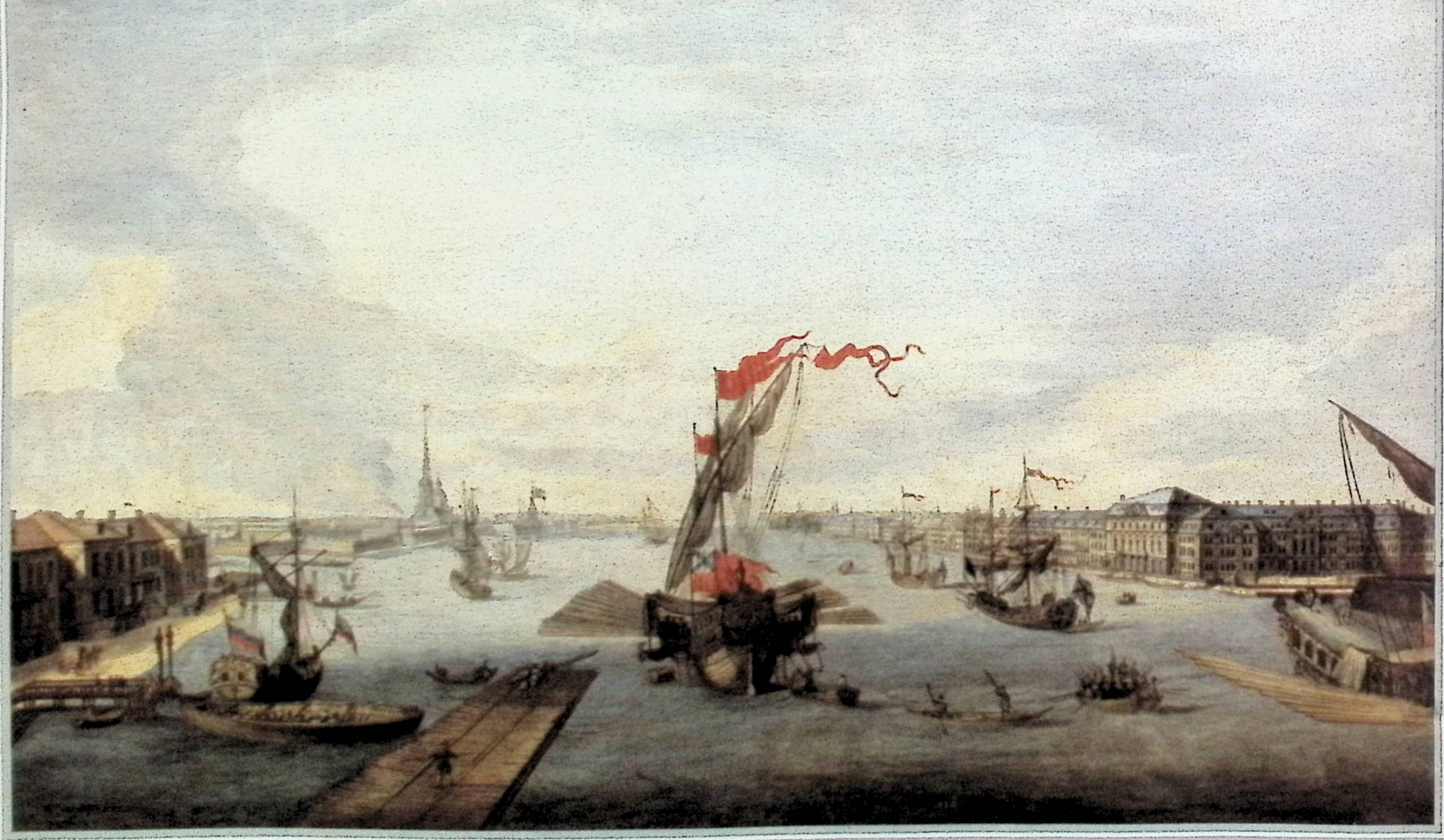
*Russia. **The Archangel Michael.** Sixteenth-seventeenth centuries. (Wood). The Dmitrov Museum of Local Lore. Restorer: Victor Filimonov.*

Attica, Greece. Amphora. Fifth century B.C. Pushkin State Museum of Fine Arts. Restorer: Nina Ivanova.

*Russia. **Entombment**. Seventeenth-eighteenth centuries. An eighteenth century painting (left) scaled from a seventeenth century painting (right) and transferred to a new foundation. The Kirillov Historical Art Museum.*
Restorers: Olga Lelekova and Alexander Yablokov.



*Byelorussia. **The Archangel Michael**. Eighteenth century. (Wood). The State Art Museum of the Byelorussian Republic.*
Restorer: Andrei Shpunt.



Russia. Anonymous eighteenth century artist.
***A View of St. Petersburg**. The Hermitage State Museum.*
Restorer: Lydia Nefedova.

*Clockwise, from top left: Russia. Anonymous. **Portrait of Empress Maria Fedorovna.** The Pskov Historical Museum of Art. Restorer: Victor Alexeyev. Russia. Alexei Venetsyanov. **Portrait of Maria Stromilova.** 1820. The Kalinin Picture Gallery. Restorers: Elizaveta Kostikova and Yelena Golikova. Russia. Vladimir Rossinsky. **Portrait of Ivan Bunin.** 1915. (Pastel). The State Literary Museum. Restorers: Elizaveta Kostikova and Larisa Metlitskaya. Byelorussia. **St. Theresa.** Eighteenth century. The State Art Museum of the Byelorussian Republic. Restorer: Pyotr Zhurbei.*

*Lithuania. **St. Martin Giving His Robe to a Beggar.** (Wood). The Historical and Ethnographic Museum of the Lithuanian Republic. Restorer: Rashkus Dremaite.*

Russia. Iconostasis of St. Peter and St. Paul's Church in Kozhevniki (Novgorod). Sixteenth century. The Novgorod Nature Preserve Museum. Restorers: The Rosrestavratsia Association under the direction of Yevgenya Kristi.

Germany. Herman van Rode. Altar gate. 1481. The Niguliste Church in Tallinn. The State Art Museum of the Estonian Republic. Restorers: Alexander Bogdanov, Nikolai Bregman, Alexander Tablokov and Andrei Reizhin.

Right: Russia. Fifteenth century. Grand Zion, Moscow Kremlin. The State Armory. Restorers: Mikhail Grinkrug and Mikhail Nutsky.

pieces it was necessary to choose the very best that would show viewers the complicated process of restoration and the application of the newest methods of research. At the same time, it was necessary to select items that would be distinguished for high artistic qualities and have definite historical interest. When choosing the items, we took into account, above all, the opinions of those who participated in restoring them since they knew best the life stories of the restored masterpieces.

The principle underlying the exhibition was to show the success of a restoration institution as a whole, rather than the success of individual restorers. Twenty-five restoration centers, workshops, laboratories, institutions and associations submitted items for the exhibit. They were asked to present the results of their work in such a way that viewers would be able to see the entire range of restoration measures and to get an idea of just how varied the techniques and devices of restorers working in different cities and republics throughout the country really are.

After discussing the various sections of the exhibition, the organizers agreed that they would show the achievements of restoration on specimens of national art. That was why all of the sections of the exhibition were so varied and interesting.

Ukrainian restorers did an equally good job on local icons and West European paintings. They kept the water colors by Ivan Aivazovsky and Maximilian Voloshin, the canvases of Taras Shevchenko and folk pictures depicting Mamai the Cossack in good condition.

The wooden architecture of Byelorussia, whose territory was literally blown to bits by the war, was collected and put back together piece by piece. Today these wooden structures are a paean to the old craftspeople who handled wood with such ease and skill.

Restoration work of all kinds is going on in Azerbaijan. The republic's contribution to the exhibition was carpets made by its unparalleled women weavers and restored by their equally skilled descendants.

Precious paintings and elegant patterns of ancient Georgian needlework were displayed side by side with the simple beauty of archeological objects and specimens of applied art contributed by the Baltic republics. The restorers of Latvia, Estonia and especially Lithuania exhibited brilliant mastery of contemporary methods of restoration.

The All-Russia Restoration Center is the oldest institution of its kind in the country. It was set up immediately after the publication of Lenin's decrees on the protection of art relics. Its talented staff has restored tens of thousands of unique art objects. At the nationwide exhibition, the center presented masterpieces of Russian wooden sculpture, rare items of pre-Mongolian iconography and ivory miniatures. Of special interest was the section devoted to Russian pastel portraits of the eighteenth, nineteenth and twentieth centuries, which were sent to the center from 50 museums throughout Russia. Even the most experienced specialists doubted that the portraits could be saved. Pastels are very fragile. It's very difficult to protect them from the destructive effects of time. But this was all the more true in this case since the pastels on display were done on parchment, silk, leather, suede and other unusual materials. It took a group of restorers 25 years to bring back to life 150 pastel portraits made by Russian artists. Practically every pastel required a special approach because there was not one process that would suit all of the pictures.

As a result, the history of Russian pictorial art was enriched by one more wonderful page. Among the restored pastels were the works of such well-known painters as Nikolai Argunov, Orest Kiprensky, Alexei Venetsianov, Valentin Serov and many other artists.

The exhibition also boasted the restored interiors of the cathedrals and palaces of the Moscow Kremlin, the museum estate in Kuskovo and other gems of Moscow architecture as well as the picturesque ensembles of cathedrals in Novgorod, Dmitrov and Sviyazhsk.

Among the numerous problems that the organizers of the exhibition had to cope with was the diversity of the exhibits. However, united by the key word of the exhibition—restoration—Buddhist sculpture and icons, ancient Russian needlework and canvases from the Italian Renaissance, Chinese scrolls and frescoes of fourteenth century Pskov painters looked fine placed side by side.

Mission Accomplished

The preservation of our cultural heritage is attracting the attention of an ever-increasing group of specialists; it arouses among the public special interest and concern for the preservation of the most valuable and beautiful creations of the nations of the world.

There are more than 2,000 restoration experts working in the Soviet Union today. They are chemists, physicists, biologists, art historians, experts in scientific methods of storage and, of course, restorers. Their chief aim is to work out reliable methods and devices for preserving relics for the longest period of time possible.

The USSR Ministry of Culture has assigned the Restoration Institute with the responsible task of putting restoration and the preservation of the country's artistic heritage on a truly scientific foundation. The institute, which was specially created for this purpose, has broad and varied functions, the most important being the elaboration and implementation of modern methods of restoration, preservation and storage for different types of art objects. The range of objects includes paintings of all types, sculpture (polychrome as well), miniatures on parchment, objects made of metal, stone, wood, leather, cloth, bone and glass, and ceramics. The institute also studies problems of chemical, physical and spectral analyses, authentication of art objects, questions of light and humidity, and restoration and museum equipment.

The Restoration Institute cooperates with all of the restoration institutions within the country and maintains contacts with foreign colleagues. Its staff members participate in international conferences and congresses. Its regular training programs for restorers from museum and other sister institutions are one of the most effective forms of introducing into practice the theoretical principles of restoration developed at the institute. These contacts enrich both the teachers and the students.

Soviet restorers get excellent training at secondary and higher art schools in Moscow, Leningrad, Kiev, Tbilisi and Suzdal. An entire section of the exhibition was devoted to the work of senior students from the restoration and painting technique workshop at the Leningrad Institute of Painting, Sculpture and Architecture under the USSR Academy of Arts. Frankly, the work of these young specialists did not look out of place among the other exhibits and measured up to the high standards of all the other participants. I regularly attend the presentation of graduation theses at the academy as a member of the examining board, and I always find myself thinking that the graduates could be assigned the most difficult restoration work. All of the young people are distinguished by high professional standards plus enthusiasm for their work.

When we set out on our first scouting mission to collect items for the exhibition, we had no idea that the trip would turn into a journey of discoveries that would impress even the most experienced specialists. The sheer numbers when we began to organize the exhibition were one thing, but meeting the people responsible for the fate of the creations of the old masters was quite another. The statistics are certainly impressive: more than 2,000 restorers in museums, in scores of laboratories, workshops and centers and a tremendous number of art objects that got a new lease on life. However, the statistics seemed rather dull compared to the dedication of those who work in this area.

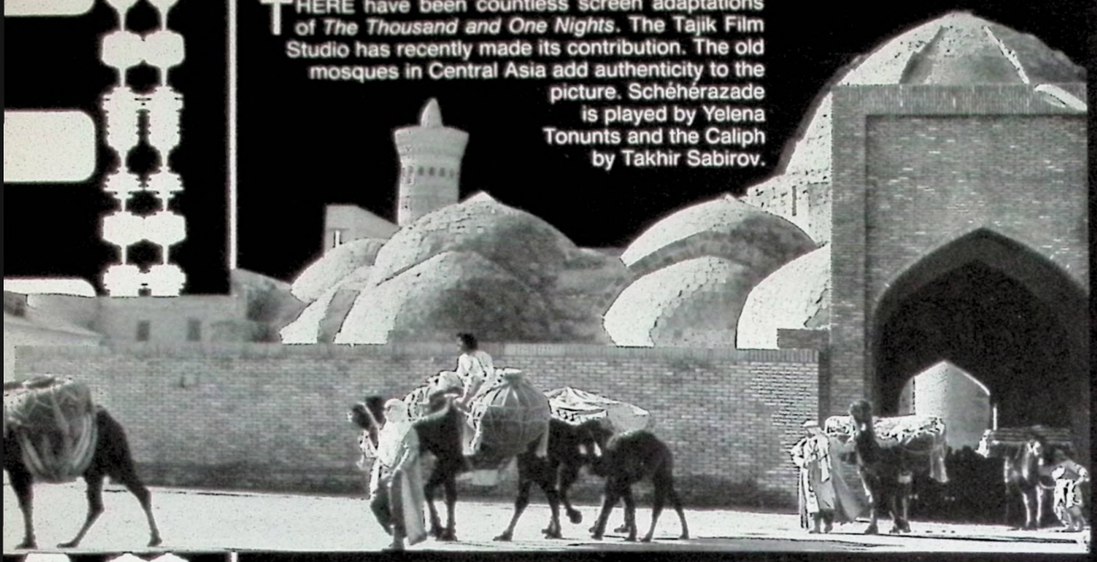
People from all walks of life came to see the exhibition, but they all—specialists, correspondents, TV editors and those who were seeing restoration work for the first time—asked the same question. It was put in different ways, but it boiled down to this: Which one of the exhibits had the most thrilling story that ended in some sensational discovery?

I hope that all of those people who didn't get a thrilling reply to their question will forgive me. I was not exaggerating when I said that every item was as dear to me as to the restorer who had saved it from oblivion. But I know that the participants of the exhibition, the master restorers, have many an exciting tale to tell about the exhibits.

The students of famous restorers have proved by the work that they displayed at the exhibition that the mission of preserving works of art throughout the country is in reliable hands.

SCHÉHÉRAZADE (AGAIN)

THERE have been countless screen adaptations of *The Thousand and One Nights*. The Tajik Film Studio has recently made its contribution. The old mosques in Central Asia add authenticity to the picture. Schéhérazade is played by Yelena Tonunts and the Caliph by Takhir Sabirov.



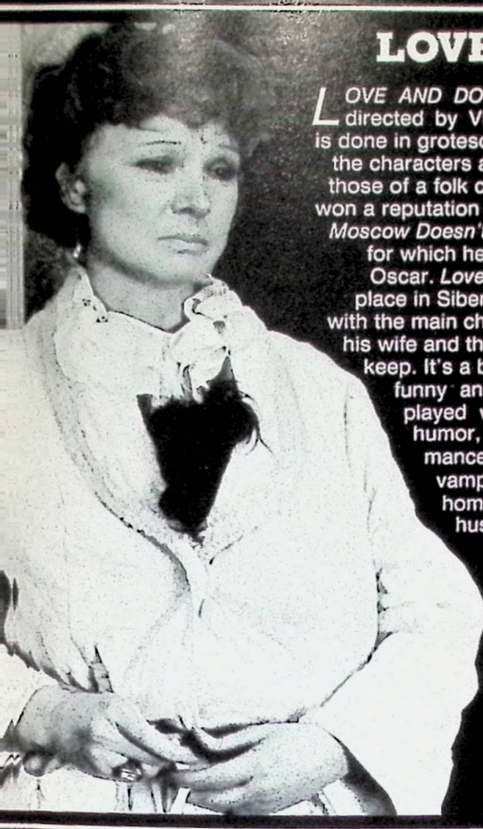
UNREAL

GEORGIAN director Eldar Shengelaya has produced a comedy titled *Blue Mountains, or an Unreal Story* about a young writer (played by Revaz Giorgobiani, below) who takes a copy of his latest manuscript to a publisher. His story is told against the backdrop of the establishment's routine, which is satirically exaggerated.

DARLING . . .

THE late Dinara Asanova, who died suddenly on the set, was devoted to films about young people. Her last picture, *My Dear, My Beloved, My One and Only*, is based on a true story about a young girl who kidnapped a baby and passed it off as her own in order to make the man she loved return to her. The film stars Olga Mashnaya, who played in all of Asanova's pictures.

LOVEBIRDS



LOVE AND DOVES, a new film directed by Vladimir Menshov, is done in grotesque style in which the characters are presented like those of a folk comedy. Menshov won a reputation as the director of *Moscow Doesn't Believe in Tears*, for which he was awarded an Oscar. *Love and Doves* takes place in Siberia. The film deals with the main character's love for his wife and the doves that they keep. It's a banal story, full of funny and sad episodes played with fantasy and humor, of a vacation romance with a provincial vamp and the return home of the prodigal husband. Alexander Mikhailov plays Vasya, the main character, and Lyudmila Gurchenko plays Raisa, the provincial siren (both at left).

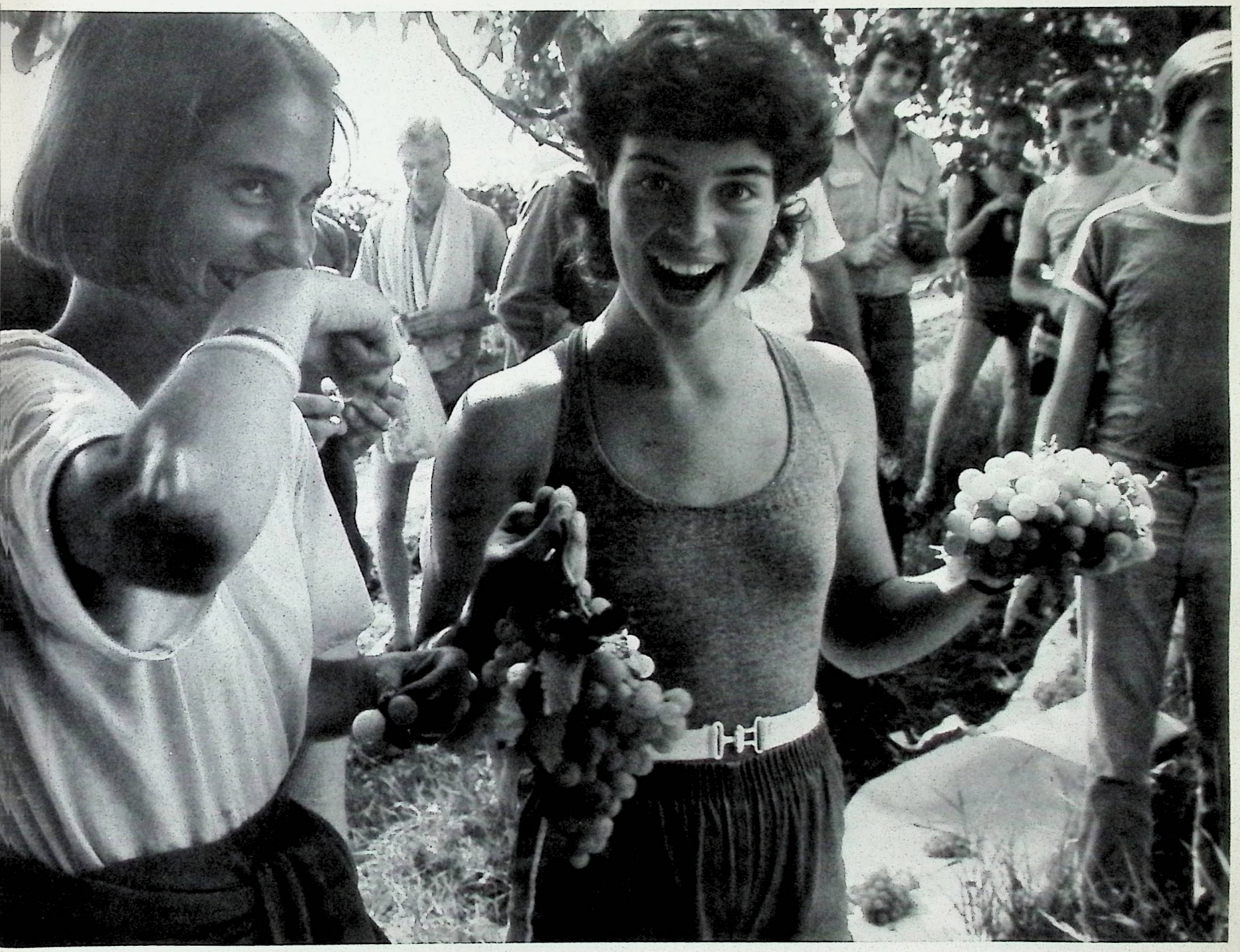
SUCCESS

THE celebrated actress Alisa Freindlikh plays the female lead in a film called *Success* about theater people. The story line is basically simple: A young Moscow director arrives at a provincial theater that has long lost its oomph (and its audience) and undertakes Chekhov's *Seagull*. It is equally important for the company and the director that the production be a hit. The characters are well developed, and the acting is superb.

CONTROVERSIAL

THE well-known film director Eldar Ryazanov has made a picture based on *The Dowerless Girl*, a play by Alexander Ostrovsky (1823-1886). In 1936 the play was filmed by Yakov Protazanov, and it has since become a classic. The recent film version, titled *A Heart-Rending Romance*, aroused a storm of controversy in the press about whether or not film makers have the right to freely interpret the classics. Ostrovsky wrote numerous plays, most of which were devoted to the life of Russian merchants. *The Dowerless Girl* premièred in 1878 with Glikeria Fedotova, then the star of the Russian stage, playing the leading role of Larisa Ogudalova. Larisa Guzeyeva makes her debut in the new film.

Clockwise, from top right: John Walters poses at the desk that President Franklin Roosevelt used in the Livadia Palace when he stayed there in 1945 for the Yalta Conference. Always smiling, Barbara Rosenberg enjoyed just about everything. Barbara and Diana Wheeler loved the early Crimean grapes. John Walters from the United States and Peter Martin from Great Britain had a good time dancing at Camp Artek.



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motto of the camp was "Voluntary Work in the Struggle for Peace and Disarmament."

The group traveled to the Crimea by plane. People from all over the Soviet Union and around the world come to the coast of the Black Sea for rest and medical treatment year round. The area is also famous for its grapes.

One of the local vineyards, Magarach, cordially welcomed the young guests. They were to work there for a week. "We must try to do everything," they said, and they did, indeed, accomplish a lot. They helped to build new production facilities, they treated the roots of grafted vines, and more. In their leisure hours they went to the beach, went on excursions, had parties and met with their Soviet counterparts. Together they discussed topics of concern to today's young people: disarmament, peace initiatives, promoting cooperation among young people and environmental problems. There were heated debates on a number of subjects, but the one thing that they all agreed upon was the need for peace. Peace, they decided, is something that must be fought for.

A week isn't much time to get a complete idea of a country and its people. It was the first visit to the Soviet Union for many of the young people, and so they wanted to cram as much as possible into their days. They visited museums and historic sites, toured the coast of the Black Sea, met Soviet people, and much more.

At the end of the week the team said good-by to the warm Crimea.

"Our financial contribution to the festival may be small," remarked Jeanne Barclay before departure, "but the value of the meetings held during our stay in the Soviet Union can't be overestimated. Getting to know each other and trying to reach mutual understanding—these are the important things." ■

NATURE APPEALS FOR PEACE

Paul Winter in Conversation with Yevgeni Yevtushenko

THEY JUST HAD TO meet when Paul Winter came to the Soviet Union. Paul is the creator of the startling new genre of jazz called ecological jazz; and at 52 poet Yevgeni Yevtushenko is as young and popular as ever—he hasn't lost his taste for the unusual and the paradoxical. But then Paul Winter would intrigue any Russian since the notions of "soul" and "art" are intrinsic to the national character.

The Poet's Foreword

We are convinced that Nature herself is eternal. And yet today it seems as if Nature is thinking about calling it a day. When you fly over her temples like the Himalayas, the Caucasus or the Cordilleras, there is something different about the wrinkles and folds of her face, as though deep down she is burdened with the thought that she may disappear forever. Could it be that Nature is having nightmares about nuclear war?

Nature appeals for peace in the bubbling of the brook and the roar of the sea, in the rustle of the palm and the birch, through children's voices.... Paul Winter put it like this:

> We must through music and its glorification of nature give people the experience of being at peace. In my view, each of us must be at peace before we can uphold peace. Peace for me means a lot more than mere absence of war. It means complete coexperience with others.

These fine words, which are so dear to us, he wrote in his *Music, Peace and Nature*. In Paul's compositions and in his ecological jazz, through his saxophone, speak the whale, the wolf, the dolphin and the fowl of the air. For a time he even performed with a wolf vixen until some cranks poisoned it. Paul sees protecting the world from nuclear war on the same plane as protecting Nature, against which there has long been an undeclared war.

Paul Winter has long intrigued me, but I didn't get to meet him until his second trip here. Together he and I visited the world-famous Afon Caves in Georgia. The masses of stalactites and stalagmites look like fairy-tale castles. They're quaintly lit, and recorded music is played. Paul really loved the place, but he frowned a little when, after the superb Abkhazian choirs, a jaunty song more suitable for a restaurant resounded in this cathedral of Nature.

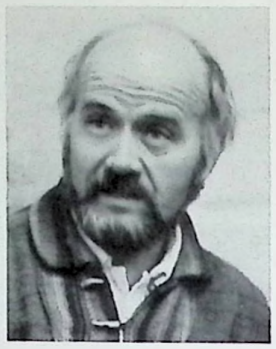
So Paul turned on his pocket cassette recorder, raised the saxophone to his lips and began to improvise. I felt as if the music was dripping from the vaults of the cave, so much did it come from the soul of the musician, from the soul of that magical place. His music is an invitation for reflection. This is music appealing for peace without grabbing you by the collar. It gradually eases into the soul, like peace itself.

Disarming Friendship

Yevtushenko asked Paul Winter how it was that he came to be involved with music.

"I'm from Altoona, Pennsylvania. My grandfather conducted a military band in the Army of the North. So music runs in the family. I personally went professional at 12, leading a small jazz group, although all my life I have been as devoted to classical music as to jazz. We played bebop. When people are going through their youth, they need an outlet for their energy, and they often find it in music, which is close to a riot. More than that, music is an attempt at self-assertion. For me, jazz was such music. For the last 20 or 30 years the music of teenagers has been rock 'n' roll."

Soviet poet
Yevgeni Yevtushenko



American jazz artist
Paul Winter

"But there are people who say rock 'n' roll is just another form of jazz."

"They have the same root, but jazz is a musical quest, and rock 'n' roll has more to do with the 'sexual revolution.' In rock, the musical foundation isn't so important."

"Do you mean, Paul, that rock is more for the body, and jazz is more for the soul?"

"To a degree. In rock, I hear mostly the bm-bm-bm of the city. I don't hear Nature in it, even the nature of humankind. Rock belongs to the urban world, and the longer people live in the city, the more their bodies get slowed down and tied up, the more they need the big beat to get out of themselves. It's as if they're paralyzed by today's city, as if they have to break out of the stupor."

"Do you really hate the city?"

"Quite the opposite, Yevgeni. I want my music to be part of the daily diet of cityfolks. They are near and dear to me. Nature finds expression through itself, through music and literature.

"In the city people become disjointed and forget that there is something else beyond the city. I would like music to be the bridge between the two. Ever since I was a kid, I have enjoyed seeing how music brings folks together because we in the States have a bit too much individualism and a bit too little interconnection. I have always valued two things in music—its potential for extraordinary broadness and for fusion into a single whole. Not all jazz, but the bebop jazz I love has both."

"Tell me, Paul. How did you come up with the unusual idea of blending jazz and environmental issues?"

"In the sixties, when I heard the voice of the whale and the wolf, I was touched as much as when I first heard Charlie Parker's saxophone. In those voices I heard the very soul of life. It was immaterial that it wasn't a human soul. I wanted the Paul Winter Consort to be a forum for the music of all species of life. I went on an expedition to listen to animals in their natural habitats. Everyone I knew who had seen whales close up became a different person. The sense of becoming one with Nature was so all-consuming that it has become part of my life. However, I saw that many animals were on the verge of complete extinction. Music can unite people and Nature. Choral singing, for instance, has a strong influence on people."

"But Hitler and the Nazis also used this power. They had people singing in choirs, too."

"Sure, Yevgeni. But then, any force can be used for evil. Even national anthems can be used to the detriment of peace if they lead to chauvinism. It's just like fire. It can warm and burn and kill. But I think music has a great potential to bring people peace. I don't think that I can offer governments definite measures; what interests me is what each individual person can do. Fear is the greatest hindrance to peace. Fear is the root cause of the cold war."

"Fear of someone? Or something?"

"Well, there are a multitude of fears, both real and imaginary, Yevgeni. The human mind is extremely inventive when it comes to fear. It is vital that unwarranted fears be destroyed. Nature can give people inner wholeness, heal their souls."

"Listen, Paul, aren't you idealizing a bit? There are thousands of conflicts within Nature. I've never heard of a vegetarian tiger. Nature by itself doesn't offer any examples of how to live in peace."

"No animal other than man kills representatives of its own species. Two wolves contending for leadership of the pack fight each other, and when one is clearly defeated, he offers his throat to the victor, but the victor doesn't kill the vanquished. If an animal kills, it's because such is the essence of all life forms in the food chain. Man is the only animal that kills for more than just to eat. People have yet to come to grips with their own nature. Homo sapiens has existed approximately 300,000 years, and the whale at least 15 million years. As a species, we're mere babes, freshmen. We would do well to learn from the other species."

"I have a higher opinion of people, but what you said makes me think. For the moment, though, tell me this: What were your first childhood notions of Russia?"

"It seemed to me to be a faraway land where people lived in frightful cold. But when I went to college, I learned that even Russia has people who like jazz. Sometimes I would get letters from such jazz fans—in broken English, but very touching.

"After a trip to the Grand Canyon, I began to wonder where Soviet people go to get an emotional charge from Nature. Where are their Grand Canyons and Yellowstone Parks? Then I resolved to go and see with my own eyes and tell in my music about how Nature in your land is just as beautiful as it is in ours and about how you love Mother Earth. Many friends had told me about this. One of them—he breeds Siberian cranes in Wisconsin—advised me to go have a look at the Sikhote-Alin Mountains; another, an expert on wolves, insisted that I drop in at the Oka Wildlife Preserve.

"I feel we need a lot more interaction. Our nations desperately need cultural exchanges. No exchange is dangerous. Silence gets to become threatening. I think Nature has a host of possibilities latent in it, including improving relations between nations. Perhaps music is only a tiny drop, but I hope it will promote that. When we meet a friendly person, we say he 'disarms' us. Do you Russians say the same, Yevgeni?"

"We sure do, Paul."

"Removing the tension from relations between people and nations is disarming. The more we know about our fears, the easier it is to get over them. Take one example from Nature. Throughout all of history, wolves were the pariahs of the animal world. They were feared more than anything. And then we discover that there's no need to fear them at all. That's an unbelievable psychological leap.

"We have found that whales are very tender creatures and don't go around swallowing people like in the tale of Jonah. Since we overcame those fears of 'monsters' in Nature, we can drive out of ourselves the terror of human beings who have a different ideology, religion or color of skin. From our relations with the representatives of Nature that are living, we can learn to improve our relations with other people. This is a way to peace."

Courtesy of the newspaper *Literaturnaya Gazeta (Literary Gazette)*. Abridged.
(All English retranslated from the Russian.)

He looked back and saw a white sail about half a kilometer from the shore. A visitor, he thought. In fact, it was his own boat, carried out into the open sea by the waves. Paulius Normantas found himself marooned on a desert island. It didn't occur to him at the time that he would have to struggle to survive for 55 days.

MAROONED

By Gennadi Koncius

Paulius Normantas went to the Aral Sea to fish and take photographs on his annual vacation. He wanted to try out *The Argonaut*, a rubber boat of his own design that has a keel and a collapsible bamboo mast. Just in case, he packed a harpoon gun, a mask and a pair of flippers, though he was sure he'd never use them. It was early spring, too early to swim.

After leaving the mouth of the Amu Darya River, he spent 24 hours on the open sea, then landed on a tiny island to take a little rest. The island was, indeed, very small, and it looked deserted, but he decided to check it out all the same. He pulled the boat up onto the shore and threw his travel bag on the beach, leaving his pack with the essentials in the boat.

He didn't find much of interest, some dry grass from the previous year, low Haloxylon and two partridges. They flew out from under his feet just when he thought he had them in his hands. However, they disappeared in the grass.

About an hour went by. He looked out at the water and saw *The Argonaut* drifting away. The treacherous Aral undertow had crept up to the sloping shore, picked up the boat and dragged it 500 meters away from the island.

He jumped into the water without taking off his clothes, but he had to get out at once. It was late March, and the water temperature was under 10 degrees centigrade. *The Argonaut* sailed away without its skipper.

He opened his travel bag and fumbled through the contents—flippers, mask, two knives, a plastic tablecloth, 22 cubes of sugar, about 15 grams of tea, 6 onions, 2 bulbs of garlic, James Aldridge's novel *The Sea Eagle*, a magnifying glass and a map.

That night the temperature fell below zero. He made a campfire from scraps of wood he found along the shore. In the morning, his teeth chattering, he started to build a clay hut. A stranger would have taken it for an old burial mound on the steppe. Still, it was warmer in there than out in the open air.

At the outset he had no problem with drinking water. During the spring floods, the rivers carry a tremendous amount of water to the sea. Being lighter than sea water, it rises to the surface. Hot tea, though bitter, raised his spirits no end.

It was harder to get food. The partridges he had seen on the first day were impossible to catch. He did find some mushrooms. Although they were tasty, he was careful not to eat many. That was probably why he was sick only for one day. He also caught turtles, but they were not too filling. Then a few sea gulls arrived and laid eggs.

He could see shoals of fish near the shore, and he had a harpoon gun. But how could he stay in such cold water for at least the 10 minutes that were required? He began toughening himself. At first he could stay in only for a minute. After doing his morning exercises, he would jog around the island (the distance was about two kilometers in all). He also practiced holding his breath while walking, jogging and sitting. Eventually he could hold it for two and a half minutes. After the warmup, he would plunge himself into the water, staying in a little longer every day.

He noticed that he was losing weight rapidly. In a week's time he began to feel lightheaded, and he had blackouts. His ears, teeth and face ached, being very sensitive to the cold. On the twelfth day he set out on his first sea hunt. He put on his exercise clothes and his sports jacket, which made him a little warmer even when submerged. Clutching the gun in his shaky hands, he prayed that he wouldn't miss. The fish, roasted on sticks, were delicious!

Each day thereafter he would shoot a few goldfish and sheatfish. These provided enough protein and fat in his diet. He pounded the fish bones into powder with a stone. This served as a mineral supplement. Nonetheless, without carbohydrates he kept losing weight. His heart rate slowed down to 45 beats a minute when sitting.

However, it was the lack of communication that was the worst thing. He would talk to himself and to the birds or turtles, and he was always singing to himself. All of the tunes that he sang were cheerful, and they improved his spirits. "Obviously, it was my body's psychological defense against solitude," he said later. At night, when he saw a satellite in the starry sky, he would cover and uncover the campfire in Morse code—S O S. Of course, he knew it was no use, but it gave him the illusion of communication.

He kept thinking about how he could get off the island. The most obvious way was to be rescued by biologists, fishers or even poachers who might arrive. He even kept a signal fire going all of the time—just in case.

The second version was much different. When the water got warmer, he would swim all of the way to the coast. The distance he would have to cover was over 20 kilometers, but his route passed 16 islands, so even a man in his condition could swim the two or three kilometers separating them.

He had to resort to the latter way of escape. One time when he came back from hunting, he found that the wind had blown a glowing ember from his campfire into the dry grass. The reeds, his only fuel, had caught fire. He had just enough time to pick some reeds and carry away three armfuls. He realized he couldn't stay on the island any longer.

He made a raft of reeds and loaded it with his few possessions. He had to cover about a kilometer to reach the nearest island. He swam, pushing the raft. He was apprehensive of brisk movements, for they were fraught with the danger of cramps. Cold pierced his body. Soon he could not feel his feet anymore, and he completely lost all sense of time. At one point he felt as though he was getting drowsy. Cold literally gripped him by the throat, resulting in a spasm. He was scared to death. Now he believes that it was fear that saved his life. It flashed through his mind that if he didn't start breathing right away, that would be the end of him. He turned over onto his back and started massaging his throat. Somehow he made it to the island.

It was much better there, for the island was much bigger. Besides, it was getting warmer every day. The weather encouraged him to swim to the mainland, going from one island to the next. He made a small raft from sheatfish skins, which he stuffed with grass, to carry his belongings. In one of the straits the raft turned upside down, and the gun and the book by Aldridge, on the margins of which he had kept his diary, sank. He dived after them, but he couldn't see anything in the thick silt on the bottom.

Ten days later he reached the mainland. The silt covering his body had dried, forming a crust that made him look like a troll. He cut up his flippers and turned them into boots, of sorts. When he looked at the map that had been hidden in a bag hanging around his neck, he realized that he would have to walk 130 kilometers to reach the nearest village.

On the second day of his trek, he met shepherds who stared at him as if he were an alien from outer space. They were amazed at the amount of tea and the number of pancakes one person could consume.

When he got a ride and reached the town of Kungrad, he saw his photograph on the "Missing Persons" stand. The caption under it said: "Please inform. . . ." He hardly looked like the man in the picture.

That tall and athletic man looks much younger than his 52 years, despite his gray hair. Incidentally, the man who endured all those hardships was very well trained for them. He walked across half of the country with a pack on his back. He also participated in several climbing expeditions in the Pamirs and took a course in scuba diving.

However, training is not enough. "People are much stronger than they think they are," commented Paulius Normantas, an assistant professor at the Vilnius Teachers Institute in Lithuania. "That is what is important. You must be aware of that, even though you're almost 100 per cent sure that you'll never have an adventure like mine." ■

NEXT ISSUE

INDUSTRIALIZING THE OCEAN

A Source of Food and Energy

Three decades ago researchers were right in saying that they knew more about the visible side of the Moon than the vast expanses of the ocean floor. They would hardly be as categorical today. In the past few years the world ocean has been intensively studied and developed. But it must not be forgotten that the ocean, in which life on Earth first started, is vulnerable to the stormy onslaught of civilization. The problem can be solved only through the joint efforts of all the parties concerned. This is the conclusion made by Soviet researchers at a round-table conference sponsored by SOVIET LIFE and reported in September.

PAST AND PRESENT OF MOLDAVIA

USSR's Smallest Union Republic

A group of articles will take our readers on a tour of a republic famous for its orchards and vineyards. You'll learn about contemporary art, modern engineering, how weddings are celebrated in the villages and customs that have been handed down from generation to generation for centuries.

AUTOMOBILES AND TRAFFIC COPS

Necessary Evils

Journalist Ivetta Knyazeva went to see General Leonid Zverkovsky, head of the State Traffic Control of the USSR Ministry of Internal Affairs, to find out everything she could about the traffic picture.

COMING SOON

The Newspaper *Soviet Sport*

Calendar

IMPORTANT DATES IN HISTORY

August 1920. Georgi Chicherin, People's Commissar for Foreign Affairs, wrote that commodity exchange, mutual trust and noninterference in domestic affairs are the principles adhered to by Soviet Russia, which deems it necessary "in the interests of Russia and North America, to establish, despite their social and political systems being opposite, quite correct and loyal peaceful friendly relations between them without delay."

August 1, 1925. Fourteen agricultural communes from the United States started working in the Soviet Union without outside assistance. These communes and the first Soviet agricultural cooperatives participated in the socialist transformation of agriculture on the basis of collectivism and the extensive use of machinery. Later the communes developed into collective farms.

August 1937. A Soviet–American trade agreement was concluded that remained in force for 14 years, until 1951. The agreement accorded its signatories mutual extension of the most-favored-nation treatment in trade. During the years immediately following the signing of the trade agreement, almost one-third of Soviet import items came from the American market.

August 1941. The U.S. Government decided to render all possible economic assistance to strengthen the Soviet Union in its battle against nazi aggression. The decision was dictated by the U.S. Government's belief that supporting the Soviet Union's armed resistance to the gangsterlike attack by the aggressor, which threatened the security and independence of the Soviet Union and all other nations, was in the defense interests of the United States.

August 5, 1963. In Moscow the Soviet Union, the United States and Great Britain signed the Treaty Banning Nuclear Weapon Tests in the Atmosphere, in Outer Space and Under Water.

August 6, 1981. The Soviet Union and the United States decided to extend the agreement on grain deliveries to the Soviet Union, signed on October 25, 1975, for another year.

WAR AND PEACE *Continued from page 31*

Yuri Lopatkin, 24, a metalworker:

1. My father and grandfather fought at the front. My grandfather was a member of a tank crew, and he was burned in his tank.

2. The army detachment that my father served with liberated Majdanek, a nazi concentration camp in Poland. The things he saw there devastated him, and, I'm afraid, they will remain with him for the rest of his life. Like my father, I believe that we must never forget those who were victims in the war against nazism.

3. If the peace movement grows stronger everywhere, it will become a truly great force.

Natalya Korolyova, 17, a high school student:

1. One of my grandfathers returned from the front, the other one was killed in action.

2. Foreign students of my age often visit my school. Oddly enough, not long ago we discussed this subject with one of these student groups. The unanimous conclusion was that it is essential to know the whole truth about the war, especially for young people like us, whose outlook is not mature yet, and especially now that the nuclear threat to the world is growing.

3. The strength of the peace movement lies in the enthusiasm of its activists. We need a world without fear.

Sergei Nikolsky, 22, a journalist:

1. My father's older brother and sister both left for the front on the same day. My uncle was in the infantry, and my aunt a nurse. Both were wounded several times. One time after he was wounded, my uncle found himself, by sheer chance, on an operating table where his own sister was assisting.

2. Some philosopher said that anyone who studies the history of national disasters inevitably comes to the conclusion that most of the troubles on Earth are caused by ignorance. To forget the lessons of the past is to encourage ignorance.

3. Were it not for the peace movement, the tension in the world would be much worse than it is.

I believe it is my duty as a journalist to tell my readers about all of the peace events and happen-

A QUIET EVENING AT HOME

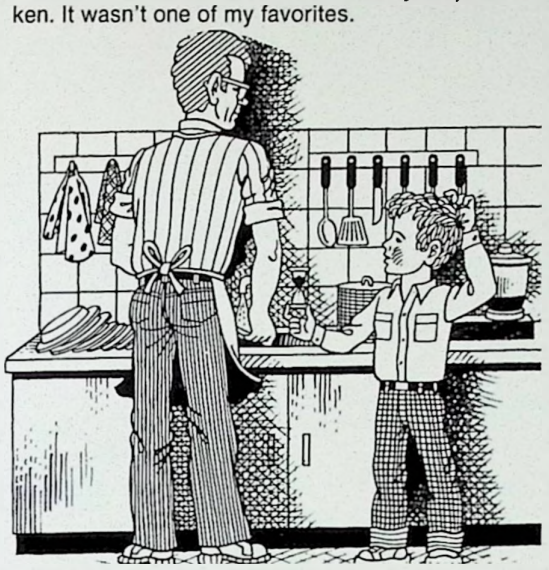
By Darya Nikolayeva Drawings by Mikhail Shestopal

AT LAST! My daughter has been accepted at Moscow State University (MSU). I think that I should get some of the congratulations that are pouring in to her. Although Tatyana shared the burden of preparations for the exams with her teachers and private tutors, I was the one who paid all of the emotional and psychological expenses. I was the one to whom she would cast those desperate looks before each exam, certain that she had forgotten everything. And I was the one who was put out of her mind as soon as the exam was over. I could actually draw a pattern for her behavior on those occasions. I knew that if she didn't call me after the exam, everything had gone well. The pattern was correct. When Tatyana received a Good instead of the expected Excellent on a composition, she came to sob on my shoulder. I think I was pretty good at comforting her. That night when my husband came home and heard the news, he made the sensible remark that you're supposed to know your own language well. My daughter's response was to give him a look that was referred to in old novels as "haughty."

However, she estimated her other chances correctly. The result was she found her name on the list of students admitted to MSU. Now the initial wild joy has died down. While I'm cooking dinner, I can hear Igor, my 10-year-old son, asking when his sister will receive her first grant. They have agreed that on that day they'll go shopping together, and Igor can get anything he wants. Obviously, we parents can't count on a material reward (it's the other way around). Although a university education in this country is subsidized by the state and Tatyana will even get a grant provided she is a good student, no allowance will stretch far enough to cover her expenses. It will be the happy parents who will have the honor of satisfying their daughter's expensive needs for the next five years. And it's common knowledge that young ladies between the ages of 17 and 22 don't go out of their way to save their parents' money.

I can hear my husband coming in the door. He's home from work. In theory, he shares the view of one-third of the married men in Moscow who agree that household chores should be shared equally between working spouses. Please don't think that the rest of the men are ardent supporters of slave labor for women. Another 43 per cent of all husbands are prepared to share the housework with their wives, but they insist that their inclinations and the amount of work they do at the office should be taken into consideration. Sergei insists on nothing of the kind, but he has a rare talent for not coming home until dinner is ready.

Still, when dinner is over, Sergei and Igor do the cleaning up cheerfully enough. I like to watch them do it. I won't mention the saucer they've just broken. It wasn't one of my favorites.



Tonight we're intent on a quiet evening at home. My husband says his training session has been canceled (his sports activity deserves its own column). Igor is fed up, as he puts it, with playing outside. As for Tatyana, she seems to have had a row with her boyfriend. Unfortunately, the only thing I know about him is that he's a faithful shadow.

Nonetheless, the row turns out to be just a misunderstanding, and "the shadow" is on the phone again. After a five-minute conversation, Tatyana casually announces that she's going to the movies. During a quiet moment at the office, I had a chance to scrutinize the list of films playing in Moscow's theaters. In my opinion, there's nothing worth seeing, but I don't think that at the moment I can dissuade Tatyana from going.

The doorbell rings, and Igor is gone from the family gathering too. He has a guest, Petya (or Peter) by name, known in the family as "St. Sebastian." Igor gave him that nickname after we saw an exhibition titled "The Masterpieces of International Museums." The young man (I think it was in a painting by Titian) really looked very much like Petya both in appearance and demeanor. Suffering all of the due tortures, he retained a thoughtful and even bored countenance. Petya responds to all of the educational slings and arrows thrown at him by his furious teachers with the same serene indifference. However, we know that his appearance is deceiving, and that's why I beg my husband, absorbed in the latest issue of a literary magazine, to keep the situation under control. Both noise and silence can be an indication of the kids' being up to mischief. Two days ago it was very quiet in there, but Petya went home with his watch smashed. A leg of the living room table was also broken. Igor said that they were playing table ice hockey. (He seemed to think that was enough of an explanation.)

As for me, I'm expecting a visit from my parents tonight. When your parents don't live with you, communication with them can become somewhat distant, with everyone behaving like guests at a party. "Well, how's life? Don't you think we've had a lot of rain lately? How are the children doing in school?" That sort of thing. I think we've managed to avoid this in our family. The game of Scrabble is a great help to us too. When our linguists and computer experts got interested in the game, they established the occurrence of Russian letters in words and eventually invented a game they called "Erudite." It became so popular that, reading an Italian novel published in the journal *Inostrannaya Literatura* (*Foreign Literature*) I came across the word "scrabble" and a footnote supplied by the translator: "A game similar to the popular Erudite."

The competitive spirit is strong in each of us, and we play as if something very important rests on every point. During those two hours or so we discuss everything under the Sun. I manage to find out all about Mom's and Dad's health without putting them on the alert, and I usually succeed in convincing them that the younger generation of the eighties has a different approach to life than young people of the thirties.

By the time my parents leave, Igor has already turned in and Tatyana hasn't returned yet. That means our day isn't over, and this is confirmed right away. The doorbell rings, and two old friends are standing on the doorstep. Since no one ever invites visitors over at this time of day, they try and make up an excuse for coming so late and so unexpectedly: "We were just talking about you on our way home from the theater and thought that since we hadn't seen you for ages . . ."

You've probably noticed my knack for backing up my reflections with a good deal of sociology. Well, after asking our visitors to take off their coats, on

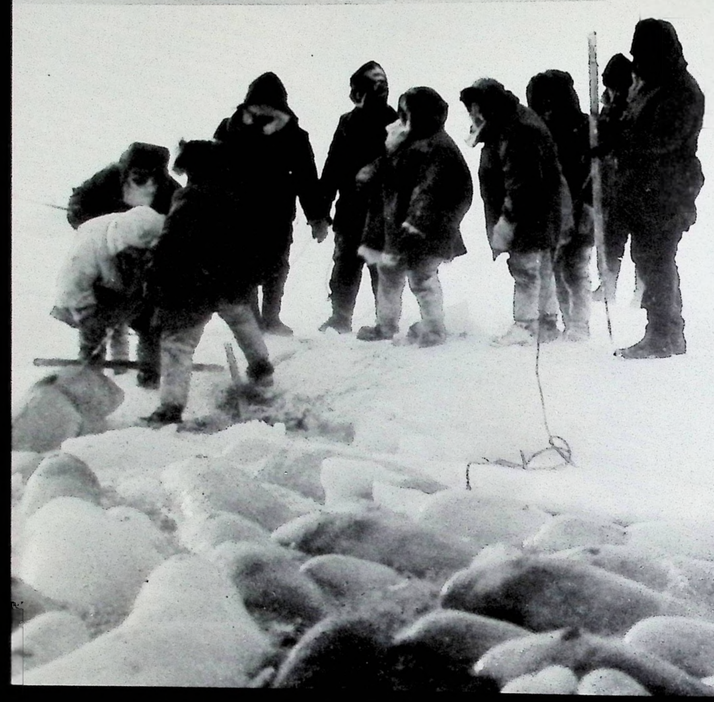
my way to the kitchen to put the kettle on, I recall the data on changes that have occurred in the use of leisure time that I've recently read about in some magazine. People are now spending more time reading and going to the theater, movies and recitals. This is fair enough since the level of education in this country is rising all of the time. It's also quite understandable why people spend more time in front of the television. They have more free time and many more TV sets. Besides, the programs have become more interesting and informative than they used to be. We, too, spend a lot more time with our friends and acquaintances, visiting them and entertaining them in our home. We're even glad to have self-invited guests, like the two who've just dropped in. The only thing I'm concerned about is if I have enough food to offer them since hospitality is an essential feature of our national character.

Nevertheless, there's a very apt folk saying, "You are welcome to everything we have." Opening the refrigerator, I sigh with relief. There's not much food in there, but it will be enough for my purposes. ■

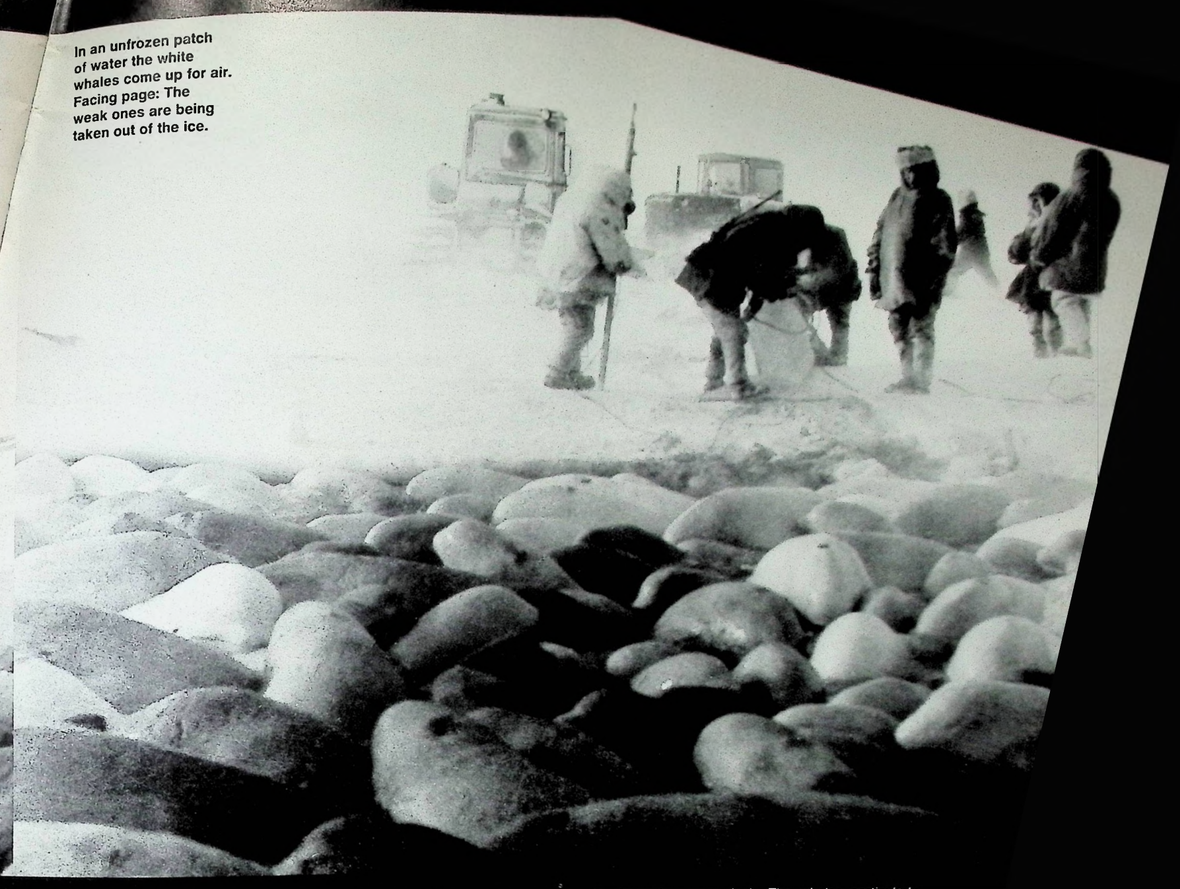
The *Moskva* icebreaker to the rescue.

SOS FOR 3,000 WHITE WHALES

By Rafail Bikmukhametov
Photographs by Yuri Salnikov



In January of this year a large herd of white whales, or belugas, that was chasing a shoal of fish got trapped by ice fields in a shallow inlet in the Senyavin Strait near the Provideniya Bay off the coast of Chukotka. The trapped herd numbered about 3,000 animals weighing as much as 1,500 kilograms each.



In an unfrozen patch of water the white whales come up for air. Facing page: The weak ones are being taken out of the ice.

VASILI PELIACHAIVYN, an experienced hunter, was returning home in his dog sled after a good hunt along the coast of the Chukchi Peninsula, which is also known as Chukotka. He was in excellent spirits, and his dogs ran eagerly in anticipation of an early dinner. Then suddenly the sled came to a halt. Worried, the dogs stared at the dark water in the still unfrozen strait. Long drawn-out moans were coming from the direction of the strait. Walruses had left these parts long ago. Could it be whales? But where were the telltale waterspouts?

With his binoculars the hunter spotted white whales, or belugas, playing. However, his joy soon gave way to alarm. The herd was clearly in trouble. Strong easterly winds had shifted the ice fields, and the frost had welded them into a solid mass. After a brief discussion with local hunters, it was decided that the animals needed help.

The incident was reported by radio to Magadan, and Operation White Whale got under way.

The unique rescue mission lasted two months. The local authorities enlisted the help of fishers and hunters, and mobilized tractors, snow trucks, helicopters and even a heavy icebreaker, the *Moskva*, to free the mammals from their ice prison.

A Gulp of Air

White whales are permanent residents of the arctic seas. Because they live surrounded by ice fields, they have excellent built-in acoustic "locators" and an advanced system of sonic signals that goes from ultrasonic to what we would describe as whining, whistling, sighing, clacking, twittering, roaring and moaning. Without these acoustic locators, white whales would not be able to find stretches of open water, and without open water they just couldn't live. They need a gulp of fresh air every two to three minutes or, at most, 15 minutes.

Cable: VLADIVOSTOK, FAR EASTERN SHIPPING LINES. LARGE HERD WHITE WHALES TRAPPED IN ICE BERING SEA. DUE TO ADVERSE WEATHER CONDITIONS WATER OPENINGS GETTING ALARMINGLY SMALL. POSSIBILITY OF MASS DEATH OF ANIMALS. REQUEST URGENT CONSIDERATION OF POSSIBILITY OF SENDING MOSKVA ICEBREAKER TO FREE ANIMALS.

The icebreaker was dispatched, and it was soon at the edge of the coastal ice belt. A helicopter with hydrologists was also sent to reconnoiter ice conditions in the strait and around it.

However, the Arctic once again displayed its moodiness. The ice fields of the secondary shore ice belt, which were up to four meters thick, wouldn't let the icebreaker through. It tried to break through them and keep on moving but, alas, too slowly. After two days it was clear that the ship would not get through to the whales, and it might even get trapped because its fuel and water reserves were running low.

The situation was truly critical. Teams of local hunters kept watch in the strait round the clock. They chipped the ice off the edges of water openings with picks and crowbars, cleared away broken ice with tractors and gave fresh food to the whales. The whales stopped being afraid of people and seemed to be signaling with their whines that people were their only hope for survival. It was clear, however, that without a second icebreaker it would be impossible to rescue the animals. By that time the weak and old whales started dying.

A Second Try

Cable: MOSCOW. RESCUE MEASURES PROVE INEFFECTIVE. ANIMALS DYING. DANGER OF TOTAL LOSS. REQUEST URGENT RPT URGENT INSTRUCTIONS FOR RESCUE OF MAMMALS BY ICEBREAKER OF FAR EASTERN SHIPPING LINES.

The *Moskva* took on a full load of coal and once again headed for the strait. For several days the breaker attacked the ice field, pushing against it with all of its weight. A reconnaissance plane from Magadan was sent to lead the ship along the best route.

And then finally came the first water opening and then the second.

The last, but by no means the easiest, effort remained. The animals had to be herded out into the open sea. At first the exhausted whales simply rested in the freedom of the clear water. They kept eating, slowly regaining their strength. Then they started becoming active, playing and frolicking in the water, whistling, squealing and grunting with obvious pleasure. In short, they did everything they were supposed to do except one thing—they didn't want to enter the channel created for them by the icebreaker.

It took another four days to get the whales accustomed to the ship and to the noise of its screws. The icebreaker would drift away from the herd and then return to it. Luckily, someone remembered that dolphins are extremely sensitive to music, and soon pop music, marches and classical pieces were blaring from the upper deck. The whales particularly enjoyed the classical tunes, and the herd slowly moved after the ship.

Even then, the crew still had to work hard. For example, if the breaker made another opening and the whales liked it, they would stay there for hours. The *Moskva* would wait patiently for them, coming back again and again.

Congratulations

The beluga rescue off the coast of the remote Chukchi Peninsula has aroused widespread interest in many countries. The London-based international environmental protection organization Greenpeace, after learning about the completion of the unique operation, sent a message of gratitude to the Soviet Government. Reuters, the British news agency, estimating the cost of the rescue at 55,000 dollars, commented: White whales have now become "gold" whales.

These illustrations for Karelian folk tales were done by Tamara Yufa. The artist is well known for her drawings for the *Kalevala*, a famous epic poem first published 150 years ago. Yufa lives in Petrozavodsk, the capital of the Karelian Autonomous Soviet Socialist Republic, which is a land of beautiful forests and lakes.