

HISTORIC DIARY

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FROM OCT. 16 1959 ARRIVAL -

LEAVING

1959

1ST PAGE

OCT. 16. ARRIVE FROM HELSINKI BY TRAIN; AM MET BY INTOURIST REP. AND IN CAR TO HOTEL "BERLIN". REG. AS "STUDENT" (LAW LVA. TOURIST TICKET.) MEET MY INTOURIST GUIDED RIMMA SHEIKHMAN. I EXPLAIN TO HER I WISH TO APPL. FOR RUS. CITIZENSHIP. SHE IS FIMBERGASSED BUT AGREES TO HELP. SHE CHECKS WITH HER BOSS, MAIN OFFICE INTOUR; MAN HELPS ME ADD. A LETTER TO SUP. SOVIT. ASKING FOR CITIZENSHIP. MEAN WHILE BOSS TELEPHONS PASSPORT & VISA OFFICE AND NOTIFIES THEM ABOUT ME.

OCT. 17 - RIMMA MEETS ME FOR INTOURIST SIGHTSEEING SAYS WE MUST CONTIN. WITH THIS ALTHOUGH I AM TOO NERVOUS SHE IS "SURE" ILL HAVE AN ANSWER. SOON. ASKS ME ABOUT MYSELF AND MY REASONS FOR GOING THIS. I EXPLAIN I AM A COMMUNIST. ECT. SHE IS ABLYTY SYM. BUT UNWASY NOW. SHE TRIES TO BE A FRIEND TO ME. SHE FEELS SORRY FOR ME I AM SOMETH. NEW.

SUND. OCT. 18. MY 20TH BIRTHDAY. WE VIST EXHIB. IN MORNING AND IN THE AFTER NOON THE LEANIN-SPAIN TOMB. SHE GIVES ME A PRESENT BOOK "IDEOT" BY DESTOEUSKI.

OCT. 19. TOURISM. AM ANXIOUS SINCE MY VISA IS GOOD FOR FIVE DAYS ONLY AND STILL NEEDS FROM AUTH. ABOUT MY REQUEST.

OCT. 20. RIMMA IN THE AFTER NOON SAYS INTOURIST WAS NOTIFIED BY THE PASS. VISA CENT. THAT THEY WANT TO SEE ME. I AM EXCITED GREATLY BY THIS NEWS.

OCT. 21. ^(MOR) MEETING WITH SINGLE OFFICIAL. DARNING STOUT, BLACK SUIT FAIRLY GOOD ENGLISH, ASKES WHAT DO I WANT? I SAY SOVITE CITIZENSHIP. HE ASK WHY I GIVE VAUSE ANSWER ABOUT "GREAT SOVIET UNION" HE TELLS ME "USSR ONLY GREAT IN LITERATURE WANTS ME TO GO BACK HOME" I AM STUCCED I REITERATE. HE SAYS HE SHALL CHECK AND LET ME KNOW WHETHER MY VISA WILL BE (EXTENDED IT EXPIRES TODAY) EVE. 6.00 RECEIVE WORD FROM POLICE OFFICIAL. I MUST LEAVE COUNTRY TONIGHT AT 8.00 PM AS VISA EXPIRES. I AM SHOCKED!! MY DREAMS! I RETIRE TO MY ROOM. I HAVE \$100. LEFT. I HAVE WAITED FOR 2 YEARS TO BE ACCEPTED MY FONDLY DREAMS ARE SHATTERED BECAUSE OF A PETTY OFFICIAL. BECAUSE OF BAD PLANNING I PLANNED SO MUCH! 7.00 AM. I DECIDE TO END IT. SOAK RIST IN COLD WATER TO NUMB THE PAIN. THEN SLASH MY LEFT WRIST. THEN PLAC WRIST INTO BATHTUB OF HOT WATER. I THINK WHEN RIMMA COMES AT 8. TO FIND ME DEAD IT WILL BE A GREAT SHOCK. SOMEWHERE, VIOLIN PLAYS, AS I

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