

Stalin's Daughter Reported Barred To Avoid Any Rift

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A high-level decision reportedly was made by United States authorities to refuse Svetlana Allilueva Stalin, daughter of the late Soviet dictator, permission to enter the United States.

Instead, U.S. authorities arranged for her admission to Switzerland.

At some future date, she may quietly be allowed to enter, but U.S. officials, fearful of an unnecessary feud with Moscow as a result of unplanned publicity, reportedly decided it would have been folly to let her in now.

Escorted by CIA Agent

Miss Stalin, 41, is the sole survivor of Joseph Stalin's family. She came to the U.S. Embassy in New Delhi on Monday night, and within hours was secretly on a commercial airliner en route to Rome, accompanied by a CIA agent who bought her plane ticket.

While in Rome, the story leaked to the press and the decision apparently was taken by Washington not to allow her into the United States, despite earlier promises made to her.

Instead, neutral Switzerland agreed to take her in on a temporary basis, so long as politics was kept out of the case.

Swiss authorities are careful about keeping cold war politics out of their country. It is likely that as long as Miss Stalin remains in Switzerland she will be isolated from the press—thereby preventing possible further embarrassment to the Soviet Union.

The White House and the State Department yesterday were reluctant to discuss the case because of the delicate diplomatic situation involving India, Italy and Switzerland as well as the United States and the Soviet Union.

Mother's Family Name Used

Robert J. McCloskey of the State Department spoke for the government when he said "it is not for the U.S. government to comment on this case in the present circumstances."

"As you know," he said, "many other governments are concerned and in any event we would not want to complicate further the personal problems

reported hideaway between Bern and Geneva.

The Swiss government issued the following statement:

"Miss Svetlana Allilueva, who had spent some time in India recently and does not wish to return to the Soviet Union, has asked permission to enter Switzerland for a temporary stay of rest. According to known facts, she has never been active in politics. Therefore her request has been approved."

Soviet Source Quoted

The Associated Press quoted a

Madame Svetlana Allilueva may face."

("Allilueva" was the family name of her mother, Stalin's second wife, and has been used by the U.S. and Swiss governments in an obvious effort to play down the case. In Moscow, however, she used the name "Stalina," which is the feminine form of Stalin.)

The U.S. decided, after studying the case, that on balance little would be gained politically by bringing Miss Stalin to the United States.

Officials appreciated her desire, for reasons still not made public, not to return to the Soviet Union. They decided all parties would be better served by her going to a neutral country.

Kept Hidden in Rome

Miss Stalin was in American custody from the time she entered the U.S. Embassy in New Delhi on Monday night until early yesterday. In Rome, she was kept hidden, possibly at the home of U.S. Ambassador Frederick Reinhardt.

She left Rome as the only passenger on a four-engine Alitalia turboprop for Geneva. As soon as she arrived, she was hustled off by Swiss police to a

Soviet source in Bern.

"We have absolutely no reason to object to the Swiss government allowing her to come here. Of course this would be very different if there were an attempt to turn her arrival into an anti-Soviet propaganda feast."

If she had come to the United States it would have been impossible to keep her away from the press forever.

This is the 50th anniversary of the Bolshevik Revolution and officials are aware of Soviet sensitivity about the historic background of their state.

Since Stalin, who died in 1953, was Russia's dictator for almost 30 years, almost anything said by his daughter in the United States could irritate Moscow and damage prospects for East-West agreements.

"Cult of Personality"

Stalin remains a controversial figure. Nikita S. Khrushchev described him as a mad despot and others have called him a mass murderer who ran the state poorly and left Russia unprepared for Germany's invasion in 1941.

Attacks on the Stalin under the phase the "cult of the personality" opened the way to more liberal Soviet policies, but they also led to a break between the Russians and Red China, where Stalin is still worshiped.

The new Soviet leadership, recently has tried to balance the criticism of the "cult of the personality" with restrained praise of Stalin as the forger of Russia's industrial machine and as a great wartime leader.

If Miss Stalin chose to dispute Soviet interpretations of her father it could cause great difficulties for Moscow.

Her decision not to return to Russia is trouble enough, officials say, but to give her a forum in the U.S. would have been considered a gross provocation.

Soviet Press Silent

So far, the Soviet press has taken no note of the case, and it is possible that as long as she remains quiet in Switzerland, Russian leaders will not take any action.

There were reports that Soviet officials in India had complained informally about the case. No one doubts it would have been a cause celebre if she came to the United States.

She is not regarded as having any significant information on the present regime, but she would be a good source on her father.