

Soviet Calls Trip Of Svetlana Stalin Her Private Affair

Special to The New York Times

MOSCOW, March 12—The Soviet Union broke its silence tonight on the departure of Stalin's daughter, Svetlana Alliluyeva, and said that the length of her stay abroad was her "private affair."

The acknowledgment that the 42-year-old woman had left the country came in a statement distributed by Tass, the official press agency.

The statement, apparently evoked by swiftly spreading knowledge here of her presence abroad, said she had been granted a Soviet passport late last year to permit her to take the "ashes of her husband," Brijesh Singh, an Indian Communist, to India.

Last Tuesday she left India in the company of a Central Intelligence Agency officer attached to the United States Embassy and is now in hiding in Switzerland.

[The Soviet Union was reported to have made representations to India over the manner in which Mrs. Alliluyeva left New Delhi.]

The Tass statement follows:

"In view of journalists' inquiries, Tass confirms that Stalin's daughter, Svetlana Alliluyeva, is now abroad.

"Late in 1966, she was issued an exit visa to go from the Soviet Union to India to bury the ashes of her husband, an Indian citizen who died in the U.S.S.R.

"How long Svetlana Alliluyeva will stay abroad is her private affair."

Mrs. Alliluyeva, who uses her mother's maiden name, was to have returned to Moscow last

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Wednesday. Instead, she appeared at the American Embassy in New Delhi and requested assistance to go to the United States.

The request was reported to have caused consternation in Washington because of its implications for Soviet-American relations at a crucial time in world affairs. Mrs. Alliluyeva was therefore refused permission to go to the United States.

She flew to Rome last Tuesday and arrived in Switzerland yesterday on a temporary visa.

Mrs. Alliluyeva left a 22-year-old son, Iosif, and a 16-year-old daughter, Yekaterina, in Moscow. The family occupies a five-room flat in a Government apartment house across the Moscow River from the Kremlin.

Iosif said Friday that he had learned of his mother's decision

to remain abroad from a British Broadcasting Corporation report.

Mrs. Alliluyeva was Stalin's only daughter. He had two sons. One, Yakov, perished in a German camp in World War II. The second, Vasily, died in a 1962 accident in Kazan. Before Stalin's death in 1953, Vasily was a lieutenant general in the Soviet Air Force. After the death of his father he was demoted to major and removed from flying duties.

Svetlana and Vasily were children of Stalin's second wife, Nadezhda Alliluyeva, whose father had been a prominent revolutionary. Nadezhda died of a pistol wound in 1932. There were rumors that she had been murdered by Stalin or had committed suicide after a bitter quarrel over starvation resulting from Stalin's collectivization campaign.

Mrs. Alliluyeva, who has been working as an English translator for the Progress Publishing House here, was reported to have been bitter about the denunciation of Stalin after his death as a tyrant.

Soviet Complains to India Over Defector's Trip

Special to The New York Times

NEW DELHI, March 12—The Soviet Embassy here was reported today to have complained to the Indian Government over the manner in which Stalin's daughter, Svetlana Alliluyeva, left the country Tuesday.

Reliable sources said Soviet officials had made their complaints in discussions with officials of India's Ministry of External Affairs during the last few days.

The details of the Soviet charges could not be learned, but one authoritative source said: "It would be safe to say that they are not at all happy about what has happened and the way it happened."

Mrs. Alliluyeva left here early

Mrs. Gandhi Discloses Talk With Daughter of Stalin —Diplomats Concerned

Tuesday aboard a Qantas jet for Rome escorted by Robert F. Rayle, a member of the United States Central Intelligence Agency attached to the embassy in New Delhi.

India Is Concerned

They left the country only hours after Mrs. Alliluyeva appeared at the modernistic American Embassy here and asked for assistance in getting to the United States. She is now in Switzerland.

The Indian Government is be-

lieved to be concerned about the incident's effect on its relations with the Soviet Union.

Although Indian officials are being quiet about the affair, they appear worried that the Russians may conclude that they cooperated with the Americans to spirit Mrs. Alliluyeva out of the country.

Prime Minister Indira Gandhi disclosed today that she had met Mrs. Alliluyeva while she was here and that Mrs. Alliluyeva had been the guest of one of her ministers.

At a news conference shortly after she was reelected as Prime Minister today, Mrs. Gandhi said she had met Mrs. Alliluyeva "very briefly in a particular place in Uttar Pradesh."