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Daughter Says Others Share Stalin Crimes



The New York Times (by Neal Boenzi and Patrick A. Burns)

By PETER KIHSS

Svetlana Alliluyeva said yesterday that the responsibility for killings and other crimes during the regime of Stalin, her father, should be shared by Soviet Communist officials still in leadership roles.

In a televised news conference at the Plaza Hotel, she said she loved and respected her

Transcript of news conference is on Pages 18 and 19.

father, and then added, when asked whether she disapproved of his rule:

"Of course I disapprove of many things but I think that many other people who still are in our Central Committee and Politburo should be responsible for the same things for which he alone was accused.

"And if I feel somewhat responsible for those horrible things, killing people unjustly, I feel that responsibility for this was and is the party's, the

regime and the ideology as a whole."

Later, asked how she felt when the Soviet Government, under Premier Nikita S. Khrushchev, discredited her father's policies, she replied:

"Well, I have already said I believe that they should not accuse one person in the crimes in which so many people were involved, and I believe it was not the way to put the blame on one person for the things which were the action of the party as a whole."

Baptized in 1962

Replying to questions on her own dramatic split with the Soviet leadership, the late dictator's only surviving child disclosed she had been baptized in Moscow in May, 1962, into the Russian Orthodox Church,

"to which my parents and my ancestors belonged."

Her turn to religion was a gradual evolution, she said—"as when the person who was blind, one day his eyes become open and he can see the world and the sky and birds and trees."

During the news conference, Mrs. Alliluyeva spoke carefully and, at times, softly. Her accent was slight.

She said she had asked for written questions "only because it's a little bit difficult for me sometimes to guess American English."

Smiling and using her hands expressively, Mrs. Alliluyeva gazed into space at times as she slowly answered the questions about the past. Her voice remained calm under the bar-

Mrs. Alliluyeva Accuses Some of Present Leaders

rage of personal and political questions. When she ended, the newsmen broke into applause.

Through the news conference, Mrs. Alliluyeva's mood shifted. She broke into a wide, disarming grin while discussing her book. She pursed her lips and she stared down at the table as she discussed politics.

Replying to a question about her children, her eyes flickered for a moment and she turned away and spoke softly, seeming distracted.

When Mrs. Alliluyeva arrived here last Friday, she said she had come "to seek the self-expression that has been denied me for so long in Russia." She spoke only briefly then, and yesterday was the occasion of her first extended meeting with the press here.

As she began the news conference, Mrs. Alliluyeva stared at the crowd of reporters and photographers, lifted her right

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STALIN DAUGHTER BLAMES LEADERS

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hand to her face in an expression of surprise and broke into a grin.

A highlight of the meeting was her discussion of why she left the Soviet Union. One of the key reasons, she said, was the trial of the Soviet story writers, Andrei D. Sinyavsky and Yuli M. Daniel, sentenced in February, 1966, to seven and five years' hard labor respectively for having published their work abroad.

This, Mrs. Alliluyeva said, had "produced horrible impression on all the intellectuals in Russia" and "made me absolutely disbelieve in justice."

Thereafter, she said, she and the man the Soviet regime refused to let her marry—Brijesh Singh, an Indian Communist—sent to India "with the help of our Indian friends" her own autobiographical manuscript. The book will be published here on Oct. 16 by Harper & Row.

Sent Via Telstar

The news conference was held in the colonnaded, chandeliered Louis XIV setting of the Terrace Room of the Plaza Hotel, and was attended by more than 300 persons. Represented were foreign and domestic news media; and the meeting was broadcast not only domestically but also overseas by the Telstar communications satellite.

The ruddy-cheeked Mrs. Alliluyeva said she felt a bit like Valentina Nikolayeva-Tereshkova, the Russian, who was the first woman cosmonaut and who flew 70 hours, 50 minutes in space in June, 1963. Mrs. Alliluyeva compared her feelings at her debut in the ordeal of news conferences to the way Captain Tereshkova felt after her space voyage.

The sifting of the newsmen's questions was done by the public-relations firm of Hill & Knowlton, which is handling press relations for Mrs. Alliluyeva's legal advisers, Greenbaum, Wolff & Ernst. The public-relations firm eliminated duplications and the final sifting was done by two members of the law firm.

At the start, Mrs. Alliluyeva was subjected for 10 minutes to the flashing of cameras. Surrounded by cameramen, she turned from one side to another on the photographers' pleas, smiling, and apparently a little embarrassed.

She was wearing a tailored suit of royal-blue silk, the jacket with large round buttons, the skirt of medium length. On her left wrist was a gold watch. She is auburn-haired and about her father's height—5 feet 4.

Mrs. Alliluyeva arrived here last Friday from Switzerland, after having decided on March 6 not to return to the Soviet Union from India, where she had brought her husband's ashes.

She was asked at her news conference yesterday if she intended to stay in the United States permanently and become an American citizen. She replied:



SECURITY PRECAUTIONS: Private detective, hired by Mrs. news photographers entering Terrace Room of Plaza. Came

"Well, I think that before the marriage it should be love. So, if I will love this country and this country will love me, then the marriage will be settled. But I cannot say now."

She said she hoped for peace and a quiet life. "I never had any political activities in Russia, and I am not going to have it here," she declared, adding that she wished "to preach neither for communism, neither against it."

Changed by Her Studies

Mrs. Alliluyeva said she joined the Communist party herself 20 years ago as a student at Moscow University. But she suggested that her studies of history, social sciences and economics had started making her critical of the gap between Marxist theory and Soviet practice.

But now, she said, "I believe that in modern world, in 20th century to which we belong, in the century of atom bomb and space flights, the idea of class revolution which can bring people to progress has lost its significance."

"Because the progress in our time should be reached by the work of humanity," she asserted, "by the work of mankind, notwithstanding which classes are involved in this work. And less struggle and less bloodshed it will be, it will be better for people."

As to her own life, she said she had had "a privileged life," a government pension, comforts.

"But as you know, people cannot live only by bread," she said.

The Book of Matthew says: "Man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word that proceedeth out of the mouth of God."

She said she knew her writings—she had completed her book as far back as August, 1963—could never be published in the Soviet Union.

She retraced some of her problems while living in the Soviet Union. She had been told she could never travel abroad, where foreign correspondents might meet her, and she had been denied permission to marry Mr. Singh. She called this "distasteful."

Mr. Singh, she said, was denied "human rights," apparently a reference to the refusal to let her take him for treatment in his native India.

His death, she said, "exactly made me absolutely intolerant to the things to which I was rather tolerant before." Even so, she said she had first expected to return to Moscow from India. The trip to India was her first into the outside world.

Mrs. Alliluyeva—she uses her maiden name—has children by two former marriages. They are Iosif Morozov, a medical student, who will be 22 years old next month, and Yekaterina Zhdanova, 17. They are in Moscow. Mrs. Alliluyeva expressed the hope they would not be punished for her departure.

She said she had gotten one telephone call through to her son from Switzerland, but three days later she was unable to reach him—and she doubted letters would get through to him or her daughter.

Asked whether the money she would make on her forthcoming book would not make her a capitalist she replied:

"First of all, according to Marx, writers are not capitalists, because it's little, it's different, way of labor," she said. In the Marxian view,

capitalists are those who exploit the labor of others.

Mrs. Alliluyeva said she had been reading American newspapers and looking at "television, which I generally don't like very much, so I'm not inclined to look at much."

The American press, she said, has "a lot of information," but she added: "I cannot understand why if they write something about new person, why it should be mentioned how much a pound he's weighed, and what is he eating for his ~~health~~."

Nevertheless, she ~~says~~, this is "better than not to have any information at all, as we are accustomed in Russia."