

## U.S. AIDE ESCORTED SOVIET DEFECTOR

Official on Flight From India  
Believed to Be in C.I.A.

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NEW DELHI, March 10—Svetlana Stalin left here early Tuesday morning escorted by an American official who is believed to be a member of the Central Intelligence Agency.

She and Robert F. Rayle, a second secretary at the United States Embassy, boarded a Qantas Boeing-707 jet for Rome.

She was traveling with a Soviet passport that listed her name as F. A. Alloluyeva. Alloluyeva was the maiden name of her mother, the late Soviet dictator's second wife.

Mr. Rayle and the Russian woman left the country only a few hours after she turned herself over to the United States Embassy and asked for assistance in reaching the United States.

There were unconfirmed reports that the Soviet Embassy had already delivered a protest, charging that she had been "abducted."

American officials continued to refuse all comment on the defection. However, reliable sources said that the Russian woman showed up at the embassy late Monday. She apparently remained there only long enough for embassy officials to book a flight and arrange other details of her departure.

### Haste Indicated

There were some indications that these arrangements were made in great haste and without much advance planning.

An official of British Overseas Airways Corporation, which handles all arrangements for Qantas flights here, said a man had come to the airline's office in town at 10:45 P.M. Monday and asked for two first class tickets on the Qantas flight that left for Rome at 1:14 A.M. Tuesday.

"I remember distinctly that there was very little time left to make the arrangements," the official said. "In fact, they were too late to purchase their tickets at the downtown office so they had to buy the tickets at the airport."

### They Drew Some Attention

"Of course, they drew some attention, too, because we were amazed that a Russian woman and an American man would be traveling together," he said. "That's rather unusual, you know."

The official said he believed the pair had then boarded the B.O.A.C. bus with other Qantas passengers for the hour-long ride to the airport, seven miles out of town.

If they took the bus, it must have been a tense trip, for it

would have taken them within a few feet of the huge gray stone Soviet Embassy building, which stands several hundred yards from the American Embassy on the broad, fluorescent-lighted road through the city's diplomatic enclave area to the airport.

However, the official said he could not be sure that the pair went by bus from the town office. He said it was possible that they took a taxi or a private car.

At the airport, Mr. Rayle is believed to have paid the \$1,040 for the two tickets. However, officials said they did not know whether he paid in cash or with an air credit card.

Mr. Rayle is identified in diplomatic lists here as a second secretary in the external division of the embassy's economic-political section. However, reliable sources said they believed he was a member of the Central Intelligence Agency staff here.

### Wife Silent on Whereabouts

Mrs. Rayle reached by telephone, said tonight that her husband was "out of town" and would "probably be back sometime next week." She said she did not know where he was. She refused to answer any other questions.

According to some knowledgeable sources, the 42-year-old daughter of the wartime Soviet leader came to India about two and a half months ago, chiefly to bring back the ashes of Brijesh Singh, a former feudal lord turned Communist, who died in Moscow last October 31.

According to informants here, she had formed a close attachment to Mr. Singh and they had lived together in Moscow for the last several years.

Svetlana is believed to have stayed with some of Brijesh Singh's family during most of the last two months. Some members of the family maintain a house at Kalakankar ("Black Stone"), a town about 50 miles from Lucknow, the capital of Uttar Pradesh State.

Mr. Singh's most prominent relative is his nephew, Dinesh Singh, Minister of State for External Affairs. The minister's possible involvement in the affair aroused great interest here, because he is one of Prime Minister Indira Gandhi's chief political aides.

According to one unconfirmed report, Svetlana used Dinesh Singh's name on her application for an Indian visa in Moscow last fall. Another unconfirmed report said she had given his address on arrival in the country.

Dinesh Singh was unavailable for comment all day.

Brijesh Singh was described here as an "old revolutionary" who had been active in radical causes and movements here and in Europe for many years.

Although a large landholder in Kalakankar, he joined the underground Communist party in India about 25 years ago and was active in the Communists' struggle against the British.

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