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Policies Concerning Economic and Commercial Cooperation

The number of active cooperation arrangements between U.S. and Hungarian firms is still about 60. The Hungarian government continues its commitment to promote joint ventures and other forms of cooperation. Industrial cooperation arrangements are still being touted as the basis for Hungary's trade expansion program. Western firms are encouraged to explore ways of doing business beyond traditional buying and selling and one-time only commission work. Western firms are receiving an increasing number of demands by Hungarian enterprises for countertrade arrangements.

A West German firm recently entered into a joint venture in which, for the first time, the Western partner owns 51 percent. More liberal regulations on the use of duty free zones by foreign investors, announced in 1982, have not yet proven to be a substantial inducement for expanding foreign investment. A Danish firm has, however, begun to utilize duty free zones to build housing which it hopes to sell in both Hungary and Western Europe.

The United States and Hungary renewed their bilateral civil air agreement through 1984 without changes. Pan American resumed direct service between New York and Budapest (two flights weekly in both directions) in mid-1983.

Official Visits

During the reporting period, there were an increasing number of official and private exchanges in the commercial, economic and technical fields. During October, an international conference of astronauts was held in Budapest, followed in November by discussion on international finance sponsored by the Duna Institute of Vienna. The U.S. side sponsored a meeting of the U.S.-Hungarian Roundtable. There were several official U.S. delegations, including a five member congressional delegation (headed by Congressman Gibbons) concerned with trade, a USDA group lead by Under Secretary Amstutz, and a seven-person FAA exchange. The Hungarians also held a conference on tourism in conjunction with the Budapest Spring Fair.

German Democratic Republic

General Assessment

Though the general level of trade with the G.D.R. continued to decline during the period, overall commercial relations improved. The better climate appeared in connection with official visits from high-ranking U.S. Administration and Congressional officials, and with the Commerce Department's sponsorship of a Business Facilitation Center at the Leipzig Spring Fair.

Business Working Conditions

Access to Business Contacts and Commercial Officials

Access to G.D.R. officials appears to have improved, at least in connection with appointments made at the Leipzig Fair in March. Though the G.D.R. continues to require that all East Germans get prior government approval for business or social contacts with U.S. and other Western representatives, this approval was generally granted quickly. Many of these appointments were made by the U.S. Embassy in Berlin on behalf of the U.S. company. The requirement that foreign businesses deal with a limited number of approved G.D.R. service organizations still keeps access below the level desired by foreign business representatives.

Business Offices

There have been no new U.S. business offices established, nor has there been a change in official policy towards the development of Western commercial ties during this period. Four U.S. companies have offices; three are staffed by G.D.R. citizens, one by an Austrian national. Foreign business must locate their East Berlin offices in the International Trade Center, where rents are high and access controlled.

Availability of Hotel Accommodations For Visiting Business Representatives and of Housing Accommodations For Resident Business Representatives

Nothing has changed since the last reporting period, i.e. visiting business representatives are still required to stay in expensive hotels and to pay in convertible currency and are charged more than G.D.R. citizens. Business representatives have not complained about availability of hotel accommodations.

Resident business representatives are allowed to rent, but not buy, housing in the G.D.R.. Available housing is expensive and standards vary. All housing services must be obtained through a state-operated agency which determines the rent as well as the location of this housing.

Business Travel and Visa Restrictions

Foreign business representatives have not experienced problems with travel and visas. Travelers in possession of G.D.R. hotel vouchers are generally issued visas upon arrival at border-crossing points. In addition, visas for day visits to East Berlin are obtainable at Berlin sector-crossing points with little delay. The G.D.R. continues to issue multiple entry visas valid for one year to Western business representatives residing in, or maintaining offices in, the G.D.R. Non-resident business representatives generally received one-entry visas unless multiple entry visas had been requested on their behalf by a G.D.R. trading partner.

Non-resident foreign business representatives, like virtually all visitors to the G.D.R., are required to exchange approximately \$10 per day into G.D.R. marks during their stay. Of this sum, any unspent G.D.R. marks cannot be converted back into Western currency upon departure, but must be either forfeited or deposited in a special account for use upon the visitor's return.

G.D.R. customs regulations prohibit the importation of printed material with the word "German" in the text or in an address. This prohibition has continued to create problems for the distribution of business literature.

Availability of Economic and Commercial Information

The type, quality and timeliness of economic and commercial information released by the G.D.R. is considered unsatisfactory by Western businesses. The main source of G.D.R. economic data is the annual statistical yearbook published by the G.D.R. State Central Administration for statistics. The yearbook is not published on a timely basis (final 1982 statistics appeared in January 1984). The small portion of the report devoted to foreign trade usually lumps export and import figures together; many business representatives question its reliability.

The G.D.R. foreign trade bank's (Deutsche Aussenhandels Bank) annual report offers only highly aggregated information on G.D.R. hard currency trade, and no specifics on G.D.R. foreign debt. In general, it does not serve the needs of banks and firms seeking to evaluate potential business relationships. The G.D.R. does not provide information on total balance of payments, aggregate net and gross foreign debt, cash flow projections or statements on sources of funds.

Policies Concerning Economic and Commercial Cooperation Arrangements

Joint ventures which involve joint ownership of business undertakings are not permitted under G.D.R. law. The G.D.R. is, however, interested in joint ventures and other cooperative ventures in third country markets. Citroen of France entered into an agreement during this reporting period whereby the G.D.R. produces parts for the Citroen automobile. The G.D.R. prefers to pay for Western technological investment through buybacks. No U.S. firms have joint ventures in the G.D.R.

Official Visits

In November, Congressman Sam M. Gibbons headed a delegation of members and staff of the Subcommittee on Trade of the House Ways and Means Committee, primarily to discuss bilateral trade relations and the prospects for trade expansion.

In January, Under Secretary of Agriculture Daniel C. Amstutz headed a delegation visit to East Berlin to discuss agricultural cooperation and trade matters with G.D.R. officials. The G.D.R. sent no trade groups to the U.S. during this reporting period.

Policies Toward Countertrade Arrangements

The G.D.R. actively seeks countertrade arrangements as a way to avoid spending hard currency, often setting this arrangement is often a condition of sale. Cooperation agreements for production within the G.D.R. are often coupled with countertrade. Difficulties in obtaining the quantity or quality of goods desired, limitations on what the G.D.R. can or is willing to supply, and the unmarketability of G.D.R. products inhibit some U.S. firms from entering countertrade arrangements.

Policies affecting Small- and Medium- sized Enterprises

In general, small- and medium-sized enterprises do not encounter problems different from those faced by larger enterprises.

Czechoslovakia

General Assessment

Czechoslovakia's implementation of the Basket II provisions did not change substantially during the reporting period. U.S. companies continue to encounter difficulties in the Czechoslovak market and find their access to Czechoslovak citizens and officials restricted. Despite the Czechoslovak government's endorsement of the Basket II provisions, operating conditions for U.S. trade and economic officials and company representatives are not expected to improve until there is significant improvement in bilateral political relations.

Business Working Conditions

Business operating conditions and access to business contacts and commercial officials did not improve during the reporting period. Western businessmen do have less difficulty in making contacts than Western diplomats, who are viewed with particular suspicion. Nevertheless, Western business representatives continue to have difficulty making contact with end-users from enterprises and industrial research institutions, placing them at disadvantage in the market.

No new American business offices were established in Prague during the reporting period. Establishment is strictly controlled and official policy requires that in most cases, permission to establish be granted only when there is some indication that the firm will buy from as well as sell to Czechoslovakia. For firms that do establish offices in Prague, office space, once acquired, is generally satisfactory.

Hotel accommodations in major cities and in many provincial centers remain satisfactory although prices are considerably higher for foreigners than for Czechoslovak citizens. Rooms are sometimes in short supply during peak periods.

There were no instances during the reporting period of undue delays in obtaining visas or of restrictions on business travel because of visa denial.

Czechoslovakia has maintained a policy of balanced bilateral trade with Western partners. U.S. firms are often looked upon as "suppliers of last resort," in part because of economic and marketing factors, but also, evidence suggests, for non-economic reasons. In these cases, Czechoslovak discrimination appears to be in retaliation for U.S. trade policy measures such as non-extension of MFN to Czechoslovakia and Czechoslovakia's ineligibility for official credits and guarantees.

Availability of Economic and Commercial Information

Czechoslovakia continues to show little improvement in this area. Much information is made available only after considerable delay. When it does become available, it lacks sufficient detail for making meaningful comparisons. Data in the statistical yearbook are usually nine months old; information in other publications is frequently one to two months old. One notable improvement is a statistical series in the monthly statistical index which contains relatively complete data on production and exports of major producers. Restrictions on U.S. Embassy access to Czechoslovak industrial and trade enterprises limit the availability of unpublished information.

Policies on Economic and Commercial Cooperation

No significant new legislation on economic and commercial cooperation was adopted during the reporting period. Joint ventures are prohibited although Czechoslovak enterprises do seek to negotiate cooperation agreements with Western firms under which the enterprise pays for technology or product imports by the sale or export of an equivalent value of Czech products or goods. No new cooperative agreements were signed during the reporting period. Several licensing arrangements are under negotiation. Czechoslovak countertrade demands are becoming more frequent, generally ranging between 10 and 35 percent of the transaction.

Official Visit

In December, a Congressional delegation led by Congressman Gibbons visited Czechoslovakia and was well received. The chairman of the U.S. section of the U.S.-Czechoslovakia Economic Council, Fred Kuhlmann, visited Prague and met with the Ministers of Foreign Trade and Foreign Affairs.

Bulgaria

General Assessment

In general, Bulgarian compliance with Basket II provisions has not improved markedly. The overall business climate improved slightly during the reporting period in part because domestic economic reform measures seem to have encouraged Bulgarian enterprises to deal directly with Western businessmen. There has been a small improvement in the availability of commercial statistics.

Business Operating Conditions

Western businessmen had more frequent contact with end-users (factories and production units) as the middleman role of the Foreign Trade Organization (FTO) was further diminished. The U.S. Embassy was able to arrange timely appointments for U.S. business visitors. During the reporting period, the Bulgarian Chamber of Commerce and Industry conducted an active campaign to invite U.S. businesses to participate in the Businessmen's Roundtable to be held in Sofia in May 1984. The Chamber is promising contact between government officials and FTO and industrial personnel.

The number of Western business offices in Sofia remained the same. An April 1983 decree containing provisions on hiring of employees, contracting of services and reporting requirements may impose new burdens on Western companies.

As in the previous reporting period, Western businessmen are encouraged to stay only in expensive hotels, where rooms are normally available. Adequate housing is more difficult to obtain due to the chronic shortage.

Although businessmen are required to obtain a telexed invitation from the Bulgarian concern they will visit in order to get a visa, this is usually forthcoming and Bulgarian Embassy visa offices are cooperative. There are no known travel restrictions on Western businessmen.

Availability of Economic and Commercial Information

Bulgaria continues to lag far behind its East European neighbors in publishing trade and economic statistics. Virtually no information is released on Bulgaria's external financial situation. Published trade information reports only the value of the trade, calculated in valuta leva, omitting the volume. Exchange rates for valuta leva are not published and may not be the same as officially published exchange rates.

Policies on Economic and Commercial Cooperation

The Bulgarians continue to place emphasis on industrial cooperation with Western companies, including joint ventures. There was no new significant legislation in this area. One U.S. company signed a joint venture agreement which has been approved and is now being organized. A number of U.S. companies remain frustrated in their attempts to work through the Bulgarian trade bureaucracy. Western companies continue to be pressured to accept countertrade arrangements as a condition for signing sales contracts. More trading companies are visiting Bulgaria to identify suitable countertrade items.

Official Visits

The Bulgarian Minister of Chemical Industry Georgi Pankov toured the U.S. during the reporting period and called on a considerable number of U.S. firms including some which had not had contact with Bulgaria in the past. A Congressional delegation concerned with trade issues, led by Congressman Gibbons, visited Bulgaria in December 1983. The delegation met with President Zhivkov, Deputy Prime Minister Lukanov and other high ranking Bulgarian officials.

Science and Technology

Science and technology contacts with Bulgaria, Hungary, and Romania have been maintained at a level largely unchanged from the previous period. Relations with Poland and the Soviet Union have remained at a low ebb because of earlier actions taken by those governments. The existing U.S.-U.S.S.R. scientific exchange agreements that were affected by President Reagan's December 1981 Poland-related measures continued to operate at the significantly reduced level of activity previously reported. Officially-sponsored exchange programs continued to receive scrutiny on an individual basis to ensure that reciprocity was maintained.

CHAPTER FOUR

IMPLEMENTATION OF BASKET III: COOPERATION IN HUMANITARIAN AND OTHER FIELDS

Basket III is intended to promote the free flow of information, ideas and people among the participating states.

This section of the Final Act contains specific measures which the participating states resolve to undertake to foster human contacts, improve access to information, and promote cultural and educational exchanges. Basket III and Principle Seven of Basket I, strengthened by provisions of the Madrid Concluding Document, incorporate the principal human rights provisions of the Helsinki process.

HUMAN CONTACTS

In the Final Act, participating states commit themselves to facilitate family reunification and meetings, marriage between citizens of different states, wider travel for business or professional reasons, improvement in the conditions of tourism, meetings among young people, and sports contacts.

In addition, the Madrid Concluding Document contains a number of provisions that strengthen and extend the human contacts commitment in the Final Act. The participating states have pledged: to deal favorably with applications for family meetings, reunification and marriage; to decide upon marriage and family reunification applications within six months; to ensure that rights of applicants for family reunification are not prejudiced; to provide necessary forms and information to applicants for emigration; to reduce emigration fees; to inform emigration applicants of decisions expeditiously; to assure access to diplomatic missions; and to facilitate contacts among representatives of religious faiths.

Family Visits

To some extent, the Helsinki process has led to freer travel policies in the East, but much remains to be done to achieve CSCE goals in this field. In general, the Eastern countries have maintained a policy of stringently limiting and controlling their citizens' movement abroad. It should be noted that the U.S.S.R. has ratified the U.N. Charter and other international documents on human rights, such as the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, in which the right to leave one's country and return thereto is enumerated. But in practice the regime denies Soviet citizens this right. Travel outside the U.S.S.R. is prohibited except for the departure of limited numbers of authorized personnel. Even in those cases, travel is restricted primarily to Eastern

countries and is under strict government control. Reunification of divided families is the only officially recognized basis for emigration from the Soviet Union, but the actual Soviet record of compliance even in this regard is poor.

Actual restrictive practices in the countries of Eastern Europe vary considerably. Some countries are nearly as restrictive as the Soviet Union. Others have been relatively lenient in allowing their citizens to travel abroad.

The U.S. Government regularly intercedes with Eastern governments on behalf of relatives of American citizens who have been refused permission to emigrate to join their families in the United States. U.S. Embassies abroad submit periodic lists of these people to local governments. The accompanying table shows the number of these cases being monitored officially by the United States as of March 31, 1984.

The following section examines in detail the situation of family reunification and family visits in individual countries.

Divided Family Cases

	<u>Nuclear Families</u> ¹		<u>Nonnuclear Families</u> ²	
	Cases	Individuals	Cases	Individuals
U.S.S.R.	94	386 ³		
Romania	66	109	466	887
Poland	145	295	249	791
Hungary	0	0	0	0
G.D.R.	0	0	16	38
Czechoslovakia	2	2	3	12
Bulgaria	9	14	10	27

¹Spouses and their minor children.

²These cases involve the separation of other relatives such as brothers and sisters.

³Figures for the U.S.S.R. include both nuclear and nonnuclear families.

Soviet Union. Few Soviet citizens are granted exit permission to visit relatives in the United States. Most are retired and have close family members in the United States. It is rare for an entire Soviet family to receive permission to travel to the United States.

The U.S. Embassy does not have access to Soviet figures concerning the number of people issued exit permission to the United States. 539 Soviets were issued visas for private visits to the United States during the period October 1, 1983 through March 29, 1984.

Soviets seeking permission to visit relatives in the United States must obtain notarized invitations from their relatives and submit them to their local Office of Visas and Registration (OVIR). In addition, local OVIRs require such documents as character references from applicants' workplaces and residences; forms showing approval of vacation plans; and birth or marriage certificates to prove their relationships to the people they seek to visit. Applicants usually wait three to six months to receive exit permission, but in extraordinary cases of family emergencies, exit permission may be granted very quickly--or not at all.

There is evidence that willingness to grant exit permission varies greatly from republic to republic. Approximately half the Soviets applying for U.S. visitors' visas are Armenian, and there is a significant percentage of Ukrainians. Most of the rest are Ukrainians and people from the Baltic republics. Armenians appear to have an easier time than others in getting exit permission, or for travelling together with members of their families. This regional discrepancy may reflect the fact that emigration to the U.S. in the past 40 years has been primarily from these areas, and that the most recent non-Jewish Soviet emigrants have come from the Armenian republic.

Americans applying to visit their relatives in the Soviet Union must submit standardized invitations from their Soviet relatives along with their visa applications. American applications for family visits are often arbitrarily refused.

Officers of the American Embassy regularly make representations to the Soviet Ministry of Foreign Affairs on behalf of Soviet applicants for U.S. visitors' visas, and the Embassy considers such representations to be an important expression of United States interest in these cases, many of which are of humanitarian concern. In only a few instances have Soviet authorities reversed earlier refusals of exit permission following Embassy representations.

Romania. There was a sharp decrease in the number of Romanian exit visas and U.S. tourist visas issued for visits to family members in the U.S. during the reporting period in comparison with the previous period. Opportunities for Romanian citizens to go abroad temporarily for family meetings appear to have grown even more limited, and travel to the West remains an unobtainable privilege for most. By contrast, relatives of Romanians are encouraged to visit Romania and rarely encounter problems obtaining entry visas. During the reporting period, the Embassy issued 753 tourist (B-2) visas to Romanians, mostly for visits to relatives in the U.S.

Opportunities for travel abroad by Romanians remain limited. Passport issuance procedures are arbitrary and unpredictable, and only those persons approved by the Communist Party are assured of receiving tourist passports. Many Romanians who would appear to qualify under Romanian law are refused without explanation. Others may receive tourist passports only after months or even years of waiting. Usually at least one member of the immediate family must stay behind to insure that his relatives return. Should the traveler(s) not return to Romania, it is often years before the remaining member(s) are permitted to leave the country. Family members remaining in Romania often endure considerable pressure to divorce or renounce those who left, and are harassed if they refuse.

Americans rarely encounter problems in obtaining visas to visit relatives in Romania. Although some visitors obtain Romanian visas in advance of travel, the majority arrive at Bucharest International Airport, or at land borders, without visas. Entry permission is almost always granted on the spot and the fee is moderate (\$7 with an additional \$7 processing fee, though higher, seemingly arbitrary amounts often apparently are charged). Only close relatives of Romanian citizens are exempt from the prohibition against staying at other than government-run facilities, as well as from the requirement to purchase \$10 of local currency per day.

Poland. The liberalization of passport issuance which was announced at the end of martial law has continued. A very large number of Poles are expected to visit Western Europe this year. For travel to the U.S., a letter of invitation which is verified by a Polish consulate in the United States is still required in order to obtain a passport. Many Poles still experience problems in obtaining a passport.

The U.S. Embassy estimates that 6000 exit permits were issued for visits to family members in the U.S. In the reporting period 4,177 visas were issued for this purpose.

Difficulties in obtaining passports for travel to the U.S. are threefold:

-- The necessity of obtaining an invitation which has been certified by a Polish consulate in the U.S. These invitations are valid for six months, and often expire before the passport has been issued.

-- Passports are often denied to family members of individuals who left Poland on a tourist passport and failed to return.

-- Trained professionals such as engineers, doctors, skilled artisans, often cannot obtain passports.

To our knowledge, there are no restrictions or difficulties for Americans visiting their relatives in Poland. However, Polish diplomatic missions apparently require naturalized citizens still considered Polish citizens under Polish law to travel to Poland on Polish documentation.

Hungary. Hungary follows a relatively liberal travel policy for its citizens. Hungarian citizens may legally visit the West at least once each year if financial support is available for hard currency expenses. Hungarians themselves can purchase hard currency for one private tourist trip every three years. The length of the exit permission granted reflects the amount of leave time authorized by the place of employment; permission is usually issued in increments of 30 days, with 30 and 90 days being the most common.

The number of visas issued for family visits to the U.S. was 1,772. The decrease from the previous six-month period reflects a normal seasonal adjustment. The figure is down from 2,111 in the equivalent period a year ago, presumably because economic conditions and forint devaluations have increased the expense of the trip.

The two most frequent reasons for which exit permits are denied Hungarians who wish to visit the U.S. are insufficient time (less than a year) since the last visit to the West and insufficient proof of the ability of the U.S. sponsor to provide support. Also, a Hungarian usually may not receive permission to visit a person who has remained away from Hungary under circumstances considered illegal under Hungarian law until five years have elapsed. An exit permit may also be denied if the potential visitor is considered responsible for a close relative having remained abroad illegally. The government claims that 99 percent of applications for travel to the West and 99.6 percent of applications for travel to socialist countries are approved.

Visas are seldom denied to Americans for family visits to Hungary. The Foreign Ministry never supplies reasons for refusals, but will consider the Embassy's request for review, sometimes with positive results.

Some Hungarian male applicants of military age are receiving exit permits for tourist (although not immigration) travel to the West which would have been denied several years ago. The Hungarian authorities recently published regulations that for the first time provide prospective travelers with military obligations an indication of their rights.

German Democratic Republic. The G.D.R. continues to severely limit travel by its citizens to the United States or other Western countries for family visits. Approval or denial of applications to travel for such visits is a political decision made by the East German authorities, and the criteria for these decisions are not made public. As an exception, pensioners (age 60 for women and 65 for men) are generally permitted to travel to the West. Non-pensioners can apply to visit close relatives as a rule only on the occasion of certain events such as death, birth, life-threatening illness, wedding, 25th or 50th wedding anniversary celebration, Confirmation, First Holy Communion, and 60th, 65th, 70th, 75th and any further birthday celebrations. Western media reported that in 1983, 64,025 non-pensioners were permitted to travel to the Federal Republic of Germany, as compared with 45,709 in 1982. In all cases, the applicant must provide documentation proving both the relationship and the purpose of travel. The total number of applications submitted and denied is not publicly available, but there are many cases of applicants in the above categories who are refused permission to travel. During this reporting period the Embassy issued 438 visas for family visits. Non-pensioners received 81 of these visas. Fewer family visit visas were issued than in the last reporting period, but it is not yet clear whether this is a trend. We are unaware of instances which occurred during the past six months where Americans have been refused permission to visit relatives in the G.D.R.

Emigrants from the G.D.R. must generally wait five years before they can return to visit relatives. G.D.R. citizens in positions deemed "sensitive" by their government may not be visited by close relatives who live in the West. The Embassy has occasionally made representations to support visits to the U.S. for humanitarian purposes, e.g., to see a sick relative, without success.

The G.D.R. has severely restricted access to certain Western missions during this reporting period. East Germans wishing to visit several of the Western Embassies are asked by the authorities to present identification, before or after the visit. Some prospective visitors are told that they cannot enter the mission; others are strongly intimidated. We have reports that some people have been detained after visiting the U.S. Embassy, but we are unaware of any arrests resulting from such a visit. These developments directly contradict G.D.R. undertakings in the Madrid Concluding Document.

Czechoslovakia. There has been no change in the Czechoslovak government's performance on family meetings. The number of exit permits issued for visits to family members was 1,315--a decrease from the same period a year ago.

Elderly and retired Czechoslovak citizens are most often allowed to travel to the U.S. to visit relatives. Persons in the work force are not usually allowed to travel abroad with a complete family unit. Large numbers of native-born U.S. citizens obtain visas to visit Czechoslovakia without difficulty, often in one day. U.S. citizens of Czechoslovak origin, however, continue to experience difficulties. Many have been refused visas after having received several visas in the past. The Embassy has made representations to the host government on behalf of 14 such citizens during this reporting period. Since the replies received from the Foreign Ministry are often equivocal, e.g., "The person should reapply at the Embassy in Washington, D.C.," we do not know what our success rate is, although we estimate it at around 30 percent. We have received suggestions from the host government that citing special humanitarian considerations--extreme age or serious illness of family members--may be helpful. However, one elderly woman dying of cancer was recently refused a visa to come back to die in Czechoslovakia--the land of her birth--despite Embassy intervention on her behalf.

Bulgaria. Bulgarian performance on family visitation remains uneven. Bulgarian applicants were issued 85 visas during the period for family visits, a slight decrease over the prior period. The process of issuing exit permits remains highly discriminatory. Family members of active anti-regime emigres are routinely turned down. Political considerations remain paramount in determining the right to travel. The government normally responds to U.S. Embassy interventions, although delays can be frequent, but delays are frequent and we apparently have little influence in the decision-making process.

Family Reunification

Soviet Union. Soviet performance facilitating family reunification has continued to deteriorate since October 1, 1983. Three quarters of the 311 Soviet citizens who received exit permission to the U.S. in 1983 departed within the first six months of the year, indicating the dramatic downturn in exit visas issued during the fall. In practice, Soviet authorities continue to recognize family reunification as the only grounds for issuance of exit permission. They define "family reunification" in increasingly narrow terms, so that only members of immediate families stand a chance of receiving exit permission. Eighty two percent of all Soviet emigrants to the U.S. during the latter half of 1983 were spouses of U.S. citizens. Soviet authorities continue to deny exit permits for a multitude of reasons. Frequently they allege that applicants had access to state secrets. In some cases applicants were never even aware that they might be near classified information. Recent Soviet legislation introduced the concept of work-related secrets, making release of even non-classified information a possible criminal activity. If "work-related" secrets becomes a ground for refusal of exit permission, an increase in the exit refusal rate in may follow in coming months. Soviet authorities are increasingly denying exit permission to people who have more relatives in the U.S.S.R. than abroad. They argue that because the balance of family ties is in the U.S.S.R., exit permission would only exacerbate, not resolve, the division of the family.

Soviet officials have indicated on at least two recent occasions that the restriction of emigration is a direct function of the poor state of U.S./Soviet bilateral relations. A number of exit applicants learn of this directly when local emigration officials inform them that "the international situation does not warrant your emigration." Finally, local emigration officials have increasingly been telling applicants to "reapply next year," despite the fact that Soviet regulations and the Madrid Concluding Document specify reapplication after six months. Many persons have withheld reapplication, reasoning that the authorities are giving them an indication of when they will be granted exit permission. So far we are unaware of any such case being resolved favorably. The Soviet record on family reunification has reached its worst level since before 1972.

While Soviet authorities normally decide exit permission applications (favorably or unfavorably) within about four months, emigration authorities occasionally do not respond at all. Such instances are sporadic and seem to reflect differing local attitudes. We are aware of three cases where emigration officials continue to refuse to accept exit applications. In two such cases the spouse left the U.S.S.R. temporarily and applied for refugee status in the U.S. In the other case the U.S. relative obtained exit permission to Israel, but then went to the U.S., thereby, according to Soviet interpretation, "forfeiting the right to invite relatives to follow." Embassy representations on behalf of these three cases have gone unanswered during the review period.

Thirty-two Soviet nationals applied for U.S. immigrant visas for family reunification during the reporting period. In addition, 57 Soviets applied for reunification with relatives in the United States under the Accelerated Third Country Processing Program (ATCP).

Thirty-two immigrant visas were issued for family reunification, down from 65 in the previous reporting period. 57 people were documented for admission to the U.S. under the ATCP program, down from 72 in the previous period. Of these 89 people, 44 were Armenian.

It is difficult to estimate how many Soviets are refused exit permission, since many refusals are never reported to the Embassy. The Embassy has on file, however, 365 immigrant and fiance(e) visa petitions. In addition, 1076 other families, 3135 people, have expressed interest in being reunited with relatives via the ATCP program. Many of these people have been seeking exit permission for up to a decade. The Embassy also has a list of 1763 individuals who have repeatedly been denied Soviet exit permission to Israel but continue to apply. Also, an undiminished number of Soviets continue to apply for emigration to the Federal Republic of Germany, although only 1379 were successful in 1983. It seems reasonable to assume that at least several thousand Soviet citizens are interested in joining family members abroad and are denied exit permission each year.

Soviet citizens applying for exit permission often seek U.S. intervention in their support. However, Soviet authorities have been completely unresponsive to representations during this period. The Embassy maintains a representation list of 407 Soviets who have repeatedly been denied permission to join relatives in the U.S. Over the past six months only three cases (including one binational marriage) involving 9 persons have been favorably resolved. In the mid-1970's approximately 60 percent of all cases on the representation list were favorably resolved within one year. This figure is now less than five percent.

The fee for a Soviet foreign travel (exit) passport remains 200 rubles, which represents somewhat more than one month's gross salary for an average worker.

Romania. Performance in family reunification was slightly better than during the previous reporting period, in terms of both waiting time and the number of cases resolved. Many unresolved cases remain. The average waiting period from initial application to final approval is well in excess of the six months envisaged in the Madrid Concluding Document. At least eight to twelve months is required in the average family reunification case. Official Romanian policy remains opposed to emigration. Family reunification and undefined "humanitarian" grounds are the only officially recognized exceptions. For would-be emigrants, the application process remains a frustrating and uncertain experience which often entails hardships and lengthy delays. Applicants for emigration often face public denunciation, reduction of job status and wages or dismissal, loss of public services, and sometimes arrest; their children at times are discriminated against in school.

The number of Romanians applying for U.S. entry documents to be reunited with their relatives was 1329; 222 immigrant visas and 1493 third-country processing (TCP) cases were resolved during the period. (Approximately 4 percent of TCP issuances are for family reunification.)

The Embassy has found it useful to present the government with a "representation list" of outstanding emigrant visa cases each quarter. The G.O.R. has been reasonably responsive to the Embassy's representations, with a few notable exceptions. The Embassy's June 1983 emigration visa representation list contained 444 persons.

Approximately 800 "visas 93" (family of refugees) applicants are awaiting passport issuance. Of the nearly 7,000 persons registered for the TCP program who are awaiting passports, approximately 2,800 to 3,000 are seeking emigration for family reunification.

The cost of Romanian exit documents is exorbitant in relation to the Romanian worker's average monthly income (2,500 lei). A Romanian passport (with citizenship) and exit visa costs 1,165 lei, and the cost of an extension of the exit visa is 965 lei. The cost of a stateless passport is also 1,165 lei, but renunciation of Romanian citizenship adds an additional 3,000 lei to this figure. (\$1 equals nearly 14 lei)

Poland. The Polish government is apparently taking family reunification more seriously than in the recent past. During the reporting period, our list of divided families has grown more slowly than previously. During this six month period, approximately 950 individuals applied for immigrant visas to join family members; 863 immigrant visas were issued for the purpose of family reunification.

The Embassy's divided families list contains the names of families that have been denied permission to emigrate to rejoin their families in the United States. Not all the individuals having problems obtaining an exit permit inform the Embassy, so the list does not provide an exact picture. On March 31, 1984, the list contained the names of 394 families totalling 1086 individuals.

U.S. intervention appears to be helpful in many of the divided families cases. The Embassy, however, has been unable to determine exactly how successful our interventions have been, as the Polish government does not indicate, when a passport is finally issued, whether issuance is the result of U.S. representations. Many of the recent issuances appear to be based on the provisions of the new passport law.

In this period a total of 100 cases involving 227 persons were added to the divided families list, while 105 cases involving 203 persons were resolved. If individuals going to the United States to join a nuclear family members are considered separately, 50 cases involving 103 persons have been added to the divided families list in the reporting period, while 99 cases involving 170 persons were resolved. This is the first time in recent history that more nuclear family cases have been resolved than added.

Hungary. Hungarian performance in family reunification continues to be good. We have no outstanding unresolved cases. Forty-two Hungarians applied for U.S. immigrant visas (IVs) for family reunification, and IVs were issued to all 42.

The Embassy has made representations to the Foreign Ministry with respect to the case of a dual American-Hungarian citizen who was refused an emigration passport. She and her U.S. citizen daughter are applying for tourist/visitors passports.

An emigration passport costs 1,000 forints (approximately \$22.50). Minors under 14 are included at no extra charge. In addition there is a passport application fee of 250 forints (approximately \$6.85).

German Democratic Republic. The number of exit visas issued by the G.D.R. between January 1 and March 31 of 1984 exceeded 12,000. Many of these people were travelling for family reunification, although others sought to leave for political reasons. This development can be interpreted as an improvement in G.D.R. performance. However, only a fraction of those wishing to leave the G.D.R. have been allowed to do so (some Western sources estimate that as many as 500,000 applications are in effect still pending).

The experiences of exit visa applicants vary. Some applications have been acted upon within weeks of their submission, others have taken three or more years. Some applicants have lost their jobs or had to take on menial work, but others continued to live their lives as usual. Occasionally, children face discrimination and harassment in school. Most applicants who are successful must renounce their G.D.R. citizenship and are issued a stateless passport.

Although the Madrid Concluding Document was published in the G.D.R.'s major newspaper and new binational marriage regulations effective October 15, 1983 were published in the G.D.R.'s Legal Gazette, information on procedures for emigration is difficult to obtain for G.D.R. citizens. Officials commonly tell applicants that it is not possible to submit an exit application. However, submission of a written statement is in fact generally accepted by the G.D.R. authorities as a de facto application. Applicants are not informed as to the status of their cases until a final decision is made. Emigration fees are not burdensome: a G.D.R. passport costs about \$6, an exit visa about \$3.

It is difficult at this stage to know how many people intending to go to the U.S. for family reunification have been allowed to leave the G.D.R. Some people who have stated that they wish to go to the U.S. have been given exit visas which allow them to travel first to the FRG or Berlin (West); they were warned that they would jeopardize their final exit if they contacted a Western embassy before their departure. In such cases the Embassy has no knowledge of the departure. The Embassy did issue four immigrant visas for family reunification during this reporting period. In other cases, applicants have been documented by the Embassy for U.S. destinations, thus helping them get permission to leave the G.D.R. with final visa issuance accomplished elsewhere.

The Embassy makes representations to the G.D.R. on behalf of interested U.S. citizens by the presentation of a list of cases to the Foreign Ministry. The list, presented in November 1983, and again brought to the Foreign Ministry's attention in February and March 1984, contained 17 cases involving 49 people seeking to go to the United States for family reunification.

Czechoslovakia. There has been no change in performance on family reunification. During this period the Embassy received 29 new immigrant visas cases involving 38 persons (an increase of 12 cases over this period last year). We also received six new visa cases concerning families of refugees, involving 13 persons. The Embassy issued 29 immigrant visas to family members of U.S. citizens and permanent alien residents during this period (an increase of 5 from a year ago).

The Embassy's divided families list includes five cases (14 persons): one minor son of a U.S. citizen; one husband of a U.S. citizen; three married sons and daughters of U.S. citizens, and their children. Generally, immediate families of U.S. citizens are allowed to emigrate relatively expeditiously. However, since Czechoslovak policy is to discourage emigration of the work force, married sons and daughters or siblings of U.S. citizens often experience great difficulty in obtaining exit documents. They often must wait many years, reapplying repeatedly before receiving exit permission. Families of refugees can expect lengthy waits--indeed they may have to wait until the refugee is naturalized as a U.S. citizen--before they can obtain exit permission. Decisions on exit documentation often seems arbitrary and dependent on where the applicant lives and applies for permission to emigrate. The Embassy has on file approved petitions for 123 cases (approximately 250 persons), but has had no word from most of those concerned since we sent notification of petition approval. There may be a few beneficiaries who no longer have interest in immigration; however, we assume the majority have been refused Czechoslovak travel documentation or discouraged by local authorities from trying to obtain it.

Assembling the documents needed to apply for emigration usually takes a minimum of six weeks. Processing of an emigration application takes from six weeks to six months from the date the completed application is submitted; the average time is three months. If the application is refused, it is possible to file an appeal within 15 days; if it is refused a second time, the applicant must wait three months before submitting a new application. People are often told it is useless to reapply, but it is rare that a new application is not accepted. Occasionally an applicant will unexpectedly and inexplicably receive documentation after many months of failure.

The most significant expense related to emigration is often the education payment, levied, in theory, to reimburse the government for university and post-graduate education. Some applicants have had to pay up to the Czechoslovak crown equivalent of \$1000 (six months' average wage).

Bulgaria. Emigration is provided for by law in Bulgaria, but cooperation on family visits and reunification since the Belgrade CSCE review meeting in 1978 has been uneven. Prospective emigrants have faced difficulties once their desire to leave becomes known. Promotion, educational opportunities, and other government-controlled benefits usually dry up for them and often for their families.

As of March 31, the Embassy had family reunification cases of nine nuclear families pending involving 14 individuals, and ten non-nuclear families involving 27 individuals. During the reporting period 17 IVs for family reunifications were issued. Of this total, ten individuals were on the Embassy representation list. Progress in this area was good early in the period, but has slowed since the new year. As with family visits, the Embassy is not aware of all of the prospective cases turned down before they ever reach us. Political consideration plays a major role. For example, we have been unable to make much progress in cases where the U.S. citizen petitioners have "embarrassed" the GOB (or another Eastern bloc country). Continued progress in family reunification will be largely dependent on the GOB perception of the importance of maintaining improving bilateral relations with the U.S. and other selected Western powers.

Bulgaria's record of compliance with the Madrid document has been unsatisfactory. Fees for emigration visas have increased over the past year. A relatively new phenomenon--forcing an intending emigrant to reimburse the state for education fees if the emigrant has not worked at least three years after leaving school--was reported in one recent divided family case. As was apparent in the Nakov case mentioned elsewhere in this report, access for Bulgarian citizens to foreign diplomatic missions can still result in persecution. There has, however, been some progress in family reunifications.

Binational Marriages

In accordance with the Final Act, the participating states pledge to consider favorably applications for entry or exit for citizens of the participating states to marry citizens of another participating state. There is a mixed record of implementation of this commitment by the Soviet Union and Eastern European countries. In the Madrid Concluding Document the participating states committed themselves further to deal favorably with binational marriage applications, and to decide on applications in normal practice within six months. The following chart indicates the problem cases that the United States was monitoring as of March 1, 1984.

U.S.S.R.	14
Romania	35
Poland	4
Hungary	0
G.D.R.	8
Czechoslovakia	1
Bulgaria	0

Soviet Union. Soviet performance on binational marriages is better than its performance in other areas of family reunification, and does not seem to have deteriorated significantly since December 31, 1983. About one of every ten Soviets who apply to join a U.S. resident spouse is denied. Nine out of ten of those denied receive exit permission upon the second application. On the average, exit permission is granted to Soviet spouses within four months. Major problems sometimes arise, however, before the marriage. The American fiance(e) may be denied travel to the U.S.S.R. to conclude the marriage, or marriage authorities may provide inaccurate information on the marriage procedure. Such cases often involve Soviets who have allegedly been exposed to state secrets. In general, marriage applications are decided within 90 days by Soviet authorities.

Americans who marry Soviet citizens are not required to register with the Embassy or Consulate General. The Embassy generally learns of binational marriages when an American files an immigration petition for a Soviet spouse. As of March 1, 1984, 108 marriages between U.S. and Soviet citizens were on record at the Embassy. An additional 34 marriages between Soviet citizens and U.S. permanent resident aliens are on file.

During the period under review, 26 Soviet citizens were issued immigrant visas to join U.S. citizen spouses. Twenty-eight Soviet citizens received exit permission and were documented for U.S. entry via the ATCP program. The Embassy is aware of at least 11 cases in which fiance(e)s have sought reunification without success. In some instances, the American party has been denied permission to enter the U.S.S.R. to marry even as the Soviet citizen has been denied exit permission.

We estimate that more than 30 spouses of U.S. citizens and 10 spouses of U.S. permanent resident aliens have faced delays of more than six months in applying for Soviet exit permission. Some have been attempting for up to ten years to join a spouse in the United States.

During the review period the Embassy made six individual representations in support of Soviet citizens seeking exit permission to join spouses in the U.S. Not one of these people has yet received an exit permit. The Embassy also includes in its representation list those Soviet citizens repeatedly denied exit permission to join U.S. citizen spouses. At present there are 18 spouses on the list, including 14 binational marriage cases. Only one spouse on the list received Soviet exit permission since December 1, 1983.

Romania. Marriage to foreigners is officially discouraged, and obtaining approval is difficult. Although most applicants are eventually successful, securing official approval is a trying and time-consuming undertaking which usually requires a wait of twelve to twenty-four months. There has been no appreciable improvement of Romania's performance concerning binational marriages. The U.S. Embassy estimates that during the reporting period the Romanian authorities approved 27 binational marriages and that 35 binational marriage cases have been delayed more than six months.

Poland. Marriage of American citizens to Polish citizens is much easier to accomplish in the United States than in Poland. Permission of a Polish court must be sought to marry in Poland, with the average court proceedings lasting about four months. Complications arise from the fact that the U.S. government does not issue documents stating that an American citizen is free to marry, so the United States citizen must convince the court that he or she is unmarried. Also, the Polish government has not recognized U.S. divorces involving Polish nationals, so an American divorce must be repeated in the Polish courts. This process generally takes six months to accomplish. The number of binational marriages is impossible to estimate, as no statistics are compiled on the subject.

During the reporting period, the Embassy issued eighteen visas to Polish citizens for the purpose of binational marriage. During the same period, twenty one exit permits were issued to Polish nationals for the same purpose.

Hungary. The Embassy estimates that four exit permits were delayed by the local government for more than six months. In the reporting period, the Embassy interceded twice to assist in passport issuance to the spouse of an American citizen. In both instances a passport was subsequently issued. Hungarian performance on binational marriages remained good.

During the reporting period, the U.S. Embassy received or approved 17 petitions for binational marriage immigrant visas. The Embassy issued 32 immigrant visas to Hungarian spouses of American citizens or of legal residents of the U.S. No binational exit permits were delayed longer than six months.

The percentage of cases of Hungarian males of military age who received emigration permission (after having served at least a portion of their active duty requirement) continued to increase. This favorable trend applies broadly to young applicants, including highly trained personnel such as physicians.

German Democratic Republic. A regulation promulgated by the G.D.R., effective on October 15, 1983, states that applications for binational marriage cases would be settled within six months of the application. It is still too early to see what effect this regulation will have, but the G.D.R. often does not consider an application to have been legally opened until all required documents have been submitted. Requests for new documents may be made after the applicant has met initial document requirement, thus delaying the beginning of the six-month waiting period. Some couples also were able to leave with U.S. immigrant visa applications to be made elsewhere.

The U.S. Embassy issued one immigrant visa to the spouse of an American during this reporting period. The couple was given permission to marry in the G.D.R. and then left for the United States. The G.D.R. pressures spouses of U.S. citizens to depart without delay once married; the delays experienced in obtaining an exit permit come before the marriage. One G.D.R. fiance has waited for over three years for permission to marry a U.S. citizen. There have been cases where American fiance(e)s have regularly been denied visas to visit the G.D.R.

Four fiance(e)s included on the Embassy's representation list presented to the G.D.R. were allowed to leave during this reporting period. The government has not yet granted permission to marry or exit permission on five other fiance(e) cases which were on that list. The Embassy is aware of three fiance(e)s who were allowed to leave the G.D.R. without Embassy intervention.

Czechoslovakia. Czechoslovakia's record is generally good on binational marriages. During this reporting period 23 such marriages came to the attention of the Embassy (an almost 100 percent increase over the same period a year ago). We estimate that 18 entry permits were issued to U.S. citizens for the purpose of binational marriage and that 19 exit permits were issued to spouses of U.S. citizens.

The one case we are aware of in which exit documentation of a spouse of a U.S. citizen has been delayed is on our divided families list. Current concerns also include two fiancées of U.S. citizens (and their children), who are being prevented by Czechoslovak authorities from marrying and emigrating. The U.S. citizens have been denied Czechoslovakian entry visas; the Czechoslovak women and two children of U.S. fathers have been denied exit visas. The Czechoslovakian authorities have gone on to rule in one of these cases that denial of entry/exit permission is not grounds for proxy marriage.

In one of these cases, the woman had applied for refugee status during a visit to Vienna, but returned to Czechoslovakia when her mother told her (untruthfully) that her father was dying and asking for her. The subsequent refusal of an entry visa to her American citizen fiance appears to be punishment for her application for refugee status--in itself a near crime in the eyes of the Czechoslovakian authorities.

Bulgaria. Bulgarian compliance in the area of binational marriages is satisfactory, and unusually long delays are not a problem. Six exit permits for binational marriages were issued during the period. Only one case is pending, and this will probably be resolved soon. Specific U.S. intervention is rarely needed in this category of cases.

Travel for Personal or Professional Reasons

The Final Act signatories agreed to facilitate travel for personal or professional reasons. Nonetheless, the Soviet Union and most other Eastern European countries basically do not permit personal or professional travel abroad by their citizens except under conditions of strict government control and monitoring. They generally encourage visitors from the West. However, visitors who attempt to see refuseniks or dissidents, or who bring in forbidden religious articles or literary materials, are subject to harassment.

Soviet Union. Generally, while the Soviet Union continues to encourage Western tourism, Soviet restrictions on movement and visa formalities probably discourage many Americans from traveling to the Soviet Union. Approximately 550 B-2 visas were issued during the reporting period. A total of 192 other NIVs were issued to Soviet citizens, including diplomatic, United Nations, journalist and exchange and transit visas.

The U.S. Embassy has no means of estimating the total number of tourist and other NIV's issued by the Soviet Union to Americans. There was a marked decrease in the number of American tourists coming to the Soviet Union following the shutdown of KAL Flight 007 and the subsequent boycott by Western airlines of flights to Moscow. Representatives of American tour agencies reported that the number of tours sponsored by their companies in the fall and winter of 1983-1984 was approximately half the number of previous years.

There has been no change in the length of time taken to issue visas or the fees charged since the last report. Private Soviet visitors receive their NIVs the day on which they apply, against payment of a fee. Americans applying for Soviet NIVs wait varying lengths of time, depending upon the purpose of their travel. If the Soviet authorities perceive the travel to be in the Soviet interest, then the visa may be issued in as little as two days. On the other hand, a private visitor may wait a week or more for a visa.

American tourists must declare all currency and valuables, including personal items such as wedding rings, when they enter the U.S.S.R. They are permitted to convert foreign currency to rubles only at officially-designated places. When American tourists depart the Soviet Union they must convert all of their rubles into hard currency. They must also return their original customs statement to Soviet officials.

Although American tourists may theoretically visit any open area of the U.S.S.R., they are in fact restricted to the roughly 5 percent of the country where the official Soviet tourist agency Intourist provides services. Even in open areas with Intourist services, it is sometimes impossible to arrange travel. Since visas of American tourists are annotated to show the cities which they may visit, it is almost impossible for tourists to change their travel plans after they have arrived in the country. Intourist, however, may at its initiative change the traveler's plans in the middle of a trip. The Embassy does make representations on behalf of American citizens who have encountered problems with Soviet authorities while traveling in the Soviet Union. Soviet responses are often less than satisfactory.

Romania. Opportunities for Romanian citizens to travel abroad for tourism have declined during the reporting period. The number of tourist visas (B-2) issued to Romanians during the reporting period was 753; other non-immigrant visas issued to Romanians during the period totalled 823.

The time required for Romanians to complete exit formalities varies from weeks to years. Such travel remains a rare privilege. The total cost for a new tourist passport with exit visa is 440 lei. If a person has a valid passport on file with the passport authorities, the cost of the new visa alone is 75 lei.

Western tourists, on the other hand, are encouraged to visit Romania and rarely encounter problems obtaining entry visas. American tourists generally encounter no restrictions on travel within Romania. However, U.S. evangelists who have attempted to meet with Romanian religious groups or families have been questioned and warned to refrain from such activities. Purely social contacts with Romanians are also difficult since the government officially discourages Romanians from associating with foreigners without prior approval. Citizens who do so may be subject to penalties.

In 1983, Romania counted approximately 14,000 arrivals by Americans. Figures given the Embassy by the government count arrivals (i.e. border crossings) rather than the number of visas issued, and it can be assumed that the number contains some multiple entries by the same individuals. U.S. visitors are required to convert \$10 per day into Romanian currency.

Tourist visas for the United States are normally issued on the day of application unless a waiver of ineligibility is required. Waiver cases take from three to five working days to complete. U.S. visa fees are set to reciprocate the fees being charged by the G.O.R. for corresponding visas. Romanian and U.S. fees are currently 98 lei (\$7) for a single entry tourist visa and 630 lei (\$46) for a multiple entry tourist visa. Visas are granted to tourists on application abroad (usually within five working days) or upon arrival at points of entry.

Poland. The Polish government welcomes and actively seeks U.S. tourism. This is an important source of hard currency for the Polish economy. The Embassy issued 5488 non immigrant visas in the reporting period, 4177 of which were B-2 (tourist) visas. The Embassy cannot estimate the number of tourist and other NIV's issued to Americans.

The average duration of the visa application process for Americans visiting Poland is unknown. The estimated average duration for Polish nationals is two hours, unless a waiver of ineligibility must be sought for Communist Party membership. Tourist visas cost \$10 or the local equivalent, based on reciprocity between the two countries. The average duration of host country exit procedures is two months, and the estimated average total cost is \$20.

American visitors to Poland are required to exchange \$15 per day at the official exchange rate. If they are visiting family in Poland, only \$7.50 daily must be exchanged. There are no restrictions on travel within Poland for U.S. citizens. U.S. government intervention is not usually required for facilitation of travel and tourism.

Hungary. Hungarian performance on travel continued to be good. According to official statistics, almost 4.8 million Hungarians traveled abroad in 1983, 22 percent more than in 1982. Of these travelers, 4.2 million went to socialist countries and 558,000 to non-socialist countries. Travel to Hungary, particularly from non-socialist countries, also continues to increase.

Hungarian travel agencies continue to allow Hungarian citizens to purchase a wide variety of services, including airplane tickets, hotel rooms and some tour costs, in forints. This reduces to some extent the requirement for the private traveler to obtain convertible currency.

More liberal provisions for Hungarians to work abroad for up to five years are in force. The press reports that several hundred applications have been approved, mainly to the Federal Republic of Germany and Austria, during the reporting period. It is still too early to assess how many Hungarians will be able to take advantage of this (the regulations require that the individual have a firm job offer before application is made). The promulgation of the new regulations, however, appears consistent with the commitment in the Helsinki Final Act to increase to opportunities for travel for professional, as well as personal reasons. At the same time, as noted above in the discussion of Principle Seven, Hungarian authorities continue to respond arbitrarily to the applications for travel for personal or professional reasons submitted by dissidents. Some applications are approved, but others are denied or delayed without reason given.

Hungary has continued to streamline the possibilities for foreign tourists to visit the country. Third country nationals may now enter Hungary without visas if they are members of conducted tours organized by Austrian travel agencies, spend less than 48 hours in the country, and stay at a hotel. French tourists will now be permitted to enter Hungary on the basis of their personal identity cards and a Hungarian visa, without a passport.

Hungarian citizens were issued 1,109 tourist visas to the U.S. Once again, seasonal factors account for the substantial decrease from the last reporting period. The figure is an increase from the equivalent period a year ago (946) and appears to reflect the attractiveness of the new possibilities for purchasing the air ticket in forints.

One thousand one hundred and seventy-three other NIVs were issued to Hungarian citizens. This is a decline from the 3,057 figure of the parallel reporting period.

Based on information received from the Hungarian government, the estimated number of American tourists visiting Hungary during the reporting period increased approximately four percent from last year's equivalent period to approximately 30,000. The U.S. issued visas to 74 percent of Hungarian applicants (non-Communist affiliation waiver cases) in one or two days. Twenty-six percent, for whom waivers of ineligibility were required from the U.S. Immigration and Naturalization Service in Vienna or Washington, received visas within two weeks. Emergency cases were handled more quickly--within one day.

The Hungarian Embassy in Washington and Consulate in New York generally issue visas to non-official visitors within 24-48 hours. Visas are available at the Budapest Airport and some land borders, but the Embassy is aware of five to six refusals annually to dual nationals. Official U.S. visitors are generally covered by a seven-day reciprocal agreement.

Generally, a 30-day period is necessary to receive a passport for tourism in the West. Processing for a visit to a socialist country takes two weeks. Exit permits for tourists, whether to the West or to socialist countries, cost 350 forints (approximately \$8). In addition, the applicant must pay a postage fee of approximately \$2 for an exit permit to a Western country. The full price for an exit permit for a family visit to a Western country is 350 forints (approximately \$8). Western permits are valid for a single trip. Permits to socialist countries are for multiple trips and valid for five years. The above fee schedules were changed during the reporting period and have become more uniform. Western exit permits have become cheaper and socialist country permits more expensive. Previously the price for a Western tourist permission was 600 forints and for a family visit, 400 forints. Socialist country visits of both types cost 100 forints.

Hungary has no currency conversion requirement for U.S. visitors. Applicants may have to produce proof of sufficient funds to cover the planned stay and departure. There are no travel restrictions.

German Democratic Republic. Most East German citizens are restricted from travel to the West. Only pensioners can easily obtain permission to travel to the West for tourism. Exit formalities for G.D.R. citizens who can travel abroad take four to ten weeks. The total cost is about \$9. Westerners can generally obtain visas to visit the G.D.R. without difficulty.

The Embassy issued 517 tourist visas (b-2) and 476 other types of non-immigrant visas to G.D.R. citizens during this reporting period. No information is available on how many G.D.R. visas were issued to Americans. Statistics published by the government provide only a gross figure for visitors from non-Communist countries.

U.S. tourist visas are issued within one working day, except for cases which require waivers of ineligibility. The latter take an average of ten days to two weeks, and include most applicants who have affiliations with communist organizations. Those wishing to travel to the U.S. for business reasons who are not ineligible generally wait five working days for a visa, although this can be waived in an emergency. A U.S. B-2 visa costs \$8 for a single entry, \$16 for two entries.

G.D.R. tourist and business visa applications take about six weeks to be processed if the application is made in the U.S., and less time if made in the Federal Republic of Germany or West Berlin. If a traveler is in Berlin and purchases a voucher showing pre-paid reservations in G.D.R. hotels, a visa can be obtained the same day. Day visas limited to East Berlin can be obtained by Americans in a few minutes at specified Berlin sector crossing points.

A G.D.R. single entry tourist or business visa costs about \$6; multiple entry about \$17. A day visa for East Berlin costs about \$2. In addition, the official travel agency which processes visa applications charges those over 16 a handling fee of \$22 per person. The G.D.R. requires those fifteen and over to purchase about \$10, and 14 year olds to purchase about \$3 in G.D.R. currency per day. Those under 14 are exempt from such currency conversion requirements. This money cannot be reconverted into hard currency nor taken out of the G.D.R. U.S. visitors are prohibited from travelling in areas adjacent to military installations, and permission must be obtained for travel within five kilometers of the G.D.R. border, except when entering or leaving the country.

Exit formalities for G.D.R. citizens who can travel abroad take four to ten weeks. The total cost is about \$9. The U.S. has not intervened in any case involving tourism and travel.

Czechoslovakia. Theoretically, Czechoslovak citizens are allowed to travel to the West every three years. The actual granting of exit documentation for this purpose, however, varies considerably. Some individuals travel to the West every year; others are never allowed to leave Czechoslovakia; others may only travel to other countries in Eastern Europe. One major restraint on tourism of Czechoslovaks to non-"Socialist" countries is the need to receive foreign currency allotments. There is an unsubstantiated report that the amount of hard currency available for tourism in 1984 may be cut by 30 percent from what was available in 1983. Czechoslovaks applying to travel need permission from their employer and a police certificate.

Tourism to Czechoslovakia in general is encouraged, although, as noted above, former Czechoslovak citizens frequently experience difficulties in obtaining entry visas. We estimate that during this period 9,800 visas were issued by the Czechoslovak government to Americans (an increase of 1,300 over a year ago). U.S. tourists are required to change about \$12 into Czechoslovak currency per day. Children and certain exceptional cases are required to change only half the amount.

The Embassy issued 1,547 tourist visas during this period (about the same as a year ago); total non-immigrant visa issuance was 2,025. The maximum waiting period for issuance of U.S. visas in our Embassy is usually two weeks; the average tourist visa applicant receives his visa the day he applies. Americans not of Czechoslovak origin usually receive a Czechoslovak tourist visa in anywhere from one day to a week, depending on place of application. Cost of U.S. and Czechoslovak visas is \$10.

Tourists are not restricted in their travel around the country, although certain localities (for example, around military establishments) are off limits. However, if a tourist loses his travel and identity documentation, he usually has to wait three to five days before he receives exit permission. Embassy efforts to assist in hastening departure approval in such cases have met with varying degrees of success.

Currency exchange regulations are strictly enforced and the Embassy frequently receives after-hours telephone calls during peak travel months from American tourists who did not exchange enough money, allowed their visas to lapse, and find that Czechoslovak hotels are not allowed to house them. Embassy efforts to assist are severely hampered by our lack of a direct contact point in the Federal Ministry of the Interior; working through the Federal Ministry of Foreign Affairs slows the process down considerably.

Bulgaria. Travel abroad remains a tightly controlled privilege available only to a chosen few. During the period, 198 B-2 Visas were issued to Bulgarians. Only a very small number, probably less than ten, were traveling as true tourists. If a Bulgarian is lucky enough to be allowed to travel, it will cost him between 60 and 120 leva, and take up to 2-3 months to complete formalities for a passport valid for non-official travel to the West. Supposedly as a hard currency protection measure, Bulgarians are permitted to make only one trip every two years to a Western country. Bulgarian tourists are allowed to exchange leva for only fifty dollars worth of hard currency through the Bulgarian National Bank for a trip to the West, regardless of its duration. The Bulgarian citizen is also forced to pay approximately three times the official rate when buying his meager allotment of hard currency. All of the above measures are clearly designed to severely restrict tourism to the West and minimize cross-cultural contacts.

We estimate that between 500-1000 American tourists visited Bulgaria during the period. Many probably came for skiing holidays. Tours are typically carefully packaged so as to minimize a Westerner's casual contact with Bulgarian citizens, while maximizing his outflow of hard currency. A recent U.K. visitor to the Black Sea coast claimed that he spent two weeks in the country before he realized there was an indigenous currency. Ensnared in his resort complex, he encountered only hard currency stores and demands for same. While a Western visitor need not convert a specific amount of hard currency per day, he is required (in theory) to show his official conversion receipts for all expenditures. Most pre-packaged tours are paid for in advance in hard currency.

U.S. NIVs cost 12 leva and require 2-3 days to issue. Bulgarian NIV's cost the same, but normally require considerably more time for issuance. U.S. citizens can easily wait as long as 1-2 months for NIVs. The G.O.B. imposes no travel restrictions on tourists inside the country (although about 25 percent of it is off limits to diplomats). However, tourists are required to register with state authorities every night, and may not overnight in a private home, except that of a close relative who has government permission to that effect.

Religious Contacts

The Final Act confirms the legitimacy of religious contacts among the participating states. In the Madrid Concluding Document, the 35 CSCE states committed themselves to implement the Final Act further so that religious faiths and their representatives can "develop contacts and meetings among themselves and exchange information." Nonetheless, as noted in more detail in the section on religious freedom in Chapter Two of this report, unfettered religious contacts and exchange of information are actively suppressed in the Soviet Union and some Eastern European countries, where strict state supervision of religious activities is the rule.

Soviet Union. The Soviet government does not oppose contact with religious groups from the West as long as this is limited on the Soviet side to approved representatives of officially registered churches. The Russian Orthodox church, indeed, is an active propagandist for official Soviet policy on questions of arms control and disarmament. Travel abroad is also allowed for certain church representatives, and four Soviet Baptist leaders attended a meeting of the Baptist World Council during the reporting period. They, like Russian Orthodox clergy, are careful to echo official Soviet propaganda in their dealings with foreign churches.

It is not uncommon for Soviet church leaders to invite individual Western clerics to the Soviet Union. In addition to introducing such guests to places of religious and historical interest, Church leaders emphasize the theme that the Soviet people sincerely want peace and that the only roadblock to reduced tensions in the world is the intransigence of Western political leaders.

No international church conferences were held in the Soviet Union during the reporting period, but the Soviet authorities have announced that an international gathering of religious leaders will be held in April 1984 on the theme of "space without weapons."

Romania. As indicated in Chapter II, Romania's observance of the human rights elements of the Helsinki Accords, particularly those related to freedom of religion, has been unsatisfactory. While the government has hosted a number of religious leaders, it has also occasionally impeded contact and meetings between representatives of certain religious groups in the country and their counterparts from abroad. The Romanian government also discourages unauthorized contact and meetings between certain domestic religious leaders, particularly if the individuals are thought to be unsympathetic to the government or its policies.

Poland. The Embassy issues non-immigrant visas to Polish clergymen at the rate of approximately one per week. It appears that most Polish clergy have no difficulty in obtaining passports for traveling abroad. Frequently, they are able to do this on significantly shorter notice than the average Polish citizen. Representatives of various U.S. religious denominations have been able to travel to Poland without interference by the Polish government.

Hungary. Hungary has a good record in permitting religious contacts. The Embassy is not aware of particular difficulties for any denomination.

German Democratic Republic. During the reporting period, religious representatives from 36 countries participated in a celebration held by the G.D.R. to celebrate the 500th anniversary of Martin Luther's birthday. Clergy and lay members from the West have been permitted to attend various church synods and conferences held in the G.D.R. and some G.D.R. religious leaders have been allowed to travel to similar meetings in the West. There is a small exchange program of G.D.R.-American pastors. Recently, 150 Roman Catholics were allowed to make a pilgrimage to Rome. During 1983-84 the Christian Science Church tried to establish contact with the G.D.R. to discuss the ban on worship by members of that faith.

Czechoslovakia. The performance of the Czechoslovak government in facilitating travel to Czechoslovakia of religious officials is mixed. When the proposed visit serves the purpose of the state or takes place between an officially recognized religious institution in Czechoslovakia and counterparts from Western Europe or North America, visas are usually granted with relatively little difficulty. In at least one instance of which we are aware, however, a group from the (U.S.) United Jewish Appeal was refused visas to travel to Czechoslovakia to meet with its counterparts in the Prague Jewish community. The President of the International Council of Christians and Jews (a Dutch citizen) also experienced great difficulty in obtaining a visa for a recent visit. Others, however, have been allowed to travel with little difficulty.

Unofficial or unsanctioned visits from religious groups seeking to meet for purposes considered illegal by the Czechoslovak government, such as importing Bibles and other religious literature, carrying on religious training, and similar activities, meet with severe punishment when discovered by the regime. At the very least, the travelers from the West are refused entry at the border or deported; quite often they are arrested and imprisoned for a time. Occasionally, they may receive prison sentences. The Czechoslovak government has also shown itself during this reporting period to be quite sensitive about members of Western religious peace groups who have traveled here to make unofficial contacts with Czechoslovak citizens such as Charter 77 spokesmen. Recently a Dutch citizen (Secretary General of the Inter-Church Peace Council) and a French citizen were requested to leave the country after attempting to carry out such contact.

Bulgaria. Bulgaria's poor performance in this area was unchanged. Proselytizing was strictly controlled, as was the publication and dissemination of religious literature. The Orthodox church remains a quasi-official mass organization under state control. There have been reports that a French Roman Catholic priest was denied entry into Bulgaria at the border in spite of having a valid visa. The reason is assumed to have been political. Protestant and Catholic congregations continue to exist, and the occasional Westerner is still able to visit, despite the repressed state of Bulgarian religion.

Information

The Final Act signatories agreed to facilitate freer and wider dissemination of information of all kinds, to encourage cooperation in the field of information and exchange of information with other countries, and to improve the working conditions of journalists. The Madrid document contains a number of new provisions which strengthen the Final Act. Included among these are provisions that commit the participating states to: encourage the sale and distribution of printed matter from other states; decide journalists' visa applications without undue delay; grant permanent correspondents and their families multiple entry and exit visas valid for a year; provide more extensive travel opportunities for journalists; increase possibilities for foreign journalists to establish contacts with sources; and allow journalists to carry with them reference material and personal notes.

Dissemination of Information

Dissemination of all types of information is under strict state control in the Soviet Union and most of Eastern Europe. The authorities there exert control over the information available to the public and have a powerful censorship apparatus to ensure that what is published or broadcasted conforms to ideological standards established by the government and Communist Party. As a general rule, information from foreign sources is strictly limited and controlled. Contrary to the Final Act's aim of freer dissemination of information, several Eastern countries continue to jam Western radio broadcasts.

Nonetheless, examination of individual countries reveals a varied pattern of adherence in practice to Final Act principles on information.

Soviet Union. The great mass of Soviet citizens is denied access to all filmed, printed, and broadcast information which, in the opinion of the authorities, casts doubt upon the tenets of Marxism-Leninism and the Party line. Access to such information is limited by: ensuring that it is not available; declaring it to be "anti-Soviet slander," possession of which is a crime; and jamming of foreign radio broadcasts.

Access to American newspapers and magazines continues to be extremely restricted. Some Intourist hotels keep a few copies of the International Herald Tribune under the counter for foreigners who know enough to ask for them. The most widely distributed American newspaper in the U.S.S.R. is the U.S. Communist Party organ, Daily World; it is sold in Intourist hotels and at kiosks in major cities.

The only non-Communist U.S. periodical on sale is the Russian-language America Illustrated (AI), published by the U.S. Information Agency. Of the 60,000 copies delivered monthly to "Soyuzpechat," the Soviet distribution agency, 7-9,000 are returned each month as "unsold." Those who have observed how quickly copies of AI are snapped up as soon as they appear at kiosks, how well they sell on the black market, and how eagerly Soviets in outlying cities seek to obtain copies from travelling Americans, regard the claim that thousands of copies cannot be sold as dubious.

American books published in the U.S.S.R. are subjected to severe restrictions and censorship. Only those which do not conflict with Marxist-Leninist ideology and the Communist Party line are permitted to reach Soviet bookstores. Such a policy does, nevertheless, allow for translation of a number of American authors (e.e., Hemingway, Updike, etc.), whose works are deemed to be either critical of American life or innocuous. On the other hand, contracts for publication are often signed and publicized and translations even prepared for works which, in the end, are never published.

Subscriptions to American newspapers and journals can be placed only by institutes and organizations; these publications are treated as classified material. Libraries possessing American publications keep them in special collections to which the general public has no access.

Five to ten American films are being shown in Moscow cinemas at any given time. The films are often several years old. About half of them are children's films, e.g., "Benjy," and "The Great Brain." Many of the serious films -- "The China Syndrome," "Three Days Of the Condor" -- show America in an unflattering light; others, however, -- "Tootsie" is a recent example -- are shown because of their surefire commercial appeal (provided of course, that they contain neither pro-American nor anti-Soviet sentiments). About a dozen different recent films are shown in the course of a year; virtually all of them are also screened eventually in provincial movie houses. American films, as a rule, are not shown on Soviet television. Classic films may appear, in full or in part, in programs about the cinema. Children's films are shown on TV from time to time.

Special showings of American films to Party elites and the inner circle of the Soviet film world are a matter of some interest and speculation. It is well known that recent American films, whether purchased or pirated, are available to Soviet leaders for private screenings.

All Voice of America (VOA) native language broadcasts and all Radio Liberty (RL) broadcasts are jammed, although some frequencies come through clearly in various places at irregular intervals. Jamming is heaviest in and around large cities. VOA English service is generally not jammed.

Romania. Romania's overall policy with regard to information available domestically is restrictive. Strict censorship is enforced; foreign and even local news items which appear are carefully selected. The media and film are used primarily to inform and educate the public according to party dictates, to exhort and to enhance the image of the government, the party and its leadership.

The government controls and restricts the sale and distribution of foreign printed publications. There are no American books or periodicals sold at Romanian newsstands or by subscription through the mail to Romanian citizens. Limited numbers of Romanians gain access to American and Western publications through foreign missions' information centers and libraries. Some American books are available for sale in secondhand book stores.

Romanian television shows at least one American film per week, and at least one American science item per week. Older American films are shown commercially on a regular basis in Romanian theaters.

Poland. Polish media, although not as open as during their Solidarity heyday, still remains the least shackled in the Warsaw Pact. While following the approved government line on international issues, and attacking VOA and RFE, the press continues to be a forum for some lively debate on domestic issues. Long articles, appearing in periodicals such as Tygodnik Powszechny, Tu I Tera, and Polityka present contending views on economic reform, party ideology and cadre policy, the extent of dialogue with various spheres of society, the role of the church, and administrative reforms such as the proposed territorial self management councils. The press also openly discussed social and family problems, the acute housing shortage, drug and alcohol abuse, poor delivery of medical services, problems in education, difficulties faced by students, and many other related issues which highlight the imperfections of life in Poland. Well-known officials and journalists participate in these discussions. Many journalists dismissed after "verification" of political orthodoxy, or who resigned in protest over martial law, are now active in small circulation periodicals.

The more orthodox government authorities attempt to retain tight control over what they consider the most influential print and electronic media. Their goal is for journalistic products to be characterized by single-minded adherence to the prevailing government line. They have not succeeded in much of the print media, however, and often have to be satisfied with an absence of criticism. Obviously, Poland is still a country where press censorship is practiced and many articles are self-censored before they reach official eyes. The controversial articles which appear are often the result of prolonged bargaining with the censors. Within the imposed and perceived parameters, however, the Polish audience is exposed both to ideas controversial issues which would receive little or no public exposure in most other Eastern European countries.

No American periodicals are publicly sold in Poland. Personal and institutional subscriptions to some titles are still possible, depending on the availability of hard currency. The USIA-produced Ameryka continues to be banned from distribution.

Public and university library purchases of new books and periodicals from the U.S. are severely limited by lack of hard currency. We have received no reports of removal of books from library shelves. Thus, American books and periodicals already in library collections--principally university libraries--remain available to users. Control of hard-currency expenditure outside of Poland makes it almost impossible for an individual to subscribe to an American periodical. Gift subscriptions paid for abroad usually do arrive through the Polish mails. In contrast, public sale of books and periodicals from the USSR and other Communist countries is widespread and prices are comparable to those for Polish publications. The government facilitates the subscription to periodicals from Communist countries by individuals by allowing them to subscribe to such periodicals through the Polish central subscription office.

American films are popular in Poland. According to a recent survey 25 percent of films shown in Warsaw cinemas were of American origin. Titles recently shown include "Raiders of the Lost Ark," "Rocky II," "Jaws II", "Blues Brothers," "Stunt Man," "The Empire Strikes Back," "Poltergeist," and "The French Lieutenant's Woman," American films which have been shown recently on Polish television are "A Man Called Horse," "Hello Dolly," "Washington Behind Closed Doors," "Godfather II," several John Wayne westerns and the ABC television movie "The Day After."

Approximately 75 percent of VOA Polish service shortwave broadcasts were jammed during this period. No VOA Polish medium wave broadcasts have been jammed, and reception on this band continues to be good enough to be picked up on one's car radio. Eighty percent of Polish RFE broadcasts were jammed. The VOA English service has not been jammed.

Hungary. Copies of Western publications, including the International Herald Tribune, the Frankfurter Allgemeine, Time, Newsweek, and Der Spiegel, are available at the airport and at various hotels in Budapest and at Lake Balaton which have a large number of Western clients. The opening of more than a half-dozen new first class hotels in the past several years increased the number of points at which such publications can be obtained in the capital. These publications are available to Hungarians and may be purchased for Hungarian currency at prices which convert to a level approximately equivalent to the prices for which they are sold in other European countries. For example, the Herald Tribune costs approximately \$1.10, the Frankfurter Allgemeine approximately 82 cents. Hungarian authorities claim that over forty outlets carry such publications, and this estimate, although not confirmed, appears credible. Some American Communist publications are also visible, but the percentage of the market is unknown.

It is possible, but expensive, for a Hungarian citizen to subscribe to Western periodicals, and payment can be made in forints. The Embassy has no idea of the extent to which this is exploited, but it is probably an insignificant figure. Government and party officials, and many who work in the media, have access to such publications, and most established institutions receive a limited number of subscriptions. The Embassy library receives the International Herald Tribune, the Sunday New York Times, USA Today, and a full range of magazines. These are read mostly by younger people. To compensate for reluctance on the part of some of our contacts to use the facilities, the Embassy has expanded its outreach program. Tables of contents of periodicals and lists of new books are sent to major institutions. The response has been gratifying. Some old periodicals are kept to service these requests. The rest are donated to appropriate institutions. This service continues to grow.

The Hungarians translate large amounts of foreign, including Western, literature. Literary works by 218 writers were translated and published in Hungary during 1982. Thirty-three of these books were by U.S., 38 by British, and 28 by French writers. During the same period, 46 books by Russian and Soviet authors and 44 by Czech and Slovak authors were translated and published. A list of books translated from English and published in 1982 included volumes by Evelynn Anthony, Saul Bellow, Truman Capote, James Jones, James Joyce, Eric Knight, Jack London, Cornelius Ryan, Erich Segal, and William Styron. Figures are not available for the present period, but there has been no appreciable change.

The Hungarian media continue to criticize and occasionally to vilify American foreign policy, blaming the U.S. for most of world tension. The Soviet party line is closely followed, making it difficult for journalists to express differences without some repercussion. Radio, and particularly television, are somewhat more objective and balanced than the printed media, occasionally offering, for example, interviews in which Western, including U.S. government, spokesmen have the opportunity to present their viewpoints even on sensitive issues such as arms control negotiations.

American films continue to be popular. An average of 25 U.S. films per week play somewhere in the country. The corresponding figures for Hungarian and Soviet films were 20 and 15, respectively. Hungarian television features at least two American films or TV series per week.

Hungarians regularly listen to Western radio broadcasts. The Hungarian language services of RFE, VOA, and the BBC are all popular. There has been no evidence of jamming.

German Democratic Republic. G.D.R. print media, radio and television coverage of U.S. foreign and domestic affairs is sharply critical and distorted. However, since September 1980, the U.S. Embassy has been able to distribute uncensored policy texts and analytical material to some 160 selected recipients without prior submission to the Foreign Ministry. Also, about 80 percent of the public has unhindered access to West German television. In general, printed materials not licensed by the state are illegal and are regularly confiscated at border and sector crossings.

U.S. magazines and newspapers, other than those published by the U.S. Communist Party, are not available to the general public. Libraries and official institutes do receive U.S. magazines and scholarly journals, but circulation is restricted. The International Herald Tribune is sold in a few hotels catering to Western visitors.

Books and periodicals, other than those of the U.S. Communist Party, are not available at newsstands or bookstores. Materials in libraries are for restricted circulation. Except for a small number of researchers and experts, subscriptions are not possible because the G.D.R. will not grant the postal license necessary to send these publications through the mail. About 20 U.S. titles per year are translated and published by the government (Hemmingway, London, Updike, Roth, Bellows, etc.), but the printings are small and the books often hard to obtain. There is no encouragement of any kind for wider usage of U.S. books and periodicals. On the contrary, the authorities often harass users of the Embassy library or warn them against visiting it.

On the average the G.D.R. purchases ten U.S. films per year for distribution to East German theaters. Although the exact number of films purchased for television is not made available, in 1984 G.D.R. television set aside roughly double the amount of hard currency used the prior year to purchase Western productions.

Czechoslovakia. The performance of the Czechoslovak government concerning the dissemination of printed, filmed and broadcast information continues to be poor. Although information originating from other Eastern countries (particularly the Soviet Union) is prominently published and broadcast, information from other sources, notably the United States and Western Europe, is hard to obtain and often restricted by the government. Broadcasts and publications that shed unfavorable light on Czechoslovak or Soviet society and policy are particularly upsetting to the authorities.

No American publications are sold openly in Czechoslovakia, except for a few copies of the U.S. Communist Party's Daily World, which are seen on the newsstands irregularly.

American books and periodicals are not generally available, although some are housed in technical and university libraries. Those with any kind of political or public affairs content are normally placed in areas not accessible to the general public. During the reporting period the government did not interfere overtly with the operation of the American library in Prague, which contains nearly 5,000 American books and 107 current U.S. periodicals. Free and easy access to the library, however, is sharply curtailed by the presence of armed Czechoslovak policemen outside the Embassy and the widespread fear among Czechoslovak citizens that they will have difficulties with the authorities if they visit the library.

English departments at the major Czechoslovak universities maintain collections of American literature, but these contain many gaps, particularly in recent American fiction and literary criticism. Moreover, the departmental libraries are generally open only to faculty members and students majoring in English.

The Embassy's press and cultural section periodicals presentation program distributes 149 subscriptions to American periodicals (97 titles) to Czechoslovak officials and institutions. The press and cultural section, however, continues to receive complaints from private individuals that subscriptions to American magazines, American Embassy library "outreach" materials, the USIA Czech-language magazine Spektrum, and other publications arrive irregularly. The distribution and public sale of printed matter from other Western states is discouraged. A 1983 directive issued by the Czechoslovak Ministry of Communications and the Federal Office of Press and Information changed the terms of payment for subscriptions to periodicals from "non-Socialist countries" from Czechoslovak crowns to U.S. Dollars or other convertible currency. Despite the commitments made in the Madrid document, the directive is still in force. Since payment by individuals and institutions, even those relatively few who are permitted access to Western publications, is now much more expensive, the long term result of the directive is a substantial reduction in the number and variety of publications purchased from the West.

American films make up a sizeable percentage of films shown commercially. During the reporting period, about 30 percent of the films shown in Prague's dozen principal central city moviehouses were American-made. The American films, however, are generally productions that are at least several years old, and contain nothing that could be considered offensive to socialism or to the Czechoslovak government. The films are either sheer entertainment with little or no "message" (e.g., "Airplane") or productions that could be interpreted as being critical of U.S. society, capitalism and Western mores (e.g., "Fort Apache, the Bronx"). American films rarely appear on Czechoslovak television; however, a mini-series of three Katherine Hepburn films was shown during the period.

Radio Free Europe (RFE) is jammed heavily in Prague. It is often possible to receive RFE outside the capital and, by changing frequencies, to pick it up in Prague from time to time. Jamming has been reported in Bratislava and elsewhere in Slovakia as well. VOA is not normally jammed, but on December 10, 1983, VOA Czechoslovak service coverage of Nobel Prize ceremonies awarding Lech Walesa the peace prize was jammed, at least in Prague. RIAS is not jammed. Other foreign broadcasting such as BBC and Deutsche Welle (even the Czech and Slovak programs) is not jammed.

Bulgaria. Bulgarian performance concerning printed, filmed, and broadcast information remains poor. All media are under the tight control of the Communist Party (BCP), whose ideology includes the tenet that the media are means by which the character of the masses can be molded. Thus, the BCP and, by extension, the Soviet version of events is omnipresent. The American/Western viewpoint is virtually non-existent.

There are no American newspapers or magazines sold openly on a regular basis in this country. During this reporting period occasional copies of the International Herald Tribune have been seen in local kiosks. Several non-Communist European papers and magazines are sold occasionally, but availability is sporadic. The U.S. Embassy has little information concerning private subscriptions to Western periodicals, but believe this means of obtaining information is restricted to non-Bulgarians. Libraries are a slightly different story: the National Library reading room does have on display copies of American periodicals and newspapers, including the Wall Street Journal. Access to this library, however, is by special pass only and is limited to those with the "need to know." The library of the Bulgarian Academy of Sciences has extensive contact with Western sources of information, but is limited primarily to works in the sciences.

By contrast, Bulgaria actively encourages the sale of publications from the Soviet Union and other Eastern European states. The material sold is usually reasonably priced. The government encourages subscription to foreign Communist, particularly Soviet, publications.

Thirteen different American feature films were shown over the past six months. All were carefully screened by the censors. "Raiders of the Lost Ark" was perhaps the most well-known. Carl Sagan's "Cosmos" was a major television hit. Seven other predictably non-controversial television offerings appeared during the period.

Jamming of the VOA Bulgarian service stopped in September, 1983. The RFE Bulgarian service and RL Russian service are partially jammed. Some of the higher RFE frequencies are usually audible, and RFE jamming is much less pervasive outside of Sofia. RIAS cannot be received.

Working Conditions for Journalists

Soviet Union. The Soviet Union is a closed society in which access to information is reserved to the privileged few and the dissemination of printed matter is rigidly controlled. There is little understanding for the claim that "the people have a right to know" about anything except the official perspective of the Soviet Communist Party. There is, therefore, little done to aid, and probably disproportionate effort expended to hinder, the journalist in what elsewhere would be recognized as his legitimate pursuits. Journalists in the Soviet Union are not unduly harassed or intimidated, but their movements are closely monitored, and efforts are made to isolate them from the society in which they live and about which it is their job to report.

Over the past six months, two American journalists have been granted visas in connection with permanent accreditation in the Soviet Union. Fifteen journalists and TV personnel have received visas for working in the Soviet Union temporarily (nearly all as replacements for permanently accredited journalists or TV personnel on leave). One visa for temporary work was refused, and one visa in connection with permanent accreditation has not been acted upon.

With few exceptions, visa applications are decided upon without undue delay. The long delay in connection with the accreditation of a Wall Street Journal correspondent stemmed from the as yet unacted upon request for the establishment of an office for the paper in Moscow. The new AP bureau chief-designate had, at the close of the reporting period been waiting eight weeks for a visa.

There are 29 American journalists permanently accredited to the Soviet Union. This number includes journalists from the Daily World and Pilot. In addition, there are seven resident, permanently accredited American technical personnel. All have multiple entry-exit visas valid for one year.

Freedom of movement is limited in the Soviet Union. No measures have been undertaken to provide more extensive travel opportunities for journalists. Areas closed for security reasons are never announced in advance of the submission of a travel request. Access to local sources, both official and unofficial, is made extremely difficult for foreign journalists accredited to the Soviet Union. In most cases, official sources do not respond to requests for statements or interviews, or they respond negatively. When journalists make contact with unofficial sources, they and the contacts are often harassed, either by being physically barred from an arranged meeting place or by being called in for questioning in relation to the evidence-gathering process related to a criminal court action.

Radio and television journalists are authorized to bring their own technicians and equipment. Journalists may carry reference material for professional purposes with them.

In the past six months, five permanent and six temporary visas have been granted to local national journalists traveling to the United States. No such visas have been refused and no decisions were unduly delayed. There is one press center in the Soviet Union open to national and foreign journalists.

Romania. Working conditions for foreign journalists here are a function of the government's suspicious attitude toward them. Western journalists frequently complain of bureaucratic frustration and obfuscation, despite government protestations of frankness and cooperation. All interviews must be cleared by the Romanian news agency ("Agerpres") or the Ministry of Foreign Affairs. Romania thus exercises substantial control over Western journalists' contacts here. Many Western journalists do manage to make unofficial contacts with Romanian citizens and officials. Since the law requires citizens to report each such contact to internal security authorities, however, Western journalists depend heavily on diplomatic and Western business contacts as sources of information.

There are no permanently-accredited American journalists in Romania. Approximately 20 visas per year are granted to visiting American journalists. Two working visas were refused by the government to American journalists. One journalist was granted a visa and allowed entry into the country, but was not permitted to work. Some visa applications seem arbitrarily involved and drawn out. Two accredited American journalists reside outside of the country and have multiple entry visas.

Romania provides opportunities for journalists to travel under controlled conditions, usually only to areas selected by the government, and always accompanied by state guides and escorts. Some American and Western news agencies employ Romanian citizens as stringers in Romania. These are hired with the approval of the government of Romania.

There have been no problems in getting authorization for radio and television journalists to bring their own technicians, equipment and professional reference materials into the country. There is, however, a meticulous recording of serial numbers. In the case of typewriters, a sample of the type face of the equipment must be submitted as well.

Between five and ten U.S. visas are granted each year to Romanian journalists, primarily for short visits. Visa applications are usually received from the GOR on very short notice, but are handled expeditiously. There is an operating Romanian foreign press club, at which periodic press conferences are held.

Poland. Although interviews with government officials must be arranged through the government press enterprise "Interpress" and the Foreign Ministry Press Department, resident and visiting American journalists rarely report that access to important sources is hindered. In fact, they rank Poland high on the list of Eastern European countries in terms of general access to sources. The Polish government spokesman schedules weekly press conference for foreign correspondents which are well attended and often go far beyond a simple statement of government views.

Foreign journalists may travel freely without prior permission, although many have been stopped by provincial authorities for document checks and inspection of the contents of their motor vehicles. Technical equipment is imported without restriction, but technical assistance is not: American television networks are allowed one permanent accredited correspondent as well as an accredited producer. Additional permanent technical personnel, such as film crews, must be hired locally. Although resident correspondents are not required to hire personnel through a central government office, as is the case in some Eastern European countries, Polish national employees must be approved and registered with the Foreign Ministry. The authorities continue to harass some news organizations with bureaus in Warsaw by refusing to allow selected employees of these organizations to continue working, and rejecting work permit requests for others. In March 1984 the resident New York Times correspondent was summoned by the Interior Ministry for questioning concerning his sources in a controversial story. The incident was a clear warning to him and his colleague not to associate with sources considered by the authorities to be sensitive.

Two new permanent accreditations were granted to U.S. media representatives during the reporting period. The U.S. Embassy estimates some 15 visas have been granted to U.S. journalists not permanently accredited. The Embassy knows of no refusals of visas, although three visas extension requests were denied. One visa requested by a visiting correspondent was delayed for two months before being issued. There are now 15 U.S. journalists permanently accredited in Poland. Visas for them and their families are multiple entry and must be renewed every six months. There are no travel restrictions in Poland for resident or visiting foreign journalists.

No U.S. visas for permanent accreditation to Polish journalists were issued during the reporting period. Fifteen visas were issued to journalists for short visits to the U.S. No U.S. visas were refused to Polish applicants, nor were there any delayed decisions. One press center, Interpress in Warsaw, is open to both national and foreign journalists.

Hungary. American journalists visit Hungary often and experience no difficulty in obtaining visas. The number (approximately 25 in the reporting period) has increased slightly since a year ago. The MFA has a press center, called Pressinform, to assist foreign journalists. Reports of its cooperation and efficiency have been favorable. This press center is open to national, as well as foreign journalists. By appointment, foreign journalists also have access to the press center of the Hungarian Journalists Association.

Several U.S. journalists have entered Hungary using the system of multiple entry visas approved in 1982. With advance notification to either a Hungarian Embassy or the Foreign Ministry, radio and television journalists can bring their own technicians and equipment, which must be registered with customs both upon entering and leaving the country. They can also take with them without difficulty reference materials for professional personal use. The Embassy is not aware of any difficulties imposed on foreign journalists who seek to establish and maintain personal contacts and communications with either official or non-official sources. There are no areas closed to travel in Hungary.

During the reporting period, no visas were refused or delayed more than six months. There are no U.S. journalists permanently accredited to Hungary, although both AP and UPI have Hungarian representatives, as do Daily Worker and Amerikai Magyar SZO.

During the reporting period one visa was granted to a Hungarian journalist permanently accredited to the U.S. Four were issued to Hungarian journalists for shorter periods. No such visas were refused or delayed more than six months.

German Democratic Republic. Conditions for journalists in the G.D.R. are correct and proper in form but very poor in substance. Western journalists must have Foreign Ministry approval for interviews or any significant contact. By G.D.R. law, the average citizen may not maintain contact with foreign journalists. In short, access to information and people is tightly controlled.

A representative of the Communist Daily Worker and an AP correspondent (who is not an American citizen) are permanently accredited. The number of temporary visas issued to American journalists during this reporting period is unknown, but visiting U.S. journalists enter and travel without apparent difficulty.

No U.S. journalists have complained to the Embassy of any undue delay in the issuance of G.D.R. visas. The non-American journalist employed by AP and the Daily Worker correspondent have multiple entry visas valid for one year. Journalists must obtain clearances from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs to conduct interviews and to cover stories outside Berlin. G.D.R. law requires foreign journalists to obtain MFA approval for all travel. No measures were taken during the reporting period to improve opportunities for journalists' travel, or their access to G.D.R. officials or citizens.

Two G.D.R. journalists applied for and received U.S. visas for permanent accreditation during this reporting period. The applications were received on September 16, 1983 and the visas issued on December 12, 1983. An international press center with facilities open to foreign journalists is located in East Berlin.

Czechoslovakia. Czechoslovakia's handling of Western journalists has not changed significantly during the reporting period. Press centers for foreign journalists function in Prague and Bratislava but the quality of information provided is low. Working conditions for foreign journalists are not dangerous but access to government officials and "newsworthy" data is sharply restricted.

Seven visas were granted to American newsmen with permanent accreditation to travel to Czechoslovakia. Visas for American journalists not permanently accredited in calendar year 1983 totaled about 70, according to Czechoslovak officials.

Voice of America's Eastern European correspondent based in Vienna, David Lent, applied for non-resident accreditation in August 1983. As of this writing, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs (MFA) has not "made a decision" on his request. Non-resident but accredited journalist Dan Fisher of the L.A. Times based in Warsaw who, according to Czechoslovak regulations should have received a visa within 24 hours, received his visa only after several days and repeated communications with the MFA Press Department by both Mr. Fisher and the U.S. Embassy Press Counselor. New York Times Bonn correspondent James Markham was granted a visa, which was subsequently voided by the Czechoslovak Embassy in Cologne and then reinstated after a day or two.

There are 6 non-resident American journalists in Prague. The sole resident U.S. journalist represents the Daily World, the organ of the central committee of the U.S. Communist Party.

There are no travel restrictions to accredited journalists except in security areas. Several journalist tours for resident correspondents are organized by the MFA press department each year. However, the government has not undertaken measures to provide more extensive travel opportunities for American journalists. Likewise, there have been no increased possibilities and/or improved conditions for foreign journalists to establish and maintain personal contacts and communications with their sources.

The government permits radio and television journalists to bring their own technicians and equipment, but encourages use of locally supplied technical personnel and equipment. Journalists are permitted to carry reference material for professional purposes with them but such material can be, and usually is, perused by border guards and customs officials both on entering and leaving Czechoslovakia.

One new U.S. visa was granted to local national journalists for permanent accreditation and shorter visits. At present there are four accredited Czechoslovak journalists in the U.S.

Bulgaria. Overall, Bulgarian treatment of journalists is adequate, but not encouraging. The U.S. Embassy is aware of at least two journalists who came to Bulgaria during the reporting period. One traveled extensively and was able to interview weightlifters in southeastern Bulgaria. Neither was permanently accredited. An Athens-based writer for the Atlanta Constitution applied in Athens for a visa during the reporting period. When he did not receive it immediately, he contacted the U.S. Embassy in Sofia for assistance. The Embassy in turn relayed the information to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs. The journalist, did not pursue the matter further, and may have switched plans.

Seven American journalists are accredited to Bulgaria. Only diplomats have multiple exit/entry visas, and there has been no change in institutional arrangements for journalists. There are no travel restrictions imposed for American non-diplomatic personnel, with the exception of those in certain border areas. Nothing has been done to improve journalistic access to local sources. Western journalists have difficulty establishing professional contacts and sources in Bulgaria, because it would not be possible to do so for very long without drawing attention from the internal security service. To our knowledge, American television journalists have not broadcast from Sofia since December 1982.

No visas for Bulgarian journalists were refused or delayed. Two visas were granted to Bulgarian journalists during the reporting period. When the Embassy tried to contact one of these journalists to help her develop her U.S. program, the Embassy was not able to contact her directly, but was shunted to Ministry of Foreign Affairs, where, evidently, the request was lost. There are no press centers in Bulgaria.

COOPERATION AND EXCHANGES IN THE FIELDS OF CULTURE AND EDUCATION

This section of Basket III commits the signatories to facilitate cultural and educational exchanges, improve access to cultural achievements, expand contacts between educational institutions, increase international scientific cooperation, and encourage the study of foreign languages.

General Considerations

Exchanges are an integral aspect of relations among the 35 participating CSCE nations. The examples listed in this section constitute a partial accounting of exchanges between the U.S. and Eastern European countries during the reporting period. These highlights are indicative of the scope of the exchanges and cooperative ventures in progress, many of which have been underway for some time. Some are conducted under U.S. Government auspices with U.S. funding. Others are strictly private and only come to our attention through the visa application process or when problems arise.

As we have noted in previous reports, the decision of the United States to curtail government-funded exchanges with the Soviet Union following the Soviet invasion of Afghanistan is of special relevance in this section. Our General Agreement on Contacts, Exchanges, and Cooperation with the U.S.S.R. expired in December 1979 and has not been renewed. It is the U.S. position that disregard for the principles of the Final Act by the Soviet Union undermines the basis for cooperation between us in other areas. The United States Government does, however, continue to support certain academic exchanges, as well as several privately administered university-to-university exchanges between the United States and the U.S.S.R. Only one educational exchange program for 1983-84 -- of high school language teachers -- was cancelled by the Soviet Union. That cancellation was subsequent to the Soviet destruction of the KAL commercial airliner on August 31, 1983.

Americans have participated in virtually all Soviet international fairs and festivals, such as the Moscow Film Festival and the Moscow Book Fair in 1983, but not at the levels reached in the pre-Afghanistan 1970s. Official exchanges of cultural presentations between the U.S. and the Soviet Union (exhibits and performing arts groups) remained nonexistent during the reporting period in the absence of an official agreement on exchanges between the two countries.

A new two-year Program of Cooperation and Exchanges between the U.S. and Romania, for 1984 and 1985, was signed in December 1983. The new Program maintains the level of cultural and educational activities established by the preceding Program.

Poland continues to send orchestras, art exhibits and other such attractions to the United States. Various American artists and musicians continue to go to Poland on privately arranged visits, and Poles continue to visit the U.S. The shortage in Poland of hard currency is an inhibiting factor in such private exchanges.

The government of Poland continues to focus its displeasure on USIA and its programs in Poland. Polish militia guards periodically have prevented Polish film-goers and library visitors from entering our Embassy and Consulate premises, at least until the end of March 1984. Subsequently the Embassy was allowed to host a public film showing in a Polish cinema and to hold two large and well attended receptions in honor of the Salzburg Seminar program. Polish academics and intellectual figures, however, continue to be warned by the Polish authorities that social contacts with U.S. Embassy personnel are to be avoided.

U.S.-Hungarian cultural relations continued to improve. A two-year U.S.-Hungarian Program for 1984-85 was signed in December 1983. The new agreement provides for an exchange of two Fulbright lecturers from each country for each academic year, whereas the previous agreement provided for an exchange of one lecturer each year. The first privately endowed professorial chair in American studies in Hungary has functioned successfully for a year, and the selection process is underway for the next American to hold the chair.

The Hungarian government has begun preparations for its role as host to the Budapest Cultural Forum, which was mandated by the Madrid CSCE meeting and which will be held in October 1985. A preparatory meeting will be held in 1984 in Budapest.

Czechoslovak-U.S. cultural relations have improved somewhat during the reporting period. An exhibit on the U.S. Space Shuttle, shown in the Embassy Press and Cultural section's library, drew 27,000 visitors. The Fulbright program between the U.S. and Czechoslovakia remains a modest one, with two Americans at Czechoslovak institutions and three Czechoslovaks in the U.S. There have been no complaints from U.S. grantees regarding access to archives and libraries.

In Bulgaria, arrangements have been completed, under the 1983-84 Program of Cooperation and Exchanges, for showing USIA's "American Theater Today" exhibit in Sofia in June-July 1984. A joint Bulgarian-U.S. film production, "The Glory of the Khan," was produced in Bulgaria, and arrangements are well along for a gala premiere showing in Washington under the auspices of the American Film Institute.

Culture

Books and Publishing

The United States and the U.S.S.R. continue to exchange monthly publications--America Illustrated and Soviet Life. In Poland the regime's prohibition of newsstand sales of the U.S. Government Polish-language publication Ameryka continued to be in effect during the reporting period.

Polish publishers continue to publish books of American and other West European authors, although much of what is currently appearing in print results from contracts signed as long as five years ago. In the future, fewer American titles may appear unless some means can be found to assist in the hard currency purchase of publication rights. Customs duties do not play a role in the shortage of Western books, magazines, films and other sources of information. Censorship and lack of hard currency do.

The government of Czechoslovakia makes little effort to encourage publication and dissemination of written works from the United States. American literature in translation, which is quite considerable, can be found at most major bookstores in Czechoslovakia; however, books selected for translation seem to be chosen for the image of the United States presented rather than for literary merit. American fiction is translated regularly in the magazine World Literature. Czechoslovak customs duties have not been lowered customs fees to promote the dissemination of and access to books, films and other forms of cultural expression from the United States.

Several American publishers, including Academic Press (Harcourt Brace), John Wiley, Harper's, Lippincott, and the Association of University Presses, had displays at the Leipzig Book Fair. Two U.S. publishers won prizes at the fair opening: Harry W. Abrams and the Yale University Art Gallery.

Film Festivals

Eight U.S. films were entered in the Tenth International Scientific Film Festival in Katowice, Poland, November 7-12. Four of those won festival prizes.

Performing Arts

- o Pianist Dean Kramer performed in Romania and Hungary in March 1984 under USIA's Artistic Ambassador program.
- o The Czech Philharmonic Orchestra began a multi-city tour of the U.S. in March 1984.
- o American Pianist Garrick Ohlsson performed in Czechoslovakia during the reporting period.
- o Visitors to the Leipzig Spring Fair in 1984 had the opportunity to see the German version of the American film "On Golden Pond" and to attend new productions of two American musicals, "West Side Story" and "Annie Get Your Gun." The Lou Blackburn Quartet (made up of musicians from the U.S. and the FRG) gave a jazz concert at the fair on March 12.

Exhibits

As noted earlier, USIA's small exhibit on the space shuttle at the U.S. Embassy Library in Prague drew an audience of 27,000 in December 1983.

A major Czechoslovak exhibit, "The Precious Legacy: Judaic Treasures from the Czechoslovak State State Collections," opened in November 1983 in Washington and was scheduled for a six-city tour of the U.S., including a New York showing. The exhibit was organized by the Smithsonian Institution in cooperation with the Ministry of Culture, the Czechoslovak Federal Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the National Committee of the Capital of Prague, and the State Jewish Museum in Prague.

An exhibit of masterpieces from the collection of Armand Hammer was on display November 25, 1983, to January 8, 1984, at the National Gallery in Prague.

Exchange Visits by Specialists

Soviet Union

o Samuel King, Chief Judge, U.S. District Court, District of Hawaii, travelled to Moscow under USIA's American Participant Program to speak on the subject of constitutionalism.

o Reatha Clark King, President of Metropolitan State University, Minneapolis, visited Moscow and Leningrad under USIA auspices to discuss higher education in the U.S. with Soviet educators. In Moscow she met with the Znanie Society and the Soviet Women's Committee. In Leningrad she spoke at the Academy of Sciences.

Romania

o Ioan Veroiu, film director, visited the U.S. as a participant in USIA's "American Film" project under the International Visitor Program.

o Mihai Lazar, Chief, Office of International Relations, Romanian Television (Bucharest), travelled to the U.S. under the International Visitor Program in March-April 1984.

Poland

o Stanislaw Waltos, Head, Criminal Procedures Chair, Law Faculty, Jagiellonian University (Krakow), visited the U.S. December 6, 1983-January 4, 1984 under the International Visitor Program.

o Tadeusz Szyma, journalist, film critic and member of the Editorial Board of "Tygodnik Powszechny" (Krakow), visited the U.S. for one month during the period March 6 - April 5, 1984, to meet with filmmakers, critics, and academic philosophers specializing in aesthetic issues.

o Janusz Wisniewski, director and playwright, Teatr Wspolczesny (Warsaw), visited the U.S. during the reporting period to familiarize himself with contemporary trends in American theater.

Hungary

o Professor Mark Christensen of the University of California at Berkeley visited Budapest under USIA auspices to discuss trends in U.S. science and technology.

o Peter Jozan, Chief, Population Statistics Section, Hungarian Central Statistical Office (Budapest), visited the U.S. March 11-April 12, 1984, under the International Visitor Program.

o Architect Richard Ravitch visited Hungary in March 1984 for meetings with Hungarian architects. This trip was arranged by USIA under the American Participant program.

German Democratic Republic

o U.S. Congressmen Dan Coats and Frank Wolf visited Berlin in January 1984. They met with specialists on the U.S. at the Institute for International Relations. This was the first visit by members of the U.S. Congress to the Institute.

Czechoslovakia

o Paul Levine, professor of American literature at the University of Copenhagen, visited Czechoslovakia under USIA's American Participant Program to discuss American literature. In the course of his stay Levine lectured at Purkyne University in Brno and Comenius University in Bratislava.

o American writer Francine du Plessix Gray visited Prague under USIA auspices during the reporting period. During her stay she lectured on American literature and met with some of Czechoslovakia's leading writers.

o Theater director Jack Hofsis visited Prague and Bucharest under USIA auspices to meet with theater specialists. His topic: universal elements in the arts and humanities.

Bulgaria

o Bulgarian playwright Iordan Radichkov visited the U.S. under USIA auspices in February 1984. His trip included meetings with American writers and directors and visits to regional theaters.

o Writer William L. H. Moon visited Bulgaria under USIA auspices during April 1984.

o Architect Mark Kasoff travelled to Bulgaria in December 1983 to meet with architects, city planners and economists in Sofia. This program was arranged by USIA and the U.S. Embassy in Sofia.

Satellite Speakers

o William Poole, Council of Economic Advisers, gave a Telepress Conference from Washington on U.S. financial policy for a Hungarian audience under USIA's Satellite Speaker program.

Education

Fulbright Program. The following table shows the number of lecturers and researchers exchanged during the reporting period under the Fulbright program.

	<u>From U.S.</u>	<u>To U.S.</u>
USSR	7	1
Bulgaria	1	1
Poland*	0	0
Czechoslovakia*	0	0
Romania	0	5
Hungary	2	2

International Research and Exchanges Board (IREX) Program

Figures for the IREX program in the USSR and other East European countries are as follows:

	<u>From U.S.</u>	<u>To U.S.</u>
USSR	12**	33**
Bulgaria	0	0
Czechoslovakia	3	5
Hungary	5	1
Romania	5	5
Poland	1	3
GDR	5	5

* Fulbright grantees for the U.S.-Czechoslovak and U.S.-Poland programs traveled to their host countries in the fall of 1983 and are currently in place. American grantees in the U.S.-Romania program began their research during the previous reporting period.

** Twenty of the thirty-three Soviet exchangeees were late arrivals, as the Soviet authorities delayed their academic programs in the U.S. until the spring semester, given Soviet anxiety about physical security following the KAL tragedy. A similar number of U.S. IREX grantees began their academic programs in the USSR on schedule in September 1983, as reported in previous semiannual report.

Language. Russian-language programs for American students in the Soviet Union remain active through arrangements between American colleges and universities and Soviet academic institutions such as Moscow's Pushkin Institute and Leningrad State University. American students travel to Leningrad State University for language study under the auspices of the Council on International Educational Exchange (CIEE). CIEE receives a grant from USIA in support of its language program in the U.S.S.R.

The American Council of Teachers of Russian (ACTR), Ohio State University, and Middlebury College provide opportunities for American college students and faculty to undertake advanced language study and research in Moscow at the Pushkin Institute. SUNY has a private exchange agreement with Moscow University. Under the ACTR program future American teachers of Russian can attend summer, semester or academic year Russian-language courses. In addition, a number of private U.S. commercial organizations have language study programs in Leningrad for American college students.

Despite the uncertainty about private exchange programs in Poland, U.S. students were able to participate in Polish language and culture courses under the auspices of institution-to-institution agreements existing between U.S. and Polish universities, such as the SUNY (Stony Brook)-University of Warsaw and the University of Connecticut-Jagiellonian University programs.