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needs of banks and firms seeking to evaluate potential business relationships. Moreover, the GDR does not provide information on total balance of payments, aggregate net and gross foreign debt, cash flow projections, and statements of sources and uses of funds.

Policies Concerning Economic and Commercial Cooperation Arrangements. Joint ventures involving joint ownership and foreign ownership of business in the GDR are not permitted under GDR law. However, the GDR is interested in engaging in joint ventures and other cooperative arrangements in third countries. A few French and Austrian firms have been involved with the GDR in cooperative ventures in third markets. The GDR prefers to pay for Western technological investment, at least in part, by shipping products back to the Western partner.

During the last six months, a program begun last October to assemble in the United States multipurpose street service vehicles using GDR engines and chassis was expanded. Plans also are underway to include the assembly of railcar loading and unloading equipment in this venture. U.S. participants are "Technik and Trade" of Cleveland and Trident Motors of Columbus. Interest on the part of the GDR in such ventures with Western firms seems to be increasing.

Official Visits. GDR Foreign Trade State Secretary Beil visited Washington in early May 1985, and met with Secretary of Commerce Baldrige.

Policies Toward Countertrade Arrangements. Often the GDR will purchase goods from abroad only on the condition that payment will be made in part with GDR goods rather than with hard currency. Cooperation agreements for production within the GDR are also coupled with countertrade or "buy-back" features. Most U.S. firms dislike such arrangements due to the difficulties in obtaining the quantity and quality of goods desired and the unmarketability of some GDR products offered. GDR pressure for countertrade seems to have eased with recent improvements in the GDR's hard currency situation.

Policies Affecting Small and Medium-sized Enterprises. Small and medium-sized enterprises do not generally encounter problems different from those faced by larger enterprises.

Science and Technology. The GDR has during the past few months acknowledged for the first time serious pollution problems. GDR officials at various levels have told Embassy officers that sulphur dioxide and other pollutants will be controlled. Plans apparently have been made to import pollution control equipment and technology.

## Czechoslovakia

General Assessment. Czechoslovakia's economic and trade policies have not changed significantly in the past six months. The Czechoslovak government continues to emphasize its political and economic relations with its Eastern allies and does comparatively little to foster expanded trade with the U.S. and other Western countries. In some respects, however, Czechoslovakia remains open to persistent efforts by European and, to a lesser extent, American businessmen to foster bilateral trade.

The trend toward increasing trade with the Soviet Union and other members of the Council for Mutual Economic Assistance (CEMA) continued. In the first half of 1985, trade with these countries accounted for a record 80 percent of overall foreign trade turnover. Czechoslovakia retained its conservative attitude toward international borrowing and continued to reduce its already small hard currency debt. In July, Czechoslovak bankers borrowed \$100 million from a syndicate of Western banks, the most significant borrowing by Prague in several years. There was no evidence to indicate, however, that this signalled a departure from Czechoslovakia's conservative financial policy.

Czechoslovakia's strained political relations with the U.S. continued to have a negative effect on direct bilateral trade. However, the U.S. and Czechoslovakia continue to conduct a small but significant trade through Austria, West Germany, Switzerland, and other Western European countries. Czechoslovak officials periodically raise with U.S. officials' the question of most-favored nation tariff status.

In May, the new chairman of the U.S. side of the U.S.-Czechoslovak Economic Council, James Witcomb of General Foods Corporation, visited Prague for meetings with Minister of Foreign Trade Urban, Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs Johanes and other officials. These meetings were a prelude for the 7th Plenary session of the Bilateral Economic Council, held in Chicago, September 23-24.

Business Working Conditions. No new American business offices were established during this period nor were any existing offices closed. U.S. firms with representation in Prague reported no significant problems during the past six months with their office accommodations. There are no resident American businessmen in Czechoslovakia. Foreign businessmen in Prague appear to have suitable housing obtained either privately or through official channels.

Contacts between foreign businessmen and their counterparts remain strictly controlled by the Czechoslovak government. Foreign businessmen often find it frustrating and time consuming to attempt to do business in Czechoslovakia. Many businessmen report considerable difficulty in making initial contact with end-user enterprises, though such contacts are generally possible after relations have been established with an appropriate foreign trade organization (FTO). To a certain extent, the difficulties foreign businessmen encounter arise from the cumbersome and bureaucratic nature of the Czechoslovak economic system rather than deliberate discrimination against foreign businessmen.

Within the context of a general shortage of tourist/visitor facilities in Prague and other major Czechoslovak cities, foreign businessmen report few problems with hotel accommodations or other impediments to visit here. Visas for foreign businessmen are generally not a problem and are rarely denied. The exceptions usually involve individuals born in Czechoslovakia who were once recognized as Czechoslovak citizens, but subsequently left.

#### Availability of Economic and Commercial Information.

Foreign businessmen and government analysts continue to regard as inadequate the extent and timeliness of economic/commercial information available in Czechoslovakia. Foreign trade information is particularly insufficient for market research. Information on the 1986 economic plan and on the upcoming 8th Five-Year Plan (1986-90) remain vague. Although this problem in part results from a government policy of limiting information of this sort for the general public as well as for foreigners, it also reflects the sluggish decision-making apparatus which has delayed action on important aspects of the upcoming economic plans.

#### Policies Concerning Economic and Commercial Cooperation.

Currently there is no joint venture law in Czechoslovakia and no corresponding opportunity for direct foreign investment. However, various measures which would allow joint ventures have been under discussion recently. The Czechoslovak government has announced its readiness to accept direct Western investment, in the form of cash, equipment, or know-how. This investment will likely be concentrated in areas of electronics, computers, and machine tools. Depending on the scope of the joint ventures, Western participation may be as high as 49 percent. Some observers expect that appropriate guidelines and implementing regulations for joint ventures, at least on a test basis, will be introduced within the next year.

There are a considerable number of Czechoslovak-owned and controlled firms in Western countries. These firms are

generally involved in promoting the sale of Czechoslovak goods, maintaining inventories and in installing and providing service for Czechoslovak-manufactured equipment. In the U.S., such firms are involved in the sale of machine tools, motorcycles, textile equipment, and other manufactured items.

A U.S. firm signed the first pharmaceuticals licensing agreement with Czechoslovakia in September.

Official Visits. The Seventh Plenary Session of the U.S. Czechoslovak Economic Council was held in Chicago, September 23-24. Representatives of the Czechoslovak Ministry of Foreign Trade, various foreign trade corporations and other organizations participated in this session, which reviewed the state of U.S.-Czechoslovak relations and considered ways to facilitate bilateral trade.

Policies Toward Countertrade Arrangements. Czechoslovak enterprises continue to seek countertrade commitments as a quid pro quo for buying Western goods. Several Western firms have reported significant problems in identifying available Czechoslovak-produced merchandise. However, not all firms face countertrade demands. At least some U.S. firms engage in countertrade because they believe it engenders goodwill and thus contributes to future trade prospects, despite short-term costs incurred.

Policies Affecting Small and Medium-sized Enterprises. There was no apparent change in policy toward small and medium-sized enterprises during this period. Private enterprise remains restricted to a small segment of agriculture and certain services. Isolated cases of government-sanctioned, if not authorized, private enterprises have been reported recently.

## Bulgaria

General Assessment. Although Bulgaria remains committed to working within the Council for Mutual Economic Assistance (CEMA), the Bulgarian government encourages expanded contacts with Western businessmen, particularly in those areas of high priority to the Bulgarian economy. Bulgaria produces a number of low-quality products and, despite exhortations from CEMA trading partners and its own media, the Government of Bulgaria has had little success in spurring its workers towards more efficient industrial achievement. Business operating conditions have deteriorated as has the availability of economic information. Since Bulgaria produces few goods that are marketable in the West it has increased countertrade pressures during the review period in order to help balance its trade.

Business Working Conditions. Bulgarian industry continues to rely heavily on Western licenses, processes, and equipment for advances in production techniques. The Government of Bulgaria makes great efforts to attract Western businesses using advanced technologies. Their businessmen are treated well. Those who represent industries of little interest to the government still encounter difficulties.

No U.S. firms opened business offices in Bulgaria during the period. Bulgarian bureaucracy and red tape continue to surround most cooperative ventures, discouraging Western interest in joint business activities. Contacts between Western businessmen and Bulgarian commercial officials and plant managers have not improved. The Bulgarians allow Western businessmen who may be able to provide needed technology a certain degree of freedom but many others face difficulties in obtaining access to information and statistics that would help them make business decisions. Despite this, Bulgarian officials continue to go out of their way to court certain businessmen. On some occasions these businessmen have had discussions with the highest levels of the Bulgarian government.

The hotel, housing, and office accommodations situation has changed little during the period. Housing is inadequate by Western standards and most businessmen face the same electricity and water rationing that affects ordinary Bulgarians. Because of the severe winter and drought conditions and an unresponsive bureaucracy, Bulgaria has become a more difficult assignment for resident businessmen. At the end of the period, the Government of Bulgaria opened an "International Trade Center" designed to house most foreign businessmen in Bulgaria. However, businessmen continue to lodge numerous complaints about exorbitant rents, reaching as high as \$20 per square meter of office space. Representatives of Western chemical industries have considered pulling their offices out of Bulgaria. Western airlines receive cramped space at Sofia airport, but are required to pay fees similar to those charged at large, modern Western airports.

Some Western embassies have reported that the Bulgarian embassies in their countries are no longer permitted to issue visas of any type on their own initiative; all visa decisions must be referred to Sofia. As a consequence, businessmen complain about delays in receiving visas, sometimes extending beyond the maximum periods established by bilateral agreements.

Availability of Economic and Commercial Information. The availability of useful statistical and commercial information has further deteriorated during this reporting period. No

doubt a reflection of the severe winter and drought situation in Bulgaria, less information is available and there are more obvious examples of fabricated information. Different officials give widely varying answers when asked for the same information.

Official Visits. There were no official visits by U.S. trade officials during this period. While the U.S. and Bulgaria exchanged delegations in the field of agriculture, the Bulgarian side was unwilling to provide substantive briefings to a USDA agricultural research official. A bilateral working group in the field of agriculture continues to function.

Policies Concerning Economic and Commercial Cooperation. There is some flexibility in the establishment of business arrangements. Most take the form of licensing agreements or joint ventures. A Western business is likely to have more success in establishing a cooperative agreement with Bulgaria if it is willing to enter into a licensing agreement. More U.S. businessmen visited Bulgaria during the period but few of these visits resulted in agreements. The Sheraton Corporation, however, signed a contract to manage a local hotel.

Policies Toward Countertrade Arrangements. The trend toward increased countertrade demands by Bulgaria continues. As during the last period, Western businesses often find that Bulgaria has little to offer that would sell in the West. The increase in countertrade demands is a reflection of the poor performance of Bulgarian agricultural products in traditional markets and the Bulgarian need for hard currency. Countertrade demands will probably increase if Bulgarian economic problems continue.

Science and Technology. Arrangements for scientific and technological cooperation are generally one way. The Bulgarians insist on sending researchers to the U.S, but they are usually unwilling to receive research scientists in return. The Government of Bulgaria sponsors researchers in such areas as computers and biochemistry for trips to the U.S. American exchange visitors, however, are ordinarily granted only limited access to Bulgarian facilities.

## 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, constitute 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 commitments 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, Eastern countries maintain a policy of stringently limiting and controlling their citizens' movement abroad. It should be noted that the USSR has ratified the UN 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 Soviet Government denies its



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. The 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.

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 October 1, 1985.

Soviet Union. Soviet practices with regard to family meetings remain as described in previous semiannual reports. In general, few Soviet citizens are granted exit permission to visit relatives in the United States; those who are allowed to leave on visits have close family members in the United States. However, in a few exceptional cases, Soviet citizens have been granted exit permission to visit American friends. It is rare for an entire Soviet family to receive permission to travel to the United States at the same time. Typically, a father/son, mother/daughter, or husband/wife combination visits a U.S. relative. Also husbands and wives may alternate visits, several years apart. The few Soviet citizens allowed to make multiple trips to the U.S. may do so only at two or three year intervals.

We have no access to Soviet statistics on the number of people granted exit permission to visit the United States. During the period April 1, 1985, to September 29, 1985, the U.S. issued visas to 766 Soviet citizens for private visits to the United States. Soviet authorities often arbitrarily refuse visas to U.S. citizens seeking to visit relatives in the USSR. During the period covered by this report, several Americans were denied the opportunity to visit their Soviet spouses and fiancés. Others have been permitted the opportunity to visit only after purchasing expensive tourist packages. The U.S. Government continues to make regular representations to the Soviets on behalf of applicants for U.S. visitor's visas. Regrettably during the reporting period, the interventions have not achieved results.

Romania. There was an increase in the number of exit permits issued for visits to family members in the U.S. during the reporting period in comparison with the previous reporting period, resulting at least partly from the fact that summer is the traditional European travel season. Opportunities for Romanian citizens to travel to the West, however, remain 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 U.S. Embassy in Bucharest issued 1,968 tourist visas to Romanians, most of which were for visits to relatives in the U.S.

Opportunities to travel abroad for most Romanians remain strictly 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 sometimes years of waiting. Rarely are entire families issued passports at the same time for a visit abroad. Usually at least one member of the immediate family must stay behind to ensure that his relatives return. Should travelers not return to Romania, it is often years before their families are permitted to leave the country. Family members remaining in Romania often endure considerable pressure to divorce or renounce those who have left and are harassed if they refuse.

Americans rarely encounter problems in obtaining visas to visit relatives in Romania, unless they themselves are former Romanians who left the country illegally. Although some visitors obtain Romanian visas in advance of travel, the majority arrive at Bucharest's International Airport, or at land borders, without visas. Entry permission is almost always granted on the spot and the fee is moderate (\$11.50). First-degree 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 ten dollars of local currency for each day of the anticipated stay.

Poland. The liberalization of passport issuance, which was announced at the end of martial law in July 1983 and took effect during the Spring of 1984, has continued. The U.S. Embassy in Warsaw estimates that over 25,000 exit permits were issued for visits to family members in the United States during the reporting period. Despite the liberalized issuance policy, certain Poles, particularly professionals, still experience problems in obtaining passports. There are two difficulties in obtaining passports for travel to the U.S.:

o Applicants must obtain an invitation certified by a Polish Consulate in the United States. Since these invitations are valid for only six months and often expire before the passport has been issued, a second invitation is required in many cases.

o Trained professionals such as engineers, doctors, and skilled artisans are considered essential personnel and often cannot obtain passports for unofficial travel.

Our Embassy in Warsaw knows of no restrictions or difficulties for Americans visiting their relatives in Poland.

Hungary. Hungary continues to follow a relatively liberal family visitation and travel policy for its citizens. The 4,447 visas issued this review period is slightly higher than the 4,251 issued during the April to September cycle in 1984.

Hungarian citizens enjoy the legal possibility of visiting the West at least once each year if financial support is available from friends or relatives for hard currency expenses. Hungarians can purchase hard currency for one private tourist trip every three years. The duration of the exit-permission reflects the amount of leave time authorized by the place of employment.

In addition to seldom-applied reasons involving public interest and state security, 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 or insufficient proof of the ability of the U.S. sponsor to provide support. Also, a Hungarian usually may not 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 responsible for a close relative having remained abroad illegally.

Some Hungarian male applicants of military age are receiving exit permits for tourist travel to the West which, experience indicates, would have been denied several years ago. The Hungarian authorities have published regulations that for the first time provide prospective travelers with military obligations an indication of their rights. They provide that normally an applicant in this category may not be denied permission to travel because of pending military obligations unless service is scheduled to begin within six months. This apparently is a step to increase the predictability and reduce the arbitrariness of the travel system as applied to military age applicants.

Visas are seldom denied to Americans for family visits to Hungary. The Hungarian Foreign Ministry never supplies reasons for visa refusals but will consider our Embassy's request for review, sometimes with positive results. Favorable reconsideration is often granted to such applicants for demonstrable concerns such as the illness of a close relative.

German Democratic Republic. The GDR continues to limit severely travel by its citizens to the United States or non-Communist countries for family visits. Approval or denial of applications to travel for such visits is a political decision made by GDR authorities, and 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 a specified family event, such as a death, birth, life-threatening illness, wedding, 25th or 50th wedding anniversary celebration, Confirmation, First Holy Communion, and 50th, 65th, 70th, 75th and further birthday celebrations. In all cases, the applicant wishing to travel in the West 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 our Embassy in Berlin issued 790 visas for family visits to the United States. Of these, 150 were issued to non-pensioners. We are aware of only one case in which an American citizen has been refused permission to visit the GDR since December 1982. GDR citizens in positions deemed "sensitive" by their government may not be visited by or even maintain contacts with close relatives who live in the West. Emigrants from the GDR must generally wait five years before they can return to the GDR to visit relatives.

Czechoslovakia. Travel of Czechoslovak citizens to the West continues to be severely restricted. The number of exit permits issued for visits to family in the U.S. and the number of U.S. visas issued for such visits was 2,654. This represents a decrease of 84 visas over the same period a year ago.

The majority of Czechoslovak citizens who are allowed to travel to the U.S. to visit relatives are retired. Persons in the work force are not usually allowed to travel abroad with all members of their immediate family. Most U.S. citizens obtain visas to visit Czechoslovakia without difficulty, often in one day. However, many U.S. citizens of Czechoslovak origin continue to be refused visas with no explanation given, sometimes after having received several visas in the past. Our

Embassy in Prague has made representations on behalf of twelve such citizens during this reporting period. Since the replies received from the Czechoslovak Government are often equivocal, e.g., "the person should reapply at the Embassy in Washington, D.C.," the success rate is difficult to determine. However, we estimate it to be around 30 percent. The U.S. has been told by the Czechoslovak Government that citing special humanitarian considerations -- extreme age or serious illness of family members -- may be helpful and in a few such cases such representations were successful.

Bulgaria. During the reporting period 352 visas were issued for family visits. Although this is due partly to seasonal variations, it is still roughly one hundred more than were issued during the last period. Visa applicants still report that they encounter numerous bureaucratic problems when they apply for passports and exit visas.

The passport/exit visa system remains heavily bureaucratized, and travel documentation often is issued on an arbitrary basis by local officials after applicants have waited months or years. The average wait for those few who succeed appears to be about two months. Bulgarians who apply for permission to visit relatives in the West have experienced official harassment during the process and sometimes after the visit. Because of this, some decide it is not worth the trouble to apply for an exit visa.

Americans wishing to visit Bulgarian relatives still face difficulties when they reach Bulgaria. There are minimum requirements for changing foreign currency, and many are forced to stay in hotels rather than with their relatives in Bulgaria. The Bulgarian Government still considers any person born in Bulgaria, no matter what his or her current citizenship, subject to its jurisdiction. For this reason, many Americans and other Westerners of Bulgarian origin are subjected to harassment when they come to Bulgaria to visit. During the reporting period the U.S. Embassy in Sofia had to intervene on behalf of several American citizens of Bulgarian origin who had difficulties with authorities. The Bulgarian authorities were generally cooperative once the Embassy became involved.

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	<u>Divided Family Cases</u>			
	<u>Nuclear Families</u>		<u>Non-Nuclear Families</u>	
	Cases	Individuals	Cases	Individuals
Soviet Union*	108	391		
Romania	78	111	640	1318
Poland	198	401	160	851
Hungary	1	2	0	0
GDR	0	0	12	30
Czechoslovakia	2	2	2	8
Bulgaria	5	7	2	3

\*The Soviet Union does not differentiate between nuclear and non-nuclear families

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### Family Reunification

Soviet Union. Soviet authorities continued their poor performance in fostering family reunification during the review period. In one long-standing case involving a Soviet citizen seeking to join his wife in the United States, Soviet authorities finally granted exit permission to Israel. Family reunification is the only grounds for issuance of exit permission, but the Soviet definition of family is so narrow that only immediate family members receive exit permission. In some cases, Soviet authorities have refused exit permission if any applicant in a family has more relatives in the Soviet Union than in the United States. Soviet authorities continue to deny applications for exit permission on the grounds that applicants had access to "state secrets" -- a broad and undefined concept. In many cases, applicants have been denied exit permission with no reason given, or with only the vague comment that emigration was not currently feasible, or not warranted by the international situation.

During the reporting period, persons who received exit permission to immigrate to the United States reported that the process took from one month to one year. The authorities responded to applications for exit permission in an average of two or four months. Emigration officials continued to refuse to accept certain applications for emigration to join family members in the United States. In some of these cases, the relative left the USSR with temporary exit permission and then remained in the U.S. In other cases, the relative in the USSR obtained exit permission to Israel, but then went to the U.S. The Soviet authorities in Yerevan, the capital of the Armenian Republic, have recently begun asking roughly two thirds of the individuals to whom they grant exit permission to sign pledges that once they are abroad they will not forward invitations for permanent residence to relatives in the U.S.S.R.

Persons applying for Soviet exit permission continued to experience reprisals in the form of loss of employment or harassment by employers or the police. Persons seeking to emigrate often experienced difficulty in getting past the Soviet guards in front of our Embassy in Moscow. In some cases persons seeking access to the Embassy were arrested by Soviet authorities.

From April 30 to October 1, 1985, 44 Soviet nationals applied for and were issued U.S. immigrant visas for family reunification. In addition, 46 Soviet citizens applied for reunification with relatives in the United States and were processed under the accelerated third country processing program (ATCP).

It is difficult to estimate the number of Soviet citizens who are refused exit permission, since many refusals are not reported to U.S. authorities. We now have on file 444 immigrant and fiance(e) visa petitions. In addition, approximately 1,000 other families or 3,000 persons have expressed interest in being reunited with relatives in the U.S. Some individuals have been seeking Soviet exit permission for more than a decade. Our Embassy in Moscow also has a list of individuals who have repeatedly been denied Soviet exit permission to Israel, but continue to apply. From April 1, 1985, to September 1, 1985, a total of 457 Jews departed the Soviet Union via Vienna, the primary exit point, compared to 327 for the first five months of the previous review period. A large number of the approximately 2 million ethnic German Soviet citizens continue to apply for emigration to West Germany, although only 178 were successful from April 1 to September 1. It remains clear that each year several thousand Soviet citizens apply for and are denied exit permission to join relatives abroad.

While we continue to intervene in support of Soviet citizens applying for exit permission, Soviet authorities have been completely unresponsive to these representations during the reporting period. In every case in which the authorities have responded to our representation on behalf of a divided family, the response has been negative. The U.S. Government maintains a representation list of names of Soviet citizens who have repeatedly been denied permission to join relatives in the U.S. In only two cases, involving seven persons, have individuals actually been able to leave the USSR.

Romania. The Government of Romania's performance on family reunification remains largely unchanged since the last reporting period. A large number of family reunification cases which our Embassy in Bucharest has brought to the Romanian Government's attention are still unresolved. The average waiting period from initial application for emigration permission to final approval continues to be well in excess of the six months envisaged in the Madrid Concluding Document. Our experience is that a minimum of eight to twelve months is required in the average case.

Political and economic factors have contributed to great pressure among Romanians for emigration. The Romanian Government officially opposes emigration. It allows a substantial number of departures under the rubric of family reunification, although it seeks to hinder these in order to reduce overall interest in emigration. It also allows relatively large numbers of departures of ethnic Germans to West Germany and of Romanian Jews to Israel. In recent years, the Romanian Government has approved more departures of people qualified to go to the U.S. than we have been able to accept promptly.

Romanian emigration procedures have been a concern for many years. Once the decision to grant emigration permission has been made, applicants are typically required to show they have divested themselves of all real property -- at limited, state-established rates. Some are required to rent the housing they formerly owned; those in employer-supplied apartments have sometimes faced eviction. Typically this has resulted in would-be emigrants crowding in with family or friends. Emigration applicants are often demoted or fired. Other employment is offered, although this sometimes means digging ditches in a distant city, cutting wood in forests, or farm labor in the provinces without provision for family accommodation at the job site.

Most of those granted exit permission are officially given the opportunity to renounce Romanian citizenship so that they automatically become stateless persons, thus losing -- if they



have not already lost -- employment, housing, and entitlements to medical care, schooling, and coupons for rationed food items. Access by visa applicants to the U.S. Embassy in Bucharest is restricted; even some properly documented American citizens have encountered difficulties.

During the reporting period, the U.S. and Romanian Governments reached an understanding on procedures for emigration to the U.S. aimed at alleviating hardships encountered by individuals who have received exit permission but are awaiting U.S. visas or other travel documentation. Final details and a written conclusion to the understanding are still being worked out; the actual effect of the understanding on emigration procedures is not yet clear.

In testimony before the International Trade Subcommittee of the Senate Finance Committee on July 23, State Department Counselor Edward Derwinski characterized the new understanding as follows:

"Up to now, Romanian citizens have forfeited jobs, access to social services, and sometimes housing after receiving their emigration passports before ascertaining whether they were even eligible for admission to the U.S., or if eligible, whether they could be accommodated under statutory quotas and admission ceilings in the near future. If we could not accommodate them, would-be emigrants became "trapped" between Romanian emigration law and procedures and U.S. immigration and refugee law. Their situation has been of great humanitarian concern to us.

"During my visit to Bucharest June 17-18 we informally worked out the basic elements of a procedure which will prevent this from happening in the future. The Romanian authorities agreed, in the future, to omit the issuance of passports with exit visas for the U.S. to those individuals whom we are promptly able to accept for U.S. immigration processing. We will identify those people through issuance of letters of eligibility sent by the American Embassy in Bucharest. The Romanian authorities will in turn issue certificates to individuals stating that their passport applications have been approved, and that the individuals may obtain their passports on producing a letter of eligibility from our Embassy.

"Once concluded, this agreement will be one of the most important and positive developments in the area of Romanian emigration procedures in many years. Receipt of a certificate of passport approval will not involve loss of citizenship, jobs, access to social services, or other hardships hitherto experienced by passport holders awaiting U.S. visas. The new agreement should also help to raise the passport approval rate for individuals in whom we are most directly interested."

During the reporting period, the number of Romanians making initial application for U.S. entry documents in order to be reunited with their families was 792. Immigrant visas and third country processing (TCP) cases completed during the reporting period represented 185 and 1102 persons respectively. Approximately 10 percent of TCP issuances are for the purpose of reunification with close relatives. The U.S. Embassy in Bucharest also issued 288 visas for humanitarian parole and to unite persons previously granted refugee or asylum status with their spouses and children.

Our Embassy in Bucharest currently has 141 cases (413 persons) on its immigrant visa "representation list" for periodic presentation to the Romanian authorities. Approximately 900 cases involving spouses and minor children of persons previously granted refugee status in the U.S. are pending due to Romanian failure to issue passports promptly. Of the 3,452 persons registered for the TCP program who are awaiting passports, approximately 350 are seeking emigration for the purpose of reunification with close family members.

Romanian authorities have been reasonably responsive to our Embassy's "representation list" of immigrant visa cases, with a few notable exceptions. Of the 146 cases (471 persons) on our Embassy's April 1984 "representation list," 20 cases (63 persons) remain unresolved.

The cost of Romanian exit documents is high in relation to the Romanian worker's average monthly income (2,500 lei). A Romanian passport (with citizenship) and exit visa cost 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. (One U.S. dollar equals 11.4 lei).

Poland. The Polish Government is apparently taking the problem of family reunification more seriously than in the recent past. During the reporting period, our Embassy's list of divided families has grown more slowly than previously.

During this six-month period, approximately 1,080 individuals applied for immigrant visas to join family members. 1,030 immigrant visas were issued for the purpose of family reunification. Our Embassy further facilitated the travel of 262 spouses and children of asylees and refugees to the United States for family reunification.

In this period a total of 117 families involving 272 persons were added to our Embassy's divided families lists, while 37 families involving 82 persons were resolved and

removed from the list. On October 1, 1985, the list contained the names of 278 families consisting of 1,068 individuals.

Our Embassy's representation appears to be helpful in many cases on the divided families list. We are unable to measure precisely the impact of interventions, since the Polish Government does not indicate whether issuance of an emigration passport is linked with U.S. representations. Many recent issuances appear to be based on the provisions of the new passport law.

Hungary. Hungarian performance in family reunification continues to be good. For example, in many recent cases the government has granted emigration permission to achieve family reunification at the first application even though the applicant may have been ineligible under strict application of Hungarian law, such as in the case of infants.

Divided family cases have declined. Our Embassy in Budapest issued 52 immigrant visas for family reunification during the reporting period; two refugee applications were processed to reunify families. There is only one outstanding case whose resolution is not expected soon because of the nature of the applicant's prior employment. One case has been dropped because the U.S. party divorced the Hungarian spouse. The delay in the spouse's departure from Hungary is at least partially responsible for the divorce. During the reporting period the Hungarians authorized the departure of one family that had been presented as an emigration problem.

There are several official reasons for refusing emigration permission:

- o Requesting emigration to join a relative remaining abroad illegally for a period of less than five years (or for whose illegal absence one is responsible);
- o Not having attained the legal minimum age for emigration (55);
- o Requesting emigration to join a relative not prescribed by law;
- o Lack of permission from the Hungarian Ministry of Defense - in the case of males of military age who have not partly or completely fulfilled their military obligation; and
- o A catch-all prohibition against emigration when it would be contrary to the public interest.

An emigration passport costs 1,000 forints (approximately \$20.00). Minors under 14 are included at no extra charge. In addition there is a passport application fee of 250 forints (approximately \$5.00). If the passport is refused, the cost of the passport is refunded, but the application fee is forfeited.

German Democratic Republic. The GDR issued approximately 8,500 emigration visas during this reporting period. This rate of approximately 1,400 a month is higher than the norm of 600-1000 visas a month that prevailed in recent years, except 1984, when the GDR allowed approximately 40,000 of its citizens to emigrate. Many of these people left for family reunification, others for political reasons. Only a fraction of those desiring to leave the GDR have been allowed to do so; some Western sources estimate that as many as 300,000 to 500,000 applications are still pending.

An October 1983 GDR law on emigration addresses only emigration for the purpose of reunification with "first-degree" relatives (parents and children) or joining a spouse. While some applicants with relatives in the West who are not first degree have been allowed to emigrate, the law has in general been used restrictively against those who do not have first degree relatives in the West.

The experiences of exit visa applicants vary. In most cases, applicants wait at least a year for exit permission, but some cases have taken three or more years. While some East Germans have been able to lead normal lives after submitting an exit visa application, others have been subject to reprisals of varying degrees of severity. West German human rights groups believe that half of the estimated 7,000 to 10,000 political prisoners in the GDR were imprisoned after filing for exit permission or attempting to leave the GDR illegally. Some applicants have lost their jobs or have had to take menial work. GDR authorities sometimes visit the homes of exit visa applicants to try to intimidate them into withdrawing their applications. Occasionally children face discrimination and harassment in school. Successful applicants must usually renounce their GDR citizenship and are issued a stateless passport.

GDR officials commonly tell applicants that it is "not possible" to submit an exit visa application, but if applicants persist with submission of a written statement, it will generally be accepted by GDR authorities as a de facto application. Applicants are usually not informed of the status of their cases until a final decision is made. Denial of the application is given orally without explanation. Some people thus refused are advised that any future applications could lead to difficulties with the police or worse.

A few GDR citizens who have applied for emigration to West Germany or West Berlin intend eventually to join relatives in the U.S. Others apply for emigration directly to the U.S., though they intend to remain in West Germany or West Berlin. It is therefore difficult to know the exact number of persons allowed to leave the GDR for family reunification in the U.S.

The continued GDR practice of severely limiting access to Western missions has inhibited potential emigrants from visiting these missions to inquire about immigration procedures. Virtually all non-official visitors to the U.S. Embassy in Berlin can expect to be stopped by GDR police, have identification cards checked, and possibly be detained following their visit to the Embassy. Many East Germans have been warned to have no contact with Western missions under threat to their well-being, and some people have been required to sign a document acknowledging that visiting a foreign mission without permission is a violation of GDR law which makes them subject to prosecution.

Our Embassy in Berlin makes representations to the GDR by periodically presenting a list of cases of direct interest to U.S. citizens. Lists given to the GDR Foreign Ministry during the reporting period included 13 cases involving 34 people who wished to go the U.S. for family reunification. Two of these cases involving four people were resolved by the end of this reporting period. The most recent list presented to the GDR Foreign Ministry on June 12, 1985 contained 12 cases involving 30 people under family reunification, of which one case (four people) was resolved in July. One additional case (one person) was added in August.

Emigration fees are not burdensome. A passport costs about \$4.00, and a single exit visa about \$2.00.

Czechoslovakia. Generally, the Czechoslovak record on family reunification is good, at least for immediate relatives -- spouses, children and parents -- of U.S. citizens. The Czechoslovak Governments does not regard married sons and daughters or siblings of U.S. citizens as meriting reunification since, in its view, their basic family units are with them in Czechoslovakia.

During the reporting period our Embassy in Prague received 20 new immigrant visa cases, nine fewer than during this period last year. It also received 12 new cases involving 24 spouses and children seeking to join family members already granted refugee status in the U.S. Our Embassy issued 21 immigrant visas to family members of U.S. citizens and permanent resident aliens during this period, a decrease of seven from a year

ago. Also, two cases of family members of refugees were processed. Our divided families list for Czechoslovakia includes four cases consisting of eleven persons; two sons of U.S. citizens, two married daughters of U.S. citizens, and their children.

Generally, immediate relatives 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 frequently experience great difficulty in obtaining exit documents and often must wait many years, reapplying repeatedly before receiving exit permission. Decisions on exit documentation often seem arbitrary and as dependent on where the applicant lives and applies for permission to emigrate as on the merits of his or her case. Our Embassy in Prague has approved petitions for over 100 immigrant visas on file but has had no word from most of those concerned since they were sent notification of their petition approval, presumably because of the difficulty in obtaining exit documentation. Families of refugees usually must wait until the refugee is naturalized as a U.S. citizen before they can obtain exit permission. In two cases, families of refugees renounced Czechoslovak citizenship in order to receive exit documentation, which was granted almost immediately. Families of non-Czechoslovak refugees, i.e., third country, in the U.S. are usually granted exit documentation without difficulty.

Assembling the documents needed to apply for emigration usually takes a minimum of six weeks. Processing 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 fifteen days; but if it is refused a second time, the applicant must wait three months before resubmitting an application. Often people are told it is useless to reapply, but it is rare that a new application is not accepted.

An emigrating Czechoslovak's heaviest expense 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 \$1,000 -- six months wages for the average wage earner.

Bulgaria. The Government of Bulgaria has taken positive steps in a number of cases to resolve family reunification cases presented by the U.S. There has been little movement during the period on cases presented by other Western missions. Hence, family reunification appears to have taken on

a bilateral character rather than a general commitment to reunify families. The Bulgarian Government during this period has allowed persons in fourteen of sixteen cases it agreed to resolve to leave Bulgaria to join family members in the U.S. We expect Bulgarian authorities to grant passports to persons in the remaining two cases. Our Embassy in Sofia follows up on cases in which the authorities show no initial willingness to grant approval.

One Western country has evidence that Bulgarian Embassy officers have tried to extort money from relatives for "consideration" in more than one divided family case. In one case, the Bulgarian Embassy officer demanded a "contribution" to the Bulgarian 1300 Jubilee year fund of the equivalent of ten thousand dollars in local currency. Although the family was willing to pay, they were finally told two months later that the case would never be solved. Another case involved a barter arrangement.

#### Binational Marriages

In accordance with the Final Act, the participating states pledged to consider favorably applications for entry or exit for citizens to another participating state. There is a mixed record of implementation of this commitment by the Soviet Union and East 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 normally within six months. The following chart indicates the cases the United States was monitoring as of October 1, 1985.

Soviet Union	20
Romania	47
Poland	0
Hungary	0
German Democratic Republic	10
Czechoslovakia	0
Bulgaria	1

Soviet Union. Of the 41 spouses whose applications were processed by the Embassy during the review period, 30 received exit permission on the first application. At the same time, 10 spouses who had been refused exit permission at least twice previously were again denied permission to join their spouses in the U.S.

Americans who marry Soviet citizens are not required to register with our Embassy in Moscow or Consulate General in Leningrad. We generally learn of binational marriages when an American files an immigration petition for a Soviet spouse or

asks our Embassy to notarize a statement required by Soviet authorities to register the marriage. Between April 1, 1985 and September 23, 1985, 27 American citizens and three permanent resident aliens requested a "marriage statement" at our Embassy.

During the review period, 23 individuals were issued immigrant visas to join American spouses. In addition, 18 Soviet citizens received exit permission and were documented for U.S. entry through the ATCP program to join spouses. We are aware of at least three cases in which fiance(e)s have sought reunification without success. Not infrequently, the American is denied a visa to enter the Soviet Union to marry, while the Soviet citizen is denied exit permission.

The United States maintains a representation list of Soviet citizens who have repeatedly been denied permission to join American citizen spouses. Our Embassy in Moscow makes frequent representations on behalf of the individuals. The Soviet response has been far from satisfactory. During the reporting period one spouse was granted exit permission to Israel and departed the Soviet Union. Reportedly two other spouses have received promises of exit permission.

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 typically requires a wait of 12 to 24 months. There has been no appreciable change in Romanian performance concerning binational marriages during the reporting period. Romanian authorities approved 19 binational marriages during the reporting period. We estimate that the total number of exit permits and entry visas issued to spouses for the purpose of binational marriage is 15. We believe that 30 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 proceeding lasting about four months. Complications arise from the fact that the United States 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. But we understand changes are in progress to simplify this procedure. Also, as the Polish government does not recognize U.S. divorces involving Polish nationals, an American divorce must be repeated in the Polish courts. This process generally takes six months.



The number of binational marriages is impossible to estimate, as no formal statistics are compiled on the subject. During the review period our Embassy in Warsaw issued 25 visas to Polish citizens for the purpose of binational marriage. During the same period, Polish authorities issued 25 exit permits to Polish nationals for the same purpose. No exit permits were delayed for more than six months.

Hungary. Binational marriages continued to present no problem in Hungary. During the reporting period, our Embassy in Budapest received or approved 27 petitions for binational marriage immigrant visas. Our Embassy issued 35 immigrant visas to Hungarian spouses of American citizens and one to a legal resident of the U.S.

German Democratic Republic. The GDR appears to be following faithfully the letter of its October 1983 law which provided that applications for binational marriage cases would be settled within six months. The GDR does not consider an application to have been made until all required documents have been presented, and assembly of documentation in requisite formats can cause significant delay. Once the documents are accepted, permission to marry and emigrate is generally granted within six months, provided the couple marries in the GDR.

Before mid-1983, applicants were permitted to emigrate to marry a foreigner in his home country. With the law of October 1983, this permission was generally restricted, forcing applicants to apply first for permission to marry in the GDR. Now emigration can normally be granted only after marriage, although our Embassy is aware of a few exceptions having been made to this rule.

Of the 12 binational marriage cases on our Embassy's list as of June 12, 1985, three cases were resolved in August and September 1985. No other cases were resolved during the reporting period. One additional case came to our attention during the reporting period.

Czechoslovakia. Although the processing of the marriage application is lengthy (approximately three months), the Czechoslovak record is generally good on binational marriages. However, there have in the past been cases of U.S. citizens of Czechoslovak birth being refused entry visas and of Czechoslovak fiance(e) being refused exit visas for the purpose of marriage. One such case was resolved during this period.

During this reporting period, 13 binational marriages came to the attention of our Embassy, the same number as a year ago.

Our Embassy in Prague estimates that 13 entry permits were issued to U.S. citizens for the purpose of binational marriage and that 10 exit permits were issued to spouses of U.S. citizens.

Bulgaria. There were eight binational marriages during the period, up from five during the previous period. This does not, however, seem to represent a significant change in the Bulgarian Government's attitude towards such marriages. While the authorities do not officially discourage binational marriages, obtaining the necessary approval is a cumbersome process and some applicants are forbidden to marry foreigners.

#### 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 East 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. As a general matter, the Soviet Union encourages tourism by Westerners as a source of hard currency and potential ideological benefit. Relatively inexpensive rates are offered to large groups, which are less troublesome to program and easier to control than individual tourists, who pay premium prices for comparative liberty. Soviet authorities seek to define tourism in an increasingly narrow way which rules out contact with Soviet citizens other than in meetings arranged by official Soviet hosts. As in previous reporting periods, American and other Western tourists were occasionally detained or even expelled for contacting Soviet citizens who have been denied permission to emigrate from the Soviet Union.

Our Embassy in Moscow has no means of estimating the total number of tourist and other visitor visas issued to Americans by Soviet embassies and consulates. It appears, however, that the number of American tourists during the summer of 1985 increased by approximately 20 percent (although one Western tour organizer estimates an increase of as much as 50 percent) over the previous year and a half, when tourism by Americans was reduced after Soviet fighters shot down a Korean airliner in September 1983.

Travel within the Soviet Union by American tourists and all other foreigners is extremely restricted. Large portions of the country are closed entirely to foreigners. Virtually all

tourists must plan their itineraries and pay for transportation, accommodations, and even food in hard currency before a visa is issued. As a result, Soviet authorities have no currency conversion requirements for tourists. Changing an itinerary once a visa has been issued and the tourist has arrived in the country is extremely difficult. Further barriers to normal tourism are imposed by strict and often harshly applied customs regulations, which tourists sometimes fail to observe through no fault of their own. During the reporting period, Soviet customs officials confiscated substantial amounts of currency and other valuables from American tourists. Our Embassy's efforts to effect recovery have thus far been unsuccessful.

Approximately 497 visas were issued to private Soviet visitors during the reporting period. A total of 1,613 visas were issued during the same period to Soviets whose applications were submitted under cover of a note from the Foreign Ministry. These included diplomatic, United Nations Secretariat, journalist, business, exchange, and transit visas, as well as visas for officially-sponsored tourist trips.

Americans applying for visitor visas must wait varying lengths of time, dependent upon the purpose of their travel and how the Soviet authorities perceive the trip. Authorization may be granted in as little as two days; more commonly, a private visitor must wait two or three weeks, often until the very eve of departure, to learn whether his visa has been granted or denied. U.S. visitor visas are generally issued to private Soviet visitors the day of application. To reciprocate for the Soviet practice of charging a \$10.00 fee for tourist and business visa applications, the United States in February 1985 introduced a \$10.00 charge for issuing visitors visas for tourists and business travelers. Soviet citizens must pay 200 rubles for a foreign travel passport. This compares to an average monthly income of about 250 rubles.

Romania. Opportunities for Romanian citizens to travel abroad for tourism remained restricted during the reporting period. Western tourists, on the other hand, are encouraged to visit Romania and rarely encounter problems obtaining entry visas. The number of tourist visas issued to Romanians during the reporting period was 1,698 and the number of other non-immigrant visas issued to Romanians was 1,556.

There were approximately 15,500 arrivals in Romania by Americans during the reporting period, according to Romanian Government estimates. These figures count arrivals (i.e., border crossings) rather than the number of visas issued, and we assume the number includes some multiple entries by the same individuals. American tourists generally encounter no

restrictions on travel within Romania, but they are required to convert ten dollars per day into local currency.

Tourist visas for the United States are normally issued on the day of application, unless a waiver of ineligibility is required. Waiver cases generally take from three to five working days to complete. U.S. visa fees are set to reciprocate the fees collected by the Government of Romania for corresponding visas. Romanian Government and U.S. fees are currently 84 lei (\$7.00) for a single entry visa and 540 lei (\$45.00) for a multiple entry tourist visa. Romanian Government policy is to encourage tourism, and visas are granted freely to tourists on application abroad, usually within three to five working days, or upon arrival at points of entry.

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 (\$37.00). If a person has a valid passport on file with the passport authorities, the cost of the new exit visa is 75 lei (\$6.00).

Poland. The Polish Government welcomes and actively seeks U.S. tourism, an important source of hard currency for the Polish economy. American tourists visiting Poland during the reporting period generally experienced few difficulties with local authorities. However, four American tourists were detained in early May in Krakow and expelled from Poland on trumped-up charges of leading anti-government demonstrations. There are no restrictions placed upon American citizens for travel within Poland. There is little necessity for the U.S. Government to facilitate travel and tourism by American citizens to Poland. According to Polish authorities, approximately 25,000 visas were issued to American tourists during the past year. The estimated average duration of the visa application process for Americans visiting Poland is about two weeks.

Our Embassy in Warsaw and Consulates in Krakow and Poznan issued 28,365 non-immigrant visas in the reporting period, of which 24,917 were tourist visas. This represents continuing growth following the large increase mentioned in the last report. Non-immigrant visa applications for tourism from Polish citizens are processed within three hours, unless a waiver of ineligibility must be sought. Waivers of ineligibility can be obtained within seven to ten days. Tourist visas cost \$10.00 or the equivalent in local currency; as in all other countries, the U.S. imposes a visa fee requirement on Polish travelers as a reciprocal gesture for Polish Government practice.

American visitors to Poland are required to exchange \$15.00 per day at the official exchange rate. If they are visiting family in Poland, only half this amount must be exchanged. For Polish citizens, the average duration of government exit formalities for tourist travel is two months. The estimated average total cost is \$20.00.

Hungary. According to official Hungarian statistics, almost five million Hungarians traveled abroad in 1984, about 20 percent more than in 1983. Of these travelers, 4.1 million went to Warsaw Pact countries and 500,000 to Western countries. In 1984, 13.4 million tourists came to Hungary. Hungarian travel agencies continue to allow certain Hungarian travellers to purchase a wide variety of services, including airplane tickets, hotel rooms, and some tour costs, in Hungarian currency (forints), thus reducing to some extent the pressure on the private traveler to obtain convertible currency. In many cases it is possible to purchase Western airline tickets in forints.

Since mid-1983 more liberal provisions for Hungarians to work abroad for up to five years have been in force. According to Hungarian press reports, several hundred applications have been approved during the reporting period. Most approved applications were for work in the FRG and Austria. Regulations require that the individual have a firm job offer or contract before application is made. The promulgation of the new regulations, however, appears consistent with the commitment in the Helsinki Final Act to increase the opportunities for travel for professional as well as personal reasons. The program is designated to meld with the European nations' guest worker system. Only in rare cases can the American immigration structure accommodate these applicants. At the same time, 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 explanation to the individual concerned.

Our Embassy in Budapest issued 3,070 tourist visas to Hungarians during the reporting period. Seasonal factors account for the substantial increase from the last reporting period, but the figure is a large increase from the equivalent period a year ago (2,478). It appears to reflect the attractiveness of the new possibilities for purchasing air tickets in forints. Other non-immigrant visas were issued to 1,955 Hungarian citizens, a seasonably adjusted increase of 365.

Seventy percent of Hungarian applicants, i.e., those without meaningful affiliation with a communist organization, received visas in one or two days. Thirty percent, for whom waivers of ineligibility were required, received visas within two weeks. Emergency waiver cases were handled within one day. A single entry U.S. visa cost \$8.00 a double entry \$12.00, and a multiple \$60.00. The U.S. increased its prices for visas this spring as a reciprocal response to Hungarian visa price increases.

Generally a 30-day period is necessary to receive a passport for tourism to the West. Processing for a visit to a socialist country takes two weeks. Exit permits for tourism cost 350 forints (\$7.00). Western permits are usually valid for a single trip. Permits to socialist countries are for multiple trips and valid until the passport expires.

Hungary has continued to streamline the possibilities for foreign tourists to visit the country. A new modern border-crossing point opened July 1, on the Austrian border (Kophaza) to handle the increased volume there. Based on information received from the Hungarian Government, the estimated number of American tourists visiting Hungary during January to June 1985 was 55,000. One hundred thousand American tourists are expected to visit Hungary during 1985, an increase of approximately ten percent.

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

Hungary has no currency conversion requirements for U.S. visitors. Applicants may have to produce proof of sufficient funds to cover planned stay and departure, particularly when extensions of stay are requested. There are no travel restrictions except for military areas.

German Democratic Republic. Most GDR citizens remain unable to travel to the West. Only pensioners can obtain permission to go to the West with relative ease. Exit formalities for GDR citizens who can travel abroad usually take four to ten weeks. The total cost of a GDR passport and visa is about \$6.00.

The continued currency exchange requirement diminishes travel to the GDR by Westerners. Westerners can, however, generally obtain visas to visit the GDR without difficulty.

Exceptions are those who have emigrated recently from the GDR or who wish to visit East German relatives who have filed exit applications.

The processing of GDR tourist and business visa applications takes about six weeks if the application is made in the U.S. and less time if made in West Germany or West Berlin. If a traveller is in Berlin and purchases a voucher showing pre-paid reservations in GDR 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.

GDR single entry tourist or business visas cost about \$5.00, multiple entry about \$14.00. A day visa for East Berlin costs about \$2.00. In addition, if the official GDR travel agency processes visa a application, it charges those over 16 a handling fee of \$22.00 per person. With the exception of most FRG pensioners who must purchase about \$5.00 in GDR currency per day, the GDR requires those 15 and over to purchase about \$10.00 in GDR currency per day. Those under 15 are exempt from such currency conversion requirements. This money cannot be reconverted into hard currency or taken out of the GDR.

U.S. visitors are prohibited from traveling in areas adjacent to GDR military installations, and permission must be obtained for travel within five kilometers of the GDR border, except when entering or leaving the country.

Our Embassy in Berlin issued 790 tourists visas and 600 other types of non-immigrant visas to GDR citizens during this reporting period. These represent normal figures for such a period. No information is available on how many visas were issued to Americans.

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. Because of affiliations with communist organizations, the majority of applicants require waivers of ineligibility. Those wishing to travel to the U.S. for business reasons who are not ineligible generally wait five working days for a visa. A U.S. visitors visa costs \$8.00 for a single entry, \$16.00 for two entries.

The U.S. Embassy 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. When the Czechoslovak tourist has a guarantee from a U.S. citizen immediate relative that all expenses will be paid, the exit document is often forthcoming. Tourism to Czechslovakia in general is encouraged although former Czechoslovak citizens frequently experience difficulties in obtaining entry visas.

Our Embassy in Prague issued 3,316 tourist visas during this period (a decrease of 84 over a year ago); total non-immigrant visa issuance was 4,434 (a decrease of 16 from last year).

Officially, the Czechoslovak Government is required by its own regulations to respond to all applications for exit permission within 30 to 60 days of submission. In fact, the process often takes much longer. In addition to applying for passports and exit permission, persons desiring to visit countries outside the Warsaw Pact must submit applications for hard currency allocations in January of the year in which they wish to travel. The maximum allocation is currently \$350.00 based on a total of \$18.00 per day per adult (\$9.00 for children). In obtaining this hard currency, Czechoslovaks must pay twenty-five Czechoslovak crowns for each dollar, a rate which may approximately reflect the free market rate in the West, but one which is more than twice the current "official" ratio of crowns to dollars which is given to U.S. tourists in Czechoslovakia. Those Czechoslovaks visiting close relatives in the U.S. are not required to change more than a minimal amount, however. Czechoslovaks applying to travel also need permission from their employer and a police certificate.

U.S. tourists are required to change the dollar equivalent of thirty West German marks daily (currently about \$11.00). Children and certain exceptional cases are required to change only half the amount. Currency exchange regulations are strictly enforced and our Embassy frequently receives after-hours telephone calls during peak travel months from tourists who failed to exchange enough money, allowed their visas to lapse, and found as a consequence that Czechoslovak hotels were not allowed to house them. Embassy officers have had to contact police authorities and arrange for exceptions to be made until the tourists were able to change money and extend their visas.

Tourists are not restricted in their travel around the country, although certain localities, for example, areas around military establishments, are declared off-limits. If a tourist loses his travel and identity documentation, he usually has to



wait three to five days before he receives exit permission. Our Embassy's efforts to assist in hastening departure approval in such cases have met with very limited success. A three-day delay is usually the minimum.

Bulgaria. Bulgarian officials issue passports and exit visas arbitrarily, often after an applicant has waited months or years. The average wait for the fortunate few who do receive travel documentation is reportedly two months. Bulgarians who apply for documentation to visit Western countries are often victims of official harassment before and after the visit. During the review period, our Embassy in Sofia issued 352 tourist visas for family visitation and 438 for business, sports, and cultural travel.

We estimate that more than 3,000 Americans visited Bulgaria as tourists during the period. U.S. visas are normally issued to Bulgarians within seven days of receipt of a complete application; American applicants for Bulgarian visas often must wait longer than seven days. A tourist exchange rate of 1.8 leva to the dollar is offered at some major hotels. The free market rate is between three and five leva to the dollar, but official exchange receipts are often required to purchase services or accomodation in leva. There are no minimum hard currency exchange requirements, and hard currency need not be declared when entering Bulgaria.

American visitors, except diplomats, may visit most areas of Bulgaria, with the exception of frontier zones, which are off limits to Bulgarian citizens as well without special permission.

#### 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 exchanges of information are actively suppressed in the Soviet Union and some East European countries, where strict state supervision of religious activities is the rule.

Soviet Union. The Soviet Government does not oppose contacts with religious groups from the West as long as only approved representatives of officially registered churches participate on the Soviet side. The Russian Orthodox Church, indeed, is an active propagandist for official Soviet policy on

questions of arms control and disarmament. Russian Orthodox representatives attended church meetings in the United States and elsewhere in the West during the review period. A group of over 80 U.S. religious leaders spent two weeks in the USSR during the summer.

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.

Travel abroad is also allowed for certain church representatives, and a number of registered Soviet Baptist leaders visited various U.S. Baptist churches during the reporting period. They, like the Russian Orthodox clergy, are careful to echo official Soviet propaganda in their dealings with foreign leaders.

Romania. Romania's record in the field of religious contacts is mixed. Official church leaders are allowed to travel to the West for meetings with their coreligionists and to attend ecumenical conferences. There have been several such trips during the reporting period. On the other hand, activist religious leaders have reported that they are told they cannot travel outside the country or that if they do it can only be one way and they will not be allowed back in. While a few American religious leaders have been denied visas or prevented entry at the border, large numbers of American and other Western ministers travel to Romania where they are able to visit churches and attend services wherever they want. In the September visit by Billy Graham he was able to meet with all religious leaders with whom he wished. While religious visitors to Romania have been relatively unfettered in their movements, their ability to "exchange information" as required by the Madrid Concluding Document is severely hampered by strict Romanian border controls of religious publications. Visiting ministers often complain that Bibles and other religious literature have been seized by border authorities.

Poland. Our Embassy in Warsaw currently issues non-immigrant visas to members of the clergy at the rate of approximately four per week. Most Polish clergy seem to have no difficulty in obtaining passports for travel abroad. Frequently, they are able to do this on significantly shorter notice than other travelers. Representatives of various U.S. religious denominations have also been able to travel to Poland without government interference.

Hungary. Hungary has a good record in this field. There are substantial contacts, and travel is considerable in both directions. Our Embassy in Budapest is not aware of particular difficulties for any denomination.

German Democratic Republic. Clergy and lay members of Western churches have been permitted to attend church synods and conferences held in the GDR, and some GDR religious leaders have been allowed to attend similar meetings in the West. There is a small private exchange of U.S. and GDR pastors. During this reporting period one American theology student is known to have studied at a seminary in East Berlin.

Czechoslovakia. The Czechoslovak record on facilitating travel by religious officials to and from Czechoslovakia is spotty. When the proposed visit serves the purpose of the state and takes place between an officially recognized religious institution in Czechoslovakia and its counterpart outside, visas are often granted. In the case of the Catholic Church, however, the Government has followed an extremely restrictive policy. Pope John Paul II was not permitted to visit Czechoslovakia during the summer despite an invitation by Cardinal Tomasek and petitions signed by thousands of Czech and Slovak Catholics, inviting him to lead ceremonies at Velehrad in honor of the 1100th anniversary of the death of St. Methodius. Catholic leaders from other countries, including Cardinal Koenig of Austria, Cardinal Lustiger of France and Cardinal Hume of Great Britain, were also denied visas to attend the celebrations. Similarly, activist Catholic priests and other religious leaders who manifest too much independence are frequently denied permission to travel outside Czechoslovakia.

Unofficial or unsanctioned travel by religious groups for purposes considered illegal by the Czechoslovak Government, e.g., importing religious literature or objects, carrying on religious training and similar activities, is severely punished. The Czechoslovak press reported in July that three Slovaks were sentenced to terms of 32 to 66 months for attempting to import religious materials from Poland to Czechoslovakia.

Bulgaria. Religious institutions continued to endure tight official scrutiny, with the Bulgarian Orthodox Church enjoying a favored position. There were no significant changes noted in the frequency of religious contacts or Bulgarian policy toward proselytizing. Church sermons tended to stress matters of personal devotion. If social topics were touched on at all, the clergy was careful to hew to officially approved positions.

## 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 Concluding Document contains a number of 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

Soviet Union. There have been no changes during the period under review regarding access by Soviet citizens to information in general and to U.S. media specifically. American newspapers and magazines are not available at Soviet newsstands, with the exception of very rare copies of American communist newspapers. American non-communist periodical publications are circulated only among a select elite and are treated as confidential material. Much the same is true of publications from other Western countries. The Soviet state organization which makes newspaper and magazine subscriptions available to the public lists for the United States only technical, scientific, and communist periodicals, at costs considerably higher than for domestic and East European journals. Although "America" magazine remains very popular in the USSR, it is available in very limited quantities for newsstand sales in addition to a limited number of subscriptions through Soviet distributors. A large number of copies of each issue is returned to the Embassy. American films continue to be shown to Soviet audiences on a select basis only. All Voice of America (VOA) native language programs and Radio Liberty broadcasts are still jammed.

Romania. Overall, the Government of Romania seeks to control domestic dissemination of information. Though the censorship system officially was abolished some years ago, all media are state-owned, rigidly controlled, and used primarily as vehicles for government and party propaganda. As such, they are widely ignored or treated with extreme skepticism. Foreign and even local news items are carefully selected. However, VOA, RFE, and other foreign broadcasts are not jammed.

Libraries generally control access to materials carefully; in the current reporting period there has been an increase in the number of books reportedly banned.

There are no American or other Western books or periodicals sold at Romanian newsstands, even in those hotels used primarily by foreigners. Limited numbers of Romanians gain access to American and western publications through foreign missions' information centers and libraries; some very few have subscriptions to Western periodicals, usually individually purchased during foreign travel. The Romanian Government does not grant permits for its citizens to use foreign exchange for Western periodical subscriptions. Occasionally, American books, usually out-of-date scientific or technical works, are available in second-hand bookstores.

Romanian TV shows at least one American film every three weeks, and at least one American science item per week. Older American films are shown commercially on a regular basis in Romanian theaters. Due to the severe energy crisis in Romania last winter, Romanian TV cut back its air time to approximately 20 hours per week, a restriction which remained in effect throughout this period. As a result, opportunities for the airing of American productions were severely reduced. Due to budget restrictions, the state-owned TV network has not purchased any American productions for several years.

Poland. Although not as open as during the Solidarity heyday, the Polish media still remain among the least shackled in the Warsaw Pact. While following the approved Polish Government line on international issues, and attacking VOA and Radio Free Europe (RFE), the press continues to be a forum for lively debate on some domestic issues. Long articles appearing in such periodicals as "Tygodnik Powszechny," "Kultura," and "Polityka" present contending views on economic reform, party ideology and cadre policy, the extent of dialogue with various spheres of society, cultural issues, the role of the church, administrative reforms such as the proposed territorial self-management councils, and most recently, the Parliamentary elections. The press also freely discusses social and family problems, acute housing conditions, drug and alcohol abuse, poor delivery of medical services, problems in education, difficulties faced by students, and many other issues highlighting the imperfections of life in Poland. Well-known officials and journalists participate in press and media discussions of public issues. Many journalists who were dismissed under martial law are now active again in small-circulation periodicals.

The more orthodox government officials 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. In much of the print media, however, they often have to be satisfied with an absence of criticism as opposed to enthusiastic backing. Poland is still a country where formal press censorship is practiced, and many articles are also self-censored before they reach official eyes. Controversial articles which do 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 and to means of handling controversial issues which would receive little or no public exposure in most other Eastern European countries. The official press has published results of recent public opinion polls which reflect widely-shared views unpopular with the government, and there have been several articles in major papers presenting both critical and positive reviews of this year's most popular book, which was published only in the underground press.

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

No American periodicals or books are presently sold at newsstands, although some U.S. news weeklies are found in public reading rooms. Public and university library purchases of new books and periodicals from the U.S. are severely limited by lack of hard currency. Our Embassy in Warsaw has 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 arrive through the Polish mails. One exception to this rule, which caused quite a stir among subscribers, involved an issue of National Geographic which contained an article on Afghanistan. Subscribers received notices from the Polish customs office saying that the issue contained unacceptable material critical of the Soviet Union and would not be allowed into the country. Our Embassy in Warsaw has heard of a few instances, however, in which subscribers challenged the decision and subsequently received their copies. 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 of Poland facilitates private subscriptions to periodicals from communist countries

by permitting subscribers to order them through the Polish central subscription office.

Currently thirteen American films are playing in Warsaw's cinemas. Titles which have arrived most recently include "Return of the Jedi," "To Be or Not To Be," "Zelig," "Airplane II," "E.T.," "Superman III," "Blue Thunder," "Blues Brothers," and "Being There." A recently-published list of the ten most popular films in Poland during the first half of 1985 was dominated by seven American titles. Polish television continues to show old American films with fair regularity. Although the lack of hard currency has made new acquisitions extremely rare, recent television offerings include "Mr. Majestyk," "A Funny Thing Happened on the Way to the Forum," "Little House on the Prairie," and "Escape From Alcatraz."

Approximately 75 percent of VOA Polish service shortwave broadcasts were jammed during this period. No VOA Polish mediumwave broadcasts have been jammed, and reception on this band continues to be good. Eighty percent of Polish RFE broadcasts are jammed. VOA English service has not been jammed.

Hungary. Western publications from the U.S., France, Germany, and other Western nations are available at major international hotels in Hungary and can be purchased for forints. However, certain publications that have "embarrassing" articles do not appear. For example, copies of the June 1985 National Geographic containing an article on Afghanistan were not delivered. Copies of publications from socialist countries are, of course, ubiquitous. Hungarian citizens are permitted to subscribe to Western periodicals, paying in forints, but we have no statistics on how this works in practice. Hungary translates and publishes a large number of foreign literary works.

Hungarian media regularly follow the Soviet line and often quote Tass as a means of registering Hungarian disapproval of American policy. Hungarian media representatives have met with American policy makers and spokesmen, but the results of these talks seldom find their way into reporting. For the most part Hungarians may listen to or watch Western radio or television. Hungary claims that it does not jam RFE, VOA or other Western stations, but recent reports indicate that Hungary did interfere with RFE when it ran an interview in Hungarian with former Prime Minister Hegeđus, the Prime Minister during the 1956 uprising.

German Democratic Republic. To the maximum extent feasible, the Government of the German Democratic Republic attempts to control the information available within its territory. All media have as a prime responsibility the

inculcation of values and beliefs favorable to the government and to the economic and social system it has established. A subsidiary goal is to present countries with differing political, social, and economic structures, including the U.S., as unsuccessful in meeting the basic needs of their citizenry. GDR coverage of U.S. foreign and domestic affairs continues to be on the whole critical, often quoting negative comments from the U.S. press out of context or presenting distorted pictures of life in the United States. Occasionally, positive comments about the U.S. are made, but these are exceptions to the rule.

Print media are effectively controlled. In general, only publications listed in the GDR's postal publication register may be imported. Materials not so listed are regularly confiscated at border and sector crossings. Our Embassy in Berlin has been able to distribute to official and unofficial contacts a variety of printed materials, including the USIA-produced magazines "Dialogue," "English Teaching Forum," and "Problems of Communism." To our knowledge, these publications usually reach their recipients, whether mailed or delivered by hand.

GDR broadcasting stations are state-owned and directed, but television and radio from abroad cannot be easily controlled. About 80 percent of GDR households receive television from West Germany and practically every household receives Western radio stations. The state does not try to discourage receiving foreign broadcasts, but does try to counter criticism in foreign newscasts with stories on its own programming.

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, scholarly journals, and daily papers. Circulation of all of these publications, even within those university sections or institutions permitted to subscribe to them, is restricted. Small numbers of the "International Herald Tribune" and other Western papers are also sold upon request for hard currency to foreigners in a few hotels catering to Western visitors.

It is difficult to purchase U.S. books and periodicals, other than those of the U.S. Communist Party, at bookstores and newsstands. U.S. materials in libraries are for restricted circulation. Only a very few researchers and scholars receive subscriptions to U.S. publications. Although that is due in part to the difficulty of paying for them in hard currency, it also reflects official reluctance to grant the postal license necessary to receive such materials through the mail. About thirty U.S. titles each year are translated and printed by government-owned publishing companies, mostly titles in the



public domain. However, the printings are small and the books often hard to obtain. Our Embassy in Berlin sends books to recipients in the GDR and has exhibited books at the book fair in Leipzig. GDR law provides that books "whose content violates the preservation of peace or in some other way is counter to the interest of the socialist state and its citizens" may not be distributed. There is no encouragement of any kind for wider usage of U.S. books and periodicals. Visitors are occasionally permitted access to our Embassy's library facility to attend a special event, not merely to use the materials.

In theaters in the German Democratic Republic, approximately 120 foreign films will be shown in 1985. Of these, about 15 will be U.S. films. In addition, GDR television will purchase older U.S. feature films for broadcast. A wider variety of films on American life is now shown than two years ago; some of the films are chosen for their entertainment value and not just because they present negative or violent views of U.S. society.

VOA, RFE, and Radio in the American Sector (RIAS) broadcasts are not jammed. GDR journals, however, have printed articles accusing these services of being agents of the CIA and presenting anti-GDR propaganda.

Czechoslovakia. The performance of the Czechslovak Government concerning the dissemination of printed, filmed, and broadcast information continues to be poor. Although information originating from socialist countries, particularly the Soviet Union, is prominently published and broadcast, information from Western sources is hard to obtain and often restricted by the Czechoslovak Government. Broadcasts and publications that shed unfavorable light on Czechoslovak or Soviet society and policy are particularly disapproved of by the authorities.

There are no American publications sold openly in Czechoslovakia except for a few copies of the U.S. Communist Party newspaper Daily World, which appear on newsstands irregularly.

American books and periodicals are not generally available, although some are available on a restricted basis in technical and university libraries. During the reporting period, the Government of Czechoslovakia did not interfere overtly with the operation of the American Embassy Library in Prague, which makes its nearly 5,000 American books and 114 current U.S. periodicals, in the English language, accessible to the public daily. However, free access to the library is not facilitated by the presence of armed Czechoslovak guards outside the

Embassy and the widespread fear among Czechoslovak citizens, by no means discouraged by their government, that they will have difficulties should 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 criticism. Moreover, the departmental libraries are generally open only to faculty members and students majoring in English.

Our Prague Embassy's Press and Culture Section distributes 164 subscriptions to American periodicals (105 titles) to Czechoslovak individuals and institutions under our periodicals presentation program. The Press and Culture Section, however, continues to receive complaints from private Czechoslovak citizens that subscriptions to American magazines, American Embassy library "outreach" materials, the USIA Czech-language magazine "Spektrum," and other publications are often interrupted. A 1983 directive issued by the Czechoslovak Ministry of Communications and the Federal Office of Press and Information that changes the terms of payment for subscriptions to periodicals from non-socialist countries from Czechoslovak crowns to U.S. dollars or other convertible currency is still in force. Since payment by individuals and institutions (even those relatively few who are permitted access to Western publications) is a real burden, the long-term result of the directive probably is a substantial reduction in the number and variety of foreign publications purchased from the West.

American films make up a sizable percentage of films shown commercially, more than for any other Western country. Among the U.S. films screened in Prague's dozen principal central city moviehouses during the reporting period were "The Black Stallion" and "On Golden Pond." Most U.S. films are productions that are at least several years old and which contain nothing that could be considered offensive to socialism or to the Czechoslovak Government. American films rarely appear on Czechoslovak television.

Radio Free Europe is jammed heavily in Prague and other major cities, but it is often possible to receive its transmissions in the countryside or, by changing frequencies, to pick it up in the big cities from time to time. The Voice of America is not jammed.

Bulgaria. The media in Bulgaria is tightly controlled by the Communist Party and there is no likelihood of any change. Censorship remains a way of life. No Western periodicals, except those published by Western Communist parties, are sold in Bulgaria or otherwise made available to Bulgarian citizens. When foreign publications are provided for Westerners who are here for conferences, Bulgarian citizens are prevented from

having access to these publications. One Western diplomat watched security authorities confiscate a Western magazine from a Bulgarian woman who obtained it at a recent international conference in Sofia.

During the review period, Bulgarian television has shown Western programs on a regular basis. Western films and, in particular, American films are regularly shown in Bulgarian cinemas. Two recent films were "The Empire Strikes Back" and "Tootsie." The national film archives continue to show an American film every Monday and Friday as well as other foreign films. The archives' film theatre is open to the public. "Casablanca," "Singing in the Rain," "Death on the Nile," and "Murder on the Orient Express," were aired on television, but a U.S. film exhibit under the bilateral exchange agreement was rejected by the Bulgarian Government. A number of Western plays are performed at Bulgarian theaters and Western music is regularly heard on Bulgarian radio. The New York "Philomusica" Chamber group performed in Sofia in June at a government-sponsored festival. Pianist Leonard Pennario also gave a recital. In official cultural exchanges, Bulgaria has attempted to limit volume while dictating taste and content to Western exhibitors. A number of carefully selected articles from the American and Western press are translated and reprinted in Bulgarian publications.

#### Working Conditions for Journalists

Soviet Union. During the reporting period harassment of journalists continued. A reporter returning from Helsinki where he had covered the ceremonies commemorating the tenth anniversary of the signing of the Final Act was detained for several hours by customs officials in Leningrad. His notes and other materials, including a copy of the Helsinki Final Act, were confiscated. After vigorous protests by our Consulate General in Leningrad, the materials were returned on the following day. However, an official inventory of the seized items the correspondent had signed the previous day had been tampered with to make it appear that fewer documents had been confiscated than in fact had been. Videotape from the BBC and a U.S. network was confiscated at Moscow Airport from a dependent of a British journalist. Two American reporters were attacked in the Soviet media for allegedly tendentious reporting during the review period. These quasi-private and public attacks and harassment are apparently crude attempts to intimidate Moscow-based reporters, as well as journalists coming to the Soviet Union on specific assignment.

Soviet authorities continue to withhold approval of the long-standing application of the Wall Street Journal to open a Moscow bureau. They have not denied the request, but have said

frankly that they will take their time "studying the application." In discussions regarding that application Soviet authorities have made it clear that the cause of the long delay is official Soviet displeasure with the Journal's editorial policies. The Washington Times has also applied for permission to open a Moscow bureau. They have met the same stonewalling tactics encountered by the Wall Street Journal and for the same reason -- the Soviets do not like the editorial opinions expressed in the newspaper.

There are 31 U.S. journalists accredited on a permanent basis in the Soviet Union. This number includes journalists representing Pilot and The Daily World. In addition, there are ten resident, permanently accredited technical personnel. Finally, there are two additional non-resident correspondents, who hold full accreditation. All have multiple entry-exit visas valid for one year.

Romania. Romania regards foreign journalists with suspicion and openly seeks to manipulate and control them. During this reporting period the representative of a major U.S. daily was told by Romanian authorities that he was "persona non grata" and, though he had a valid multiple-entry visa, would not be allowed in the country. A senior Romanian official subsequently complained that the journalist's notably objective reporting had been "anti-Romanian." Later, another representative of this paper, as well as a Pulitzer Prize-winning correspondent for another highly respected, major U.S. newspaper, were severely lectured by a representative of the official news agency "Agerpres" (technically, the "host" for all journalist visitors) regarding "unprofessional" and "biased" reporting. He made it clear they would be barred from Romania if their reporting was uncomplimentary. Western journalists frequently complain of bureaucratic frustration, obfuscation, and misrepresentation, despite Government protests of frankness and cooperation. Visiting journalists are told that all interviews must be cleared by "Agerpres" or the Ministry of Foreign Affairs. Many Western journalists manage to make unofficial contacts with Romanian citizens and officials. By and large, Western journalists depend heavily on diplomatic and Western business contacts as sources of information.

There are no permanently-accredited American journalists resident in Romania. Approximately 20 visas per year are granted to visiting American journalists. Three non-resident American journalists are accredited in Bucharest, but they, too, are granted only single-entry visas. At least one American journalist was refused a working visa during this period. Also a three-person TV crew arrived without visas having been assured by the Romanian Embassy in Washington that

airport visas could be obtained. They were denied entry and forced to depart. In previous reporting periods, some journalists have been granted visas immediately, while others have encountered long and seemingly arbitrary delays. During this reporting period, one journalist, returning here without a visa after some years away from Romania, was granted an airport visa without difficulty.

The Romanian Government provides opportunities for journalists to travel under strictly controlled conditions, usually only to government approved destinations and always with official escorts.

By Romanian law, citizens must report contacts and the substance of any conversation with any foreigner. Romanian authorities vigorously discourage all but officially-approved contact by their citizens with Western journalists. Some American and Western news agencies employ Romanian citizens as stringers in Romania, hired with Romanian Government approval.

During this period there were no problems getting Romanian authorization for radio and television journalists to bring their own technicians, equipment, and professional reference materials into the country. There is a meticulous recording of serial numbers. In the case of typewriters, a sample of the type face 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 handled expeditiously but the passports are usually received from Romanian authorities on very short notice.

American and other national press centers are allowed for certain events. There is an operating Romanian foreign press club, at which periodic press conferences are held; otherwise activities at this press club are very rare.

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 difficulty in obtaining access to important sources, and, in fact, rank Poland high on the list of Eastern European countries in terms of general access. The Polish Government spokesman schedules weekly press conferences for foreign correspondents which are well attended and often include newsworthy announcements and considerable give and take. Foreign journalists may travel freely without prior permission, although many have been stopped by provincial authorities for document checks and inspections of the content of their motor vehicles. TV correspondents have been subjected to

harrassment, including temporary detention and seizure of equipment, when they attempt to cover demonstrations.

Technical equipment is imported without restriction, but technical assistance is not: American television networks are allowed one permanently accredited correspondent as well as an accredited producer. Additional 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 requirements for others.

Three new permanent accreditations were granted to U.S. media representatives during the review period. Our Embassy in Warsaw estimates that some 20 visas have been granted to U.S. journalists not permanently accredited.

The only visa refusal of which we are aware involves the Voice of America Vienna correspondent who has applied for a visa four times during the past six months and been turned down each time with the clear understanding that the refusal is directly related to his VOA connection. We know of no delays in issuing visas for visiting correspondents.

There are now 15 U.S. journalists and two television producers permanently accredited in Poland. They and their families have multiple-entry visas which must be renewed every year. The Polish Government has extended the validity of multiple-entry visas for resident foreign correspondents from six months to one year. There are no travel restrictions in Poland for resident or visiting foreign journalists.

Visiting radio and television journalists may bring their own equipment and crews. Our Embassy has heard no reports of either visiting or resident journalists not being able to carry reference material for professional use.

One visa for permanent accreditation was issued to a Polish journalist during the reporting period. We issued twelve visas to journalists for short visits to the U.S. No U.S. visas were refused to Polish journalist applicants.

One press center, Interpress in Warsaw, is open to both national and foreign correspondents.

Hungary. American journalists visit Hungary often and have no difficulty getting visas. The Ministry of Foreign Affairs Press Center, "Pressinform," assists foreign journalists. Reports of its cooperation and efficiency have been generally favorable, and it 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 enter Hungary on multiple-entry visas approved in 1982. After notifying either a Hungarian Embassy or the Foreign Ministry, radio and television journalists can bring their own technicians and equipment, which must be registered with Hungarian Customs both upon entering and leaving the country. They can also take with them reference materials for professional personal use without any difficulty. Our Embassy in Budapest 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, and there are no areas closed to travel in Hungary. We know of no American correspondents who have been expelled from Hungary. During the reporting period nine visas were granted to Hungarian journalists permanently accredited to the U.S., a figure which includes six family members. Eleven were issued to Hungarian journalists for shorter periods. No such visas were refused, and none delayed more than six months.

German Democratic Republic. Foreign journalists are accorded courteous and correct treatment. Their ability to report on events in the GDR is hampered by laws which limit their ability to travel without prior permission, to make appointments directly with GDR officials and individuals, and to receive needed information. These laws, however, are not always applied.

A representative of the Communist Daily Worker and an AP correspondent, who is not a U.S. citizen, are permanently accredited to the German Democratic Republic. The number of temporary visas issued to American journalists during this reporting period is unknown. An unusually large number of newsmen visited the GDR in connection with events marking the end of World War II in Europe, and to our Embassy's knowledge, none were refused a visa. Occasionally, visa requests for technical crews, television cameramen and the like, are denied -- evidently to encourage the use of local crews -- but our Embassy knows of no such instances during this reporting period.

No American journalists have been refused visas to our knowledge. Visa applications from journalists are usually

decided upon without delay. The non-American journalist employed by AP and the Daily Worker correspondent have multiple-entry visas valid for one year.

All travel by journalists outside Berlin must be approved by the Foreign Ministry. In practice, the authorities usually are tolerant of travel without prior approval, but they have the legal basis to stop such travel if they wish.

Western journalists must have Foreign Ministry approval for interviews or any significant contact. By GDR law, many GDR citizens may not maintain contact with foreign journalists. Access to information and people remains carefully controlled by the state.

Authorization to bring technicians and equipment into the GDR has generally been granted. For certain events, the GDR has claimed insufficient time to process applications. GDR authorities insist that foreign journalists, like other foreigners, are subject to restrictions on the printed material they can bring into the GDR. In fact, however, journalists generally have had no trouble bringing in needed materials.

We know of no instance in which an American journalist was expelled. The U.S. Embassy in Berlin issued two visas to ADN (the official GDR press service) correspondents assigned to Washington. However, GDR journalists, and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs on their behalf, have claimed that U.S. issuance of only single entry visas, and the requirement that new visas be requested when journalists travel outside the U.S. (to Canada, for instance) infringes upon freedom of travel for journalists. GDR officials also complain that it usually takes about two weeks for a GDR journalist to get a U.S. visa, whereas corresponding GDR visas are issued within a couple of days to U.S. journalists.

An International Press Center with facilities open to foreign journalists is located in East Berlin. During the Leipzig fairs, a press center is also open in Leipzig.

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



More than two dozen short-term visas were granted to American newsmen by local authorities in connection with permanent accreditation. Visas for Western journalists not permanently accredited totaled approximately 70 during the reporting period.

According to the Government of Czechoslovakia Ministry of Foreign Affairs Press Section, eight American organizations have accredited (or accreditation-pending) correspondents at the present time. The organizations include the Associated Press, Time-Life, Newsweek, The Washington Post, The Detroit Free Press, The Los Angeles Times, The Voice of America, and The Daily World. Two CBS-TV correspondents have been waiting since February 1984 for a response to their requests for permanent non-resident accreditation. (One has since withdrawn his name.)

The sole resident U.S. journalist was the representative of The Daily World. That correspondent has returned permanently to the United States and there has been no request as yet for a replacement.

There are no travel restrictions on accredited journalists except in security areas. Several journalist tours for resident correspondents are organized by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs Press Department each year. However, the Government of Czechoslovakia has not undertaken measures to provide more extensive travel opportunities for American journalists.

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 Czechoslovak 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 borderguards and customs officials both on entering and leaving Czechoslovakia.

To our Embassy's knowledge, no American journalists were expelled during the reporting period.

During the reporting period, three new U.S. visas were granted to Czechoslovak journalists for permanent accreditation and shorter visits. At present, there are four accredited Czechoslovak journalists in the U.S.

Bulgaria. Working conditions for foreign journalists in Bulgaria are still poor and harassment of them has increased. If a journalist is willing to follow a government-prepared program, he is likely to be treated well during his stay in Bulgaria. However, those journalists who try to seek out news and report it as they find it, regardless of whether or not it is favorable to the regime, often are frustrated by the authorities.

At the end of May, VOA's Eastern Europe correspondent was detained twice by militia when he attempted to visit ethnic Turkish areas; theoretically, all areas of Bulgaria are open to journalists. A journalist from West Germany was also detained during this period when he tried to visit ethnic Turks.

The Government of Bulgaria continues to use the denial of visas to journalists as a way of showing its displeasure over a particular article a journalist has written. An AFP correspondent was denied a visa for seven months after he wrote an article critical of the regime's handling of the ethnic Turkish situation.

There are no resident American journalists in Bulgaria. The VOA correspondent in Vienna has been accredited, raising the number of Americans accredited to six. TV and film crews are permitted to bring their equipment into the country, as are radio journalists. The "Sofia Press" organization, which is responsible for visiting journalists, charges a fee for making appointments with officials and others in Bulgaria. The average cost for this service is two hundred dollars for three days of work and more if the journalist stays longer.

#### 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. Government financial

assistance. Others are strictly private and only come to our attention through the visa application process or when problems arise.

Soviet Union. Negotiations on a new official exchanges agreement on cultural, educational, scientific, and technical and other fields between the U.S. and the USSR continue in Moscow. If an agreement is concluded, it will be the first official bilateral exchanges agreement since 1979.

While bilateral cultural exchanges and cooperation between the U.S. and the USSR generally remained at the same comparatively low level as during the previous six months, there were several noteworthy performances by American artists during this period, including a series of concerts in Moscow, Leningrad, and Tallinn by singer/songwriter John Denver.

The United States was well represented at two other major Soviet cultural events during the summer of 1985: the Moscow International Book Fair and the Moscow International Film Festival. At the film festival, the official American entry, "A Soldier's Story," shared the top prize with a Soviet and a Greek film and received considerable favorable media coverage. A number of other recent American films were shown during the period of the festival at Moscow movie theaters.

A handful of American artists performed privately for invited audiences, including Soviet citizens, at the official U.S. residences in Moscow and Leningrad. The residences have also hosted an active program of feature film shows which have given invited Soviet audiences an opportunity to see first-run films such as "Amadeus" and "A Passage to India." The range of such activities continued to be quite narrow, however, and Soviet authorities continued to block most efforts to extend American cultural programs beyond the confines of official U.S. premises. Individual Americans continued to participate in international fairs, festivals, and cultural meetings in the Soviet Union, although levels of participation have been generally lower than in the 1970's. Some Soviet artists and performers were invited to the U.S. for similar purposes, but one of them, a ceramicist, was denied permission to attend an international ceramics symposium in August.

Access by Soviet nationals to foreign culture remained tightly controlled. The Soviet Union claims to be the world's largest translator of foreign books, with more than 2,000 foreign authors published every year. However, such translations are selective and tendentious, with huge runs of "acceptable" authors such as Mark Twain and Jack London, occasional pieces by contemporary American and other Western writers, and nothing critical of the USSR. A fair number of

Western films are shown. As in the case of books, the selection is tendentious, including few good films. Nonetheless, even Western films of lesser quality are very popular with the Soviet public, and in large cities sometimes account for as many as 30-40 percent of all films being shown at any given time.

Soviet treatment of regional and national minority cultures continued to be ambivalent. On the one hand, the Soviet Government has often stated that it upholds the many national languages and cultures of the USSR. The Soviet mass media present the official point of view in dozens of languages. Regional folk music and dance groups and theaters are funded by the government. On the other hand, Russians (who make up about half the population of the Soviet Union) tend to dominate the country culturally as they do politically. Non-Russians are expected to know two languages, Russian and their own, and to honor Russian cultural heroes like Pushkin. Some smaller nationalities, such as the Latvians, Lithuanians, and Estonians, are concerned about eventual assimilation by the Russians. Cultural expression which stresses pride in the history, religion, and literature of minority nationalities runs the risk of being officially labelled "bourgeois nationalism" and repressed as anti-Soviet or subversive.

Although participation in educational exchange programs held steady at about sixty exchangees per side, administrative difficulties at the Ministry of Higher Education continued to hobble our exchange program. Eleventh-hour or inappropriate placement, lack of dependent housing, and delays in visa issuance sometimes resulted in withdrawal of U.S. candidates. And difficulties in obtaining research access or professional travel for consultations often diminished the quality of in-country programs.

Soviet sponsors continued to have difficulty in getting Soviet clearances for their own grantees to travel, with the result that many Soviet scholars arrived late at their U.S. institutions and some withdrew at the last minute.

Approximately 250 Russian-language students and teachers of Russian study in the Soviet Union annually on summer, semester, or year-long programs. A much smaller number of Soviet English-language teachers travel to the U.S. on both U.S.-supported and private exchanges. The American Field Service-Ministry of Higher Education exchange of high-school language teachers was cancelled after the Korean airliner incident. It has not resumed, but may be revived under the bilateral exchange agreement currently being negotiated.

Hopes that the Fulbright lecturer program would return to

"normal" levels of 15 per year for each side were not fulfilled. To the contrary, problems plaguing the program as it began its 1985-86 cycle suggested that it might be further reduced, possibly to six or seven per side.

Romania. There have been only minor changes in the state of U.S.-Romanian bilateral cultural relations over the past year. A two year cultural agreement was successfully renegotiated in December 1983 and signed later the same month; it is expected to be renewed at the end of 1985 by mutual consent.

Visits, exhibits, film showings, book fairs, magazine exchanges and performing arts exchanges all come under the cultural exchange agreement or the agreement which originally established the American and Romanian libraries in the two countries. Film showings, for example, are a regular feature of the program of the American library in Bucharest, and various exhibitions have been held at the library in the past six months. Access to these showings, and the library, is generally unimpeded, though frequent visitors may be questioned, and discouraged, by the authorities. Continuous closed-circuit television displays outside the Embassy have drawn no objection from the authorities, and large crowds.

Following a highly-successful run in Bucharest during the last reporting period, another major exhibit on American theater was mounted in the late spring of 1985 in the two major provincial cities, Cluj and Timisoara. It was well attended and a major success at both locations.

Other Western countries report a gloomier picture during this reporting period. Most report shrinkage of cultural exchange programs, with even some long-standing activities eliminated. Financial restrictions typically are cited by Romanian authorities as the reason. Romanian priorities reportedly exclude academic exchange in non-technical areas.

Romanian compliance with the Helsinki Final Act's provisions on translation, publication, and dissemination of written works from other states remains poor. Although the Romanian-Hungarian cultural exchange agreement provides for the import of a large number of Hungarian-language books here each year, Romanian authorities have interdicted such imports almost completely. The U.S.-Romanian cultural agreement calls for increased exchange of materials for translation and publication. Though the Romanian Council of Culture originally asked us to investigate possibilities for a seminar on this subject, interest in such a project seems to have flagged.

The government of Romania has shown no inclination to promote dissemination of and access to books, films, and other forms of cultural expression. Foreign exchange shortages and rigid ideological controls have made it unlikely that this situation will change. Attempts to circumvent this policy face bureaucratic obstacles and continue to result in confiscation; in the case of Bibles the importers face harassment and, occasionally, long jail sentences.

In theory, the sizable Hungarian, German, Jewish, and other minorities enjoy the same rights as ethnic Romanians, and in fact the government some years ago instituted special programs for those groups. Recently, however, these groups, especially the Hungarians, have been subjected to increasing discrimination, official if unacknowledged, and a program of "Romanianization" apparently continues. Despite previous government guarantees, opportunities to study general subjects at the university level in Hungarian or German have become almost nonexistent. We understand that German and Hungarian libraries have been removed from their respective ethnic regions and transferred to Bucharest, where they are under the control of the ethnically-Romanian central government and less accessible to the concerned nationalities. There is one Hungarian-language and one German-language high school in Bucharest and in each the proportion of Romanian-language classes has risen dramatically over the last few years. Some of the provincial ethnic language schools, established years ago, have recently been completely converted to Romanian. When Romanian history is treated on TV, the historic contributions of the minority groups are given little or no emphasis. Within the last year, signs denoting ethnic origin of folk-art displays have been removed in at least some museums.

Relations with the Romanian Ministry of Education are correct, but the Ministry all too often appears recalcitrant in dealing with the needs and requirements of American scholars. While the American side always sends the maximum number of exchangees allowed under the agreement, Romania continues to allow its quotas for study in the U.S. to lapse barely touched. The principal reason given is that the teaching load and length of the school year in Romania does not allow sufficient time for most professors to undertake lengthy research projects abroad. American researchers continue to experience unreasonable delays in getting access to research and archival materials. There are no open-access libraries in Romania, except those associated with diplomatic missions. Foreigners other than official grantees are usually not allowed to use library or archival facilities.

Poland. There is no official bilateral exchanges agreement between the U.S. and Poland. Through non-governmental organizations, Poland continues to send orchestras, art exhibits, and other such attractions to the United States. Various American artists and musicians continue to visit Poland and Poles continue to visit the U.S. under private arrangements. A shortage of hard currency to pay Western performers tends to keep the number of visiting American artists at a low level.

The U.S.-Poland Fulbright Program and private academic exchanges remain active. Americans in Poland under the IREX exchange program have no problems with access to open archival material. However, the government of Poland continues to forbid Poles to accept invitations to participate in the U.S. Government-sponsored International Visitor Program.

Polish publishers continue to publish translations of American and other Western 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. Recent press articles have mentioned the need to concentrate more on the publication of works from "fraternal Socialist countries," and consequently to spend less time and effort on translating and disseminating works originating in cultures perceived (at least officially) as unfriendly. 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.

In the cultural field, government policy toward Poland's minorities can be described as benign neglect. Although there has been a great deal of public attention to the importance of Poland's Jewish cultural heritage, official attempts to preserve it have been largely of an archival, museum nature. There have also been projects organized on a local level to restore and maintain some Jewish cemeteries, although many suffer continued neglect. Other small national minorities, i.e., Ukrainians, Byelorussians, Tartars, etc., maintain their cultural identity mainly by virtue of their own efforts.

Hungary. The current two-year bilateral exchanges agreement between the U.S. and Hungary will be re-negotiated in January 1986. These two-year programs have expanded steadily since the signing of a general agreement on exchanges between the two countries in 1977. The first privately funded Chair in American studies, in memory of Otto Salgo, at Budapest's Eotvos Lorand University, is in its third year. During this period the Salgo Professor organized the first American Studies conference in Hungary, on the topic of "Popular Culture."

One indication of the state of U.S.-Hungarian educational relations is the increased interest in academic exchanges. The U.S.-Hungary Fulbright Program is set officially at two lecturers and researchers in each direction each year. Informal expansion continues, however, as scholars in both countries are invited by their colleagues, and the Fulbright Program provides full or partial funding. The Hungarian Ministry of Culture has cooperated fully in this expansion. The universities in Pecs and Szeged continue to ask for American lecturers, and placement of an English language teaching specialist is being considered for one or both of these institutions in the future. Several American universities have sent representatives to Hungary in an attempt to develop private exchange programs. In addition, the Hungarian Ministry of Culture has expressed interest in starting a Fulbright graduate student exchange program with the U.S. It would involve the exchange of six students in each direction yearly.

Hungarian minority policy is liberal in theory and practice. Members of the Romanian, German, Serb, and Slovak ethnic minorities make up a very small percentage of the population. They have full legal equality and substantial opportunities to obtain at least some education in their native language as well as to foster their native culture.

A much larger number of gypsies (estimates range up to five percent of the population) live in Hungary. Although they are not recognized as an official minority, they do have a National Council that reports to the Council of Ministers. As individuals they have equality before the law. In practice the Hungarian Government engages in many programs specifically designed to raise the standard of living of gypsies and help them adjust to the mainstream of Hungarian life. However, gypsies are on average considerably less well educated and poorer than the native Magyar population or the recognized ethnic minorities. In recent years, candid discussion has been increasing in the press and specialized literature about the social and economic difficulties experienced by gypsies, including the fact that considerable popular prejudice exists against them.

German Democratic Republic. The United States is required to arrange all cultural programs through the GDR Ministry of Foreign Affairs, a procedure that unduly delays and confuses arrangements. The GDR continues to assert that cultural relations should be arranged under a bilateral cultural agreement, and that ad hoc arrangements outside of such an agreement are much less acceptable and more difficult to arrange. Certain programs proposed during the review period could easily have been arranged by the GDR but were obviously refused for political reasons.



The United States has had only limited success in setting up exchange visits, festivals, exhibits, and film showings. U.S. cultural figures have not been able to address general GDR audiences nor to lecture at GDR universities except under university-to-university agreements in which the U.S. Government's role is indirect. The U.S. has regularly assisted with the scheduling of lectures for GDR writers, filmmakers, and musicians in the U.S., including on occasion the financing of such visits. The foreign and cultural ministries have proven unwilling or unable to set up equivalent programs in the GDR.

We requested over a year ago permission to show a major film exhibit in late 1986. The exhibit has been tentatively accepted by the GDR, but final arrangements have not yet been made. There is occasional American participation on a commercial basis in GDR cultural festivals. There are no existing performing arts exchanges, although some travel of performing artists is arranged through the U.S.-GDR Friendship Society. There are also several private arrangements for exchanging publications.

The GDR views culture as a government tool, and carefully controls access by its citizens to Western cultural events and figures. Security and other state organs carefully consider every cultural program in the light of political and ideological considerations. Except for cultural programs transmitted from abroad via television or radio, which by their nature can not be controlled at the borders, all cultural offerings must be approved by state authorities before being made available to local audiences. The GDR forbids the circulation of all unapproved books, films, publications, and other forms of cultural expression. It makes available those elements of foreign culture which it considers favorable to its world view by providing subsidies and arranging publication and distribution of these materials. All other cultural products are not only discouraged, but actively proscribed. Only individuals with GDR permission can attend invitational film showings in the U.S. Embassy.

The Sorbs, numbering about 45,000, constitute the only remaining substantial ethnic minority in the GDR. There is no apparent cultural or governmental discrimination against this group. Schools in areas with a Sorb population have specially designed curricula that emphasize aspects of the Sorb culture, and instruction is offered in the Sorbian. Sorbs are well integrated into the general population.

Bilateral relations in the field of education have remained relatively constant over the reporting period. Although there are no governmental programs, academic exchange programs in the GDR are organized under the International Research and Exchange Board (IREX) program, as direct university-to-university programs, or under the limited National Academy of Science Exchange agreement. The several American institutions involved have indicated interest in expanding the scope of these programs but have been critical of GDR efforts to keep American participants separate from their GDR colleagues and distant from GDR students. Exchanges are underway between Johns Hopkins and Humboldt, between Minnesota and Humboldt, between Kent State and Leipzig, between Brown and Rostock, and between Colby College and Schiller University. The GDR-U.S. Friendship Society also has a limited number of scholarships for U.S. students.

IREX provides sixty man-months of exchanges in each direction. In general, the GDR has provided access to library and archival material requested, except in the case of archives under the control of the Ministry of the Interior, which has major historical holdings. Scholars not under IREX or a university-to-university program can seldom arrange access to GDR materials. GDR educational and other authorities have not provided access to individuals for these scholars nor have they permitted access to statistical data or given permission for interviews, except in a very few instances. In general, however, after an academic or research program has received the necessary clearances, the GDR authorities are scrupulous in assisting the scholar in carrying it through.

Czechoslovakia. Overall bilateral relations in the field of culture have remained static during the reporting period. Czechoslovak authorities have displayed some marginal interest in U.S. efforts to expand programs in the cultural area by approving an American art exhibit at a Prague museum for June to July 1985. A major Czechoslovak exhibit, "The Precious Legacy: Judaic Treasures from the Czechoslovak State Collections," was shown in Hartford, Connecticut, through July 1985. American performers, including Hal Holbrook, have performed in Czechoslovakia during the reporting period with no difficulties.

Czechoslovak authorities have shown no interest in visits by Czechoslovak specialists to the U.S., although two experts in environmental studies and two specialists in energy, among a few others, were allowed to participate in USIA-sponsored projects. The Czechoslovak Ministry of Foreign Affairs has been somewhat less reluctant during the review period to approve visits by American specialists in American literature and other fields under U.S. sponsorship.

While the Czechoslovak government makes little effort to encourage the publication and dissemination of written works from the United States, American literature in translation can be found in most major bookstores. Books chosen to be translated often seem to be selected with an eye to their negative picture of life in America rather than their literary merit. American fiction is translated regularly for the literary magazine "World Literature." Customs duties have not been lowered to encourage the dissemination of and access to books, films, and other forms of cultural expression from the West.

Cooperation and exchanges in the field of education have not changed since the last reporting period. 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. Exchanges under IREX (The International Research and Exchanges Board) have not increased significantly. No expansion is planned for the English-teaching seminars held in Czechoslovakia during the summer in which five American lecturers participated with U.S. Government support. During the reporting period there have been no complaints from U.S. exchangees regarding access to archives and libraries.

Bulgaria. Cultural and educational exchanges between the U.S. and Bulgaria are facilitated by a two-year bilateral exchanges agreement, which was signed in December 1984. Problems over the interpretation of the agreement continue, however, as Bulgarian officials attempt to read strict interpretations into the agreement in order to prevent direct contact between our Embassy and Bulgarian cultural and media institutions. Contrary to the agreement, the Bulgarian Government has refused to permit a USIA multimedia exhibit on "Filmmaking in America" for the time period the Embassy proposed.

The Bulgarian Government still discourages its citizens from visiting the Press and Culture section of our Embassy in Sofia, but there were more Bulgarian visitors during the current period than before. Popular demand for the USIA Bulgarian language publication "Spectur" is growing. Our Embassy's distribution of "Spectur" has risen from 6,000 copies per quarter to 8,000.

Bulgarian authorities continue to set bureaucratic blocks in the way of USIA sponsored American Participant (AMPART) visitors. The U.S. has only been able to program one AMPART visitor during 1985 as opposed to three or four in previous

years. The Government of Bulgaria has shown increased interest in student exchanges. The 1984 agreement for the first time calls for an exchange of graduate students, and Bulgarian officials have expressed interest in sending Bulgarian graduate students to U.S. universities. Although educational exchanges are part of our bilateral exchanges agreement, private exchanges take place without official U.S. Government involvement. While the Bulgarians appear to have accepted the Fulbright program, most private exchanges involve only short-duration visits by scholars rather than long-term arrangements.

### Culture

Books and Publishing. U.S. presence at the August 1985 Moscow International Book Fair was greater than at the previous fair two years earlier. This was primarily due to the participation of the large U.S. book wholesaling firm Baker and Taylor and, for the first time since 1979, the Association of American Publishers (AAP). There was also a continuing presence by a few U.S. trade publishers and by several scientific and religious publishers, such as the Association of Jewish Book Publishers. As at previous fairs, there were controversies involving visa denials to some U.S. publishers and observers, Soviet confiscation of books and catalogs, and obtrusive Soviet control procedures. Nonetheless, thousands of Soviets had the opportunity to view and read a broad sample of American books.

The United States and the USSR continue to distribute in each other's country their official monthly publications, America Illustrated and Soviet Life. Out of 60,000 copies of America Illustrated delivered for newsstand sales, Soviet authorities continue to return several thousand copies, ostensibly as unsold. In Poland, prohibition of newsstand sales and distribution of the U.S. Government Polish-language publication Ameryka continued during the reporting period. The U.S. Embassy in Sofia distributes 8,000 copies of the quarterly Bulgarian-language magazine Spektur.

Polish publishers continue to print translations of American and other Western authors, although much of what is currently appearing in print results from contracts signed as long as five years ago. In the future we expect that fewer American titles may appear due to the shortage of hard currency for the purchase of publication rights.

Performing Arts. In June, singer/songwriter John Denver returned to the Soviet Union for a series of concerts in Moscow, Leningrad, and Tallinn which were attended by a total of over 10,000 people. Denver's tour was organized under the auspices of the Esalen Institute and the Soviet Ministry of Culture's concert organization, Goskontsert. This represented the first time since the lapse of the previous cultural exchanges agreement at the end of 1979 that an American performer had appeared before large Soviet audiences on a full-scale concert tour, albeit under private auspices.

In July 1985 the Louisiana Repertory Jazz Ensemble gave performances in Moscow, Leningrad, Warsaw, Gniezno (Poland), and Prague. In Poland the group gave concerts at Warsaw's Aquarium Jazz Club and at the Gniezno Festival of Traditional Jazz.

Singer Bob Dylan appeared briefly at an international poetry festival on the eve of the Moscow International Youth Festival.

Choreographers Ivana Kubicova and Marcela Benoniova (Czechoslovakia) and Jerzy Lesczynski (Poland) participated in the "1985 International Choreographers' Workshop" sponsored by the American Dance Festival in June/July 1985 in Durham, North Carolina.

American actor Hal Holbrook presented "Mark Twain Tonight" in Prague in May 1985. The performances were arranged by the Czechoslovak concert agency Pragokonzert and USIA.

The San Francisco Boys Choir, sponsored by Friendship Ambassadors, toured Poland in July 1985, performing primarily in churches in Warsaw, Poznan and Krakow. During the same month the Chopin Singing Society of Buffalo, New York, participated in the Festival of Polonia Choirs in Koszalin, Poland.

Film. Fourteen U.S. films were entered in the Fourth World Animated Film Festival which took place in Varna, Bulgaria last summer.

Exhibits. A USIA exhibit, "American Theater Today," which had a highly successful showing in Bucharest during the previous reporting period, was mounted in the late spring of 1985 in two Romanian provincial cities, Cluj and Timisoara.

A major Czechoslovak exhibit, "The Precious Legacy: Judaic Treasures from the Czechoslovak State Collections," closed in Hartford, Connecticut in July 1985 after a two-year six-city

tour in the U.S. The exhibit was organized by the Smithsonian Institution Traveling Exhibition Service in cooperation with the Czechoslovak Federal Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Czech Ministry of Culture, the National Committee of the City of Prague, and the State Jewish Museum in Prague.

An exhibit on the U.S. liberation of western and southern Bohemia in 1945, on display at the American Embassy Library in Prague during May 1985, was viewed by nearly 10,000 Czechoslovaks.

An exhibit of American Indian art opened in June 1985 in Prague at the Haprstek Museum of Asian, African, and American Cultures. The exhibit was co-sponsored by the U.S. Embassy and the Czech Ministry of Culture. It was the first such co-sponsored art exhibit in Czechoslovakia since 1974.

An American exhibit, "The PC Revolution in America," was shown at the 27th International Engineering Fair in Brno, Czechoslovakia, September 11-18, 1985. A smaller version of this exhibit was mounted in the U.S. Embassy Library in Prague following the Brno fair.

#### 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>
Soviet Union	2	0
Romania	15	6
Poland	25	21
Hungary	7	9
GDR	0	0
Czechoslovakia	3	2
Bulgaria	3	5

International Research and Exchanges Board (IREX) Program

Figures for the IREX program in the Soviet Union and other East European countries follow:

	<u>From U.S.</u>	<u>To U.S.</u>
Soviet Union*	62	39
Romania	3	6
Poland	7	11
Hungary	8	8
GDR	9	14
Czechoslovakia	3	9
Bulgaria	18	3

\*These figures do not reflect the actual balance in the Soviet-U.S. IREX program, because most Soviet participants arrived in the U.S. after the end of the reporting period.

Language. Programs for Russian language study between American colleges and universities and Soviet academic institutions such as Moscow's Pushkin Institute and Leningrad State University remain active. American students travel to Leningrad State University for language study under the auspices of the Council on International Educational Exchange (CIEE). The American Council of Teachers of Russian (ACTR), Ohio State University, and Middlebury College provide opportunities for American college students to undertake advanced language study in Moscow at the Pushkin Institute. In addition, a number of private U.S. commercial organizations have language study programs in Leningrad for American college students. Approximately 220 Russian-language students from the U.S. will take part in these programs during the coming year.

The American Council of Teachers of Russian and the Soviet Pushkin Institute completed work on the second volume of a Russian language textbook, a cooperative effort begun several years ago.

In Poland, U.S. students were able to participate in Polish language and culture courses under the auspices of the 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. About 40 Americans participated in the 1985 summer course in Polish culture and history for foreigners at the Catholic University of Lublin. There is also a summer program of Polish language study conducted under the auspices of the Kosciuszko Foundation and held at the Jagiellonian University.



## FACT SHEET

This document summarizes the Report of the Board of Visitors to the U.S. Naval Academy. The report contains the following recommendations.

### Admissions Policy

**Board Position:** The Board reviewed the admissions procedures for the Class of 1989 which were approved by the Secretary of the Navy during a meeting with the Superintendent of the Naval Academy on 2 October 1984. Several significant changes have been made in response to tasking from the Secretary of the Navy and the Chief of Naval Operations to ensure a proper balance between Science and Verbal/Humanities, to accept high risk candidates where such risk is balanced by clearly identifiable promise of excellence, and to shift emphasis in the use of psychological profiling away from probability of success at the Academy to probability of success as future naval leaders.

The Board believes that these changes will be effective in admitting midshipmen who will benefit from the curriculum modifications being planned. Although the Board agrees that this tasking can strengthen the Academy program, concern is expressed over the pace of its implementation. Simultaneous adjustments in ~~to~~ separate important factors in the admissions formula can have unpredictable results which will not be evident until the Class of 1989 completes its first academic year. The Superintendent was asked to track the impact of these changes closely, both on quality of input and on midshipman performance, and to report the results to the Board. **Defense Position:** Concur with recommendations. The admissions criteria used at the Naval Academy are validated annually. Results of each year's admissions decisions are closely monitored in order to make timely adjustments to the admissions criteria. The effects of the Secretary of the Navy initiated changes to the admissions criteria will be closely monitored to ensure achievement of the intended results. The Superintendent will report the results of these changes to the Board of Visitors.

### Curriculum

**Board Position:** The Board reviewed the status and future plans for a review of the academic program in response to guidance received from the Secretary of the Navy, and was reassured to find that the Superintendent had received unanimous agreement from the members of the Academy's Academic Advisory Board on the approach to this review during its meeting on 4 September.

The Board supports the spirit and philosophy of the proposed curriculum but concurs with the Academic Advisory Board that the Academy should proceed with care. New courses require added faculty and other resources, and there is a finite limit to the time available to midshipmen to complete their graduation

requirements. The Board will follow this development with great interest, and asked to be kept advised on progress during the year. **Defense Position:** Concur with recommendations.

### **Facilities**

**Board Position:** The Board was advised that funding for the Brigade Activity Center is included in the Navy's FY-86 Military Construction Program. This critically needed project will provide a multi-purpose building where the entire Brigade can be assembled. The requirement for this facility has been strongly supported in all three of the Naval Academy's long range facility plans dating back to 1948. The Board strongly recommends Department of Defense and Congressional support during the budget reviews and hearings. **Defense Position:** Concur with recommendation. Department of Defense supports the funding of the Brigade Activity Center and has included it in the FY-86 Military Construction Program.

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<u>TO (AGENCY)</u>	<u>DELIVER TO:</u>	<u>DEPT/ROOM NO.</u>	<u>EXTENSION</u>
<u>BRND</u>	<u>SEC. SHULTZ</u>	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____
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REMARKS \_\_\_\_\_