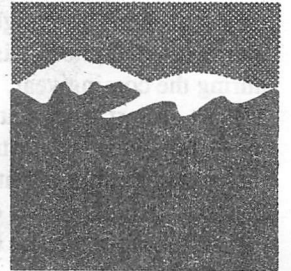




The
REECAS
Newsletter

WINTER 1994

Russian, East European and Central Asian Studies
Jackson School of International Studies
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FROM THE KEYBOARD OF dwaugh@u.washington.edu

Regular readers of our Newsletter may wonder where it has been and may be surprised to see the “new look.” What you have before you is evidence of the technological changes that everyone in our society is beginning to experience. There are various ways in which we are incorporating new technology in our program, not the least of them being to use Microsoft Publisher for the first time to produce this newsletter. Several of our graduate students, led by Lorca Fitschen, who has served as editor for this issue, have made it possible, by writing the copy and learning the how to use the new software. We will begin to develop our own file of graphics and expect to learn how to incorporate pictures into the text electronically. We are looking into acquiring scanning equipment that will allow us to “paste in” clippings and other materials. The result should be an ever better Newsletter. We expect to have another issue in the spring and then hope to increase the frequency of its appearance during the coming year.

Apart from matters of composition and format, we are looking to increased efficiencies with the possibilities for electronic distribution. We learned last year that those connected to the “system” were few in number, but we are aware that increasingly you and your schools are acquiring Internet connections and e-mail capacity. We are still sending a hard copy of this issue to everyone on our mailing list, but as an experiment we will send to you who have e-mail addresses an electronic copy too. Starting in spring, we will move to electronic mailing only for those who can receive it. One

virtue of this change will be that we can send you material more frequently. I can see a situation in a year or so when the print version of the newsletter will have disappeared and have been replaced with an electronic bulletin board. Various developments in this area are already underway (the UWIN electronic calendar of events described on p. 18, and the Working Papers series described on p. 27 are steps in that direction).

We are moving rapidly in the direction of incorporating knowledge about new electronic information resources into the core courses for our majors and developing materials to disseminate on such resources to a wider audience. As someone who had to be prodded by colleagues for a couple of years just to get started on e-mail, I am finding there is a lot of catching up to do; the ground shifts under one's feet as one begins to learn about all the new resources that are available. One of our graduate students, Jim Emery, produced at the beginning of autumn quarter a first version of a guide to electronic resources for students with an interest in the REECAS area, and we are currently working on a much expanded and revised version of this, which we will be happy to provide to any who request it when it is finished. For those who may need some encouragement to acquire a modem and connect with the Seattle Public Library, you should be aware that that connection will also get you into the UW online system, which enables you and your students to learn about materials in the major REECAS collection in the greater Northwest.

The possibilities for electronic communication will facilitate development and expansion of our K-12 Mentoring Program, which we are working to get fully operational by the end of the current academic year (see p. 11). It will be possible for teachers and their students to be in regular communication with our mentors. In general we are looking to greatly enhanced opportunities for effective outreach.

Another of our projects which soon will bear fruit is the publication of The Donald W. Treadgold Papers series. This will be a series of occasional papers given at conferences or seminars we sponsor or which scholars will submit for publication in a format that is suitable for work longer than the normal scholarly article but shorter than a book-length monograph. We expect the first two volumes to be out before summer; they will include papers from a day-long conference held here last year on Russian law and from the conference on Religion in Russia held to honor Professor Treadgold on the occasion of his retirement last spring. Contributions to the Publications Fund of the REECAS Program, given to honor Professor Treadgold, will make the appearance of the series possible.

Please communicate with us: my address is in the heading above; you can send messages to Karen Walton in our office at karenw@u.washington.edu. Our phone is still 543-4852, but because of constraints imposed by budget cuts, Karen now wears two hats and is normally there to answer it only in the morning.

On Trek in the Russian Altai

Finally our charter left. The sixteen other Americans and I loaded into the Yak-40, a small jet that seems to run a lot more smoothly than most Aeroflot planes. Some people immediately began to sleep, others, including myself, were mesmerized by the many shades of browns and reds passing along the ground below us. Before long the Altai mountains were in view. We were approaching the heart of Asia.

As the co-leader of the group, I had to do more than click pictures. I had responsibility. I smiled a lot, helped everyone with their baggage, and eased the many problems which are ever-present when traveling in Russia, especially during this time of chaos. However, there was one problem I could never solve. When we disembarked in the little village of Kosh-Agach, we were met by our Russian partners and our support vehicle, a huge all-terrain military truck called an Ural. Sasha, the driver, was under the hood doing some repairs. Little did we know then that would become an all-too-familiar sight.

We rode in the Ural to our first campsite (re-filling the radiator at every pond). Along the way we stopped at a cemetery. The crescents of Muslim Kazakhs and stone pyramids of shamanist Altaitsi stood side-by-side. These are the two nomadic peoples of the land, segregated in their own valleys and each belonging to a different kolkhoz. Many said they are enemies, but here, in death, they are peaceful neighbors.

I had many expectations when coming



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to the Altai, but I never thought I would see so many wildflowers. It was a pity to put up a tent anywhere because we could not help but crush some of the colorful flora. The distant countryside was equally stunning. The part of the Altai we were in, along the Chuiskii Trakt, has been inhabited by nomadic herders for centuries. They herd goat, sheep, horses, yak-cow hybrids, and even camels. Very few trees remain, and the bald hills just continue to roll until they meet snow-capped peaks, home to the elusive snow leopard.

At our campsite the next day, after a twelve kilometer trek, we were welcomed by the locals. While we were setting up camp, suddenly a horseman appeared on the ridge above us. We motioned to him, and he led his mountain-bred Mongolian horse down a steep, rocky slope. When we met him, what seemed from a distance to be a large, stern man turned out to be a curious sixteen-year-old boy. I translated as some of my clients asked him questions and gave him small gifts and even a brand-new baseball cap. One client asked if she could ride his horse and, with a shrug of his shoulders, he agreed. When I asked his name, the boy laughed and said, "His name is Wild One. No, I'm just joking. We do not name our horses."

Soon, another horse approached carrying the boy's two small nephews, who dismounted and began to explore the camp. The older boy told me to get on their horse. With pleasure I mounted and we left at a gallop, then

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Batalden, Stephen K. and Sandra L. Batalden. The Newly Independent States of Eurasia: Handbook of Former Soviet Republics. Phoenix, Arizona: The Oryx Press, 1993.

Since August 1991 the former Soviet Union has experienced a dramatic number of changes. The attempted coup in August 1991 and the showdown between the Russian Parliament and the Russian President in October 1993 are just a few of the events that have dominated headlines around the world. These rapid changes have inspired several authors, who are attempting to incorporate the latest events into their books. The changes taking place among the peoples of the former Soviet republics are just as dramatic and major as those in Russia. Unfortunately most people know little about the multitude of ethnic groups that made up the non-Russian population of the Soviet Union. Two authors, Stephen K. Batalden and Sandra L. Batalden, have attempted to close this gap through their book, The Newly Independent States of Eurasia: Handbook of Former Soviet Republics. In this book the authors provide a brief, though informative, introduction to the non-Russian nationalities in the former Soviet republics.

The book is organized by region (Transcaucasia, Central Asia, etc.) and contains a chapter for each country. Only the Baltic states are excluded from this book. Each chapter contains a statistical profile, map, a brief history of the country, and a discussion of contemporary issues. Each regional section contains an introduction and bibliography for further reading. The purpose of the handbook, according to the authors, is to serve as a general reference handbook to the former Soviet Union.

In this capacity the book adequately serves its purpose. In each chapter the authors summarize the "major" historical events and contemporary issues. The authors competently compress decades of history into a few short paragraphs. When the subject matter, such as the collectivization of agriculture, is too difficult to explain in a few sentences, the authors refer the reader to other sources that cover the subject in greater detail. While the lack of detail detracts from the book in some areas, it is probably unavoidable in a book that is only two hundred and five pages long. As a teaching tool this handbook would be a great source of basic background information and discussion material. The information is easy to digest and the authors summarize the history of each country so that the reader can quickly gain an understanding of the relationship of the former republic with the Soviet Union. Sections on contemporary issues bring the reader up to date with the issues that affect the respective country and their present relationship with Russia.

I would highly recommend this book as a guide to the recent changes in the former Soviet Union. The authors clearly achieve their stated goal of introducing the history of the various non-Russian peoples of the former Soviet Union. I thought that the discussion of contemporary issues is especially helpful in outlining the major problems facing these newly independent countries. From the

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Kazakhstan: An economic profile, July 1993

This publication came out as part of a series. For more information, write: Document Expediting (DOCEX) Project, Exchange and Gift Division, Library of Congress, Washington, D.C. 20540

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This 36-page booklet is a solid standard overview of the economic situation in the republic, complete with the usual basic statistics on production, consumption, standard of living and the like, accompanied by a non-nonsense text covering in words what the tables convey in numbers. With its opening qualitative sections on "Geography and Climate", "History and Government" and "Population and Labor Force" and a description of reforms underway, it can serve as a good starting point for any study of Kazakhstan that gives at least some attention to economic conditions. The republic's standing within the former Soviet Union and its current links to the other successor states are also kept continually in mind. Kazakh place names are used throughout, but are introduced with their Russian equivalents, which is helpful. A useful distinction is made between the northern and southern regions of the country. The north shares the climate of Russia's steppelands which it borders, and has a mostly Russian and Ukrainian population, while the south, with a majority Kazakh population, is drier and depends on irrigation for its agriculture. A brief section on "Pollution" rounds up the usual suspects: smokestack emissions, inadequate sewage treatment, nuclear testing at Semey (Semipalatinsk), and the shrinking of the Aral Sea. The inclusion of this last item stretches the meaning of the heading "Pollution", which most people associate with putting bad things in the

air or water, whereas the Aral tragedy is a problem of taking too much out. A broader title, such as "Environment" would also invite an examination of the consequences of Khrushchev's Virgin Lands policy, of which northern Kazakhstan was the centerpiece. The policy was a "gamble" because of irregular rainfall, but there is no mention of what can happen when native species, adapted to local conditions, are replaced with food crops. The author (authors?) can be forgiven for not wanting to appear too green. Mexico and Turkey are used throughout as "reference countries" for purposes of comparison. All in all this seems like a reasonable approach. While some students may not know anything more about either reference country than they do about Kazakhstan, some undoubtedly will, and even for those who don't, just seeing how two other countries stack up in the aspects examined gives some perspective. And a comparison to the United States, while having the advantage of students' familiarity, would be problematic because of the huge differences in size and history of the economies.

The main data source is Soviet statistics, which are mistrusted in many quarters. In the book's favor, there isn't much else out there, and the material used in the body of the text sticks to more reliable items, such as population, extent of paving, and number of hogs. Appendix B goes into the more detailed sectoral tallies of output that are more widely questioned. There are a

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went at almost forty-five degrees up a hill and back down. Next, we crossed a river and cantered over to his family's flock of sheep. My instincts were true. We herded the sheep to a new pasture as my new friend occasionally yelled instructions to me.

This was the first of many meetings with the locals. They were Kazakhs, but when we crossed over a few passes we encountered the Altaitsi. Almost daily we were invited into a new yurt, served bread, hard, sour goat cheese, and tea with fresh milk. The closer we came to Mongolia, the more the locals began to offer us kumus (airag in Mongolian). This is sour mare's milk, an alcoholic drink that the nomads swear keeps them in good health. Of course,

they also say that about the vodka we brought with us. Our Russian staff would trade two bottles of vodka for a slaughtered sheep in order to get fresh meat for dinner.

It is the people I noticed most when traveling in the Altai. They were friendly, hospitable, curious and respectful. You could tell from the lines on an old woman's face that she had worked hard outside for many years. They were also accomplished artists, as one girl showed us with a concert she gave on a native, lute-like instrument. We were the first Americans, if not Westerners, that most people had met, but that was not important. More important to me was that they were the first Kazakhs and Altaitsi that I had ever met. Their faces are emblazoned forever in my memory.

Benjamin Hanson

Benjamin Hanson, a second-year Master's candidate in Russian Studies and the Jackson School, spent the summer working for REI Adventures as a guide. He co-led the first-ever Siberia to Mongolia trip via the Altai, and then led it a second time. He also led a tour on the Kamchatka peninsula, visiting the mystical Valley of the Geysers. Academy.

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ecological disaster of Chernobyl to the ethnic fighting in Azerbaijan, the authors cover all of the issues that are currently covered in the press. For that reason alone this book is an excellent asset for the classroom. This book provides little information that has not been covered in greater detail in academic journals and the authors' analysis provides no new insight on events in the former Soviet Union. Besides these minor points, this book is a convenient source of information on a subject that has been overlooked in the past.

Gregory Celestan

REECAS M.A. candidate Gregory Celestan has been selected by the United States Army to be one of the first American Army Officers to attend the Frunze Military Academy in Moscow. Gregory Celestan is currently a Captain in the United States Army and is preparing to become a Defense Attache. This is the first time that a western military officer has attended the Frunze Academy.

Then and Now Series

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Lerner Publications' *Then and Now* series covers each of the newly independent countries of the former Soviet Union. The books are designed to provide up-to-date information on the region for children grades 5 through 9 on such topics as geographical makeup, culture and society, history, environmental challenges, economic potential, and present and future challenges.

Estonia. (Then and Now series). Minneapolis: Lerner Publications Company, 1992.

Colorful pictures, simple prose, and an accurate picture of Estonia and the Estonians make this book a welcome addition to any library shelf. Like the companion volumes about Latvia and Lithuania published in the *Then and Now* Series, Estonia provides a brief historical overview and a description of contemporary political and economic life in the northernmost of the three Baltic States.

It is only the first page of the book which provides an unpleasant surprise to the reader, a serious misportrayal of life in the Soviet Union:

"Within this vast nation, the Communist government guaranteed housing, education, healthcare, and lifetime employment... The new nation quickly industrialized, meaning it built many new factories and upgraded existing ones. It also modernized and enlarged its farms..."

No mention of millions murdered during the collectivization of agriculture as Stalin "modernized and enlarged" the farms, no mention of the police state. Why did Estonians wish to renew their independence from the USSR? The answer is provided in further chapters, but the first page, an important one to

a child reading the book, places subsequent information into a confusing context. There is no need, of course, to flood readers with images of the "Evil Empire," but it is also wrong to purge history of horrible, nearly incomprehensible facts.

Chapters on the geography, history, culture, and economy of Estonia are supplemented with a glossary, a table of "Fast Facts about Estonia" (population, ethnic makeup, etc.) and an "International Word Guide" with nine frequently used Estonian words and their pronunciation. The book could be lengthened to include many other important aspects of Estonian culture—the importance of songs and poetry in the national culture comes immediately to mind—but a longer book would probably not be suitable for children. Adults should consult two authoritative histories: Estonia and the Estonians, by Toivo U. Raun (2nd Edition, 1991), and The Baltic States: Years of Dependence 1940-1990, by R. Misiunas and R. Taagepera (Expanded and Updated Edition, 1993).

Guntis Smidchens
Visiting Lecturer

Latvia. (Then and Now series). Minneapolis: Lerner Publications Company, 1992.

Lithuania. (Then and Now series). Minneapolis: Lerner Publications Company, 1992.

These books are attractively designed, well-organized, and very informative. They contain an abundance of glossy photographs which show various aspects of the country and people. The books also contain maps, a glossary, an index, and a pronunciation guide.

The information provided is comprehensive, yet succinct and readable. Both books have the same format. The "Introduction" discusses the collapse of the Soviet Union, focusing on events in the particular republic under Gorbachev. Chapter 1, "The Land and People of...," gives a geographical and cultural overview of the country. A history of the republic comes in Chapter 2, "Lithuania's Story" and "Latvia's Story." The economy is discussed in Chapter 3, "Making a Living." Chapter 4, "What's Next?", takes a look at future challenges that these countries face.

Not only are these books a good reference for upper elementary and middle school children, but they are also appropriate for adults who want a quick but sufficiently comprehensive overview of the countries.

The books do, however, have a few flaws. Lithuania states that the republic is slightly smaller than Denmark; however, Denmark is the smaller of the two countries. This is a rather minor factual error, compared to the wealth of accurate information the book contains. Both books provide limited information on these countries' independence during the inter-war period as compared to the extensive coverage of their me-

dieval history. The books also seem to gloss over difficulties between these countries and Russia. There is less emphasis on environmental damage from Soviet rule in Lithuania, despite a special section on the Ignalina nuclear power plant. Latvia addresses the tensions caused by the large Russian minority in the country, yet also affirms that Russia fully supports Latvian independence and that Russian troops will be out of Latvia in 1992. The recent tensions between Russia and Latvia and the postponement of troop withdrawals make these statements seem glaringly out of place.

Overall, these books do a very good job of filling a gap in educational materials available for this age group and come recommended by elementary educators who have had the opportunity to review them.

Amanda Floan
REECAS M.A. candidate

Readers of our Fall/Winter 1992 newsletter will remember Amanda Floan's article on "Lithuania in Transition," which described her experiences in the summer of 1992. Amanda has the distinction of receiving a Fulbright Scholarship to spend the current academic year in Lithuania where she is continuing her study of the language and completing the research for her M.A. thesis.

Uzbekistan (Then and Now Series)

Lerner Publications Company, Minneapolis, 1993.

Uzbekistan is one of the fifteen books in the THEN & NOW series. This book's introduction discusses (very briefly) the creation of the Soviet Union and its subsequent development, the unsuccessful 1991 coup, the dissolution of the Soviet Union, and how the Uzbek republic eventually acquired self-rule. Uzbekistan is then divided into four chapters. "The Land and People of Uzbekistan provides a brief summary of the geographical location, climate, topography, urban centers, ethnic composition, language, religion, festivals, education and health care (and health problems) of the republic.

"Uzbekistan's Story" is the history of the republic, dating from ancient times to the present. Naturally, such a vast historical sweep in one chapter limits somewhat the amount of detail that can be used, but it is useful because it follows the development of the different peoples in the region prior to and during the incorporation of their territories into the Russian Empire, and at a later date, into the Soviet Union. This makes it possible for students to learn about the republic in a non-Soviet context, as a separate entity with its own history and identity.

"Making a living in Uzbekistan" briefly discusses industries such as manufacturing, energy, agriculture and fishing, and their importance for the republic's economy. This chapter also covers the role of Soviet policies in shaping the economy of the republic and the ensuing environmental problems. There is a brief description of the destruction of the Aral Sea

due to the diversion of water from the rivers that formerly supplied water.

"What's next for Uzbekistan?" deals with the formidable challenges the new republic now faces. Possible alliances and cooperative efforts with other countries are discussed among the possible prospects for future development and economic growth. In addition, this chapter includes a list of nine words in the Uzbek language (such as hello, good-bye, please, thank you, yes, no, etc.) and a "Fast Facts" section for quick and easy access to data on the size of population, capital, languages, religion, ethnic composition, current status, etc.

Uzbekistan has a glossary where terms that have appeared in bold throughout the text are given simple definitions. There is also an index, which makes it easier to look up subjects discussed in the text. The maps in the book are clearly delineated and legible, and the photographs of the people and the places are very interesting. The language used in these books is accessible, and readers are further assisted by the aforementioned glossaries.

Instructors using this book for pedagogical purposes should be advised that there is an occasional vagueness in the presentation of some of the historical data that can sometimes be confusing. For example, in the Introduction, the two revolutions of 1917 are merged together into one revolution (Uzbekistan, p. 7). The 75th anniversary that would have been celebrated in 1992 was the anniversary of the Bolshevik Revolution, (October 1917, by the old

calendar) which did *not* overthrow the czar; that occurred in February 1917, old calendar. The attention to accuracy that is given to information on the topography, climate, cities, etc., should also be given to historical facts. In general, though, the book reviewed here made an impressive sweep through centuries of history, making the transitions easy to understand and follow. This book provides a lot of valuable information about Uzbek history, culture, geographical characteristics, economic development, and environmental problems.

Delfina Ely
REECAS M.A. candidate

Study Abroad!

The Council on International Educational Exchange (CIEE) offers many opportunities to study in Eastern Europe and the former Soviet Union. For information write CIEE, 205 E 42nd St., New York, NY 10017; tel. (212) 661-1414.

The American Council of Teachers of Russian also offers study abroad programs for graduate and undergraduate students in St. Petersburg or Moscow. Students are funneled through Bryn Mawr College and can stay for the summer, a semester or the full year. Contact: Susan Slivkin at tel. (202) 833-7522 or fax (202) 833-7523.

Mentoring is getting off the ground:

International studies has become an indispensable part of high school education these days. Students are imagining themselves in careers that require language skills, computer knowledge and a considerable amount of global savvy. The REECAS department has begun a mentorship program to contribute to the increasingly international focus of education in Seattle area high schools. Two graduate students in Russian studies, Mike Cervantes and Robin Marks, have both worked with students on international issues in the past. This year they have been putting together curriculum packets and resource materials relating to "our part of the world," and will be using them while working with high school students and teachers around the area this spring. So far, pilot units concentrate on ethnic relations in the post-Cold-War World (which, of course, covers the former Yugoslavia but doesn't stop there) and ecological problems in Eastern Europe and the former Soviet Union. There seems to be no shortage of interest in the project among teachers, and enthusiasm is running high.

The two initial REECAS mentors will focus their efforts this year on four or five schools, trying out curriculum units and teaching approaches. During the next academic year, the department hopes to widen the scope of the program, bringing in more schools and a sizable group of regular mentors who take part in the project on a for-credit basis. Anyone interested should contact either Mike or Robin at the REECAS department, 203 Thomson Hall, University of Washington, Seattle, WA, 98195, or try electronic mail at: cervante@u.washington.edu (Mike) and jojogato@u.washington.edu (Robin).

Twining, David T. The New Eurasia: A Guide to the Republics of the Former Soviet Union. Westport, CT: Praeger, 1993.

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As David T. Twining notes in the preface to his recently-published book, The New Eurasia: A Guide to the Republics of the Former Soviet Union, his work is meant to be an overview of the large land mass -- occupying one-sixth of the Earth's inhabitable land -- which is the Former Soviet Union. As one might expect, any work written about such an enormous area will be far from complete in addressing specific issues. Entire books have been written about issues and peoples who receive only a line or two of mention in this volume. For this reason, the author urges, and I would agree, "To those who wish to learn more about this vast land, I encourage you to consult...further reading, because each new country needs an in-depth examination that only intense study, travel, and intellectual inquiry may provide (Preface)."

The New Eurasia profiles the fifteen republics which were formerly a part of the Soviet Union. Not surprisingly, the majority of the book is a summary of the history of recent events in the former Soviet Union and addresses the Russian Federation and the Ukraine -- the two most populous republics -- in the most detail. The chapters for each republic are consistent in their listing of short facts followed by a description of the most recent events (entitled "the road to independence") and a survey of current or potential separatist/territorial disputes. Not unlike Robert G. Kaiser's 1992 volume Why Gorbachev Happened: His Triumph, His Failure, and His Fall, the bulk of the source material for Twining's detailing of recent events are the major

world newspapers and television news programs. Using these contemporary news sources, Twining is able to create short, coherent narratives which assemble the events into a chronological history of the period from 1990-1992. However, as any reader will realize, it is impossible for texts published at this time about the former Soviet Union to remain current and the narratives found in the book are already becoming dated with the rapidly changing political and economic events in Russia and the bids of Lithuania and other republics to join international organizations such as NATO and the EC.

For an advanced student of the region, this book provides little new information and serves mostly as a quick reference guide for data such as total area, population, religion, the capital, type of government, or a brief history. Excluding the sections about Russia and the Ukraine, the chapters provide little more than an encyclopedia's glance of a republic. The maps found in the book, while numerous, are of little help as most of the maps provide little detail and are blurred or otherwise difficult to read.

While perhaps not recommended for advanced study of the region, The New Eurasia could prove useful as a textbook for a class or as a reference guide for a company which wishes to do business in the former Soviet Union. Twining has created an adequate introductory text for those who are unfamiliar with the area. The only caution for a novice would be that the

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Yeltsin the Evil, Gorbachev the Good, and Grachev the Wildcard: Insights into Past and Present Political Evolution in the ex-USSR

For those who have wondered about the details of the collapse of the Soviet Union and the present political turmoil in Russia, Nodari Simonia filled in some interesting parts of the picture at a REECAS-sponsored talk entitled, "The Political Situation in Russia and Prospects for Democratization" which took place on October 25 in Thompson Hall. Simonia, the Deputy-Director for the Institute of World Economy and International relations at the Russian Academy of Sciences, gave his own insights into several of the most important events of the last few years. More controversially, he expressed his negative opinion of Yeltsin and warned of a political strengthening of the military.

Simonia began his talk by stating that to restructure a society and economy completely, to attempt a perestroika, is very dangerous because of its destabilizing tendencies. Nonetheless, Simonia agreed that such a drastic change was inevitable because the Soviet system was not a feasible system over the long-run. In 1990, the destabilization in the former Soviet Union due to social and economic change began to be compounded by a new problem, 'nationalism.' According to Simonia, Yeltsin was responsible for exacerbating the problem when he began using the symbol of Russian independence in his fight with Gorbachev.

In spring 1991, talks in the Moscow suburb, Novo-Ogoreva, focused for the first time on loosening union ties in the Soviet Union. They tried to create a new model for a new union. Unfortunately, the KGB bugged

the meetings and, seeing a relatively insignificant role for the KGB and other ministries in the new union, several hard-liners realized that they had to neutralize Gorbachev before the signing of the new union treaty. The result was the August 1991 coup.

Of course, the results of the coup hastened and steepened the disintegration of the Soviet Union. Gorbachev's advisors Iavlinskii and Silaev prepared a plan for a new economic union in the Fall, but Yeltsin, while at first endorsing it, eventually came out against the new economic union. Simonia purports that Yeltsin's advisors, Burbulis and Gaidar, persuaded him that it was better to concentrate only on Russia, and besides, a new union treaty would help maintain Gorbachev's power. Once the new union treaty was rejected, the Soviet Union soon dissolved and Gorbachev was president of nothing.

The severing of republic ties without at least an economic union, however, has been very difficult on the former republics whose economies were tied together by planners for political reasons. Almost every industry in every former republic is dependent on another industry or market in another republic in order to survive. The former republics, despite wishful thinking, have come to realize that they still need Russian oil, and that it is the Russians who are the most likely customers for their products. Hopefully, the fact that the plans for an economic union were finally agreed to in September of this year will rectify some of the

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damage caused by the abrupt break-up of the Soviet Union.

In a more provocative vein, Simonia spoke about political stability under Yeltsin. After the August coup, Simonia notes that most of the Russian population viewed Yeltsin as "next to God." He could have dissolved parliament at this time and issued many strong decrees, but he chose to do very little. Simonia believes that Yeltsin thought his popularity and power would

last forever. Yet once people noticed that the only significant change under Yeltsin was an increase in prices, his popularity began to wane.

An astute politician would have recognized this and tried to make compromises with the moderates in order to stem hard-line criticism, but Yeltsin refused to do this. He became, in Simonia's estimation, a very capricious leader. For instance, he once made an agreement with Volskii's Civic Union, and then the next day changed his mind. Such actions helped push many moderates into the more conservative camp. The outcome of such maneuvering was the stalemate with the parliament and the eventual double-coup in September.

Pervasive throughout Simonia's talk on Yeltsin was his obvious dislike for the man. In Simonia's view, Yeltsin is an ambitious politician whose main motivation has been his hatred of Gorbachev. This point of view was not shared by all those in attendance at the talk, some of whom expressed their general satisfaction with Yeltsin's leadership. On the

other hand, Simonia has a much higher opinion of Gorbachev, whom he sees as having saved Yeltsin twice; once by letting him come back after being ousted from the Politburo, and the other time by not compromising during the August coup. According to Simonia, any Gorbachev compromise in August would have quickly led to the evaporation of any power in Yeltsin's hands. Simonia asserts that almost all of Yeltsin's speeches are pointlessly littered with antagonistic references to Gorbachev.

A final theme that Simonia touched on was the increasing influence of the military. More often the military is beginning to act independently of the Yeltsin government. Georgia is the latest case, where the Russian military has moved behind the scenes to squeeze Georgia's president, Shevardnadze, into accepting membership in the CIS. Similar tactics had already been used earlier on Moldova and Tadzhikistan. The Russian military is concerned that the "military industrial" complex, which was almost all-powerful in the former Soviet Union, is losing significance and pieces of its complex which were located in other republics. While the military has not yet acted as a cohesive unit of obstruction, Simonia believes that in the last six months the Generals have been coming together. They are almost all young, bound by their experience in Afghanistan and increasingly interested in politics. They would love to resume arms exports, and alter Russia's foreign policy. For example, the military, reversing an anti-Sino stance that has persisted for over thirty years, would love

(Continued on page 17)



Interning with ASSIST:



Last summer I worked as a production assistant for Moscow's Mosfil'm Studios. The Russians and Italians had put their heads together and decided to make a Western. Our set was a beautifully reconstructed Old West village. It was located about an hour outside Moscow, on a military base.

Even when I wasn't playing cowboys and Indians with Russians and Italians, I had plenty of adventures in my two Muscovite months. I obtained my unusual job through the America Slavic Student Internship Service and Training Corporation (ASSIST). ASSIST offers internships not only in film, but also in business, media, education, and many other fields. If you want to pass out fliers for Zhirinovskiy, you'll probably have to do it on your own time.

Internships can vary radically in length. I stayed for two months; some stay for as long as a year. Even if you have signed on for a shorter period, you may be able to lengthen your internship if things are working out well. If my experience is any indication you'll be working much more closely with your firm than with ASSIST while you're in Russia, and you may be able to parlay your internship into a more responsible, more long-term, and more lucrative job. Sometimes a firm won't be quite clear on what they're supposed to do with you, and you have to make some noise to avoid becoming a decorative office wall hanging.

You can live in a Russian household, in a dorm or hotel, or in a private apartment. I lived part of my time with a household, part with the cast and crew in an old Profsoyuz home in the forest near our set, and part in my very own apartment. This last option gave me some freedom I was grateful for, although since I'm not exactly the galloping gourmet, it also proved to be an effective weight-loss program. Remember, even if you live in a household, you may be expected to do some of the family shopping, or chip in for it (ASSIST gives the household a small sum to provide for you, but you'll be expected to give more.)

ASSIST arranges your flights, and the price is included into the total price of the program. ASSIST's services and a round-trip flight on Czech Air ran me around \$2,100, a bit of which came back to me in my \$30-a-month stipend (when I was there, \$300 could still go a surprisingly long way).

This is not a vacation and not a slick Washington D.C.-type program. It's also not linguistic summer camp. You will have to live very independently. You can, of course, take an occasional indulgent trip to McDonald's or to a hard currency store (the former is affordable, the latter, quite expensive), but, for the most part, you'll be scraping up your meals at state stores or from

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Summer in Bohemia

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I went to Plzen this summer, ostensibly to find data for a linear programming model which would be the basis of my M.A. thesis. Along the way this idea got canned, but I stumbled into an interesting project involving regional development in Greater Plzen. This too fell apart, but the summer wasn't a total loss. I learned a bit more about current Czech reality, and had a good time to boot.

Plzen (and the country as a whole) seems to be divided between ecologists and "traditionalists," for lack of a better word. The traditionalists argue that cleaning up the mess is too expensive, that the country as a whole must get rich before it can afford the environment. This is the view of many people in administration, and also surfaces in man-in-the-pub interviews (the Czech counterpart to man-in-the-street surveys). Any clean-up schemes must be arranged so as to pay for themselves. On a practical level, many initiatives are being carried out in district offices, but in the midst of reform, jurisdictions and allocations of tax receipts are uncertain, and resistance to water-quality projects, for example, comes not only from industrial concerns but from weekend cottage owners as well. The ecologists say that some cleaning can indeed be self-funding, but that political direction is necessary.

The ecological section of the giant Skoda plant in Plzen has sent numerous proposals to the management, including many on which the firm would break even in the end, only to get them

back apparently unread. Their explanation is that, in the absence of any pressure from town hall to do something, the directors feel they have better things to do. I have no basis to make an independent judgment between the two camps, but I must admit to being predisposed to believe the ecologists. In fact, they argue past each other more than head to head, and both may be substantially correct.

Early in the trip I floated down a stretch of the upper Vltava in a party of three canoes. Our first day we followed on the heels of the annual flotilla, in which about 100 decorated rafts set off from just above the town of Vyssi Brod -- those that avoid a sad end on the river's mild rapids are pulled out a few miles downstream. Designs ranged from a giant hammock arranged for optimal beer swilling, to a tropical setting with the slogan "Island of Socialism" and a dead ringer for Fidel Castro waving to the crowds on the river bank. For two nights we managed to find quiet spots to camp, although most Czechs seem to prefer little "cities," where hundreds of tents are packed right next to each other in neat little rows. Below Vetrni the river loses some of its charm with the addition of wastes from a paper mill, but staying on to see Cesky Krumlov from the water was worth it.

I spent my final week teaching English at an intensive summer school in the country side south-east of Plzen. The students (most of them

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adults, with a few high-schoolers) spend five hours a day in class, for seven days, but as a teacher you actually spend most of every day in contact with the students, whether at meals, in sports, or with activities like walks or campfires. The most successful innovation this year was a pin students could wear, saying "Today is my English-speaking day." If caught egregiously speaking Czech while wearing a pin, they forfeited the deposit they'd made (in theory, anyway; we weren't draconian about this). Some students, including some of the weaker ones, took it quite seriously and actually went several days without a word of Czech. In the right context, a similar idea may be applicable to other language learners.

Karl Seeley
REECAS M.A. candidate

(Continued from page 6)

couple of glitches, such as "All hospitals and other facilities are state owned, as well as their personnel and government employees," a sentence that seems to make health-care workers into property. Elsewhere, the text and the accompanying table disagree by a factor of 1,000; careful consideration of the context is needed to figure out that the table is probably right and the paragraph wrong, and some background knowledge about Soviet agriculture is also helpful in figuring this one out. But this does not take away from the publication's usefulness as a source of basic economic and social information about a place that most Americans likely think of as "part of Russia."

Karl Seeley

(Continued from page 12)

sheer volume of data might overwhelm the reader unless he or she is looking for a particular piece of information.

Overall, David Twining has written a concise book which provides the reader with a large amount of information in a small, easily-digestible volume which could prove invaluable to someone seeking a quick introduction to the former soviet Union -- an area which is still of great geopolitical and economic importance to the world.

Bre Botkin
REECAS M.A. candidate

(Continued from page 14)

to help China rebuild some of its military industrial plants, much to the worry of Japan.

The bottom line is that Simonia saw two possible outcomes for the just-completed elections, neither very appealing. Either Yeltsin would score a decisive victory, in which case he would become even more dictatorial. Or Yeltsin could fail, controversy and gridlock will continue, and the military may find it convenient to intervene. Simonia notes that Grachev, the Defense Minister, said recently that the military may find it difficult to stay out of politics if all that is going on is bickering. The voters, said Simonia, are unhappy and apathetic, doubting that any promise or politician will be good.

Benjamin Hanson
REECAS M.A. candidate

UWIN Electronic Calendar of Events

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You now can learn about UW campus events in a timely fashion. The UW Office of News and Information maintains an Events calendar accessible electronically through UWIN, the UW Information Navigator. Even if you do not have a UW affiliation, you may access UWIN via the Seattle Public Library electronic catalogue. When you enter the SPL catalogue, you choose "Internet Connections" and then choose UWIN. Once in UWIN, you select UWINFO, then EVENTS. Under Events you will find a variety of subheadings: Arts, Concerts, Lectures, Seminars. The category "All" combines the various lists into one, and the arrangement is chronological, beginning with the earliest event. For each item listed, you can bring up a description that provides details about the event. We cannot guarantee that absolutely everything you might want to know about will be listed, but most REECAS-related events will be there.



Cultural Events



Russophiles!

Folkdancing and culture classes - Mondays at 7:30, at the Russia House.

Folksinging - Thursdays at 7:00, at the Russia House

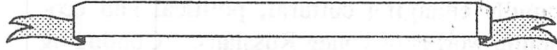
"Russian-style" tea - every Sunday night, 7:00-9:00 p.m., to speak Russian.

Russian table - led by Bus. Grad student who is a native speaker. Call Elizabeth O'Shea at 543-3433.

For more information on Russian House activities, call: 543-6820.

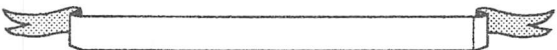
Rimantas Dichavicius

This well-known Lithuanian photographic artist will be displaying his work at the Edmonds Community College Prima Gallery in Lynnwood, from Feb. 3 through Feb. 24. There will be an opening reception Thursday, Feb. 3, from 6:00 through 9:00 p.m.. For further information, call: 775-5669.



Czech Film Festival

Come see a series of Czech films (in Czech) on Tuesday nights this quarter at 7:30 p.m. in the Russia House at 2104 NE 45th. Sponsored by Prof. Milena Turbova of the Slavic Languages and Literature Dept, the films will include *The Emperor's Baker, Marecek, Pass Me the Pen*, and others. Call 543-4449 for more information.



Coming in February or March to a Seattle area theater—
Goran Markovic's

"Tito and Me"

One of the last films to come out of Yugoslavia, "Tito and Me" is the story of a rather impossible 10 year-old boy in Belgrade in 1954, who of a crowded family apartment-full of people is the only enthusiast of Marshall Tito's Yugoslavia, and whose love for the "great leader" leads him to win the chance of going on a hilarious "Children's Walk Through Tito's Native Country".

"A funny, pungent, beautifully acted family memoir...the work of a sophisticated comic mind" -- Vincent Canby of the New York Times.

*Russian House
Spring Film Festival*

March through May, Thursday evenings at 7:00, at the Hub. Everyone welcome. There will be about 7 films, hopefully Andrei Rubliv and some other classics as well as an Eastern European film or two.

Call the REEU office at 543-4852 or the Slavic Dept. at 543-6848 for more information as the time approaches.

CONFERENCES and SEMINARS

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The Annual Washington State Global Education Conference



Co-sponsored by the Global REACH Consortium and the Office of the Superintendent of Public Instruction, it will take place at Fort Worden Conference Center near Port Townsend, February 23-25, 1994. This event will be for K-12 educators from all disciplines. The focus will be on the "Changing American Family," incorporating information from the United Nations International Year of the Family. Registration and housing costs are \$250 per person. Register soon, space is limited.

For further information, contact: Karen Auran, REACH Center, 180 Nickerson Street, Seattle, WA 98109; Telephone (206) 284-8584; FAX (206) 285-2073.



'Culture and the Curriculum in the 21st Century'

A national conference for secondary school teachers will be held in Miami, Fla., May 13-15. Sponsored by the American Forum for Global Education, it will focus on increasing global and multi-cultural perspectives in the schools, with an emphasis on innovation in current programs. Contact: Ria Boemi or Trinh Tran at The American Forum for Global Education, 45 John Street, Suite 908, New York, NY 10038; (212) 732-8606; fax (212) 791-4132.

1994 Yale-Hopkins Summer Seminar

"Russian Youth — Past, Present, and Future" is the topic of the 13th annual seminar, which will be held in New Haven, July 11-22. Professors from Yale University and YHSS master teachers will provide lectures and workshops on the rapidly changing cultural, political and economic worlds of young Russians. Continuing Education Units can be provided by Yale. **Application deadline: April 1.**

For information and applications contact: Brian Carter, Yale REES Outreach, P.O. Box 208206, New Haven, CT 06520-8206; Phone (203) 432-3424.



Due to unforeseen problems with the publishing software, we were unable to publish on schedule. We apologize for the fact that some dated events have already taken place.

The Editors

*Second Saturday Seminars:
World Issues in the News*

University of Washington
Summer Intensive Language Programs

The Jackson School and the College of Education are co-sponsoring four one-day seminars for educators and the general public on the second Saturday of each month. Expert lecturers will lead discussions of broad topics examining more than one world region. For more information, call the seminar's coordinator or the UW Extension office.

March 12 *Arms Control: Who's in Control?* Coordinator: Charlotte Albright, 543-4227.

April 9 *Peacekeeping/ Peacebuilding/ Peacemaking: Changing Roles/ Changing Times for the United Nations.* Coordinator: Michael Bittner, 543-6269.

May 14 *Sacred Sites: Caught in the Crossfire.* Coordinator: Maureen Jackson, 543-9606.

Kazakh & Kirghiz Studies Bulletin

For those of you with an interest in Central Asia, the Kazakh & Kirghiz Studies Group at the University of Washington produces a newsletter. Published twice a year, it contains news briefs, articles, translations, book reviews and reports on conferences and events. Readers are invited to submit contributions. For subscription information, write: Kazakh & Kirghiz Studies Group, Department of Near Eastern Languages and Civilization, DH-20, University of Washington, Seattle, WA 98195.

Slavic Languages

The Department of Slavic Languages and Literature will be offering Intensive Advanced Polish and first through fourth year Russian during the 1994 summer quarter. The intensive program enables the student to earn a year's worth of credits in 9 weeks. For more information, contact Charlotte Wallace at the Slavic Dept., DP-32, University of Washington, Seattle, WA 98195; (206) 543-6848.

Central Asian Languages

The Department of Near Eastern Languages and Civilization will offer intensive courses of first and second year Uzbek, first and second year Kazakh, first year Kirghiz and first year Tajik. There also will be a course on Re-writing Central Asian History. For more information contact Prof. Ilse Cirtautas at the NELC office, DH-20, University of Washington, Seattle, WA 98195; (206) 685-3800.

Baltic Studies Summer Institute

The Summer Institute will offer this year an intensive course in Lithuanian, which is unavailable elsewhere in the US, and selected courses on Baltic history and folklore (the folklore pending funding). In the future, Latvian and Estonian and other topics may be included. Contact Prof. Thomas DuBois at (206) 543-0645.

Summer Courses

Among the other summer courses that may be of interest to you are:

- HSTEU 415 Europe in the Six Years' War, 1939-1945
- HSTEU 452 Eastern Europe since 1918 (A-term)
- HSTEU 440 History of Communism (A-term)
- PolSci 441 Soviet and Post-Soviet Politics

For a complete catalog and registration information for summer quarter, call 543-2320.

In addition:

In conjunction with the Baltic Summer Institute the Scandanavian department is planning a cultural program which will be open to the public as well, featuring guest speakers and films. For more information as the time approaches call the Scandanavian department at 543-0645.



MAPS!!

Thanks to a generous matching grant from Mr. David Bonderman, an alumnus of the Jackson School, the University of Washington Library has acquired a complete set of 1:200,000 scale topographic maps of the former Soviet Union. This opportunity was one of the unexpected benefits of the political changes in the last few years. It used to be that maps of any detail were considered to be state secrets; in fact, this collection of former military maps has "secret" printed on each sheet. Nearly all of the maps have text on the back (in Cyrillic) discussing the cultural and physical features depicted on the sheet. These can include population, the road networks, relief and soils, hydrography, vegetation and climatic conditions. The collection has been especially valuable for filling in gaps in our map collection for Siberia and Central Asia. To use these and the many other interesting items in the map collection, ask at the Map Collection Reference Circulation Desk in Suzzallo Library.

Educational Resources

****UW/Cablearn** still offers KOHTAKT, the Russian-produced news magazine series which focuses on the day-to-day experiences of Russians over the past decade, in Russian with no English subtitles. Class workbooks are available through the New York Network [(518) 443-5333]. Seattle Public Schools provides programming on UW/Cablearn during weekday morning hours. For more information call 298-7000.

****Mapping Europe** introduces students and teachers to the principal physical features of Europe and to the changing nature of its boundaries in the 1990s. Contact: SPICE, Littlefield Center, Room 14, 300 Lasuen St., Stanford University, Stanford, CA 94305-5013; (800) 578-1114.

****The Choices Education Project** at Brown University has developed lesson plans and classroom materials related to the study of international relations, including a unit "Facing a Disintegrated Soviet Union." The \$8 units are designed for grades 9-12. Contact: Choices Education Project, Center for Foreign Policy Development, Brown U., Providence, RI 02912.



Opportunities

The American Council of Teachers of Russian will offer full-fellowship support for approximately 20 American teachers to study in Russia. Strong preference is given to full-time high school teachers. **Deadline: April 1.** Contact: ACTR, Russian and Eurasian Programs, 1776 Mass. Ave., NW, Suite 300, Washington, D.C. 20036; (202) 833-7522.

Russian placements! ACTR/ACCELS are placing teachers with experience teaching ESL in St. Petersburg and Moscow. Preference is given to those knowing Russian or who have experience living or teaching there. Housing, transportation and insurance are covered. **Deadline: April 15** for 1994-5. Call Susan Slivkin at (202)833-7522; fax(202) 833-7523 or write to ACTR/ACCELS, 1776 Massachusetts Ave NW, Suite 700, Washington, D.C. 20036.

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outdoor hucksters just like the Russians do. If you work until late at night, like I did, you'll find the grannies standing outside the subway peddling hardened state-store bread at a hundred percent markup.

Finding friends in Russia is an important and wonderful thing. It's always great to have a friend to talk to, and here you get the added benefit of great language practice. I loved my occasional solitary wanderings, work had its high points, and it was good to learn more about Russia's history and culture, but the best of life in Russia was the same as anywhere: making contact with people and creating real friendships.

A word of caution: don't forfeit your independence. Some Russians will tell you the city is so dangerous you shouldn't poke your head out the door. When you have trouble doing some unaccustomed activity, whether it's microwave-free cooking or washing your clothes in the bathtub, someone will inevitably rush to do it for you. Don't get into a rhythm of dependence-- it's hard to break. It's like growing up all over again. Russians tend to be very parental, but you needn't be a child.

You may opt to use the local taxi system, which is a complete affront to American common sense-- you stick out your hand, tell whatever car pulls up where you want to go, bargain on price, and hop in. I had some pretty interesting experiences with this system, including an epic dash through the countryside with a xenophobic one-legged man. I'm still in one piece and the system seems reliable enough. I don't feel comfortable

recommending it, however. If you need to do the taxi thing, try not to do it alone.

Incidentally, if you get a hankering for American companionship, you can take part in the budding St. Elmo's Fire subculture for uppity Westerners who really want a Guinness. Sit yourself down in one of a couple bars that look conspicuously like the Big Time Brewery and sip away. With tough times evident all around, your Guinness will be a guilty pleasure, but drink well and don't feel too bad about it-- soon enough you'll be back with your Russian pals, soaking up streetcorner vodka and sniffing the black bread the babushka sold you. Maybe you'll start feeling like a native.

Greg B. Miller
REECAS M.A. candidate

ASSIST Internships are available in many fields. For more information write to: 1399 Ringwood Rd, Freeville, NY, 10023, or call or fax at (607) 539-6145.

More internships:

REECAS students obtain valuable experience through a variety of other internships. These include work for Alaska Airlines (in Khabarovsk, Siberia), research for Russian Far East Update (a journal of business news concerning the Russian Far East), helping with the informational and promotional activity of the Foundation for Russian-American Economic Cooperation, and doing legal research for the Rural Development Institute.

Is There Life After a REECAS Major?

Occasionally readers of our newsletter may have wondered why in the world study the (to some) obscure and difficult languages of the large region we cover, why spend time learning about the history, geography, literature or economics of parts of the world that most Americans cannot even locate on a map, much less envisage. There might be something to the probably legendary response of George Mallory, who would later disappear near the top of Mount Everest, to a questioner who wondered why he was attempting that seemingly impossible peak: "Because it is there." For those who wish a challenge (but not an impossible one), for those who have inquisitiveness, for those who would like to travel and explore the world, the various majors that cover the REECAS area offer some of the best liberal arts degrees. And these degrees can "sell" in the real world, where there are increasing opportunities for stimulating employment using the language skills our majors acquire. To give an idea of what that life after the major may involve, we list here the accomplishments of some of our recent grads.

Alan Fahnstock, B. A. History, M. A. (1991) Russian Regional Studies, studied in Tashkent; currently working for U.S. West in Moscow.

Elizabeth Grygo, M.A. (1991) Russian Regional Studies, manages Moscow office of Project Hope (providing medical aid).

Kim Kosciuk, B. A. (1991) East European Regional Studies, editor of Tracking Eastern Europe—Executive Business Guide, for A. M. F. International Consultants.

Alison Price, B. A. Slavic Languages and Literature, M. A. (1989) Russian Regional Studies, taught English in bi-lingual high school program, currently working with Soros Foundation in Minsk, Belarus, developing educational materials.

Michelle Smrkovsky, B. A. (1991) Russian Regional Studies, went from ROTC at UW to a commission in the U.S. Navy as an Air Intelligence Officer.

Zulfiya Tokhchukova, B. A. and M.A. (1992), Russian Regional Studies, currently on leave as Ph.D. candidate in Slavic Languages and Literature, in order to manage the International Research and Exchanges Board office in Almaty, Kazakhstan.

The Wages of Sin (namon rolls): on the road to the roof of Europe

-26-

Back in the Dark Ages, there was a Harvard Russian major named Tom Lehrer, who began to earn his bread as a singer in Cambridge coffee houses. In one of his hits, about the famous Russian mathematician Lobachevsky; the refrain began: "Who deserves the credit, who deserves the blame?" The credit for my stumbling on the opportunity to lead a couple of REI Adventures climbs of Mt. Elbrus last summer undoubtedly goes to my favorite inspiration for sinful indulgence, the Honey Bear Bakery. There one fine day last spring I happened to run into Frith Maier (a Jackson School graduate in International Studies) who has almost single-handedly created the Russian and Central Asian programs for REI. "You don't know," she asked, "someone who climbs and can speak Russian who would be able to lead our groups on Mt. Elbrus?" "Where do I sign?" was my response.

The highest mountain in Europe (some 18,500 ft.), where legend had it Prometheus was chained! Off to the beautiful (but wartorn) Caucasus, to hike amid some of the most spectacular mountain scenery I have seen—vertical ice faces, hanging glaciers, jagged rock spires—and then stand on top of Europe on a perfect summit day. Elbrus is a "Twin Peaks" experience—a double-coned volcano, sheathed in ice but not not a difficult mountain (Mt. Rainier can be both harder and more dangerous). Most climbers take the cable car to about 12,000 feet, spend a couple of nights in a large, aluminum-sheathed hut at about 13,800 ft.(some of the comforts of home—like mattresses and blankets—but an unprintable outhouse...), and then go for it. Nearly 5000 feet of vertical on summit day is work, but the satisfactions include dramatic views of the Caucasus range, some wonderful new friends, and the reminder that fifty-something is maybe still not too old.

And it all began with a quest for a cinnamon roll. Ah, the wages of sin!

Dan Waugh

ELECTRONIC ACCESS and the WORKING PAPERS SERIES

UW Access to this newsletter is available through the SLAVLIB bulletin board. Persons not connected to the UW network can access this newsletter and the Working Papers series through FTP (file transfer protocol) on Internet. The Working Papers series is only available through FTP. FTP cannot be accessed directly through a modem unless you have a 9600 baud modem and Kermit or a similar transfer program. FTP will transfer the file to the location from which you started the process (i.e., if the process begun from c:> prompt, transfer to hard disk). The instructions for FTP access are below:

1. At the prompt type *ftp ftp.u.washington.edu* <enter>
2. user = *anonymous*
3. password = e-mail address OR internet number & user id OR anonymous
<enter>
4. type *cd public/slavic/reecas* <enter> for newsletter and other files
5. type *cd public/slavic/papers* <enter> for student and faculty working papers
6. type *get filename* (e.g. Spring93) <enter> to transfer file.
File will transfer to hard drive or disk depending on where you began the process.
7. *quit* <enter> to exit

Our new Working Papers series is intended to provide the means for rapid dissemination of new information and research and the opportunity for those who have research in progress to receive feedback. Submissions are subject to peer review; for information, send us an e-mail message or address your query to our program office, attn.: Working Papers. The first papers in the series, currently accessible through FTP protocol, are:

Oscar J. Bandelin, "Ronald Reagan in the Soviet Mind: The Soviet Assessment of the USSR's Main World Rival in the 1980's"

Kyle W. Hafar, "The Imperial Russian Periodical Press and the Censorship Law of 1865"

George Klim, "Networking: An Overview of Advances in Internet Technology"

Bianca Plank, "Peasants and Urban Culture in Moscow and St. Petersburg of Late Imperial Russia"

Zulfiya Tokhchukova, "The End of the Journey"

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