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HOTEL
GOVERNOR CLINTON

7TH AVENUE AT 31ST STREET NEW YORK 1, N. Y.

OPPOSITE PENNSYLVANIA R. R. STATION
1,800 ROOMS WITH PRIVATE BATH - SHOWER - RCA TV - AIR-CONDITION

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CABLE ADDRESS "GOVCLINTON", N. Y.



1
Александр Ураг
капитан Фрицев, 85 46.54
Фрицев Александр
Тел. А 1-44-02

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Subject: *GRIDIN Anatoli,

address: Leningrad,
Kanal Griboyedova 85, kv.54

Tel. A 1 - 44 - 02

Source : rk

*(See summary/24 Source Sec. SR/CA for
identity)*

Date : 5 Dec 1964

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G. was contacted on Dec. 4, 1964 by telephone by me, he was staying in the governor Clinton hotel, (room 1243) . I told him that I have some records for him and when would it be convenient for us to meet. G. was surprised that I called and asked me how I have been, I asked him how the tour went. and what interesting cities did he visit. He said that he enjoyed San Francisco, and Los Angeles. G. asked me to call him the next day at 10:30 and we could arrange a meeting. He said that he had a performance that night, but he would like to see me soon.

Dec. 5, 1964.

I called G. at 10:30 and we arranged to meet at 7:00 P.M. that same evening in the hotel, I was to go to the hotel and call him from the lobby. This I did and he told me to come up to his room in 5 minutes, because he wasn't dressed. When I came up to the room we shook hands and he asked me how I have been and what do I plan to do, I told him that I have very much work connected with my school and this leaves me very little time for other things. I gave him the records, a copy of LIFE magazine, and a Russian book, "Fantastic Stories" the records were as follows: "TIME OUT" by Dave Brubeck, "HAVE TRUMPET WILL EXCITE" by Dizzy Gillespie, and "CRISS CROSS" by Delonious Monk.

He was very grateful for the records looked at them and commented that the first two were very popular in the USSR, but that he has never heard of the third.

I told him that Monk is very well known here and very popular. When I gave him the LIFE magazine he said that he saw it already and said that this was the issue where there was a story about Nureev. I said yes, and asked him what he thought of the story, he said that he had no comment. Then when I gave him the book he gladly took it and asked me who the author was, I said that I wasn't familiar with him. but that the book was an excellent one and that I thought that he would like it. He said that it would be very nice if we could write to each other when he returns home to Leningrad, and said that he would give me his address. He pulled out a medal of a monument to Pushkin from Leningrad and said that this is all

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that he had from Leningrad and asked me to take it. Then he took out a book and a piece of hotel stationary, and wrote me his address, he then asked me to write him my ~~edress~~ address and that we could write to each other, he also gave me his telephone in Leningrad, and asked me to call him when I come to Leningrad. He asked me to write my number down and when he comes to America again he'll call me. The book that he used to write the address on was DR ZHIVAGO. I commented on this and asked him how he enjoyed the book, he first was surprised that I noticed it, said that it was a very interesting book and hid it, ~~with~~ together with my address, in a shelf. G. then said that it was hot in the room and that it would be better if we went outside. I agreed and we went for a walk.

Outside I asked him what he thought of the recent changes in the govt. of the USSR. he said that he didn't know for sure, but that when he returns home to the Soviet Union, he will be told all that there is to know. I mentioned the charges against Khrushchev that appeared in the Soviet press, and asked him what he ^{thought} of them. He said that I probably mean, the charges of nepotism, putting his son in law as editor of Izvestia and so on, and he laughed and treated this whole affair as a joke. I said that there were charges of a personality cult of Khrushchev, he smiled but did not want to talk about these matters. G. asked me if he could buy a good pair of boots in New York to take home with him to Leningrad. I said that there are good stores such as Orbachs and Macys, he said that Macys is for the common man and that he wants something of quality. I said that there are good stores on 5th ave. and that we could go and look. Our first stop was ~~Macys~~ Orbachs. We went to the mens clothes department and looked at the shoes, he said that they were all of low quality, but then we went to the section of jackets and sweaters and G. started to examine the merchandise. After spending an hour looking at different sweaters he decided to buy one, the cost was \$30. From Orbachs we went to a mens shoe store on 42nd St. There he noticed a pair of boots in the window and decided to buy them, in the store he found another pair and bought ^{both} pairs. I asked him how much those boots would cost in Leningrad, he said 60 rubles, The price he paid for them here was \$30. I told him that this was quite a difference. He

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just smiled and said that it was quite a difference. At this time it was getting late, and he had a performance that night, he said that he wanted to get back to the hotel, put his packages away and get back to Madison Square Garden on time. He suggested a taxi, I told him that I did not have the money for a taxi, but he said that I was not too worry because he had plenty. I asked him how much he paid for his performances in America. G. said 12-16 dollars a performance. I commented that this is very little, he said that when they return to Leningrad they will receive a lump sum for all the months they were away. We reached the Hotel, I gave his packages to the bell boy and we went to the Garden. There G. arranged for me to have a seat for the performance, and asked me to call him again.

COMMENT. During our shopping trip G. spent his money very loosely, all together 60 dollars. He also had plenty of money with him for the taxi, and around \$40 left over, this surprised me because before he did not have ~~see~~ such funds, he told me that they got paid after each performance, and receive a lump sum only when they return to Leningrad.

G. asked me to call again, and we agreed to meet again before he left for home.

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