

Subject: Moiseyev Dance Ensemble in New York

Source: R

Date: 22 July 1970

1. Contact was made with dancers of the ensemble on 21 July 1970 in front of the Lincoln Center for Performing Arts in New York. Present at the meeting KHODZHOYAN, Rudi and Auvazhian, Boris. The former a dancer with the ensemble, and the latter a worker with the ensemble. Khodzhoyan remembered Source from their previous meetings in 1965 in New York and was glad to see him. Auvazhian, mentioned that he worked with costumes for the ensemble, and that this is his first visit to New York with the Moiseyev company. Previously he worked with theaters in Moscow. Auvazhian is an Armenian by nationality, and he and Khodzhoyan are room mates on this tour.
2. During a conversation which took place in a bar, both members of the Moiseyev company stuck to the party line on all topics. They described China as expansionist, that the conflict was caused by Chinese nationalism and recklessness. At present the leadership of the CPSU wants to calm the situation, but the Chinese are not willing to do so.
3. The nationality question does not exist in the USSR according to Khodzhoyan, all peoples are equal. However he complained that in the central government there are only Russians and Ukrainians, with very few Armenians. As regards the party leadership, Khodzhoyan added that Brezhnev is "good, but also makes mistakes". He did not know about the postponement of the party congress. On the other hand, Khodzhoyan praised Kosygin highly.
4. Neither of the members of the ensemble had read anything by dissident Soviet authors, did not know the details of the arrest of Grigorenko, but had heard "rumours" about this. Khodzhoyan condemned dissidents for being an "unruly element in society".
5. Both parties agreed to a future meeting.
6. The meeting which was agreed to never materialized; Subjects did not keep the appointment.

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