

ER 60-8744/e

16 November 1960

✓ card
Mr. Bernie Yudin
TIME Inc.
1120 Connecticut Avenue, N.W.
Washington 6, D.C.

Dear Mr. Yudin:

Thank you for your letter of 9 November 1960 to Allen Dulles, attaching a copy of RUSSIA from the LIFE WORLD LIBRARY.

This book by Charles W. Thayer and the editors of LIFE will be brought to Mr. Dulles' attention.

Thank you for thinking of him.

Sincerely,

/s/

Stanley J. Grogan
Assistant to the Director

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TIME
THE WEEKLY NEWSMAGAZINE

1120 CONNECTICUT AVENUE, N. W.
WASHINGTON 6, D. C.

FEDERAL 7-8000

November 9, 1960

Mr Allen Dulles
Director
Central Intelligence Agency
2430 E Street, N. W.
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. Dulles:

Attached is a review copy of Russia, the first volume of the LIFE WORLD LIBRARY, an exciting new publishing project of the Life Books Department.

I am also including a background piece on the book and the series of which it is a part.

Your reactions would be most welcome.

Cordially,



Bernie Yudaish
Time Inc.-Washington

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News from LIFE Books
Time & Life Building
Rockefeller Center
New York 20, N. Y.

For further information
Call: Bernie Yudain
FEderal 7-8000
Washington, D.C.

RUSSIA, First Volume of the LIFE WORLD LIBRARY. By Charles W. Thayer
and The Editors of LIFE. 160 pages. Time Incorporated, \$2.95.

Publication: Nov. 10, 1960

"This is the first of a series of books designed to give the American reader a clear and comprehensive picture of what life is like in a number of the world's great countries," George F. Kennan, former U.S. Ambassador to the Soviet Union, writes in the introduction to Russia, first volume of the new LIFE World Library.

The 40,000-word text for Russia was written by Charles W. Thayer, onetime U.S. Foreign Service officer and author of Diplomat and Bears in the Caviar.

The volume represents a "bold and informed attempt" at an objective appraisal of the Soviet Union, Mr. Kennan writes. "The Editors of LIFE, through Mr. Thayer's text and the complementary paintings and photographs have given here a broad and useful picture of Soviet life, embracing a variety of aspects that are not often combined in any single account. The result should be an important help to American understanding in a field where understanding may soon be the key to the preservation of American security, perhaps even to her survival."

A significant departure from LIFE's previous book publishing ventures, the World Library Series will offer a new book every two months for a total of six volumes a year. The format, as in Russia, will alternate text chapters and accompanying picture essays with approximately 80 pages of text and 80 of pictures, including 32 pages in color. France, the second

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in the series, will be published in December, 1960. Italy, Britain, Japan and Germany are scheduled for publication during the first eight months of 1961, with other volumes to follow.

"Each of the books", says Department Editor Norman P. Ross, "is designed to give the reader the feeling of a first-hand visit to a country and to convey a new and meaningful understanding of the people and the way of life that makes them what they are. A wealth of basic background information about everything from history to the economy will make the whole series invaluable as a permanent reference set."

Advance orders for Russia, distributed only through the Life Books Department, indicate a near sell-out for the first printing of 250,000 copies, according to Editor Ross.

To gather material for Russia, LIFE sent teams of photographers, reporters and editors into distant parts of the huge country. The result comprises a revealing journey behind the Iron Curtain, from the ancient, sleepy villages on the great Volga River to the gigantic agricultural communes of Eastern Siberia, from the towering, snow-capped peaks of Eastern Siberia to the holiday-thronged resorts of the Black Sea. The reader will read the story of Russia before the Revolution; catch glimpses of Soviet art, religion, education, science and sports; learn about the life of Russian workers, of Russian women, and Russian scientists; visit Moscow, travel the Volga and discover the desolate virgin lands which Soviet pioneers are only now beginning to develop.

Complete with maps, diagrams and basic statistics, Russia is a reference work to which the reader can turn whenever any question about the U.S.S.R. arises.

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