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Pilot's Wife, Parents Consult Russ Lawyer

BY PETER J. KUMPA
(Moscow Bureau of The Sun)

Moscow, August 15—The wife and parents of U-2 pilot Francis Gary Powers, together with their American lawyers, conferred today with his Soviet defense attorney. They left somewhat shaken, but satisfied.

"We were very much impressed with his sincerity, his apparent ability and his frankness," said white-haired Alexander W. Parker, who is becoming chief legal spokesman for the pilot's wife, Mrs. Barbara Powers.

Parker, his colleague Frank W. Rogers, from the Virginia Bar Association, and Carl A. McAfee, of Norton, Va., who is acting as legal adviser to Powers's father and mother, appeared "highly satisfied" with their consultation.

At Nuernberg Trials

The Russian attorney is Mikhail Ilich Griniov, a short, plumpish man of about 60 with short-cropped gray hair and a dab of a goatee. Griniov, who speaks English haltingly, told the American attorneys that he had been at the Nuernberg trials.

The subject of the conference was the defense that Griniov will

set up and his estimation of the prosecution's case in the espionage trial of Powers that opens here Wednesday. The meeting lasted 70 minutes in the downtown offices of the Juridical consultation office shown to Russians who bring criminal or other administrative problems to the legal clinic. The lawyers agreed the conference was to remain private and refused to divulge details of the session. Oliver Powers, the American pilot's father, considered talking to the press after the session, but changed his mind.

Powers himself had consulted with Griniov in the early afternoon before the consultation. But if he knew of it or had any message for his family could not be determined tonight.

Mrs. Barbara Powers sent her husband a telegram to the same prison address where she had sent mail.

She informed him that she had arrived in Moscow and wanted to see him. But there appears no chance that Barbara Powers will see her husband before he steps into the Hall of Columns and his trial before an audience of diplomats, correspondents, Communist propagandists and maybe even some members of the Russian public.

Embassy Efforts Fail

It is customary for relatives to be present during a trial but, according to the Russians, it is not customary for relatives to see an accused before the trial.

All attempts by the American Embassy to see pilot Powers have failed. The Russians have brushed aside American references to an agreement between the then-Soviet Ambassador, Maxim Litvinoff, and President Franklin D. Roosevelt permitting access to prisoners. This informal agreement, made in an exchange of letters, helped Washington agree to establish diplomatic relations

with the Communist regime.

Attorneys for Barbara Powers today also conferred with Vladimir Babkin, chief of the American Division of Intourist, over a meeting between the wife and Franklin Nikita S. Khrushchev.

Attorney Rogers also conferred with the United States Ambassador, Lewelyn E. Thompson, in pressing for a visa for Professor John Hazard, Columbia University expert on Russian law. The Soviet Foreign Ministry thus far has refused to grant this Powers consultant permission to enter the Soviet Union.

His Wife Is Red-Eyed

Barbara Powers was red-eyed and may have wept at the legal consultation. She looked tense, though she sported few hairs.

Powers's mother, who has spent most of her time in Moscow residing in a hotel room, also was upset by the emotionally trying meeting.

One reason for their feeling may have been the crowd of some 300 persons who milled around outside the conference building. The crowd grew when citizens learned from reporters that the Powers family was inside.

Two Rake Fists In Anger

They were an aggressively curious crowd. They gawped at foreigners. They jostled against the large, black, old Russian like Russians the American lawyers and Powers family have been provided with.

Two citizens raised their fists in anger. But these two angry ruckmakers were the exception. Two others kicked at the tires of one automobile.

Another reason for the visible distress may have been the frankness of the Soviet defense attorney.

Francis Gary Powers stands close to a death sentence. His guilt is considered "undoubted," according to Soviet legal experts.