

8-1976

Evaluation of Citizen Exchange Corps

Madelienne Giguère

Follow this and additional works at: <https://digitalcommons.usm.maine.edu/giguere-conferences-and-presentations-1968-1997>

Recommended Citation

Madeleine Giguère Collection, Franco-American Collection, University of Southern Maine Libraries.

This Book is brought to you for free and open access by the Career at USM Digital Commons. It has been accepted for inclusion in Conferences and Presentations 1968-1997 by an authorized administrator of USM Digital Commons. For more information, please contact jessica.c.hovey@maine.edu.

Evaluation of Citizen Exchange Corps August 4th -
23rd visit to Leningrad, Odessa, Askhabad,
Tashkent, Bukhara, Alma Ata and Moscow

Itinerary

The itinerary was a very demanding one. The addition of an overnight stay in Helsinki and the loss of one day from the announced time schedule made it even more demanding than it originally seemed. On the other hand each city visited was very different from the others. I believe that at least one city should have been eliminated. My candidates would be Helsinki, Odessa, and Askhabad in that order.

Information

If the detailed itinerary had been forwarded to the participants in the last mailing before the departure, it would have facilitated our return plans.

Tour Leadership

It is unfortunate that CEC did not avail itself of the opportunity of having one more tour led by a woman. It would seem that credential, age and possibly sex criteria were used which in retrospect were entirely inappropriate.

Accommodations

The hotel accommodations were fine. The unexpected air-conditioning in Tashkent and Bukhara was most welcomed after two sleepless nights in the heat of Askhabad. The travel accommodations were very good and the time schedule a very serviceable one.

Tour Guides

We were very fortunate to have an excellent tour guide in Elza Goroshenko, who was extremely well-informed and wanting to inform. Quick to explain (defend?) the Soviet way, she was able to do it without offending our sensibilities. Her tour of the Hermitage was really excellent. In fact, we were fortunate in our local guides. I remember the respectful demeanor of the guide through the catacombs in Odessa, the enthusiasm of the guides in Askhabad and Bukhara, and the subdued, but professional performance of the young guide Riab in Alma Ata in the face of the accidental death of the Bureau Chief of Intourist while we were there.

Counterpart
Activities

The two counterpart meetings which we had in Leningrad and Tashkent were for me fiascos. No sociologists, ethnologist, or anthropologist. And had there been, there was no time to pursue the conversation, and because of our itinerary, no time to pick up the threads. On the other hand, the informational activities such as the Leningrad lecture on the new city planning, the meeting with the Uzbek Ministry of Education, and the man from the Ministry of Economic Planning in Kazakhstan were excellent for my purposes.

Trip
Highlights

For me the highlight of the trips were the visits to the collective farm, the kindergarten, and the pioneer camp.

Citizen Exchange Corps
Tour Planning - Moscow Intourist
English Language Section - Leningrad Intourist