

SECRET

13 Sept 1966

Following information was obtained from M-lle Marion l.n.u., a full time secretary of the local communist party cell in a Liege suburb, aged 20-25 who went to the Soviet Union in August of 1966 and remained there 15 days. Her mother is an East German and her father a Belgian both are communist; party members. She went with a group of 19 other party members among whom there were a few students, a professor of Liege University, and the rest-workers. The cost of the trip (some 5,000 Bel. francs) was paid for by the party.

1. They left Brussels the 20th of August going through Germany, Poland and then to Brest-Litovsk where they changed trains for Moscow. After a 47 hour trip, they arrived to Moscow where they spent 4 days visiting the "classical" places (Mausoleum of Lenin, etc.) In the evenings they listened to lectures from the komsomol members. Since no one in their group spoke Russian they were constantly accompanied by two translators.

2. From Moscow they were supposed to fly to Sochi, and on the last day they were supposed to visit a factory. However, these plans were never realized. They went by train to somewhere near Yalta. They traveled by night. They did not live in hotels, but in houses (hostels?) for komsomol youth; they only dined at hotels. Near Yalta, where they spent the night, the buildings were not finished and no one expected them to be finished. Consequently boys and girls had to sleep together in four rooms. Marion commented: A very funny moral, I had trouble getting used to it, but there was no other way out. The cellars of these new buildings were all flooded. The thing that struck her the most on her trip was the interest that the natives displayed for the visitors clothes. Anything western they wanted to buy up. This secretary even sold her very ordinary pair of pants.

3. From the Crimea they went by train to Kiev where they spent almost a day. There they listened to a lecture together with the students of the Politechnikum. They also visited the Kievan Monastery of the Caves which left on them an unforgettable impression. They had a great chance to meet people of their own age - obviously komsomol members. She said that they are a jolly bunch that loves to amuse themselves. English is by far the most common foreign language in use. The Soviet youth is crazy for western clothes and especially modern music.

DECLASSIFIED AND RELEASED BY
CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY
SOURCE METHOD EXEMPTION 3B2B
NAZI WAR CRIMES DISCLOSURE ACT
DATE 2007

SECRET

13 Sept 1966