

Re: VIRSKY Dance Company
Date: October 12 - 23, 1966
Source: B. Myshko

SECRET

le 10-12

About 11 AM B. came to the Hotel Edison where the Dance Co. had its rehearsal in a small Ball Room. The rehearsal was going at the full speed. B. was standing outside the Ball Room and observing the rehearsal through open door.

After a while there came a few men with some papers in their hands. They looked like company's administrators, and they were discussing some business with Hurok's representatives. They were constantly coming in and going out of that small room in the front of the Ball Room.

When they were less busy, B. approached one of the administrators and asked him whether Mykhaylo Pavlenko is here with the company. He replied that Pavlenko did not come this time to the U.S. with the company, and asked B. if he is by any chance Borys Maiko. When B. answered that he is, the administrator then introduced himself as Volodymyr Fedotovych SEMENYAKA and said that Pavlenko sends ~~MI~~ B. greetings. At this point Semenyaka asked B. "where is your friend Roman?" When B. asked him which Roman he is thinking of, Semenyaka replied that the one who together with B. met Pavlenko. B. explained that Roman he is thinking of is not here and will not be here because at present he is in military service. When B. ~~XXXXXXXXXX~~ asked Semenyaka about Pavlenko, he replied that at present Pavlenko is on leave for scholarly work -- he is finishing his dissertation and preparing its defence which should take place at the beginning of December. His dissertation is in the field of history but Semenyaka did not know its topic.

After a while came there other administrators and Semenyaka ~~ix~~ introduced B. to Danylo Danylovych FEDORYACHENKO -- company's director, Leonid Serhe-
~~XX~~
yevych SOZANIVSKY -- chief administrator, and Valentyn Nykolayevych LYPATOV - manager of the tour.

To other questions about some other B's acquaintances -- Kostyuchenko and Boyko -- Semenyaka just ~~ix~~ replied that "they are at home, working, and are all right."

SECRET

After some time Borys MISHCHENKO noticed B. standing and came out from the rehearsing room with a big smile and apparently happy to see B. but as soon as he noticed that B. was standing with SEMENYAKA the expression on his face changed quickly and he asked in Russian whether B. knows Borys Maikel. When B. told him that it is not Maikel but Maiko and that B. is the one, Mishchenko said that he has greetings and a little gift for B. from Pavlenko. When Semenyaka left them and went somewhere, Mishchenko then was talking to B. as to an old friend. He said that everything is just fine with him, he had a wonderful summer out in the country, his wife MARIA is here with him, and he went to get her. When he returned with Maria she was very glad to see B. and embraced him. She said to her husband, "I have told you that B. will come to meet us." And turning to B. she added ~~XXXX~~ "we were even looking for you at the airport." B. replied that if they would let him know when they were to arrive in New York he most certainly would have ~~xxx~~ come to greet them at the airport. After a few minutes of conversation Mishchenko took out of his wife's pocketbook something wrapped in a paper and gave it to B. saying that it is from Pavlenko -- it was an Easteregg carved out of wood. They said that they are very tired after a long journey and in addition to that they were rehearsing since 9AM. At 1PM there supposed to be an intermission for an hour because at 2PM they were to rehearse with the orchestra. They were expecting the rehearsal to be over about 4PM. They could not spend too much time talking with B. and left to join the ~~xxxxxx~~ other dancers at the rehearsal.

It was already 1PM but the rehearsal continued. At 2PM they started to rehearse with the orchestra and there was no hope for an intermission, so B. ~~xxxxxx~~ left.

B. returned about 4PM. Rehearsal was still going strong. There was no one in the outside the rehearsing room and only from time to time some dancers came out and asked B. for a cigarette. After a few puffs they went back.

STUPAK
At one time Vasyl ~~STUPAK~~ approached B., shook hands and asked for a cigarette. He didn't say anything to B. and walked away.

Mishchenko said to Lonya KRUTOVERTSEV that B. is here and he came out to greet B. but went back inside right away.

After a while came out VIRSKY. Noticing B. he approached him and ~~sh~~ shook hands. He asked for a cigarette and sat down. He looked very tired and worn out. Right away came there a few "administrators" and Virsky could not talk with B. because they kept him busy with something. After finishing a cigarette Virsky went inside.

There was also SEMENYAKA. He approached B. and said that it is not true what B. told him about Roman that he will not be here, because he just had a call from Roman and they will meet at 8Pm.

The rehearsal was till 7PM and when it was over it was easy to tell that the dancers were very tired because all through the rehearsal Virsky ~~was~~ worked them very hard and in a fast tempo.

When Virsky came out after the rehearsal B. asked him when it would be possible for them to meet and added that B. has some books for him. At the mention of books Virsky seemed ~~veryXXXXXX~~ to be very eager to meet with B., however, he said that it would be impossible before the premiere because until then he had too many things to take care of.

Mishchenko and his wife also said that they could not see B. that evening because they were too tired and needed some rest.

h 10-13

After the concert B. went to the stage exit. When VIRSKY came out he said that he is very tired and cannot see B. that evening. However, he asked B. to call him the next day about LOAM and arrange the meeting. B. gave him two books: "Bereh Chekan" by Symonenko and "Ivan Farnko: Sotsializm i Marksyzm" by B. Kravtsiv. Virsky was very ~~XXXXX~~ thankful for the books and right away put them into his coat pocket. B. asked him where ~~willXXXXXXXX~~ the ensemble will be on 6th of January. B. explained that on 6th of January is Ukrainian Christmas Eve and it would be a good idea to prepare for him a traditional Ukrainian Christmas Eve ~~XXXX~~ dishes. At the mention of this Virsky went somewhere and when he returned after a few minutes he said that they will be then in Toronto. When B. asked him about other cities and the dates they will

visit them, Virsky replied that he does not have the list with him but will give it to B. ~~xxxxxx~~ the next day.

B. approached Semenyak and asked him if he met with Roman on Wednesday evening. He replied that he did but asked B. of which Roman he is thinking. B. answered that he is asking about the same Roman about which he was asking B. the day before. Semenyaka said that he met with Roman but a different one and he seemed to be somewhat disappointed.

There was also STUPAK standing alone. B. approached him and said that he has for him greetings from Roman with a beard. He was asking B. about Roman. B. asked Stupak about the new happening in Ukraine and the recent arrests of young intellectuals in particular. Stupak replied that he does not know anything about the arrests because there was no mention of it in their newspapers and this is his only means of information. When B. was lighting his cigarette, Stupak asked B. where he could get some good flint because their flints are too soft and do not last very long. B. promised to get some for him.

Mishchenko and his wife were too tired to go anywhere with B. but promised to do so the next day. Maria gave B. poems by Symonenko and a small book with pictures of Kiev. B. gave them a book of poems by Symonenko published by emigres. They exchanged the books with a lot of caution and Maria added that "it is better if our people would not see it."

Fr 10-14

B. called VIRSKY at 10:02AM and his wife replied that ~~XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX~~ & "he just went downstairs and will be back in about half an hour." B. called in half an hour but Virsky was not in his room yet. B. kept calling every hour and finally about 3PM he contacted Virsky. Virsky excused for not ~~keepingxxxxxxxx~~ being in his room but he had too much work in connection with some changes ~~XXXXXXXXXXXX~~ in a program. He could not say yet what time he will be able to see B. and asked him to call about 6PM. When B. called ~~xxx~~ 6PM Virsky asked B. to come to see him at 7:30PM.

When B. came to Virsky's room his wife went out right away ~~ix~~ leaving them alone, although Virsky had a two room suit.

B. gave to Virsky a package with books: "Knyha Sposterezhen" I & II; "Blahoslovy Maty"; "Nove Ukrayinske Pysmenstvo"; "Corollarium"; "Pro Socializm i Marksyzm"; and poems by Symonenko (2). Virsky thanked for the books, however, he did not open the package. He asked B. for another book of Symonenko's poems. B. replied that the book is in the package.

Further, Virsky asked for volume II of "Istoria Ukrayinskoyi Kultury" and was sorry to find out from B. that it is still in print. Also, he asked B. about Ukrainian books on choreography published here. At this point he mentioned about two "great scholars" on choreography in Ukraine: Andriy Ivanovych HUMENYUK ~~fm~~ from Kiev and Roman Petrovych HARASYMCHUK working in museum of Academy of Science in Lviv. Both of them are preparing new books on choreography which will be published soon. Virsky asked about the book on Ukrainian dances by Avramenko, any books on Ukrainian dances and ~~the~~ famous Ukrainian dancers, and recent books by Boychuk on motion pictures.

Virsky asked B. to call Bohdan Boyshuk and ask him to call Virsky. He would like to see him.

When B. asked Virsky about the list of cities and the dates they will be there, Virsky replied that he does not have the list with him because they are making some changes in their schedule but promised to have it for B. the next time they will meet again. Virsky only mentioned that they will have 32 stops which is much too much. In Los Angeles they will be for 3 weeks, ~~ix~~ in Chicago 6-7 days. He just had a call ~~fm~~ from Mr. Yaremko from Chicago who told him that they are preparing a reception for the ensemble on December 26.

Virsky mentioned that Mr. Hurok wants the ensemble to come to the U.S. again in about 2 years.

Virsky stated that there are ~~XXXXXXXXXXXX~~ in the ensemble 16 young dancers who are for the first time abroad. Some of them finished the ensemble's dance school in Kiev only this year. He ~~sa~~ explained that ~~the~~ ~~school~~ there are only 25-30 students in the school at the time and they study there for two years. At the end of their studies he chooses only 6-8 best students who will dance in his ensemble, the others can go anywhere they want to.

B. asked Virsky about the present situation in Ukraine and about the recent arrests of young Ukrainian intellectuals. Virsky replied that ~~that~~ he does not know anything about it because being constantly on the move he does not have such good connections with the people who could tell him about those things, and their newspapers do not print such informations. He asked B. for the list of names of those arrested. Someone told him back home that there was a humorous remark about the arrests in "Perets", he thinks it was "Perets" but he was not sure, but he did not read it. When B. told him that among the arrested is one professor from Lviv university arrested for lecturing in Ukrainian language, Virsky replied that ~~for such a reason that someone could be arrested~~ it is very unlikely that one would be arrested just for that reason.

B. asked Virsky about Mykola Didyk who burned himself in Moscow. Virsky was very interested in this news and asked B. about the details. He also stated that he is going to find out about it among their people who should know something about it, but refused to say who that person is.

About the group of Ukrainians who were trying to get to the American and Canadian Ambassies in Moscow Virsky did not know anything, but commented that it is impossible for the group of people even to try to get there. One person can try it but he has a doubt ~~xxx~~ if that person will ~~xxxx~~ be successful in getting there.

About Bilodid Virsky said that he met him 3 weeks ago and that he is working ⁱⁿ the publishing house "mystetstvo".

Virsky stated that Brezhnev is Ukrainian and that his mother still lives in Zaporizhzhya.

Virsky said that the congress of the writers of Ukraine already took place and it was before the congress of the All-Union ~~writers~~ writers took place because they had to elect delegates for the All-Union congress. He added that at present they no longer appoint delegates but elect them in a democratic fashion.

When B. asked Virsky the names of ensemble's administrators and the representatives of the Ministry of Culture, he had to look into his notebook because he still was confused as to who is who.

In general, B. noticed that Virsky's memory is slowly failing him. He is confused as to the facts, dates, and names.

It was already time for Virsky to go to the theatre so B. walked him there. In the front of the hotel there was a mounted patrolman and Virsky stopped there for a few minutes to admire ~~him~~ the horse. He admitted that whenever he sees a mounted patrolman he always spends a few minutes to observe those horses. He thinks that they are amazing for they are not afraid of all the street traffic and the street noise.

When they got to the theater Virsky went inside without inviting B. to go along with him.

After the concert B. met Borys MISHCHENKO and his wife MARIA. They were still tired but they wanted to keep their promise and agreed to go with B. for a beer but for a short time only and not too far from the hotel. As they started to walk they were joined by Yurly MALOVANYI -- ensemble's shoemaker. He appears to be 28-30 years of age and is married. In the bar he was very quiet and did not take part in the conversation.

Maria has asked B. if he has some acquaintances in Los Angeles who could tell them where there are some good bargains in the city. When B. asked her why she wants to do her shopping there, she replied that most likely most of their baggage will be sent home from Los Angeles. Although there are many good places for shopping in New York City they did not want to buy too many things here so they would not have to drag it along all over the country. When B. asked her what exactly she would like to buy, she replied that really ~~any~~ nothing unless ~~she~~ ~~would~~ something would catch her fancy while shopping.

Further MARIA complained that her dancing in the ensemble does not permit her to fulfill her duties as a mother. The ensemble is constantly on a tour and her daughter, OLENKA, has to be brought up by her mother who is already quite old. MARIA thinks that it is about time for her to devote herself to the up bringing of her daughter. She has only 1½ more years to spend in the ensemble in order to receive the ~~xxx~~ pension and then then she will leave the ensemble. She is with the ensemble since she was 16 years of age. MARIA was showing her daughter's pictures and was talking about her.

BORYS stated that he also wants to leave the ensemble but in order to receive the pension he still has to spend 3 more years with the ensemble. Although as a dancer he still is good enough for another 10-15 years, he is fed up with the gypsy life and would like to settle down. After leaving the ensemble, he plans to take some telecasting courses and hopes to get a job as an art director supervising the dance programs on TV.

Both, Borys and Maria were telling B. how they spent their summer, how mother was feeding them before they left for the tour, and how their daughter was crying because of their leaving. Maria said that her daughter is very smart and talented, especially to music. ~~xxxx~~ ~~XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX~~ She also has an inclination to foreign languages. Maria wants to send her daughter (now 6 years of age) ~~XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX~~ ~~XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX~~ next year to the English speaking school where everything is taught in English from the very start. In the building where they live there is a boy who goes to that school and her daughter has already learned from him quite lot -- she learned all the animals in English and other things.

political

When B. started to talk about some ~~XXXXXXXXXX~~ matters Borys and Maria always turned the conversation to different ~~xxxxxx~~ subjects. ~~IXXIXX~~ Most likely they did not want to talk about it in the presence of Malovanyy.

They were really tired and in addition to that Borys did not feel well the whole day so they wanted to go. They were sorry that they could not stay longer but assured B. that they will make ~~XXXXXXXX~~ it up at B's home when they will be in Philadelphia. B. walked them to the hotel.

On the way from the hotel, just around the corner, B. met Viktor Serhe-
yevych RESHETNYAK standing with some Ukrainian from Queens. It looked
 like they already had a drink and now that Ukrainian was talking Reshet-
 nyak into going for another drink. B. approached Reshetnyak and greeted
 them, and that Ukrainian took B. for one of the members of the ensemble.
~~XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX~~ B. neither confirmed nor denied it. Finally, after
 a long discussion they all went for coffee.

While having coffee, that Ukrainian was telling Reshetnyak and B. where
 he lives, where he works, and other things about himself. He was also
 asking questions about B. and his home in Ukraine. B. went along this
 game and pretended that he is one of the members of the ensemble. It
 did not please Reshetnyak. Matter of fact, he was even ~~mad~~ somewhat mad
 and told that Ukrainian that B. is also an American from Philadelphia.
 That poor Ukrainian was so confused that he stated that he does not
 believe neither B. nor Reshetnyak.

After finishing coffee B. and that Ukrainian walked Reshetnyak to the
 hotel. At the hotel Reshetnyak asked that Ukrainian to wait for a few
 minutes while he went to his room and brought down for him a record
 and ensemble's insignia, but nothing for B.

Mo 10-17

B. called Virsky about 1 PM and asked to see him. Virsky ~~XXXXXXXXXX~~
 said that he wants to go for a walk with his wife and asked B. to come
 to see him about 6 PM.

B. went to the hotel anyway hoping to meet someone there. In the lobby
 there was RESHETNYAK and SEMENYAKA talking with Roman M. B. joined them
 because there was no one else in the lobby. Reshetnyak left in a few
 minutes and went to take care of some matters. Semenyaka continued his
 conversation with Roman. They were talking about music, literature,
 and arts, and Semenyaka ^{tried to} knock ~~down~~ every argument presented by Roman.
 B. did not take part in their discussion.

After a while Roman left with two female dancers who went with some
 Ukrainian girl from New York City to see the town. B. was left with
 Semenyaka and they were joined after few minutes by STUPAK. Stupak
 was not taking part in the conversation and was just listening.

During the conversation with B., Semenyaka stated that:

1. he likes to cook and is good at that
2. he was born in the village Borovytsya, Chernyhivsky rayon
3. he is married and has some children, but did not stated how many or how old they are
4. was telling B. how beautiful Ukraine is and that he should go there for a visit
5. mentioned that on November 4 there will be an art exhibit in Paris and many Ukrainian artists will participate there
6. in 1967 the ensemble most likely will visit Australia
7. also in 1967 the Banduryst ensemble supposed to visit Japan, but they are planning this visit for the past 5 years and nothing came out of it so far.
8. in 1967 the various ensembles will spend very little time outside of ~~the~~ the USSR because of the celebration of the 50th anniversary
9. when the ensemble will be in Washington, D.C. he most certainly will go to see the statue of Taras Shevchenko. He read about it a lot in their newspapers
10. Lviv, in his opinion, is the most cultural city in the whole Ukraine. There is the largest number of theaters, artistic ensembles, clubs, museums, and more performances take place than anywhere else.
11. when asked ~~what Kostyuchenko has published~~ if Kostyuchenko has ever published anything before, he replied that Kostyuchenko has devoted now all ~~his~~ his time to the scholarly work. He is not working any longer at the Ministry of Culture but ~~writes~~ now for the "Radyansky Pysmennyk". He is now better off because ~~is~~ he is his own boss -- he sets his own hours and his own pace.

Semenyaka interrupted the conversation and said to Stupak "let's go into the city." When B. asked him why he is not inviting B. to go along with them, he replied "come along if you want to, but we are only going to the store to buy something to eat."

B. went with them. At the store they bought a fried chicken, bread, pickels, and milk.

On the way from the store, at the hotel entrance, they met two dancers. SEMENYAKA exchanged with them a few words and then turned to B. and asked him to go with those two dancers to the pharmacy and help them to get medicine because wife of one of those two dancers was ill.

One of those two was Oleksy Oleksandrovych HOMON, and it was his wife that was ill. She is an interpreter of the ensemble.

~~XX~~

After returning to the hotel, B. asked the other one to sit down in the lobby for a conversation and he agreed. His name is Anatoly Mykhaylovych PYROHOV -- 22 years of age, born in Dnipropetrovsk, with the ensemble ~~ix~~ he is only a year, married 3 years ago, his wife is working in the circus in Kiev, and she is also a dancer. PYROHOV finished Virsky's dancing school but was not selected to remain with the ensemble, so he spent some time in the VIRYOVKA's ensemble. Only after working hard and improving his dancing he managed to get to Virsky's ensemble, and it ~~xxx~~ seems that he has a future ahead in this ensemble now. With the Viryovka's ensemble he has visited East Berlin and East Germany. Otherwise this is his first visit abroad. Also in the ensemble is his sister Antonina, 20 years of age.

PYROHOV refused to go ~~WIKKXXY~~ for a walk with B. because Virsky strictly enforces a rest before the performance. He also refused to have a beer because even a smallest amount of alcohol will weaken his leg's muscles. However, he went for a juice.

When asked about the youth in Ukraine, PYROHOV did not give any concrete answer. He said that in the cities as well as in the villages ~~they youth~~ ~~xxxxxxx~~ the young people keep themselves busy -- they work or go to school, and their free time they devote to the activities of various clubs -- sports, music, arts, etc. He thinks that there is no difference in the life of the city and the country youth. However, he is not sure because he does not know the country too well. In general, he has ~~xxx~~

very little contact with the young people outside those in the ensemble because his work ~~XXXX~~ takes too much of his time as it is.

When B. asked him about recent arrests in Ukraine, Pyrohov was startled by ~~at~~ the news and asked B. if he is joking.

It seems that PYROHOV is very simple and limited young man who does not have any interests outside his dancing.

However, he has one interest and it is women. Although he is married, he still visits some of his old girlfriends and was telling about some of his escapades. Apparently his sister knows about his interest and for that reason she watches his every move. He was asking a lot of questions about American girls.

Pyrohov was also asking B. about medicine for his mother. He was told back home that here in the States there is a medicine for liver stones and he would like to get it for his mother. Also he was asking about medicine that would cure a "wet eczema" and explained its symptoms. B. told him that ~~HE~~ one of his friends is ~~EX~~ MD and he will talk to him about it and get prescription ~~XX~~ for the medicine.

Pyrohov mentioned that he bought himself material for suit. He can not buy a ready made suit because of his build but has to have them tailor made.

About 5:30 PM Virsky walked with his wife into the lobby. At that time there was FEDORYACHENKO and LYPATOV, and a few unidentified persons and they all were talking with Virsky for a short time. When Virsky noticed B. he approached him and ~~apologized~~ apologized that he would not be able to see B. at that time because some reporters came and he will be interviewed. He asked B. to come to see him about 7:30 PM.

PYROHOV went into his room and said that perhaps after the performance he will go with B. for a beer. Of course, it will depend ~~XXXXXXXXXXXX~~ on how his sister will feel about it.

About 7:30 PM B. went to Virsky's room. This time Virsky introduced his wife to B. but ~~XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX~~ after a few minutes she left the room as she always does.

1. B. gave to Virsky a few books: "Istoriya Ukrayinskoyi Literatury", "Bez Smerty", "Skarha Maybutryomu", "Novi Poeziyi" NO. 6&7, and "Suchasnist" NO. ~~XXI~~ 1 & 9, 1966.
2. B. also gave him "Visti z Prolohu" with the statement on the recent arrests in Ukraine and the arrested persons. Virsky glanced quickly through "Visti" and said that he does not ~~need~~ have a need for it any longer because he already read ~~XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX~~ the same in the ~~leaflet~~ leaflets distributed in the hotel. B. convinced him that in "Visti" ~~XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX~~ there is much better coverage and Virsky decided to accept it.
3. B. asked Virsky about the list of the dates and the cities in which they will perform and he dictated the whole schedule to B.

4. In the mean time someone called Virsky and he said that some people will come up to see him. It was MR & MRS SHUMENKO, the owners of Kowbasniuk Traveling Agency, and they presented Virsky with a painting by Slava Surmach. They stayed about 30 minutes and left.
5. Virsky remembered that he supposed to meet Rostyk OH. from "Suchasnist" 8:15 PM at the theater and asked B. to go with him because it was already after 8 PM.
6. Again Virsky stopped for a few minutes in the front of the hotel to watch a mounted policeman.
7. On the way to the theater Virsky mentioned that on January 16 the ensemble will come again to New York City for 2-3 performances.
8. ~~THESE~~ Rostyk was not in the front of the theater so Virsky went inside and asked B. to come with him. Rostyk was inside and he had a lengthy conversation with Virsky. Afterward Virsky suggested that Rostyk and B. would go to see the performance. Rostyk had to leave and B. said that he will go after the intermission.

HONON's wife felt a little better and she was backstage. She was very indignant ~~was~~ because of distributed ^{of} leaflets at the hotel. She stated that whoever was doing that was even in her room and put the leaflets under her pillow. She is Russian and does not speak Ukrainian. Her English is fair.

During the intermission came backstage KOCHUBEY. His manners and his conversation with B. indicated that he was ~~is~~ displeased seeing B. there.

Backstage B. gave to STUPAK "Visti z Prolohu" and flints.

After the performance PYROHOV said to B. that he can not go with him for a beer because his sister does not feel good and she would not let him go without her.

Borys and Maria MISHCHENKO agreed to go somewhere with B. ~~XXXXXXXXXXXX~~
~~and~~ When they got to the corner they were approached by some Ukrainian from Queens with Borys and Maria spent some time the ~~XXXXXXXXXXXX~~ evening before. Since he had a car he suggested to go for a ride. He also asked Borys to take along some of his good friends but Borys replied that at home all the dancers are his good friends but abroad his only good friend is his wife. However he asked KRUTOVERTSOV to come along. Borys said that first he will go with Maria to the hotel like all good dancers do, and then he will meet B. and the other fellow some distance away from the ~~XXXXXX~~ hotel so no one will see him where and with whom he went.

That Ukrainian suggested to take them to see the Ukrainian section and they were very enthusiastic about the ~~idea~~ idea. They were very amazed to see all the Ukrainian stores with the Ukrainian signs, church, the new school, etc. Borys and Maria were asking a lot of questions about the life of Ukrainians in New York and in the States in general. Afterward they stated that it was very educational for them and it was the best evening they have ever spent abroad.

at a resurant

On the way back they stopped near the hotel to have something to eat because they ~~were~~ did not have food since noon. They also had a couple of drinks.

In the restaurant KRUTOVERTSOV asked B. where is the best place to buy a transistor radio. He mentioned that ^{he} got a good radio last year in Latin America but his brother was after him so he gave it to him and added "I am an artist and frequently go abroad so I can get myself another one." He also mentioned that whenever he goes abroad his acquaintances back home give him the whole list of articles to get for them. When B. asked him about which articles the people ask ~~MARKS~~ ~~quantity~~ for, he replied "it is too much to enumerate".

Krutovertsov mentioned that the two books of "Novi Poeziyi" which B. gave him last year in Venezuela did not impress his wife. The other books which B. gave him he was afraid to show his wife and keeps them hidden.

Further he was talking about his son, YURA, 6 years of age. His wife stopped working (she was working in the publishing house) because she is expecting a baby.

MARIA was asking B. if anyone here translated Dr. Zhivago into Ukrainian because no one did it in Ukraine and she would like to have it. She mentioned that when Symonenko was published in Ukraine all the copies were sold out within a hour. Now everyone is waiting for a second printing but no one knows when it will come out.

Maria and Krutovortsov were asking B. about medicine called Adalfan (?) for a high blood pressure.

Before they went to the hotel, ~~XXXXXXXXXX~~ B. gave to Maria "Visti z Prolohu".

Philadelphia, Pa.

Sa 10-22

The dancers arrived to Philadelphia from Washington, D.C. quite late. Two buses arrived about 3PM and the third, ~~ax~~ in which was Virsky, about 4 PM.

B. was there with his sister and introduced her to FEDORYACHENKO, RESHYT-
NIYAK, SOZANOVSKY, and SEHAL, who arrived in the first two buses.

Alexander Naumovych SEHAL (choreographer and Virsky's assistant) asked B. where is the theater in which they were to perform and also asked B. if he could take him there, noticing that B. had his car with him. He wanted to see the stage and its preparation for the performance so he could report it to Virsky as soon as he arrives.

On the way to the theater, Sehal complaining that all the dancers are very tired because their schedules are too full and they hardly have time to rest. In addition to that, the dancers still did not get used to the time difference and ~~XXXXXXXXXXXXXX~~ to the American climate. He was also complaining about the stages, especially in Richmond and Washington, which were so slippery that the dancers ~~almost~~ only through luck did not break their legs. It is very exhausting and tiring to the dancers.

When B. commented that Virsky does not look well Sehal replied that Virsky works very hard, and in addition to that he has some problems with his heart.

When the third bus arrived, Virsky came out and went straight to his room. There was also MISHCHENKO and his wife on the same bus. They only exchanged greetings with B. and went to get some rest in their room because there was scheduled a short rehearsal for 6:30 PM.

Within a few minutes there was not a single dancer in the lobby. The only one still there was RESHETNYAK and B. approached him. At the same time came down LITVINSKY Harat KOPINSKY (ensemble's drummer) and joined them. Reshetnyak said that he is thirsty so B. invited them for a beer. Before B. had a time to get the beer at the bar, Reshetnyak set the tables so that he was sitting with B's sister while B. had to sit together with Litvinsky.

Reshetnyak was busy talking with B'S sister. He was asking her all sort of questions about: her, her college, colleges in general, what she is studying, B., ~~HER~~ parents, Philadelphia, etc. It seemed that he was double checking on the things that B. had told him.

Litvinsky was somewhat sad and started to complain about his troubles. He said that during the performance in Washington, D.C. ~~some~~ his large cymbal cracked and he does not know how he is going to play in the evening. He did not know what to do because he did not know where to buy a new one because the stores were already closed but most important, he had no money for a new one anyway. The cymbal which cracked he bought here in the States the last time ensemble was here in 1962. To all this, B. said that he has a set of cymbals - one large and a pair of ~~small~~ smaller foot cymbals. When Litvinsky found out that B's cymbals are Turkish he almost kissed B. and asked him if B. could bring at least the large one for the performance. B. agreed. This news made even Reshetnyak quite happy.

Reshetnyak suggested to Litvinsky that, although they had not much time left, they take a ride ~~now~~ in a B's car and see the city. B. showed them the old historical part of the city with Independence Hall, Betsy Ross House, and

other buildings there. Also the City Hall, Art Museum, Franklin Institute, Free Library, Ukrainian Catholic Cathedral, and other things along the way. They liked Philadelphia and were sorry that they were staying here for one performance only. B. took them to the hotel and they ~~arr~~ arranged to meet before the performance backstage.

Shortly before the performance B. came backstage. Litvinsky was waiting for B. When B. gave him the cymbal he was looking it over and was very pleased with it and want to set it up right away. Just before he left, he said "after the concert we will celebrate at your house".

Soon came Reshotnyak and gave two tickets for B. and his sister. ~~MM~~ He did not stay to long with B. because he had to take care of some things before the ~~concert~~ performance.

After the performance B. went backstage to see ~~VIRSK~~ Virsky. B. introduced his sister to Virsky and he gave her ensemble's booklet which he autographed and B. gave him a few postcards with Shevchenko's statue in Washington, D.C. Virsky stated that while in Washington He went to see the statue. B. asked Virsky why he did not appear on the stage at the end of the performance as he usually does and he replied that he feels very bad, ~~and he is in a bad mood~~ and right away he went to the hotel.

B. found Pyrohov and gave him a prescription for "wet eczema". B. also ~~and he suggested that he could get that medicine for him and~~ bring it for him to New York when they will be there in January but Pyrohov replied that he will get it himself and does not want to bother B. with it. Further B. explained to him that there ^{is no} medicine for liver stones and there are no liver stones. A B's friend, a medical doctor, explained that there are only gall stones and kidney stones and there is medicine

only for kidney stones. Pyrohov did not know at this point what kind of stones his mother has nor anything more about the illness.

~~KLEIN~~ Litvinsky approached B. and ~~was very interested in the cymbal~~ commented that the cymbal was very good and he likes it. He asked B. if he should return it to B. and B. replied that if he likes it so much he can keep it. He also said that some of ~~his~~ his old acquaintances came to see him and invited him to go over their house for a little get together. Litvinsky wanted to go there because he did not see them since 1962 and invited B. and his company to join them. With the hope to be alone ~~with~~ with Mishchenko and his wife, ~~he~~ B. replied that he rather not go there because he does not know those people. Litvinsky asked B. to come to see him the next morning before they leave Philadelphia.

When B. found Mishchenko and his wife they ~~apologized that they can not go anywhere because there is a hard day ahead of them with a trip to Newark and two performances there.~~ apologized that they can not go anywhere because there is a hard day ahead of them with a trip to Newark and two performances there.

B. went to the hotel and before Mishchenko and his wife went to their room he gave them some books: "Novi Poeziyi" NO. 6 & 7; "Nove Ukrayinske Pysmenstvo"; "Blahoslovy Maty"; "Pro Socializm i Marksyzm"; poems by Symonenko; and "Suchasnist" NO. 1 & 9, 1966. He also gave some books to Krutoveritsov: "Novi Poeziyi" NO. 6 & 7; "Blahoslovy Maty"; poems by Symonenko; "Lyubimov"; "Islupleniye"; "Ruki"; and "Na Skamye Posudinych".

In the hotel B. was also talking with Pyrohov. He also refused to go anywhere making excuses that he has to have a good rest because the next day will be very hard for him. B. offered him some books but Pyrohov made

excuses that there is no way for him to get such books home. B. replied that if he would want to he could find a way as many other dancers who received various books not printed in Ukraine. Pyrohov commented that has heard about it that some dancers received books. When B. asked him if the dancers managed to get them home, Pyrohov replied ~~XXXX~~ "I think so". B. did not force books on him.

Su 10-23

About 9 AM B. went to Litvinsky's room in the hotel. Litvinsky was talking about music, musical instruments, and about Ivashchenko (conductor of ensemble's orchestra) and his great talent as a conductor. Litvinsky knows a lot about music and it seems to be his only interest; other subjects were unimportant to ~~him~~ him. B. gave him poems by Symonenko and "Suchsnist" NO. 9, and he gave B. a record. There was not much time for a conversation because soon Litvinsky had to take down to the bus his baggage but he was looking forward to another meeting with B. in January in New York City.

In the lobby B. met FEDORYACHENKO. He asked B. about the ~~XXXX~~ Convention Hall where ~~by~~ the performane took place - the year it was erected, ~~an~~ number of seats there, etc. B. made some phone calls and got the informations for him. He also asked about the number of Ukrainians in ~~the city~~ Philadelphia and in other American and Canadian cities.

Before the buses left, B. gave to some dancers post cards with Shevchenko's statue in Washington, D.C. Many dancers were asking about the postcards from Philadelphia but B. did not have them handy.

~~XXXXXXXXXX~~ Semenyaka commented that he went to see the statue in Washington but he did not like it. He asked B. to get for him Kennedy's half ~~XXXX~~ dollar explaining that some collectors back home asked him for it.

Mishchenko and his wife were very official toward B. Perhaps because there were too many dancers ~~there~~ near the buses.

Most of the dancers asked B. to come to see them when they will be in New York in January and B. promised to do so.