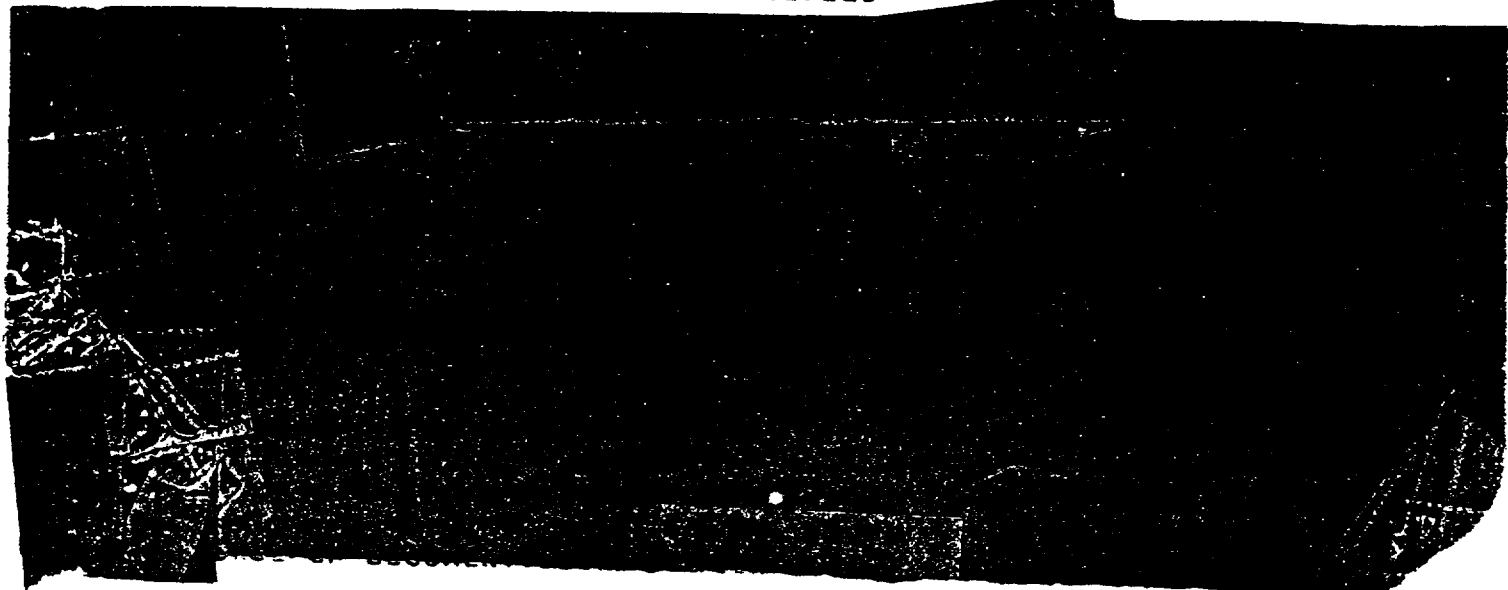


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UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE: 96 OF 321



[1MAUTHOR(S):[22M RAF SHAKIROV: @RUSSIAN AMBASSADOR VLADIMIR LUKIN\*\*]

[1MHEADLINE:[22M BIOGRAPHY OF AMBASSADOR TO U.S. LUKIN

[1MSOURCE LINE:[22M 934C0374A MOSCOW KOMMERSANT-DAILY IN RUSSIAN 14 NOV 92  
P 9

[1MSUBSLUG:[22M ARTICLE BY RAF SHAKIROV: @RUSSIAN AMBASSADOR VLADIMIR LUKIN\*\*]

[1MFULL TEXT OF ARTICLE:[22M

[1M1. [22MARTICLE BY RAF SHAKIROV: @RUSSIAN AMBASSADOR VLADIMIR LUKIN\*\*]

[1M2. [22MTEXT] THERE HAVE PROBABLY BEEN MORE RUMORS ABOUT HIM THAN ABOUT ANY OTHER RUSSIAN POLITICIAN. THEY DO NOT CONCERN HIS PRIVATE LIFE BUT FOCUS ON HIS CAREER PROSPECTS. THIS ALONE PROVES THAT HE IS AN EXTRAORDINARY MAN, AND EVERYONE WHO KNOWS HIM KNOWS THAT IT IS NOT JUST HIS PROFESSIONAL ABILITIES THAT MAKE HIM EXTRAORDINARY. ONE OF LUKIN'S OLD FRIENDS, FORMER U.S. SECRETARY OF STATE HENRY KISSINGER, SAID THIS ABOUT HIM WHEN HE WAS IN MOSCOW IN OCTOBER 1992: @HE SEEMS TO BE AN AMBASSADOR WITH THE KIND OF HUMAN QUALITIES THAT ARE QUITE RARE IN AMBASSADORS.\*\*

[1M3. [22MVLADIMIR LUKIN WAS BORN IN OMSK ON 13 JULY 1937. HIS FATHER AND MOTHER, PROFESSIONAL REVOLUTIONARIES, WERE REPESSSED SOON AFTERWARD. A NEIGHBOR WHO HAD GIVEN BIRTH TO A SON FOUR DAYS EARLIER NURSED THE CHILD UNTIL HIS GRANDMOTHER ARRIVED FROM MOSCOW.

[1M4. [22MHERE ARE SOME OF HIS STRONGEST CHILDHOOD MEMORIES. SUMMER 1941: @WE WERE ON THE TRAIN, ON OUR WAY TO OUR DACHA, AND FATHER AND MOTHER WERE HOLDING ME BY THE HAND. THERE WAS ANXIOUS CONVERSATION. I DO NOT KNOW WHAT IT WAS ABOUT, BUT WAR WAS NEAR.\*\* VICTORY DAY: @I TOOK THE BUS THROUGH REVOLUTION SQUARE (HE LOVED TO RIDE THE BUS WHEN HE WAS A BOY) AND I REMEMBER...



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20

UNCLASSIFIED

C1MDOCUMENT 20 OF 56

PAGE 2C22M

STALIN'S FUNERAL: I WAS ALREADY A FAIRLY BOISTEROUS YOUNG MAN AND I GOT ALL THE WAY TO KRASNOKHOLMSKIY BRIDGE."\*

C1M5. C22MHE GRADUATED FROM THE HISTORY DEPARTMENT OF THE MOSCOW STATE PEDAGOGICAL INSTITUTE. HE WORKED IN THE EDITORIAL OFFICES OF PROBLEMY MIRA I SOTSIALIZMA, KNOWN AS THE POLITICAL NOVYY MIR, IN PRAGUE AFTER HE HAD COMPLETED HIS POST-GRADUATE STUDIES. IN AUGUST 1968 HE PROTESTED THE DECISION TO SEND SOVIET TROOPS INTO CZECHOSLOVAKIA AND WAS SENT TO MOSCOW ON A MILITARY PLANE THE NEXT DAY. HE WORKED IN THE INSTITUTE OF U.S. AND CANADIAN STUDIES FROM 1968 TO 1987.

C1M6. C22MLUKIN'S RAPID ASCENT BEGAN IN 1985, WHEN HIS REPORT ON REFORM IN CHINA WAS COMMENDED AT A CLOSED SESSION OF THE POLITBURO AND WAS LATER USED AS THE BASIS FOR GORBACHEV'S SPEECH IN VLADIVOSTOK (IN 1987). AFTER THIS LUKIN WENT TO WORK IN THE MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS, WHERE HE SERVED FIRST AS DEPUTY CHIEF OF THE FAR EASTERN ADMINISTRATION AND THEN AS DEPUTY CHIEF OF THE FORECASTING AND PLANNING ADMINISTRATION.

C1M7. C22MIN 1990 HE WAS ELECTED A PEOPLE'S DEPUTY OF RUSSIA AND CHAIRMAN OF THE COMMITTEE ON INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS AND FOREIGN ECONOMIC RELATIONS. IN FEBRUARY 1992 HE WAS APPOINTED RUSSIA'S AMBASSADOR EXTRAORDINARY AND PLENIPOTENTIARY TO THE UNITED STATES.

C1M8. C22MHE IS THE AUTHOR OF SEVERAL BOOKS ON INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS. HE IS A DOCTOR OF HISTORICAL SCIENCES AND IS FLUENT IN ENGLISH, SPANISH, AND FRENCH. HE WAS AWARDED THE BADGE OF HONOR AND A WHITE HOUSE DEFENSE MEDAL (HE DOES NOT REMEMBER IF HE EVER GOT IT).

C1M9. C22MHE LOVES LIFE AND THE COMFORTS OF LIFE. HIS FAVORITE VACATION SPOTS ARE THE CENTRAL BELT OF RUSSIA, THE CITY OF PARNU (ESTONIA), AND THE ISLAND OF JAMAICA. HE IS MARRIED AND HAS TWO CHILDREN AND TWO GRANDCHILDREN. HIS HOBBIES ARE RUSSIAN LITERATURE, SOCCER, AND HOCKEY (HE HAS NOT BEEN ON THE ICE HIMSELF FOR THREE YEARS, BUT HE IS AN AVID FAN OF THE CENTRAL ARMY SPORTS TEAM).

C1M10. C22MTHERE WERE AS MANY RUMORS ABOUT THE IDENTITY OF THE RUSSIAN AMBASSADOR TO THE UNITED STATES AS THERE WERE ABOUT THE NEW MINISTER OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS. IN PARTICULAR, THE GOSSIPS WERE READY TO SEND SECRETARY OF STATE SERGEY STANKEVICH TO THE BANKS OF THE POTOMAC. THE RUMORS REACHED VLADIMIR PETROVICH IN WASHINGTON, WHERE HE HAD GONE AFTER NEW YEAR'S TO PRESENT SOME LECTURES. THIS IS WHY HE THOUGHT NOTHING OF IT WHEN HE WAS MADE A MEMBER OF THE RUSSIAN DELEGATION AT THE UN GENERAL ASSEMBLY, HEADED BY THE PRESIDENT. LUKIN DID NOT FIND OUT THAT HE WAS THE AMBASSADOR TO THE UNITED STATES UNTIL ONE OF YELTSIN'S ASSISTANTS WHISPERED TO HIM AS THEY WERE GETTING OFF THE PLANE IN THE NEW YORK AIRPORT: YOU OWE ME A HALF-LITER NOW THAT YOU HAVE BEEN

PAGE: 98 CF 321

UNCLASSIFIED

E1MDOCUMENT 20 OF 56

PAGE 3C22M

E1M11. E22M THE DECISION BECAME OFFICIAL A LITTLE LATER, WHEN YELTSIN WAS INTRODUCING THE MEMBERS OF THE DELEGATION TO BUSH AND SAID: @THIS IS GAYDAR--THE PREMIER, THIS IS KOZYREV-- THE MINISTER OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS, AND THIS IS LUKIN--YOU KNOW, THE AMBASSADOR.'" LUKIN SAID: @I AM NOT THE AMBASSADOR YET.'" YELTSIN WAS CONFUSED: @WHAT DO YOU MEAN?'" @THIS CALLS FOR AN OFFICIAL ACCEPTANCE,'" LUKIN SAID. BUSH INTERRUPTED: @WE HAVE HEARD ALL ABOUT YOU. YOU ARE WELCOME.'" LATER LUKIN REMARKED: @I DECIDED TO BE A LAW-ABIDING CITIZEN.'"

E1M12. E22M THIS RAPID INSTALLATION WAS NO COINCIDENCE. BY THAT TIME LUKIN HAD ALREADY WON YELTSIN'S CONFIDENCE. THE RELATIONSHIP HAD BEEN INITIATED BY LUKIN. HE HAD GONE TO SEE YELTSIN, AS THE CHAIRMAN OF THE COMMITTEE ON INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS REPORTING TO THE CHAIRMAN OF THE SUPREME SOVIET, AND TOLD HIM: @BORIS NIKOLAYEVICH, BECAUSE OF MY PERSONAL VIEWS AND BECAUSE OF WHAT IS HAPPENING TODAY, I FEEL A DUTY TO OFFER MY SERVICES, BUT I HAVE NEVER BEEN AND WILL NEVER BE A 'YES MAN.'" YELTSIN SMILED: @YOU ARE JUST THE KIND OF MAN I NEED.'" LATER VLADIMIR PETROVICH PROVED TO BE A VALUABLE COMPANION TO YELTSIN ON SEVERAL OF HIS SUCCESSFUL OVERSEAS TRIPS AND YELTSIN GREW ACCUSTOMED TO ASKING HIM FOR ADVICE. LUKIN SOMEHOW MANAGED NOT TO ACCOMPANY YELTSIN ON HIS UNSUCCESSFUL TRIPS--TO THE UNITED STATES (IN 1990) AND TO FRANCE (IN 1991).

E1M13. E22M IN SPITE OF THAT, SOME OBSERVERS SAW LUKIN'S APPOINTMENT IN THE UNITED STATES AS A WAY OF EXCLUDING HIM FROM RUSSIAN AFFAIRS--PRIMARILY FROM THE RUSSIAN--UKRAINIAN CONFLICT OVER THE BLACK SEA FLEET AND THE CRIMEA, IN WHICH LUKIN'S COMMITTEE HAD TAKEN AN UNCOMPROMISING STANCE AND THREATENED TO USE FORCE AGAINST UKRAINE. AT A PRESS CONFERENCE IN THE WHITE HOUSE, LUKIN HIMSELF SUGGESTED THAT @THERE ARE SOME PEOPLE WHO WANT MY VOICE TO BE DROWNED SOMEWHERE IN THE DEPTHS OF THE ATLANTIC OCEAN.'"

E1M14. E22M ALTHOUGH LUKIN LIKES TO REPEAT THE OLD SAYING THAT @ONLY WOMEN CAN SUM UP THE RESULTS OF THEIR EFFORTS EACH MONTH,'" THERE HAVE BEEN PERCEPTIBLE CHANGES IN THE EMBASSY DURING HIS 10 MONTHS IN WASHINGTON. HE BEGAN BY INSTALLING TWO WINDOWS IN HIS OFFICE, WHICH HAD RESEMBLED A BUNKER (A WINDOWLESS ROOM FILLED WITH EQUIPMENT), AND ALSO A TELEVISION SET, WHICH HAD BEEN PROHIBITED FOR SECURITY REASONS.

E1M15. E22M THE EMBASSY SOON BECAME POPULAR WITH MORE THAN JUST SENATORS AND CONGRESSMEN. AMERICANS NOW THINK OF IT AS A PRESTIGIOUS LOCATION FOR MEETINGS AND PARTIES. ONE OF THE LATEST MEETINGS WAS A GATHERING OF AMERICAN VETERAN TEST PILOTS. AS ONE EMBASSY STAFFER SAID, @WE HAVE BECOME SOMETHING LIKE A TRENDY NEW YORK RESTAURANT.'"

E1M16.

UNCLASSIFIED

C1MDOCUMENT 20 OF 56

PAGE 4C22M

REPRESENTING THE MOST DIVERSE POLITICAL CURRENTS AND AIRS HIS VIEWS ON RADIO AND IN "SERIOUS" POLITICAL SCIENCE JOURNALS, SUCH AS FOREIGN POLICY. LUKIN ESTABLISHED CONTACT WITH BILL CLINTON'S TEAM AT THE RIGHT TIME, AND HE PRUDENTLY ADVISED YELTSIN AGAINST A MEETING WITH ROSS PEROT. THE AMERICANS WERE QUICK TO APPRECIATE LUKIN'S EFFORTS. THE LOS ANGELES COUNCIL ON FOREIGN POLICY NAMED HIM "DIPLOMAT OF THE YEAR."

C1M17. LUKIN ESTABLISHED PERMANENT CONTACTS WITH THE EMIGRE COMMUNITY, AND THE WORKS OF ERNST NEIZVESTNY (ONE OF LUKIN'S OLD FRIENDS) AND OTHER ARTISTS ARE NOW ON DISPLAY IN THE BUILDING ON SAKHAROV PLAZA. ACTING ON LUKIN'S ADVICE, RUSSIAN EMIGRANTS ESTABLISHED A SPECIAL REFUGEE RELIEF FUND. THE FRIENDS OF THE EMBASSY INCLUDE LOCAL ORTHODOX PRIESTS—FATHER DMITRIY AND FATHER VIKTOR POTAPOV, THE HEAD OF THE RUSSIAN ORTHODOX CHURCH OUTSIDE OF RUSSIA. LUKIN DEFINES HIS OWN ATTITUDE TOWARD RELIGION IN PROTAGORAS' WORDS: "LIFE IS TOO SHORT, AND THE EXISTENCE OF GODS IS TOO COMPLEX AN ISSUE."

C1M18. IN GENERAL, THERE IS NOTHING MONASTIC ABOUT THE AMBASSADOR. HE LOVES TO CONVERSE AND EXCHANGE ANECDOTES WITH TALENTED AND WITTY INDIVIDUALS. HIS FRIENDS DESCRIBE HIM AS THE LIFE OF THE PARTY AND SAY THAT HE DOES EVERYTHING IN A "LIGHTEARTED AND PLAYFUL" MANNER. THE ONLY PROBLEM IS THAT ALL OF THE RITUAL LUNCHEONS AND DINNERS DO NOT ALLOW HIM TO STAY ON HIS DIET. LUKIN LIKES ALL KINDS OF FOOD, BUT THE MAIN THING IS THAT HE LIKES TO EAT QUICKLY (EVEN IN THE WHITE HOUSE HE PREFERRED THE SIXTH FLOOR TO THE DEPUTY DINING ROOM BECAUSE THE SERVICE WAS QUICKER). ALTHOUGH HE APPRECIATES CHINESE COOKING, HE USUALLY PREFERENCES A SIMPLER MENU—SAUERKRAUT, PICKLES, HERRING, AND OCCASIONALLY SOMETHING ELSE, BUT ONLY IN MODERATION." IN THE FINAL ANALYSIS, IN LUKIN'S OPINION, "MANKIND HAS NEVER INVENTED ANYTHING BETTER THAN A GLASS OF VODKA AND A BITE OF PICKLED HERRING."

C1M19. JUDGING BY ALL INDICATIONS, THESE PREFERENCES ARE NOT ONLY A MATTER OF GASTRONOMICAL TASTES, BUT ALSO EVOKE NOSTALGIC FEELINGS AND MEMORIES OF THE AMBASSADOR'S YOUTH. IT IS IN THIS FAMILIAR ATMOSPHERE THAT VLADIMIR PETROVICH HAS ALWAYS HAD MEETINGS WITH OLD FRIENDS. THEY INCLUDE YURIY KARYAKIN (A "LIFELONG FRIEND"; THEY WERE EACH OTHER'S AUTHORIZED REPRESENTATIVES IN ELECTION CAMPAIGNS), BORIS GRUSHIN, INSTITUTE FRIEND YULIY KIM, ILYA GABAY, PETR GRIGORENKO, AND PETR YAKIR—"A GALAXY OF TALENTED INDIVIDUALS" ("TALENTED PEOPLE TRAVEL IN PACKS, AND SO DO REVISIONISTS"). THE GROUP ONCE INCLUDED THE LATE MERAB MAMARDASHVILI ("A BEST FRIEND").

C1M20. LEV DELYUSIN (A CLOSE FRIEND OF PETR LYUBIMOV, THE SINOLOGIST) AND KARYAKIN ONCE TOOK LUKIN TO TAGANKA, BUT HE WAS MORE LIKELY TO SPEND TIME WITH THE PEOPLE FROM SOVREMENNIK (HE HAD A WONDERFUL RELATIONSHIP WITH GALINA VOLCHEK, OLEG TABAKOV, AND OTHER ACTORS) AND TO SERVE AS THEIR HOST.

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE: 100 OF 321

CIMDOCUMENT 20 OF 56

PAGE 5C22M

TO PREMIERE PERFORMANCES. MANY OF THEM STILL REMEMBER THE TIME WHEN LUKIN WAS SENT BACK FROM CZECHOSLOVAKIA IN 1968 AND "DECLARED A MORATORIUM" ON ALL VISITS TO FRIENDS SO THAT HE WOULD NOT GET ANYONE INTO TROUBLE. WITHIN TWO DAYS HE HAD RECEIVED SOLICITOUS PHONE CALLS FROM EVERYONE, ASKING WHY HE HAD NOT COME TO SEE THEM (THE FIRST TO CALL WERE MAMARDASHVILI AND NEIZVESTNY).

CIM21. [22M] HIS LENGTHY FRIENDSHIP WITH ALEKSANDR SOLZHENITSYN ALLOWED LUKIN TO ARRANGE FIRST FOR A TELEPHONE CONVERSATION AND THEN FOR WRITTEN CORRESPONDENCE BETWEEN SOLZHENITSYN AND YELTSIN, RESULTING IN THE DECISION THAT THE WRITER SHOULD RETURN TO HIS HOMELAND.

CIM22. [22M] LUKIN'S SUCCESSES, HOWEVER, DO NOT MEAN THAT THERE ARE NO PROBLEMS IN THE RUSSIAN EMBASSY IN WASHINGTON. JUST RECENTLY SEVERAL QUALIFIED STAFFERS LEFT THE EMBASSY FOR VARIOUS REASONS AND WENT TO WORK FOR AMERICAN FIRMS. THE LOW SALARY (AROUND 16,000 DOLLARS A YEAR) WAS ONE OF THE REASONS. ALTHOUGH THE AMBASSADOR'S SALARY IS ONLY SLIGHTLY HIGHER (AROUND 20,000 DOLLARS), LUKIN IS NOT PREOCCUPIED WITH GETTING HIMSELF A RAISE. HE FEELS THAT THERE MUST BE A COMPREHENSIVE SOLUTION TO THE PROBLEM, AND THIS IS WHY HE PROPOSED A SYSTEM OF ASSOCIATE CONTRACTS FOR QUALIFIED MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS SPECIALISTS: THE CONTRACT WOULD BE CONCLUDED FOR A SPECIFIC SUM AND A SPECIFIC PERIOD, AND ANY VIOLATION WOULD HAVE LEGAL CONSEQUENCES.

CIM23. [22M] ALTHOUGH THIS PLAN GOT LOST SOMEWHERE IN THE MINISTRY, ALONG WITH SOME OF LUKIN'S OTHER SUGGESTIONS--WHICH HAS GIVEN THE AMBASSADOR CAUSE TO CRITICIZE HIS OWN MINISTRY-- EVEN HIS DETRACTORS HAVE TO GIVE HIM CREDIT FOR "ADDRESSING THE ISSUES" AND AVOIDING PERSONAL ATTACKS. OF COURSE, AS HE SAYS, "SOMETIMES PEOPLE DO FEEL INSULTED, BUT WHAT CHOICE DO I HAVE...? AFTER ALL, I AM ALSO STILL A DEPUTY AND A MEMBER OF A COMMITTEE, AND FOR THIS REASON I AM OBLIGATED TO EXPRESS MY OPINIONS."

CIM24. [22M] AS FOR THE OFFICE OF MINISTER OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS, LUKIN WILL NOT DISCUSS THE MATTER SERIOUSLY: "THE OFFICE IS NOT VACANT. THE PRESIDENT HAS TO CHOOSE THE RIGHT PERSON TO WORK WITH, IN LINE WITH THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE OVERALL SITUATION. HE HAS TO MAKE THIS DECISION FOR HIMSELF. I HAVE NO GREAT THIRST FOR TITLES." HE WENT ON TO IMAGINE THE CROWNING MOMENT OF HIS CAREER AS AN AMBASSADOR: "IF A GOOD TEAM COMES HERE, I WOULD LIKE TO PUT ON MY SKATES AND RECALL THE GOOD OLD DAYS. THEN I WOULD SOLEMNLY CIRCLE THE RINK AND START THE GAME BY MAKING THE FIRST CEREMONIAL MOVE."

CIM25. [22M] WHATEVER HAPPENS IN LUKIN'S CAREER IN THE FUTURE, HOWEVER, ALL OF THE PEOPLE WHO KNOW HIM--FRIENDS AND ENEMIES--AGREE THAT HE HAS NOT MADE HIS MAIN MOVE YET.