



A Final Goodbye in Azerbaijan

At a cemetery in Agdam, Azerbaijan, family members and friends grieved during the burial of victims killed in the fighting in Nagorno-Karabakh. Chingiz

Iskanderov, right, hugged the coffin containing the remains of his brother, one of the victims. A copy of the Koran lay atop the coffin.

Associated Press

At Moscow Book Party, Memories Of a Time of Repression Flow Freely

By SERGE SCHMEMANN
Special to The New York Times

MOSCOW, March 5 — Several of the writers and intellectuals who gathered today to celebrate the publication of the Literary Almanac Metropol pointed with some satisfaction to the fact that they were meeting in the former Soviet Ministry of Culture on the anniversary of Stalin's death in 1953.

13 years late, a celebration is held at the old Ministry of Culture.

How difficult it is to breathe now. "Of course it was all simpler then," he said. "The division of forces was exactly as at the front — we were right, and they were scoundrels. Now it's difficult to believe in anybody's words, words don't match deeds, nobody knows what will become of our Russia. I want to believe Russia will live, but I'm not certain I'll live to see it."

These were the very forces that had delayed the publication of the almanac in Moscow for some 13 years. Back in those now-distant days known as the "period of stagnation," the collection by 23 writers, many well known and quite "official," provoked so strong a response from the jealous state that Metropol became something of a benchmark for literary repression.

There were also underground stars like Yuz Aleshkovsky, whose ironic song "Comrade Stalin, You're a Great Scholar," was known across the land, and Genrikh Saggir, who had begun writing illicit works in the late 1940's.

The Joy of Reunion
But there was also the joy of a triumphant reunion. And that they were triumphant, there was no question — the hall in which they met was in the old Soviet Ministry of Culture, whose spacious headquarters was turned over to the Actors' Union after the Soviet Union was disbanded.

Now, gathered among admiring friends, many of them successful and respected as scarred veterans of the brutal struggle for freedom of expression, they gathered to celebrate and, like veterans everywhere, to tell a few war stories and to reminisce about times that were a lot tougher, but perhaps a lot simpler.

All were joined by the hope that attempting an uncensored collection of writings might gain for literature the same small measure of independence that painters had achieved after the celebrated bulldozing of an unsanctioned outdoor exhibition in 1977. But the time was not ripe: driven underground at home, Metropol was published in the United States and France.

There were plenty of jokes along those lines. "Please wait for the camera," somebody said, and after a pause everybody broke out laughing — "camera" in Russian is also a prison isolation ward.

"I remember how naïvely we planned a champagne buffet back then to launch the almanac," recalled Yevgeny Rein, a poet and film writer. "We discussed what kind of herring to order, whether to invite this prima donna or that one, since everybody knew they would not attend the same party."

The coming of freedom found the writers far afield. Some had flourished — Mr. Yereyev was in Italy promoting his best-selling novel, "Russian Beauty," Mr. Popov had just returned from a fellowship in Bavaria. Mark Rozovsky had his own theater, "Theater at the Nikitsky Gates." Many others were being published voluminously.

"What we need to do now is something as bold in today's circumstances as 'Metropol' was then," said Mr. Popov, a richly bearded Siberian with a keen eye for the ironies of his world. "I know, let's raise 23 pigs!"

"But I see there's some champagne waiting here. Maybe now we can finally drink it — Veuve Cliquot, I believe, of a 13-year vintage."

Some had gone abroad — Mr. Aksyonov to the United States, Yuri Karabchiyevsky, a writer, to Israel, Fridrikh Gorenshstein, a scriptwriter, to Germany. One, Yuri Kublanovsky, a poet, had "re-immigrated" and was fighting to be restored to citizenship. Mr. Vysotsky, the legendary bard, died in 1980.

Germany Protests to Chile For Sheltering East German

BONN, March 5 (Reuters) — Germany took a tough line with Chile today for sheltering the former East German leader Erich Honecker in its Moscow Embassy. Bonn ordered its ambassador in Santiago to protest what it called a violation of international law.

U.S. Hiring Russian Scientists for Fusion Research

Continued From Page A1

direct the Russian work. Fusion produces energy by fusing, or welding, the atoms of light elements. In contrast, the nuclear fission reactors now in operation around the world make energy by breaking apart the atoms of heavy elements like uranium. A major attraction of fusion is that the main fuel, deuterium, a heavy form of hydrogen, can be easily extracted from water in nearly endless quantities. In theory, fusion could produce far more energy from, say, the top two inches of Lake Erie than exists in all the earth's known oil reserves.

Despite the allure of fusion energy, the efforts of thousands of scientists and the expenditure of many billions of dollars over nearly a half-century, the goal of controlling fusion has remained elusive because of its intrinsic difficulty.

The closest natural example is the sun, where temperatures at the core are 14 million degrees centigrade and gravitational pressures are crushing. There, atomic nuclei are driven so close together that they fuse and release vast energy.

In a fusion reactor, the temperature must be higher, around 200 million degrees centigrade, since the fusion fuel undergoes far less compression than materials at the center of the sun. For years, the twin goals of fusion research have been to boost the temperature of fuels and to create proper magnetic fields to hold them. The fuels are so hot that they would instantly melt any metal, ceramic or glass vessel.

Russian scientists have made major strides in achieving both goals. They pioneered the most widely accepted magnet design for a reactor, the doughnut-shaped tokamak, and invented innovative ways to heat fuels with beams of microwave energy.

But they have now fallen on hard times. Most fusion equipment at the Kurchatov Institute is said to be idle for lack of funds.

Russian Proposal in November
Last November, the Russians proposed doing experiments for the American fusion program when Energy Department officials visited Moscow. Though interested, the officials moved cautiously to make sure the proposal was acceptable financially, legally and politically. Dr. Simonen of General Atomics said it had been approved last month by the State Department and the White House.

"The biggest hurdle was the U.S. Government," he said, "and now that's gone through." The Russians, he added, are expected to return a signed contract soon. The Russian team is so eager to get started, Dr. Simonen said,

President, Under Fire, Plans Broad Reform in Venezuela

CARACAS, Venezuela, March 5 (Reuters) — President Carlos Andrés Pérez, under pressure to resign after a failed coup attempt, announced major political reforms today along with measures to ease the pain of economic austerity.

The President said in an address that a special assembly would redraft the Constitution and put it to the people in a referendum by May in an effort to defuse the most profound political crisis in the nation's recent democratic history.

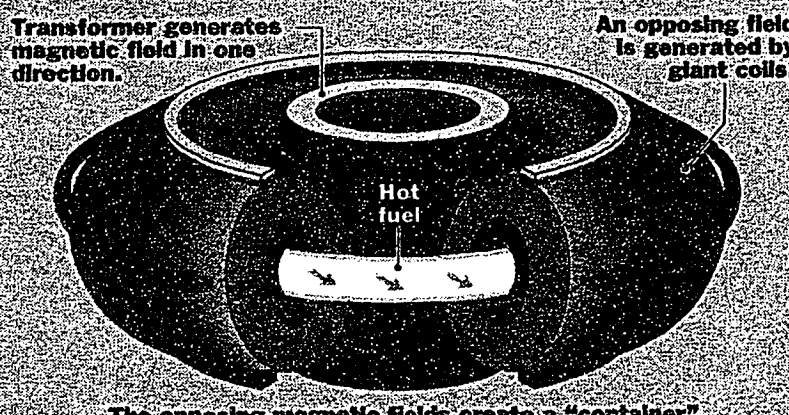
Politicians and dignitaries broke into applause as he announced a temporary freeze in electricity rates and a ceiling on prices for medicines and flour, cooking oil, pasta, rice and milk.

The President also froze gasoline prices, abandoning highly unpopular monthly increases begun more than a year ago under pressure from the International Monetary Fund.

Since the Feb. 4 military uprising, there have been increasing attacks on Mr. Pérez's economic policies and calls for his resignation. But he repeated tonight that he would not step down.

Tapping Russian Fusion Expertise

Soviet scientists invented the tokamak fusion reactor, the best hope for harnessing fusion energy like that of the sun. Now the United States is hiring more than 100 Soviet fusion scientists.



The opposing magnetic fields create a "container" strong enough to hold super-hot fuel. If deuterium and tritium, two forms of hydrogen, are compressed at great heat, they fuse to form helium, releasing a burst of energy in the form of speeding neutrons. Tokamaks use magnetic fields as "containers" for such extremely hot thermonuclear reactions.

The New York Times

Getting millions of dollars of research for a pittance.

that it has already begun working for the American program in an experiment that will take about five months.

The Kurchatov team, which is headed by Dr. Boris Kadomtsev, consists of scientists, engineers and technicians. It is now working on a reactor known as T-10, which is not the largest tokamak at the institute but has the world's most powerful microwave source for heating fusion fuel.

The institute is named after Dr. Igor V. Kurchatov, the father of the Soviet A-bomb. For decades it has done little or no weapons work, focusing instead on making innovative reactors, including ones for use in space.

Fears About U.S. Scientists
While the arrangement with the Russians is seen as a way to advance

American fusion research, there is also concern about its potential effects on scientists in the United States.

Dr. Stephen O. Dean, president of Fusion Power Associates in Gaithersburg, Md., a nonprofit group that promotes fusion research, said the deal was probably good for the American program but worried that if such efforts grew too much they could hurt American fusion researchers, who have already seen cuts in their budgets.

"We can afford to buy the whole Soviet scientific establishment," Dr. Dean said.

But Dr. Davies of the Energy Department said fears of hurting American researchers were unfounded, especially considering the relatively small investment of \$90,000 in Russian scientists whose work is expected to complement fusion research at General Atomics in San Diego.

"At this level of funding, that's not going to be a problem," she said. "This is so clearly to our benefit. I see this as a bridge for the Kurchatov fusion team until they are able to move forward on their own as a healthy research program."

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Afghan Moor	4x6	1,190	450	Fine Isfahan Silk & Wool	5x8	14,600	5,900
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