

CIB

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FEB 21 1950

February 15, 1950.

Dear Mr. Barnard,

Some time ago J.H.W. suggested that you might like to have a sampling of the kinds of research questions we are dealing with at the Russian Institute, to look over before our meeting next Monday noon. In the rush of getting the children to school this morning, I left these questions on my desk and so am sending them direct to you by mail. We are all looking forward to Monday's meeting with much pleasure.

Sincerely yours,

Phil Mosely

FEB 21 1950

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Columbia Univ
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SOVIET ECONOMY

1. Information available on the Soviet economy: sources, volume and reliability. Can we ever hope to know the facts on the Soviet economy?
2. Aims of research on the Soviet economy: What are the main questions to be answered?
3. Progress to date in regard to economics research in the Institute: What are the main achievements?
4. More concretely: What if anything has been established regarding:

Soviet economic potential
Living standards in the USSR
Efficiency and workability of Soviet planning
The question of inequality and classes
5. Plans and prospects regarding economics research in the Institute.
6. To what extent has or might the study of the Soviet economy shed light on Soviet ideology and world outlook?

SOVIET LAW AND GOVERNMENT

1. What are the major questions being examined by the government and law staff and students, and what materials are being utilized?
2. Have any conclusions been suggested as to the stability of the Soviet regime?
3. Have any conclusions been suggested as to restraints on abuse of power?
4. What has been discovered concerning administrative problems in a socialist economy?
5. What areas are planned as subjects for research in the future?

SOVIET LITERATURE

1. The ideological and sociological content of Soviet literature. What is its scientific value as evidence bearing on the weakness and strength of Soviet policy?
2. Belles lettres as a planned educational medium in the Soviet Union. How does the government employ literature to educate the people to a willing acceptance of its ideology?
3. The Communist Party and Soviet literature. What is the extent of Party control and how does it operate?
4. Soviet literature and the transition to Communism. To what extent are the future aspirations of the Communist Party reflected in contemporary literature?

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HISTORY OF SOVIET IDEOLOGY

1. What are the chief reasons for promoting American research in the history of Soviet ideology? Where are the conditions more favorable for research in Soviet ideology -- in the USSR, or in the United States?
2. What were some of the chief positive contributions of pre-Revolutionary Russia to the Soviet system of thought and action?
3. Has any one problem held a focal position in Russian Communist ideology since the beginning of the present century?
4. Did emphasis by Soviet leaders on the doctrine of "socialism in one country" involve their abandonment of the doctrine of "world revolution"?
5. To what extent are scientific research and interpretation in the USSR restricted by the Soviet ideology:
 - (a) in the social sciences?
 - (b) in the natural sciences?
6. What are the characteristics of the Future Good Society, as presented in Soviet ideology? In particular, how does this ideology treat the problem of authority and the individual, in the Future Good Society?

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SOVIET FOREIGN RELATIONS

1. Does the study of Soviet foreign policy indicate that the Soviet government has followed, throughout its course, a policy of expanding whenever it has the necessary power and of halting its expansion only when they meet with serious obstacles?
2. Is the post-war pressure of the Soviet Union against Iran due primarily to a search for additional sources of oil or to a desire for political aggrandizement?
3. Has the Soviet regime modified its analysis of the colonial revolution to take account of post-war changes in Asia?
4. Has the Soviet press given any foreshadowings of the shift in Soviet policy towards Germany since 1944?
5. By what stages has Soviet propaganda undertaken to erase the wartime picture of the United States as an ally and to identify the U. S. with Nazi Germany?
6. In what ways has the Soviet concept of the United Nations and of its relation to Soviet policy changed since 1945?