

Bibliography

This section of the journal lists (a) significant Romanian press articles on religion and atheism, (b) Romanian unofficial religious documentation, (c) selected articles from official Romanian religious publications, (d) significant Soviet press articles on religion and atheism, (e) selected articles from official Soviet religious publications and (f) *samizdat* (self-published material) from or about religious groups in the USSR.

RCL lists all religious *samizdat* from the beginning of 1972 as well as important documents of an earlier date which have only recently reached the West. Where no published source is given, a Russian (or other original language) text is available from CSRC unless otherwise stated. Researchers who wish to order copies of these documents are invited to do so, but are asked to observe the following conditions. Where a published source is given, texts should be ordered directly. Texts ordered from CSRC cost 7p per page (plus 8% VAT); postage and 40p conversion charge on foreign cheques will be added to the bill. (VAT not applicable on foreign orders.)

RCL No. 4, 1976 covered Romanian press articles from May 1976 to July 1976. The present issue deals with the period August 1976 to October 1976.

This issue introduces two new sections to the Bibliography: Romanian unofficial religious documentation, beginning in 1973, and selected articles from official Romanian religious publications. The present issue deals with the period January 1973 to June 1973.

RCL No. 4, 1976 covered Soviet press articles from May 1976 to July 1976. The present issue deals with the period August 1976 to October 1976.

RCL No. 4, 1976 covered articles from official Soviet religious publications from May 1975 to August 1975. The present issue deals with the period September 1975 to December 1975.

CSRC requires full texts of all documents in readers' possession but not yet received at its office. Please check on the relevant period as it is covered in the Bibliography.

Romanian Press Articles

Date

August 1976

- 6 *Contemporanul*. "Historical and dialectical materialism." Discussing the recently produced programme for ideological education in Romania, the author, Constantin Cosman, underlines the indispensable nature of the dialectical materialist view of the world. This world outlook provides not only a scientific explanation of general laws of the universe, but it also provides a guideline for the revolutionary transformation of society, a method for analysing society and a vision true to man's real nature. It is an essential part of the unified concept of life held by Marxist-Leninists. As Ceausescu himself pointed out, it stands in stark contrast to the static concept of life of the proponents of idealism.

- 6 *Contemporanul*. "The activity of scientific materialist education." A public debate on the necessity and effectiveness of atheist education in Romania. The discussion centres on activity in the Maramures district of the country, where in the early period of the '50s the first atheist "brigades" began. It is hoped that the account of events there will assist others involved in the same work elsewhere. Atheist education in Maramures is organized under the auspices of the section for propaganda and the district council for the propagation of scientific knowledge. They have established over one hundred "brigades". The approach of the atheist lecturer and propagandist must be constantly fluid. He must know how to adapt to the times and this means that there is need for frequent analysis of the problem. The material available for teaching does not always meet this requirement. One of the chief needs is for men who can carry out their work with enthusiasm and not just as a bureaucratic duty.
- 11 *Scinteia*. "Centenary of the Hebrew Theatre in Romania." An account of the dinner held to celebrate the centenary of the Hebrew theatre in Bucharest. At the end of the dinner a telegram of gratitude was sent to President Ceausescu.
- 12 *Tribuna*. "A Byzantine vein in the lyrical poetry of V. Voiculescu." An appreciation of the poetry of one of the leading Romanian Orthodox poets, Vasile Voiculescu. The richness of his knowledge and experience of Byzantium is particularly appreciated, as it had a profound influence on his writing. The influence though has not remained pure but has passed through the filtre of Romanian spirituality, which has itself enhanced the original influence.

September 1976

- 19 *Scinteia*. Full text of the Party Programme combining the ideological policies of the 11th Party Congress and the Congress on Political Education and Socialist Culture. The first sections deal with the general organization of ideological and cultural activities which are to be the direct responsibility of the Party for the next three years. Section 7 proposes methods of spreading scientific and technical knowledge. This includes the teaching of the atheist view of life. Every level of society is to be involved in the intensification of the ideological campaign. The object of spreading scientific and technical knowledge is to raise the general educational level of the masses; to cultivate a system of human, social and philosophical values for society; to advance the citizen's attitude towards work and the common purpose of society; to combat mystical and retrograde manifestations and idealistic concepts; and to enrich and develop an integrated human personality.
- 22 *Scinteia*. One contributor to the debate of the Ideological Congress on Political Education and Socialist Culture emphasizes that in his view there is a need to give more attention to the scientific materialist education of the younger generations. He suggests an increase in classes at school studying the social sciences as well as a look at mysticism from a Marxist position.
- 30 *Scinteia Tineretului*. "Do you know these monuments?" Young people are encouraged to visit the historical monuments of Romania, particularly the places of significance in Romanian Church History. The author thinks it essential to visit the monasteries of Putna, Sucevita and Voronet, and also the Roman Catholic Cathedral of St. Michael's in Cluj-Napoca.

Date

October 1976

- 1 *Contemporanul*. "A great educational potential." An article by Adela Dinescu commenting on the combined programme of the 11th Party Congress and the recent Congress on Political Education and Socialist Culture. One area where she feels more could be achieved is that of atheist education. She advises the creation of more courses on this subject. This could be introduced as an additional subject in the more standard disciplines.
- 1 *Contemporanul*. In a general debate in the press on the Ideological Programme, Academician Nicolae Teodorescu states that the new socialist man must be

- equipped with a scientific, dialectical materialist concept of life. It is an essential part of the overall programme.
- 16 *Scinteia*. A reader of the paper writes in during the public debate on the combined programme of the Congress on Political Education and Socialist Culture and of the 11th Party Congress. He proposes that a few new publications be produced which offer a useful instrument to those seeking to fulfil the objectives of the new programme. Among such publications should be a Dictionary on the usage of terms in Social Sciences, and also a Bibliographical dictionary including such topics as atheism, philosophy and religion.
- 16 *Magazin*. "The charlatan prophet." Report of a person in Arad, Victor Chirila, who believed he possessed a special divine gift which in turn enabled him to extort from people vast amounts of money. He procured thousands of lei from credulous believers whom he persuaded could only reach heaven if they followed his teaching. In one place he obtained 20,000 lei from those who wanted to join his new "sect". As members of the "sect" they would receive the opportunity to look at a map which Chirila possessed of the new Jerusalem. In fact it was a copy of a map of the Middle East first produced in the Middle Ages. Also in his "divine kit" was a tape of a conversation between Chirila and God. Interviews were published with those supposedly helped by Chirila. They are reprimanded by the author for their stupidity.
- 21 *Scinteia*. Part of an interview given to the *Washington Post* by President Ceausescu of Romania. The President was asked about the role of the press in Romania: he began by affirming that the press in Romania, like other sections of society, had to serve the interests of the various classes of society. Romania makes no secret, he added, that the philosophy of the country is dialectical materialism. Nevertheless, Romanian communists are sufficiently realistic to understand that not all the members of society follow the same philosophy. Those who hold religious views are therefore respected in society as long as they do not transgress the laws of the land. President Ceausescu went on to explain that there are 14 recognized denominations in the country, all of which have representatives in the United Socialist Front. In addition there are six representatives of the major denominations who hold seats in the Grand National Assembly.
- *Romania: Pages of History*. In English. An historical essay on the Latin origins of the Romanian people, with special emphasis on the originality of Romanian Christianity. Christianity in Romania started centuries before Christianity in neighbouring countries.

Unofficial Romanian Religious Documents

ROMANIAN ORTHODOX CHURCH

DS/1973/0/

1. *Memorandum* to Patriarch Justinian from Fr. Stefan Gavrilă. 7 March. The priest protests about the lack of concern in the Church with spiritual issues. He thinks that the social activity of the Church is too dominated by the materialist philosophy of the communist government. The orientation courses for priests are of limited value if they only deal with political and social problems. Servants of God need spiritual teaching too. He asks what value there can be in learning theology when the only opportunity to use it is in sermons. A secondary concern of the priest is the growing disrespect for the priesthood by certain lay officials in the Church. Romanian. 8 pp. Carbon copy.
2. *Letter* to the Cultural Section of the Archbishopric of Bucharest, from Stefan Gavrilă. 8 May. Having been penalised for not attending the orientation meetings for clergy, Fr. Gavrilă states his reasons for not attending. He gives two examples of occurrences which helped him make up his mind. Firstly, he

remembers one orientation meeting when the Inspector of Cults reminded the priests that they only assisted the authorities in educating the people. The main burden fell to the State. Gavrilă objected that education meant atheist philosophy. The second incident involved a priest being asked by the local commune official to suspend services so that the congregation could help do practical work at the community centre. Gavrilă considered any attempt to meet this type of request, which might involve rushing or affecting the services in a bad way, should be avoided. He cannot see the value of this kind of compromise. Romanian. 2 pp. Carbon copy.

3. *Memorandum* to Patriarch Justinian from Fr. Stefan Gavrilă. 17 November. Gavrilă seeks the intervention of the Patriarch in his personal case. The priest is already suspended but now faces dismissal. He believes that the real reason for his dismissal is not that he has offended the statutes of the Church but that he has refused to collaborate with the authorities. His main contention with the state authorities is that their holding of cultural and civil activities on Sunday morning in his locality has prevented members of the congregation attending freely. He protests that Catholic priests do not have to send their people to work on communal activities in the same way as the Orthodox do. Romanian. 8 pp. Carbon copy.

ROMANIAN BAPTIST CHURCH

DS/1973/B/

1. *Appeal* from Pavel Niculescu. 18 September. Personal history recounted leading up to his dismissal from university in April 1973. Past experiences with state and police officials have left the author in no doubt about the dubious nature of the claim of religious freedom in Romania. He seeks support from leading representatives abroad to intervene and request his reinstatement. He adds as a postscript a list of points where, in his opinion, religion is restricted in his country. Romanian. 9 pp. Carbon copy.
2. *Documents* relating to Niculescu's dismissal from university. 7 April. Romanian. 8 pp. Carbon copy.
3. *Article* on "Fundamental Baptist Principles." In two parts by Pastor Josif Ton. September. First part deals with the basic Baptist beliefs about the Church and its relations with the State. The second part looks more specifically at the present day situation of the Baptist Church in Romania. The article was circulated around the country and was intended as a challenge to the Baptist Union leadership on the question of compromise. Romanian. 28 pp. Carbon copy. 2nd pt., translated and published as RCL Supplementary paper No. 1, *The Present Day Situation of the Baptist Church in Romania*, November 1973.

Romanian Religious Press Articles

Romanian Orthodox Church (Biserica Ortodoxa Romana)

1-2/73 pp. 5-9. Exchange of telegrams from the Patriarch Justinian to various leading Romanian statesmen, including the President of the country, and their replies. Occasion of the greetings - the New Year and the 25th anniversary of the proclamation of the Romanian Republic.

Ditto pp. 52-54. Presentation of Jubilee medals in honour of the 25th anniversary of the proclamation of the Republic to 37 members of the Romanian Orthodox Church. Those honoured included members of the hierarchy, other clergymen and theological professors. The presentation took place on 9 January at the Department of Cults. The President of Cults presented the medals. He also thanked the representatives of the Churches for their efforts to preserve unity among the Romanian people. Patriarch Justinian replied for the Churches.

Ditto pp. 55-58. Account of celebrations and greetings in connection with the Patriarch's 72nd birthday.

Ditto pp. 59-91. Election, recognition and installation of Teocist as Metropolitan of Oltenia.

Ditto pp. 92-103. Romanian Orthodox Church activities abroad. (Permanent section) Relations with other Churches. 29 December-12 January Prof. I. Bria took part in the Third General Assembly of the WCC Committee on Mission and Evangelism. He worked in the section on "Culture and Identity". Bishop Antonie Ploiesteanul reports on a session of the Institute of Ecumenical Studies at Bossey, Switzerland.

Ditto pp. 105-114. Reports from Orthodox Churches abroad which are under the jurisdiction of the Romanian Orthodox Patriarchate. Reviews of relevant periodicals produced by the Churches. (Permanent section)

Ditto pp. 115-136. News from sister Orthodox Churches. (Permanent section)

Ditto pp. 137-145. Brief reports of the most significant events in national life, including the New Year message from the President, Mr. Nicolae Ceausescu, a short report on the economic development of the country and on the latest important visits. (Permanent section)

Ditto pp. 146-152. In memory of Bishop Dionisie Romano of Buzau.

Ditto pp. 153-182. The major speeches and sermons made by leading members of the hierarchy to their faithful at Christmas and New Year. (Permanent section) A translation of a treatise by St. Gregory of Nyssa on the meaning of being a Christian.

Ditto pp. 183-193. An historical section containing two articles on the relics of John the New of Suceava and on the contribution of Bishop Melchizedek Stefanescu to church music.

Ditto pp. 199-228. A bibliographical guide from the various Patriarchate publications. The bibliography is set out in thematic order; this section being from "the Kingdom of God" to "Divine Liturgy". It is followed by an article on the archeological evidence for the martyrdom of early Romanian Christians.

Ditto pp. 231-244. Reviews of recent books and the journals of the Metropolitanates. (Permanent section)

Ditto pp. 145-252. Official Section. Work of the Holy Synod meeting in January. The various Synodal committees established for the year. (Permanent section)

3-5/73 pp. 265-269. Easter message from the Patriarch to clergy and faithful.

Ditto pp. 289-290. Account of the blessing of the Holy Chrism at the Patriarchal Cathedral, 26 April.

Ditto pp. 296-311. Romanian Orthodox Church delegations to conferences and ecumenical committees abroad. Prof. Ioan G. Coman participated in the teaching programme of the Institute of Theological Studies in Jerusalem, 1972-73. Metropolitan Nicolae Corneanu attended the CPC meeting held in Moscow between 20-23 March. Fr. Grigorie Marcu represented the Romanian Orthodox Church in a consultation meeting with the Churches and the United Bible Societies. Appreciation of the work of UBS given. Fr. Alexe was the Romanian Orthodox Church delegate in two conferences during this time, at the preparatory meeting for the Council of European Churches at Nyborg and at a theological conference in Vienna.

Ditto pp. 379-389. "The Orthodox priesthood." A biblical documentation by Fr. Petre Deheleanu. Priesthood includes the concept of a call which must be nurtured and trained in special schools. It is also a special gift imparted by the laying on of hands, which follows directly from the apostles. In Orthodoxy there are three orders of priesthood: episcopate, presbytery and diaconate. Ranks, subdivisions and respective purposes are further discussed.

Ditto pp. 390-399. "Contribution of Bishop Grigorie Comsa to the development of Romanian Orthodox Homiletics." Comsa, born 13 May 1889, became Bishop

of Arad in 1925 and held office until his death on 25 May 1935. He stands in the line of great Romanian Orthodox preachers such as Varlaam, Andrei Saguna, Filotei of Buzau, Dionisie Romano, the monks Visarion and Sofronie, Samuil Micu Clain, Ioan Piuariu and Neofit Scriban. Comsa was convinced that the servant at the altar was also called to be a servant at the pulpit. A bibliography of his published sermons is given.

Ditto pp. 401-432. "From our Church's past." (Permanent section) An article by C. I. Bercus and Teodor Manolache on the medical clerics and theologians in the history of the Romanian people. 14-17th centuries.

Ditto pp. 437-463. Bibliographical guide in thematic order from the various Patriarchate publications: "Language and Literature" to "Monasteries and sketes".

Ditto pp. 464-471. Article by Prof. Ioan I. Ramureaenu on early Romanian Christian martyrs.

Ditto pp. 475-477. Obituary of Honorary Prof. Ioan Gh. Savin. Died 22 February 1973.

Ditto pp. 478-480. Obituary of Prof. Liviu Stan, distinguished theologian and canonical expert. Died 1 April 1973.

Ditto pp. 481-483. Obituary of Honorary Prof. Teodor M. Popescu. Died 4 April 1973. Celebrated specialist on universal church history.

6/73 pp. 507-547. Anniversary articles, with letters and greetings to Patriarch Justinian on the occasion of his 25th anniversary as Patriarch.

Ditto pp. 601-694. Collection of articles documenting the features of the life of the Romanian Orthodox Church from 1948-1973. Subjects discussed include the Romanian Orthodox Church's care of its places of worship, the forging of unity between the Orthodox and the Uniate believers, re-organisation of monastic life, theological education, church music, spreading the Gospel, the concern for the inner life of the Orthodox clergy and people, the role of the Romanian Orthodox Church in the new era of the Romanian people and its relations to man's modern aspirations.

Ditto pp. 695-708. Thematic bibliography from the Patriarchate publications: on "Canonica" and Administrative order in the Romanian Orthodox Church from 1948". With a special section on the achievements of Patriarch Justinian.

Ditto pp. I-XII. An appendix with two hymns paying homage to Patriarch Justinian.

Theological Studies (Studii Teologice)

1-2/73 pp. 5-11. "Endeavours and the realizations of the Armenian Fathers of 4th and 5th centuries" by Prof Ioan Gh. Coman.

Ditto pp. 21-32. "Spiritual gifts in the epistles of St. Paul", by Fr. Constantin Gheorghe.

Ditto pp. 58-68. "Role of repentance in promoting the morality of the faithful", by Doctorate student, Nicolae Stoleru.

Ditto pp. 69-81. "The moral duties of a priest", by Doctorate student, Fr. Nicolae Bordasiu.

Ditto pp. 97-98. Bishop Antonie Ploiesteanul received his doctorate on 16 December 1972 for his work on "The Servant Church".

Ditto pp. 98-114. An article dedicated to Prof. Ioan Gh. Coman on his 70th birthday. A bibliography of his written works is also given.

Ditto pp. 120-144. Reviews of articles, journals and books on theological topics. (Permanent section)

3-4/73 pp. 149-164. "The permanent yet developing character of Tradition", by Prof. Fr. Dumitru Staniloae.

- Ditto pp. 165-172. "Origen on the Logos, the Church and the soul - from his commentary on the Song of Songs", by Prof. Fr. Ioan Gh. Coman.
- Ditto pp. 173-187. "Present day preoccupations in the realm of Christian moral theology", by Prof. Constantin C. Pavel. A favourable study of Roman Catholic attempts to treat modern issues.
- Ditto pp. 188-206. "The vision of God in the New Testament and the theophanies of the Essenes", by Constantin Daniel.
- Ditto pp. 207-218. "The role of the faithful in the Church after the Second Vatican Council", by Prof. Dr. Ferdinand Klosterman. An extract of a lecture given at the Theological Institute in Bucharest, translated by Nicolae Balca.
- Ditto pp. 249-260. "Preaching in the Romanian Orthodox Church - its principles and attributes", by doctorate student, Marin N. Pana.
- Ditto pp. 234-247. "Islam mirrored in the works of Dimitrie Cantemir", by doctorate student, Nicolae Mitru.
- 5-6/73 309-317. "The synodical principle in the life of the Romanian Orthodox Church", by Bishop Nestor Vornicescu of Severin. An article dedicated to the work of re-organizing the Church, supervised by Patriarch Justinian.
- Ditto pp. 318-327. "Attributes of Romanian Orthodox Theology", by Prof. Fr. Ion Bria. A look at the achievements of Patriarch Justinian: he created a spirit of service to society within the Romanian Orthodox Church and a spirit of ecumenism with other Churches outside Romania.
- Ditto pp. 328-340. "The teaching of St. Athanasius on salvation", by Prof. Fr. Dumitru Staniloae.
- Ditto pp. 387-398. "The civil status of priests and deacons according to the Holy canons", by doctorate student, Jan Rusin. Question of celibacy.
- Ditto pp. 421-424. An account of an inter-confessional conference held at the Theological Institute in Bucharest. Reformed, Lutheran, Roman Catholic and Orthodox took part.

Orthodoxy (Ortodoxia)

- 1/73 pp. 5-17. "The image of Christ in the Eastern Church: Jesus Christ, the gift and supreme word of God", by Prof. Fr. Dumitru Staniloae.
- Ditto pp. 18-38. "Tradition and development in Orthodox theology", by Prof. Fr. Ion Bria.
- Ditto pp. 39-54. "The Filioque", by Ion V. Paraschiv.
- Ditto pp. 55-56. "The Syrian Church of India in Malazabar from 1900 to the present day", by doctorate student, Constantin Stanulet.
- Ditto pp. 66-82. "The sacred writings of the great religions" by Remus Rus.
- Ditto pp. 83-101. Reviews of books and journals. (Permanent section) Reviews include parts of publications from sister Orthodox Churches, for example *Journal of the Moscow Patriarchate* and the *Voice of Orthodoxy* (Czechoslovak Orthodox Church).
- Ditto pp. 102-146. "The Church and Life", a section of articles looking at modern problems of the Church as it attempts to relate to the world. For example, Prof. Fr. Petru Rezus writes on the problem of cooperation between the Christian Churches and the faithful of all religions. Veniamin Micle discusses the crisis in Roman Catholic preaching today.
- Ditto pp. 147-152. A series of brief news items. (Permanent section) In this Canon A. M. Allchin comments on the future development of Anglican-Orthodox relations.
- Ditto p. 152. Patriarch Justinian has donated the series "Sources Chrétiennes" to the library of the Holy Synod.
- 2/73 pp. 166-175. "Ecumenical relations of the Romanian Orthodox Church in the last quarter of a century", by Prof. Fr. Dumitru Staniloae.

Ditto pp. 176-192. "The contribution of the Romanian Orthodox Church to the unity of Ecumenical Orthodoxy", by I. Ica.

Ditto pp. 193-209. "Relations between the Romanian Orthodox Church and other Churches in the country", by Fr. Stefan Alexe.

Ditto pp. 264-276. "Christian position with respect to non-Christian religions", by Remus Rus.

Ditto pp. 314-319. In the section on Church and Life, "The present situation of Egyptian Christianity", by D. N. Neculce.

Soviet Press Articles

Date

August 1976

- 3 *Molod Ukrainy*. "I'm going to register my marriage in Knyazhychi." In the Kiev district many young couples, some of whom are members of the Komsomol, marry in church. The author cites the village where the most church weddings take place and names the "guilty" couples. English excerpts in *Digest of the Soviet Ukrainian Press* October 1976, p. 14.
- 4 *Izvestia*. "Two childhoods." 16-year-old Victor Lysenko has been placed in a boarding-school following his parents' alleged misuse of their parental rights. Victor's parents refused to allow him to take part in extra-curricular activities on religious grounds and eventually kept him from attending school. Now Victor's childhood is over - no longer can he rely on divine help. He has turned for help and advice to those around him.
- 8 *Molod Ukrainy*. A discussion of the reasons why people turn to religion. The prophets, says the writer, showed signs of psychosis. Some miracles, such as that of the loaves and the fishes, were accomplished by means of mass hypnosis. (Summary in *Current Abstracts* 1 November 1976, p. 10.)
- 10 *Sovetskaya Moldavia*. "... to be an atheist propagandist." On the problems of the scientific-atheist preparation of student teachers. One group of student teachers refused to lead atheist evenings while on teacher training practice because they had not been sufficiently well prepared. In some faculties of the Tiraspol Teacher Training Institute courses in scientific atheism are held in the fourth year of study, that is after practical work has taken place.
- 14 *Pravda Ukrainy*. "Atheists study." A six-month preparation course for propagandists of atheism is being held in a village in Sumi region. The course aims to give practical help in the organization of scientific-atheist propaganda and individual work with believers.
- 18 *Znamya yunosti*. "To please mother-in-law?" Sociological research shows that most young couples who marry in church do so not for religious reasons, but under pressure from relatives. Even Komsomol members participate in religious rites. They must realise that everything connected with the idea of God is poisonous - every Komsomol member ought to fight against this evil.
- 19 *Sovetskaya Rossiya*. "In ancient Ustyug." A group from Moscow are restoring frescoes in the Church of the Ascension in the Monastery of the Archangel Michael, Veliky Ustyug.
- 27 *Kommunist Tadzhikistana*. "Announcement." The participants in the second congress of agitators in Tadzhikistan call on those involved in ideological work to strengthen the work in atheism. There can be no place for neutrality or compromise.
- 29 *Padomju Jaunatne*. Article describing the wonderful experience of hearing Mozart's *Requiem* in the former Dom Cathedral in Riga.
- *Sovetskaya Moldavia*. "Under cover of the mysterious." Atheist lecturers are often asked to explain psychic phenomena, hallucinations and so on. These things are the product of auto-suggestion. Some people still seek mystery and miracles and the Church, realising this, surrounds its rituals with an air of the mysterious.

- *Voprosy filosofii* 8/76 pp. 158–163. “Catholicism and the contemporary ideological struggle.” The afore-mentioned was the theme of an inter-republican conference held in Vilnius in December 1975 and organized by the Department of Philosophy, Law and Sociology of the Institute of History of the Lithuanian Academy of Sciences together with the Institute of Scientific Atheism of the Academy of Social Sciences of the CPSU’s Central Committee and the Scientific Council on the Problems of Foreign Ideological Trends attached to the section of Social Sciences of the Presidium of the USSR’s Academy of Sciences. Five papers were given on the special features of the evolution of Catholicism in the USSR (in Lithuania, Western Ukraine and Western Belorussia). It was noted that the questions discussed at the conference were very apt for the situation in Lithuania where “the majority of believers belong to the Catholic confession . . . Lithuania [is] one of the most religious Catholic countries in Europe.”
- *Agitator* 15/76 p. 48. “After an exchange of opinions.” Women and young people are given special treatment in the scheme of atheist education at the Drezna textile factory. The Atheist Council recognizes the importance of a mother’s attitude to religion. It is also necessary to work with parents who are influenced by religious ideology.
- *Lyudina i svit* 8/76 pp. 36–38. “The only way is to overcome.” On individual work with Jehovah’s Witnesses – particularly in the case of I. I. Polochenko from Simferopol who has broken with that sect.

Date

September 1976

- 2 *Sovetskaya Belorossiya*. “What should an article on religion be like?” Criticism of the articles on atheism and religion published in a Polotsk paper. There are many positive examples of atheist propaganda in the paper but there are also many instances where opportunities have not been properly used. Atheist education needs to be directed not just towards believers, but also to that section of the population which is dangerously mistaken in thinking that being non-religious is the same as holding atheist convictions. The article cites examples of atheist writings in the Polotsk paper which did not fulfil their propagandistic tasks.
- 8 *Czerwany Sztandar* (published in Polish in Vilnius). “Soviet legislation on religious cults.” The article concludes by saying that religious organizations have the right to organize worship and that any other activity is illegal.
- 11 *Sovetskaya Belorossiya*. “Letter from Stockholm.” On a Swedish “firm” which has been sending parcels of clothing to believers – four of whom are named – in the Brest area. Two of the recipients have served prison sentences. The author suggests they may have been sent parcels because “they have suffered for their faith” (quotation marks in text).
- *Pádomju Jaunatne*. “The ideological allegiance of the ‘holy fathers’.” Catholic, Protestant and Jewish clergymen in the USA are participating in a widespread anti-Soviet campaign, alleging that religion is “persecuted” in the USSR and that the “godless” are in power.
- 14 *Robitnycha gazeta*. “Pious slanderers.” A review of the events leading to the death in September 1975 of the Reform Baptist Ivan Biblenko. The author states that the leaders of this group of “Baptist schismatics” have portrayed his death as “‘secret murder’ prepared and premeditated by the atheists.” The author then goes on to attack these leaders, among them L. Vins, A. Kozorezova and V. Khailo. English translation only.
- 14 & 15 *Znamya yunosti*. “Lack of principles as a principle.” In the Ostrovets district, a number of young people combine Komsomol membership with adherence to religious rituals. These two detailed articles severely criticize the Komsomol district organization for its lack of anti-religious militancy and shortcomings in atheist work. The percentage of church weddings and christenings in the district has for years been higher than in the rest of the region and of the Belorussian republic.

- 26 *Sovetskaya Kirgizia*. "Is resurrection possible?" Atheists and believers have different concepts of the term "soul", and of death also. With the help of modern medicine doctors can restore man from clinical death to life and health. Religion cannot do this.
- 28 *Komsomolskaya pravda*. "To defend man. . ." A young man writes to the editorial board complaining of insults from his fellow workers because he is from a family of Baptists, although he himself is no longer a believer. Faith does not suddenly disappear; it is a tortuous process. Human sympathy and understanding are needed.
- 30 *Cina*. "A short word on the Lutheran faith." Review of a booklet, entitled *Lutheranism*, by A. Menniks which documents the history of the Lutheran Church in Latvia. Luther's stress on faith is described as reactionary "slavery to conviction" which ignores social conditions and is more difficult to eradicate than mere ritualism.
- *Zhurnalists* 9/76 pp. 46–48. "Not at full voice." The writer complains that the Soviet press, particularly publications for women and young people, contain insufficient material on the atheist education of young people and children. Almost all Western radio stations broadcast programmes for children which, as a rule, are of a religious nature. People listen to these broadcasts. (Summary in *Current Abstracts* 1 October 1976, p. 14.)
- *Sovetskaya pedagogika* 9/76 pp. 61–68. "About the problem of the special characteristics of the influence of religious sects on children." An analysis of some forms of the influence on children and young people by religious parents in Baptist communities. Individual work is deemed important but this does not mean imposing atheist views on children. Instead, says the author, "channels of indirect penetration into the spiritual world of the schoolchild" should be used. (Summary in *Current Abstracts* 15 November 1976, p. 15.)
- *Lyudina i svit* 9/76 pp. 21–26. "Propagandist of atheism." On 29 September 1926 it was decreed that the Kiev Monastery of the Caves be transformed into a museum-preserve – information on its life and work since then.
- *Ditto* 9/76 pp. 27–28. "A guide to the exhibitions." A guide to the various exhibitions on religion and atheism housed in the former Kiev Monastery of the Caves, now a museum-preserve.
- *Ditto* 9/76 pp. 53–57. "Who are the Pentecostal-Zionists?" On the Pentecostal-Zionists, one of the varieties of Pentecostalism to be found in the USSR. They started in 1922 in what is now Khmelnytsky region, Ukraine.

Date

October 1976

- 3 *Krasnaya zvezda*. A junior lieutenant accidentally meets a bus driver whom he knew years ago in the army. The latter had entered the army as a convinced Adventist but was then re-educated and renounced his faith. (Summary in *Current Abstracts* 15 October 1976, p. 9.)
- 6 *Skolotaju Avize*. "The battle for man." In accordance with L. I. Brezhnev's call for ideological education, various programmes for atheist education have been worked out in Latvian schools. One extra-curricular project is entitled "The achievement of freedom of conscience in the Soviet Union."
- *Ditto*. "An effective system of atheist education." Criticism of the inadequate nature of atheist education in schools in the Jelgava district. No books have been published in the Latvian republic on the teaching of atheism over the last 12 years. A campaign has now begun to rectify this.
- *Znamya yunosti*. "Lack of principled approach is condemned." Follow-up to an article published in the paper on 14 & 15 September criticizing the shortcomings in, and indifference to, anti-religious propaganda by Komsomol members and committee in the Ostrovets district. However, the position of the Ostrovets district Komsomol committee still remains unclear – no official answer to the criticism has been received by the newspaper.
- 9 *Sovetskaya Rossiya*. "From the court-room: punished for *kalyim*." Tale of a

- court case in which one woman was tried and sentenced for paying bride-money (*kalym*) and a second woman for receiving it. The money itself – 2,000 roubles – was confiscated by the State.
- 13 *Kommunist Tadzhikistana*. "Invite women to the club." This year the Tadzhik republic House of Scientific Atheism has held several conferences on atheist subjects in various districts and collective farms. The participation of women in such events is low. It is essential to train women belonging to the local nationality as atheist propagandists and lecturers – at present there are few such women in the Republic.
- 16 *Sovetskaya Rossiya*. "Frescoes have been discovered." Remarkable discoveries have been made by those engaged in restoring the Cathedral of the Assumption, Vladimir, namely two frescoes by Andrei Rublev and Daniel the Black dating from 1408.
- 21 *Sovetskaya Belorossiya*. "What should an article on religion be like?" Following the publication of an article in the paper on 2 September criticizing atheist material in a Polotsk paper, a meeting of the Council for Atheist Propaganda attached to the Polotsk Party City Committee and a meeting of the paper's editorial board were held. Measures were noted to raise the level of articles on atheist education.
- 22 *Sovetskaya Moldavia*. "Atheists' seminar." A recent inter-republican seminar held in Yerevan looked at the problems facing Soviet atheists which arise from the process of modernization of religion, for instance the criticism of capitalism by Catholics of the "left" and the call for Christian-Marxist dialogue. Although the system of atheist education is improving each year, there are still serious shortcomings. Often atheist propagandists are only active on the eve of religious festivals. Qualified, specialized propagandists are lacking.
- 27 *Zarya vostoka*. "The commonplace, without invention." The author reports on the unsuccessful attempts to create new traditions and rituals following the Georgian Communist Party's Decree "Measures to strengthen the struggle against harmful traditions and customs". He visited the village of Alaverdi where a church festival takes place in the presence of large numbers of believers. This year too, all round the church was a "small town of tents" and "a whole army" of cars. Many children were waiting to be baptised – the priest had to baptise them in groups. (Summary in *Current Abstracts* 15 November 1976, p. 13.)
- *Golos rodiny* 41/76 pp. 12–13. "To sow a feeling of brotherhood, not discord." Archbishop Pitirim comments on the history of an "appeal" (not specified) from several members of the Russian Orthodox Church to the WCC now being "exaggerated" in the Western press. The source of hostile attacks against the Orthodox Church, according to the Archbishop, is often the International Council of Christian Churches and other proponents of the "cold war". There are also members of the Orthodox Church living in the USSR who align themselves with these propagandists. Their attacks are usually against the Soviet legislation on cults. The Archbishop ends by quoting from Patriarch Pimen in 1971, emphasizing that the latter would not allow anyone to harm the good relations between the State and the Church.
- *Politicheskoe samoobrazovanie* 10/76 pp. 131–135. "Ideological diversions under a religious flag." A review of two books – *A critique of the bourgeois falsification of the position of religion in the USSR and Politicians from religion: the truth about the "Russian Church in Exile"*. The first deals chiefly with the "bourgeois" understanding of the present position and evolution of the Russian Orthodox Church – in the last ten years at least 100 books have been written on the subject by émigrés and Western "Sovietologists-religious affairs' experts". The second book, underlines, in part, the alleged relations between the Russian Church in Exile and the NTS. The leaders of this Church, states the author, also work with "such experienced anti-communists as Michael Bourdeaux. . . ."
- *Lyudina i svit* 10/76 pp. 16–19. "The final decision." On I. V. Grushetsky who

became a Jehovah's Witness as a youth after the Second World War but has now renounced his faith.

- Ditto 10/76 pp. 48-51. "People against the Union." On the events surrounding the Brest Union of 1596 which brought into being the Uniate Church.

Soviet Religious Press Articles

Fraternal Messenger (Bratsky Vestnik)

5/75 (September-October) pp. 10-32. Section entitled "Christian unity." Reports and speeches from the 30th World Baptist Congress held in Stockholm from 8-13 July 1975.

6/75 (November-December) "At a festive reception in the Kremlin." President Klimenko and General Secretary Bychkov were part of a group of churchmen invited to a state reception and there met with L. I. Brezhnev, A. N. Kosygin and N. V. Podgorny.

Ditto pp. 49-57. "Plenum of AUCECB, 22-23 October 1975." Abbreviated version of General Secretary Bychkov's report. Major concerns were unity with Pentecostals, unity with the Reform Baptists and the impact of false teaching, especially by Jehovah's Witnesses on their brotherhood.

Ditto pp. 66-67. "S. P. Fadyukhin - 70 years old." A brief biographical sketch and photograph.

Ditto pp. 73-74. "The life of Christians of the Evangelical Faith from Ternopol in the AUCECB Union." A brief sketch including some historical information on the Pentecostals in Ternopol region.

Journal of the Moscow Patriarchate (Zhurnal Moskovskoi Patriarkhii)

9/75 pp. 15-16. "Metropolitan Serafim is 70 years old." Life history of the Metropolitan, who was not ordained until 1951 after a career as an architect.

Ditto pp. 32-36. "Women and Christianity." In International Women's Year the Church must recognize the important role women have played in church life through the ages. Woman is spiritually equal with man and, both as wife and mother and in ecclesiastical life, has a distinct and valuable role. It was the coming of Christianity to ancient Russia which raised woman from her servile lot. Now the modern Soviet State has given women equal opportunities with men, and especially in the last war they proved their worth.

10/75 p. 23. "Patronal feast of the Athonite St. Panteleimon Monastery podvorye in Lukino, Moscow region." Patriarch Pimen celebrated the Feast of St. Panteleimon here for the first time. Representatives of the Greek Embassy were present.

Ditto pp. 56-60. "A changing world", Metropolitan Nikodim. In the modern world faith and works must go hand in hand. While holding fast the Orthodox tradition, Orthodox Christians show love towards Christians of other churches through their ecumenical contacts. Students at the seminaries are increasingly instructed in practical applications of their faith and to think independently in applying theology to particular situations, especially the problems peculiar to our age.

11/75 pp. 4-5. Report of a conference at Zagorsk in September 1975 called by Patriarch Pimen to discuss activities in the cause of world peace. Representatives of churches and religions included Armenian and Georgian Orthodox, Baptists, Lutherans, Catholics, Methodists, Old Believers, the Jewish Religious Community, Muslims and Buddhists.

Ditto pp. 24-25. A new session opened at all three theological schools, marked by prayers for the year to come.

Ditto pp. 25-27. "A joyous page in the history of the Pochaev Lavra of the

Dormition." Three hundred years ago the Lavra (Monastery) was saved from destruction by the Turks. The festival was celebrated on 5 August 1975 by many hierarchs, clerics and pilgrims who processed with banners.

12/75 p. 5. Patriarch Pimen, Metropolitans Nikodim, Alexi and Yuvenali were among the guests at a reception held at the Kremlin in honour of the 58th anniversary of the October Revolution. V. A. Kuroedov, Chairman of the Council for Religious Affairs, acknowledged the hierarchs' congratulations on this occasion.

Ditto pp. 8-11. "Feast-days at the monasteries." At the Trinity-St. Sergius Lavra, the feast of St. Sergius was celebrated on 8 October. Patriarch Pimen conducted services along with Metropolitans, Bishops and other clergy, followed by a festive dinner. At the Pochaev Lavra of the Dormition, the Feast of St. Iov, founder of the monastery around 1600, was celebrated on 10 September. Much of the monastery has recently been restored, including the exterior and the monks' cells. The bell tower of the Trinity Cathedral has been covered with new iron sheeting and a heating system installed. Restoration of the Cathedral of the Dormition is now in progress and the cave church of Sts. Antoni and Feodosi has been repaired.

Ditto pp. 10-15. Metropolitan Iosif of Alma-Ata and Kazakhstan has died after 40 years as a bishop. He was known and loved for his great erudition and simplicity, his deep love for his country and for Orthodoxy.

Ditto pp. 18-33. "News from the dioceses." In Kishinev, Archbishop Ionofan of Kishinev and Moldavia consecrated a new side-chapel in the Cathedral of St. Theodore the Tyro and blessed the whole cathedral after structural repairs and restoration of the murals. The Ascension Church in Kishinev and St. Nicholas in Lozova have also recently been repaired.

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RUSSIAN ORTHODOX CHURCH

DS/1974/0/

85. *Before death* by G. M. Shimanov (second *samizdat* edition). 31 December. All the copies of this book, first written in 1969, have been distributed and disappeared, therefore he has decided to re-write it in virtually the same form, even though his views on the problems raised therein have grown more complex over the years. It is an account of his search for the truth and of his most valuable discoveries. The book consists of four chapters, the last being "Notes from the Red House", although this chapter is not included in the actual text. Russian: 63 pp. Carbon copy.

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34. *Christians, Save Valentin Moroz!* by L. I. Plyushch. 21 May. On 20 May it became known that V. Moroz was transferred from Vladimir prison to the Serbsky Institute of Forensic Study. Prior to this, he was kept for a month in a cell with an insane man. As an atheist and a Marxist, Plyushch appeals to Western Christians - "How can [you] silently watch such an outrageous crime committed against a man, his conviction, his faith in Christ?" English in *Religion in Communist Dominated Areas* Nos. 7, 8, 9, 1976, pp. 131-132.
35. *Appeal* to all Christians from V. Barlodyanu. 17 June. He asks for support against the persecution he endures because of his national and religious views. He has been dismissed from his job at Odessa Naval Engineering Institute and articles by him, together with religious books, have been confiscated from him. Russian in *Russkaya Mysl* 23 September 1976, p. 5.
36. *Declaration* by Fr. Gleb Yakunin and Lev Regelson. 27 June. A warning to the "murderers" of the poet K. Bogatyrev - their crimes are incapable of crushing

- the freedom of the soul and will one day be exposed. Russian in *Russkaya Mysl* 23 September 1976, p. 5.
37. Letter to Fr. Dmitri Dudko from his spiritual son G. A. Fedotov. 11 September. He recounts the threats made in the past to send him to psychiatric hospital and fears the persecution is beginning again. Russian: 5 pp. (though first page states there are 9 pp. in the letter) Carbon copy.
 38. *The Significance of the Events of the Past Weeks* by M. S. Bernshtam. 21 September. No well-known figure has been arrested since the signing of the Helsinki Declaration. Arrests of unknown individuals far from Moscow have continued, but this does not cause a stir in the West. The events of the last few weeks signify a change. P. Starchik is known in the West but he was still placed in a psychiatric hospital. Yevgeni Barabanov and Vladimir Borisov are next in line. Lev Regelson has been threatened with criminal proceedings. In order to avoid such reprisals, Russian and world public opinion must speak out. Russian: 5 pp. Re-typed in the West.
 39. Appeal to Dr. Potter from layman Edward (Georgi) Fedotov. September. The latter writes to Dr. Potter to inform him of the breaking up by the KGB of Alexander Ogorodnikov's group of young Orthodox Christians. There is nowhere for young believers to meet and there is no legality in the treatment of religion in the USSR. Dr. Potter is asked to visit them personally or send a representative to Moscow. Russian: 3 pp. Carbon copy. English synopsis available.
 40. Letter to T. Khodorovich from G. Fedotov. 9 October. He informs her of the breaking up of the group of young Orthodox Christians organized by Alexander Ogorodnikov and asks her and others to defend them. There is nowhere for young Christians to meet and they are faced with opposition from all sides. Russian in *Vestnik RKhD* No. 119, pp. 331-332.
 41. Letter to T. Khodorovich from G. Fedotov. 13 October. The latter describes how he was tricked into entering a psychiatric hospital and the humiliating treatment he underwent in unhygienic conditions. The doctors and orderlies mock religion and try to persuade him to give it up. One orderly remarked that they had lately had to deal with many believers. Russian in *Vestnik RKhD* No. 119, pp. 332-334.
 42. Press Statement signed by seven members of the General Committee "Freedom for Pyotr Starchik!" 14 October. Pyotr Starchik and Edward (Georgi) Fedotov, two Moscow Christians, have been forcibly interned in psychiatric hospitals and are being treated with neuroleptic drugs. As well as working for their release, the Committee intends to focus attention on legal questions connected with the abuse of psychiatry. Russian: 1 p. Carbon copy. English translation available.
 43. Letter to the Congress of the USA from the eight members of the General Committee "Freedom for Pyotr Starchik!" 14 October. Grateful for the support given to persecuted believers in the USSR, the Committee hopes that Congress will also pay attention to psychiatric abuse. They give details about how this takes place and the instructions governing it. They ask for help in obtaining the release of Pyotr Starchik and Edward (Georgi) Fedotov. Russian: 5 pp. Carbon copy. English synopsis available.
 44. Letter to Dr. Potter, Secretary-General of the WCC from the General Committee "Freedom for Pyotr Starchik!" 14 October. The Committee wishes the WCC to pay attention to the abuse of psychiatry in the USSR and describes the current dominant theories in psychiatry, which includes the assumption by leading psychiatrists that believers should be treated as insane. Russian: 4 pp. Carbon copy. English synopsis available.
 45. *In Defence of Andrei Tverdokhlebov* signed by 145 Soviet citizens, including Z. Gamsakhurdia, Fr. Dudko, Fr. Zheludkov, A. Sakharov and T. Khodorovich. Undated. The comparative mildness of A. Tverdokhlebov's sentence does not mean that his sentence was just. He was sentenced because of his defence of others, because of his courage and kindness. The writers insist on a re-

examination of his case and the repeal of his sentence. Russian : 2 pp. Re-typed in the West.

46. *The Songs of Pyotr Starchik* by Grigori Pomerants. Undated. A description of the source and meaning of P. Starchik's songs. His work is basically spiritual; the prison theme in his creative work is a theme of suffering through which the soul matures. On 15 September Starchik was summoned to the police and told that he was to be compulsorily placed in a psychiatric hospital. Russian : 3 pp. Re-typed in the West.

EVANGELICAL CHRISTIANS AND BAPTISTS

DS/1976/B/

16. *Bulletin of the Council of Prisoners' Relatives* No. 35. 8 September. Includes sections on dispersal of prayer meetings, fines and threats of arrests; new arrests; searches, petitions from individual churches; children; official answers to petitions, and the grave situation of 24-year-old P. I. Tkachenko. Russian : 49 pp. Photocopy.
17. *Bulletin of the Council of Prisoners' Relatives* No. 36. Undated, but after 11 September. Includes a call from the CPR for the abolition of the 1929 Law on Religious Associations, as it contradicts freedom of conscience; documents on attempts by local authorities to deprive a woman of guardianship of her orphan nephew; fines; arrests and trials, and a protest from 369 believers in Moldavia against allegations made by V. A. Kuroedov in *Izvestia* of 31 January 1976 about religious freedom in the USSR and the death of Ivan Moiseev. Russian : 48 pp. Bound original - hectograph.
18. *Herald of Truth (Vestnik istiny)* No. 1. Undated. This journal, to be printed quarterly, is the successor of the former *Herald of Salvation (Vestnik Spaseniya)*, which has appeared since 1963. This first issue contains material from the West, including a sermon by C. P. Spurgeon, an article by Billy Graham printed in *Christianity Today* and an account of the conversion of American gang-member Nicky Cruz. Original material from the USSR includes a letter from Georgi Vins to Gennadi Kryuchkov, written while the former was in Irkutsk transit prison en route to Siberian labour camp. Russian : 33 pp. Printed.

PENTECOSTALISTS

DS/1976/P/

3. *Plea to the United Nations' Committee of Human Rights* from V. F. Kersh and his wife M. F. Kersh. 29 April. They ask for help in emigrating from the USSR - a Godless country. They have been forbidden to hold prayer meetings in their home and have been dismissed from their jobs. They have renounced Soviet citizenship. Russian : 2 pp. Handwritten.
4. *Plea to the United Nations and all Christians* from P. P. Vashchenko, his wife and five daughters. 13 May. The letter is written by Lidia, one of the daughters, who accuses the local authorities of murdering her infant adopted son Aaron. He was born prematurely following an attempted abortion, rejected by his mother and given into the care of Lidia. After a month, the child was forcibly removed by the authorities and died in hospital. He lay in the morgue for over two weeks before the Vashchenko family was allowed to take him away and give him a Christian burial. Russian : 6 pp. Handwritten.
5. *Letter to the United Nations* from the Vashchenko family, Chernogorsk. 13 May. They wish to emigrate from the USSR - a Godless country. One of the daughters adopted a baby abandoned by its mother after an attempted abortion. The child was taken away one month later and subsequently died in hospital. The family was only allowed to claim the body after over two weeks and give it a Christian burial. Russian : 6 pp. Handwritten.
6. *Letter* from M. G. Petrov. Undated, but after 6 January. He refused to take up weapons or take the oath when he was conscripted. On 6 January 1972 he was sentenced to four years' imprisonment and subjected to psychiatric examination. A copy of the indictment is attached. Russian : 2 pp. Handwritten plus 2 pp. Typed.

7. *Plea to the United Nations' Organization of Human Rights* (sic) from A. A. Shevchenko, his wife and nine children. Undated. They wish to emigrate from the USSR because religion is persecuted there. In 1962 they went to the American Embassy in Moscow to publicize their situation, but were arrested and their children taken from them. They attach documents from Chernogorsk Town Education Department forbidding them to take their children to prayer-meetings, etc. Russian: 6 pp. Handwritten plus 8 pp. Typed.
8. *Appeal to the United Nations* from Pentecostal believers of Chernogorsk. Undated. A list of 259 people in 68 families who wish to emigrate from the USSR and ask help from the UN. Russian: 13 pp. Typed on torn-off sheets of linen. (Identical to list addressed to Christians of the whole world (see DS/1976/P/9 below), with the addition of two names.)
9. *Appeal to Christians of the whole world* from Pentecostal believers of Chernogorsk. Undated. A list of 257 people from 66 families who wish to emigrate from the USSR and appeal for help to do so. Russian: 12 pp. Typed on torn-off sheets of linen. (Identical to list addressed to the United Nations (see DS/1976/P/8 above), with the omission of two names.)

ORGANIZATIONS AND PUBLICATIONS QUOTED AS SOURCES

- Digest of the Soviet Ukrainian Press* Suchasnist, 8 Munich 8, Karlsplatz 8/III, West Germany.
- Current Abstracts* (formerly *Referativny Byulleten*) Radio Liberty Committee, c/o Mailroom, 8000 Munich 22, Englischer Garten 1, West Germany.
- Russkaya Mysl* 217 rue du Fauborg St. Honoré, 75008 Paris, France.
- Religion in Communist Dominated Areas* 475 Riverside Drive, New York, NY. 10027, USA.
- Vestnik RKhD* 91 rue Olivier de Serres, Paris 15e, France.

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