Travel and Exchange

various authors

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The International Research and Exchange Board announced that according to a new two year agreement with the Ministry of Higher and Technical Education of the GDR, signed on May 5, 1977, the total amount of exchange months annually was doubled to 40. The minimum stay required is two months, the maximum 6, which ordinarily cannot be exceeded. Housing, book allowances and medical care are provided by the GDR, international transportation and an internal travel fund by the IREX. Application forms can be requested from IREX, 110 East Fifty-Ninth St., New York, N.Y. 10022. Deadline for the academic year of 1977/78 is November 1, 1977.

IREX SCHOLARS ABROAD

Of the American scholars participating in the 1977/78 IREX - GDR Program, the following persons are concentrating on studies in the field of German literature:

- Wesley Blomster, University of Colorado:
  Hanna Eisler: a sociological study of the composer
- Katherine Eaton, University of Wisconsin:
  Production methods employed or planned by Brecht for certain plays
- Karl Berger, Brown University:
  Postwar poetry in the two Germanies
- Richard Zipser, Oberlin College:
  GDR literature in the 1970s

VISA REQUIREMENTS OF THE GDR

For the benefit of readers needing this information, the Bulletin has obtained the following advice from the GDR Embassy on visa policies. We regret that we cannot answer individual inquiries on these matters.

1) Transit visas: Transit visas may be obtained either directly at the GDR frontier crossing-point or at the Embassy of the GDR in the U.S. Required are: a) valid passport. b) one completed transit visa application form (give full name, birthday, birthplace, nationality, home address, passport number and destination); c) visa of the state to which you wish to proceed after leaving the GDR (if no required by that state). The fee for a single transit visa is $1.50. If the passport is mailed to the GDR Embassy by air, no fee is charged. Return by registered mail. Transit visas are good only for traveling through the GDR, taking the shortest way, without stops.

2) Visas for US citizens wishing to visit relatives in the GDR: Visa applications of this kind are not processed by the GDR Embassy in the US. They should be sent to Reisebüro der DDR, Abteilung für Besucherreisende, DDR-100 Berlin, Postfach 877. The requirements for this visa are: a) four completed application forms for entry into the GDR (all questions must be answered); b) receipt for payment of handling fee. The Reisebüro charges $14.50 for each applicant; no fee for children under 15. The fee should be remitted to Deutsche Bundesbank, Amt für internationale Rechnungsabwicklung, 100 Berlin, Kontostand 17239, Postfach 24 for the amount of the Reisebüros charged.

3) Visas for US citizens wishing to travel in the GDR as tourists: The embassy of the GDR in the US does not process applications of this kind. They should be sent to Reisebüro der DDR, Abt. für Touristenreise, DDR-100 Berlin, Postfach 877. Please state in the application: full name, birthday, birthplace, home address, nationality, number and issuing authority of passport. The application processed, the Reisebüro will send a "visa entitlement certificate" to the applicant. The visa may be obtained at the GDR frontier crossing-point or at the GDR Embassy in the US upon presentation of this certificate and the valid US passport. Visa fee is $6.75.

4) Business travel: Firms already working with partners in the GDR or a contractual basis, should best apply for visas through their partners. The same data as required for the application of a tourist visa should be forwarded to the partner in the GDR. The same fees for attending conferences and other scientific events in the GDR. Upon presentation of a "visa entitlement certificate" and the valid US passport the visa will be issued at the GDR frontier crossing point.

5) Entering Berlin, capital of the GDR, from West-Berlin: US citizens staying in West-Berlin and wishing to visit the GDR capital may obtain a one-day visa at the frontier crossing;
point valid until midnight, not good for overnight stay). The visa is to be applied for orally and the valid US passport is to be presented. Visa fee: equivalent of 3 marks

6) Travel in the event of urgent family matters such as serious illness, death and funeral. Special regulations apply here: In these particular cases the entry permit can be applied for through the relatives in the GDR at the appropriate police station (Volkspolizei-Kreisamt). The following data should be transmitted to the relatives in the GDR by telephone, cable or telex: full name etc. as for a tourist visa, and the frontier crossing-point chosen for entering. The visa will then be issued at this frontier point. It is advisable, however, to set off on the journey only after affirmation by the relatives that the visa will be issued at the frontier.

Persons wishing to travel to the GDR should try to contact one of the travel agencies in the US, listed below, which have dealt with the Reisebüro der DDR for a longer period and have the necessary experience in handling applications.

Piper Travel Bureau, Inc.
310 Brisbane Building
403 Main Street
BUFFALO, N.Y. 14203

Field Travel Bureau
1932 W Irving Park Rd.
CHICAGO, I11. 60613

Ocean Travel Bureau
3051 North Lincoln Ave.
CHICAGO, III. 60618

Globe Travel Service
127 North Dearborn Street
CHICAGO, I11. 60602

Travcoa World Tours
111 North Wabash Avenue
CHICAGO, I11. 60602

Vega International
Travel Service, Inc.
201 North Wells Street
CHICAGO, I11. 60606

Ashinger Travel Bureau, Inc.
Suite 210, 1950 Euclid Ave.
CLEVELAND, Ohio 44115

Schmidt Travel Service, Inc.
10141 Groton Ave.
DETROIT, Michigan 48221

European Tours
227 Paterson Ave.
EAST RUTHERFORD, N.J. 07073

Sunrise Travel, Inc.
2241 E. Sunrise Boulevard
P.O. Box 99.
VIENNA, Virginia 22180

Holift World Travel
164 Maple Avenue East
P.O. Box 99.
VIENNA, Virginia 22180

Colonia Travel Bureau
6533 Rising Sun Ave.
PHILADELPHIA, Pa. 19111

Olney Travel Agency
426 West Olney Ave.
PHILADELPHIA 20, Pa.

Travel Bureau Wenzler & Watson
219 Rising Sun Ave.
PHILADELPHIA, Pa. 19111

World Wide Travel, Inc.
291 Guarv Street
SAN FRANCISCO, Calif. 94102

Lueetteke Travel Service
3109 South Grand Blvd.
St. LOUIS, MO. 63118

Standard Travel Service, Inc.
3065 Hampton Avenue
St. LOUIS, Miss. 63109

St. Petersburg Travel Service
213 Central Ave. P.O. Box 119
ST. PETERSBURG, FLa.

Smithtown Travel Bureau
3, Landing Ave. Corner Main Street
SMITHTOWN, L.I. New York 11787

Krueger's Travel Service
P.O. Box 209
6051 Bergen Ave.
WEST NEW YORK, N.J. 07093

AAA World-Wide Travel, Inc.
1712 G Street N.W.
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20006

Kuehn-Lloyd Travel Bureau, Inc.
211 East 52nd Street
NEW YORK 23, N.Y.

Travel Bureau Kuehn
1852 East 55th Street
NEW YORK 23, N.Y.

Melia Tours, Inc.
520, 5th Avenue
NEW YORK, N.Y. 10016

Anniversary Tours
1700 Franklin Avenue
East New York, L.I. New York 11707

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