

A. G. BONAR

MEMORIES OF THE SOVIET UNION



BOOK TWO

1959/60 MOSCOW

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BIOGRAPHICAL NOTE



Andrew Graham Bonar was born in 1933 and went to school in Scotland. Following two years' national service, during which he was trained as a Russian interpreter, he attended London University and subsequently Edinburgh University, and some years later, in 1968, joined the British Council and was sent on assignments to several overseas countries including the Soviet Union. Before being posted to Moscow, however, he had already made four visits to the Soviet Union, of which the first three form the subject of this series of six e-books entitled: *Memories of the Soviet Union 1957, 1959/60, 1968*.

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MY ROUTE FROM SWEDEN THROUGH FINLAND TO MOSCOW AND BACK



Soviet locomotive



We travelled by boat across the almost-frozen Gulf of Bothnia from Stockholm to Turku in Finland, and from there by bus to the Soviet frontier.

Icicle-covered carriage



From there we went in an icicle-covered train to Leningrad and after a few hours' rest at a hotel we were taken to the airport for the flight to Moscow.

MOSCOW SCENES

Pigeons in Red Square



Russian accordion music

It is midwinter in Moscow, and Red Square is looking bleak. The pigeons are finding it hard to survive, but a sympathetic peasant woman has brought a basketful of seeds and is selling them in small packets, for a nominal sum, to passers-by.....

The Kremlin is on the right, and outside it, in Red Square – just visible on this wintry day – is the Lenin Mausoleum.

The Lenin Mausoleum 1960



Queue to enter the Mausoleum



THE LENIN MAUSOLEUM

Following Stalin's death in 1953 his embalmed corpse was placed alongside that of Lenin, and it was still there in the Mausoleum in 1960, when I saw it. Late in 1961, however, it was removed and reinterred at the foot of the Kremlin wall, and Stalin's name was removed from the pediment of the Mausoleum. Ever since then Lenin has once again been the sole occupant of the Mausoleum.

Soldiers on guard at the Mausoleum 1978



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SERIES OF SIX BOOKS

MOSCOW

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BOOK ONE
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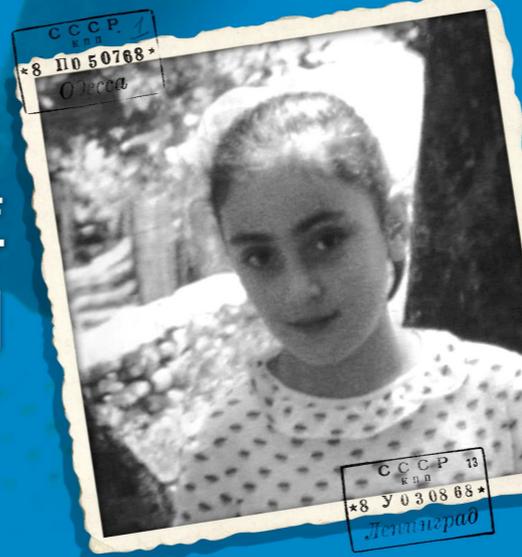


GEORGIA

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BOOK THREE
1968 GEORGIA



BUKHARA

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SAMARKAND

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BOOK SIX
1968 SAMARKAND

