**Exchange Begins in Fall...**

**Soviet Teachers Join AFS “Family”**

The Soviet Union will join more than 60 other nations in the AFS “family” when a special Educators Program gets underway this fall.

For about 10 weeks, four Russian Language teachers will stay in the United States to participate in teaching activities in public schools. At the same time, four U.S. teachers will be in the USSR actually becoming involved with the education system there.

“‘This is not an observation visit for these teachers,” explains Myrtle McCallum, consultant to AFS for the Educators Program. “Participants do get into teaching assignments.”

Miss McCallum was influential in initiating the United States teacher exchange when she was director of the School Education Program for the American Friends Service Committee. The AFSC is jointly sponsoring the exchange next fall with AFS.

All the teachers taking part are language teachers. The United States participants are required to speak fluent Russian. In turn, the Soviet educators must have a solid command of the English language.

Purpose set down for the exchange include:
- Sharing the objectives and philosophies of education programs in each country.
- Comparing methods and techniques used in different school situations.
- Improving the ability to speak and write the language of the host country.
- Creating greater understanding through an experience of another culture.

“No matter how well prepared a teacher is in a language other than his own, it helps to get a feel for how the language is really used in a country,” Miss McCallum notes.

Both Soviet and U.S. teachers will be provided orientation assistance as part of the program plans. During these meetings, educators will be briefed on host school and community characteristics.

Soviet teachers who will take part in the exchange are selected through the USSR Ministry of Education. AFS is recruiting applicants from the United States by contacting high schools that have AFS or AFSC affiliation and include Russian language courses in their curricula.

APF Vice-President William Orrick says that teachers selected from the U.S. will be “representatives of those ideas and beliefs which are basic to the work of AFS and the Friends Service Committee.”

One classroom function that U.S. teachers can expect includes assisting English language teachers in Soviet schools. “Participants will also have an opportunity to observe classes in Russian literature and composition,” Mr. Orrick adds.

AFS became involved with the USSR-U.S. exchange after AFSC proposed adding

**‘Mother Myrtle’ Is Well Known**

Myrtle McCallum is the kind of person everyone should meet when stepping off the plane in a strange country. She has an uncanny ability to make people feel at home even if home is thousands of miles away.

Ten years ago, when the first group of educators from the USSR came to the United States under an American Friends Service Committee-sponsored exchange program, she won the lasting friendship of several Soviet teachers. Seven teacher exchanges later, she has become somewhat of a celebrity in the teacher interchange world.

“‘Mother Myrtle,’ as she is known to Soviet educators and U.S. teachers going to the Soviet Union, has been appropriately-labeled for her concern extended to USSR teachers who come to the United States.

As details were being polished for the eighth exchange, one Soviet Ministry of Education official told a U.S. representative: “Be sure to give our best to Mother Myrtle.”

As an AFS consultant, Myrtle McCallum injects more of the same quality that has made AFS a success -- a deep concern for all people.
SOVIET SENDOFF. Clinton Ely (right), who took part in a teacher exchange between the United States and the Soviet Union in 1968, leads an orientation session for educators about to leave on the first AFS exchange with the USSR. For six days prior to their departure on 6 October, the four U.S. teachers selected to go to the Soviet Union prepared for the experience in workshops conducted at AFS Headquarters. Teachers pictured above include (left to right): Dorothea Galer, Evanston, Illinois; James Powers, Cincinnati, Ohio; and Elizabeth Condon, Woburn, Massachusetts. Not shown is Elizabeth Liapunov from New Haven, Connecticut who is also involved in the 10 week program. The exchange is jointly sponsored by AFS and the American Friends Service Committee. Mr. Ely's visit to the Soviet Union was under AFSC auspices. Plans also call for four Soviet teachers to arrive in the United States this fall to live and teach in communities around the United States.
Soviet, U.S. Teachers Launch New AFS Effort

Four teachers from the United States have been selected by the American Friends Service Committee and AFS to participate in the USA-USSR Teachers' Exchange this year. The educators will leave 6 October to begin teaching English in Soviet schools for 10 weeks.

During this same period, four teachers from the Soviet Union will conduct Russian language studies classes under AFSC/AFS auspices in secondary schools in the United States. Each teacher will be assigned to one school for four weeks. After a week's recess for consultation and evaluation, each will move to a second school for four weeks.

Teachers selected from the United States are:

- Elizabeth Condon, Lynn, Massachusetts. Ms. Condon teaches Russian at Woburn High School in Woburn, Massachusetts.
- Dorothea Galer, Evanston, Illinois. Ms. Galer, a Russian instructor at Northwestern University is working toward her Ph.D. in Russian language and literature. She was an AFS Americans Abroad student to Germany in 1958.
- Elizabeth Liapunov, New Haven, Connecticut. Ms. Liapunov, who lived for a summer in France as an AFS student in 1954, supervises new foreign language teachers at Yale University.
- James B. Powers, Cincinnati, Ohio. Mr. Powers teaches Russian at Indian Hill High School.

AFS International Scholarships is co-sponsoring the exchange with the American Friends Service Committee this year.

AA Placements Surge Ahead

More young people participated in the Americans Abroad Summer Program this year than ever before. With emphasis placed last March on increasing AA numbers, staff and volunteers placed 1,402 American students. Last year's program sent 1,108 AAs to 51 countries.

AA registered gains in students leaving the U.S. in July and August for a year. Last year's School Program, Northern Hemisphere had 258 participants compared to this season's total of 375.

Increasing AA numbers will play an important role in School Program, Southern Hemisphere placement in coming months.