



When a tourist sets foot on Russian soil, the first person he usually encounters is the Intourist representative, waiting to greet him by name. The surprise welcome fades when the visitor recalls that he provided the date and place of his arrival on his visa application form. The ubiquitous Intourist guides, or guards, receive the foreigner at airports, rail stations, and docks, from where they escort him to his assigned hotel. The visitor may be impressed with the solicitude and hospitality that provides a personal greeter to look after his welfare. Realization comes soon, however, that the Soviets are not operating an altruistic traveler's aid society, but are deploying their foreigners in hotels where they can conveniently keep an eye on them.

At the hotel our tourist is informed of the many diverse services that Intourist offers: sightseeing, ballet tickets, plane reservations, *etc.* Later he discovers unadvertised features also available through Intourist: winsome female guides prepared to expound the theory of dialectical materialism; other less theoretical Intourist materialists anxious to do business in articles of apparel brought in by travelers from abroad. Another service of which the foreigner never is advised is the comprehensive summary written about him by the guide who has accompanied him on his romps. Pertinent observations, especially regarding his political outlook, are entered into the report and he is arbitrarily classified as "friend" or "foe."

Just as Intourist displays itself so