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1. Preparations:

Planning is all important as business will not be done by those businessmen who happen to be passing through and decide to make impromptu calls. Your appointments must be confirmed before you leave on your trip, but this may occur only at the last minute. A minimum of two or three weeks notice is advised. The Canadian Embassy Commercial Division can assist in the organization of a program of meetings and visits if sufficient notice is given.

2. Visas:

In issuing a visa, the Soviets generally agree to a visit in principle (either invited by a foreign trade organization, Soviet Enterprise or on an Intourist pre-paid visa) and fix the exact appointment times one to three days in advance. Visas should be applied for at least three weeks in advance through the Soviet Embassy in Ottawa or the Soviet consulate in Montreal. Most Canadian businessmen travel on tourist visas. All cities to be visited in the USSR must be listed on the visa. You are advised to verify that all locations are included before departing Canada. Visas are generally issued for the period requested but rarely extend longer than two months.

43-256-089

3. Accommodation:

Hotel reservations for accommodation and travel within the USSR are handled by Intourist through accredited travel agents in Canada. The Embassy cannot make hotel reservations but recommends the following hotels: Intourist, National, International and Kosmos (the last 2 are Sovincenter hotels). Hotels in Moscow are relatively expensive at between 80 to 110 roubles per night. Pre-paid vouchers can include transport to and from the airport (40 minutes each way), hotel accommodation, and breakfast. Most buildings have 220 volts AC but some older places still have 127 volts. In most hotels, round, continental 2-pin plugs are in use.

4. Customs:

On arrival all currency and valuables must be declared and the receipt retained for outward clearance. Currency regulations must be taken seriously. The