

Russia Declared Waging War on 'Jazz on Ribs'

Washington - (UPI) - The Soviet Union is waging war against "jazz on the ribs," according to reports reaching here.

The information comes from anonymous Washington officials who make a habit of reading the back pages of the Soviet press. Their latest now-and-then, unofficial report on what they found is devoted to consumer shortages and a black marketeering inside Russia.

Western jazz records, according to the Jan. 12, 1960, issue of Sovetskaya Kultura, are scarce as czarinas in Russia, and black market operators have begun selling bootleg copies recorded on discs cut from used x-ray film.

Many Careful Glances

The Feb. 17 Komsomolskaya Pravda describes a snow-covered vacant lot in Lvov as a "black market department store . . . where they sell things in a whisper, with many careful glances around."

"A sloppily dressed man in a beret busies himself over a rusty phonograph," Komsomolskaya continues. "He puts on a disc cut from x-ray film with traces of someone's cervical vertebrae. The horace voice of a jazz singer comes out of the horn."

Sovetskaya Kultura called these renditions "outrageous trash on the ribs." The x-ray records also are called "on the bones."

Nothing Worthwhile

"How and by what route did this loathsome music penetrate into our country?" Sovetskaya asked. It then told the story of Case No. 31277, involving a woman who went to a Moscow music counter but could find nothing "worthwhile."

"She turned regretfully toward the exit," the article said, "but a brisk fellow in tight-fitting trousers stopped her. After a furtive glance around him, he quietly said: 'We have some rock and boogie, sweetheart.'"

Bought 'Rocks on Bones'

"For 20 rubles," the article continued, "Kuznetsova (the woman) bought two 'rocks on the bones.'" It added: "Who was this chance acquaintance who kindly undertook the mission of supplying Kuznetsova with novelties? He turned out to be Dmitry Pavlov, a 20-year-old loafer . . ."

Sovetskaya said all the operators of this particular ring were finally "caught red-handed," an expression which doesn't sound Russian and may have crept into the translation.

Alaska, Canada Would Be Aided By Better Roads

Seattle - (UPI) - The annual income of Alaska and Northwest Canada could be increased by almost \$1.4 billion in 20 years by improving highways, a technical-economic study presented to the Alaska International Rail and Highway Commission shows.

The report, made by the Battelle Memorial Institute of Columbus, Ohio, will be considered by the commission which must report to Congress by May.

The gist of the report was that the area's income could be increased by selected highway construction projects costing an estimated \$240 million.

One of the most significant parts of the report was a section recommending five major highway improvement and construction projects for a more integrated road system which would increase tourism.

The study indicated that tourism was the principal economic development potential in the area that would benefit substantially from new or improved land transportation links.

All the highway improvements recommended could be financed over a 20-year period from the estimated additional revenue that would be generated by an integrated road system, Battelle specialists said. Estimated yearly maintenance costs of such a system would be more than offset by increased revenue from gasoline taxes.

"The one-year study was made to provide an economic basis for planning and recommending future transportation facilities for all of Alaska and a section of Northwest Canada of comparable size," Sen. Warren G. Magnuson, acting commission chairman, said.

The part of Canada considered in the study included Yukon Territory, a fringe of northwest territories east of the MacKenzie river, the northern half of British Columbia and the northwest quarter of Alberta.



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