1. HQS wants to know minimum time required to obtain Soviet tourist visa. Info available here indicates Sov ambassador authorized issue visas locally without awaiting Moscow clearance, if applicant applies personally at consulate (as against obtaining through travel agency). Request you have station member or cleared contact, American or local, phone Sovemb with story of imminent departure for vacation in Austria and points south, examining possibility spending few days in Moscow (only) en route, if can get visa and depart within two or possibly three days. Ask if possible get visa in this time.

2. Above info needed ASAP so would appreciate expedite action. No sensitivity connected this request.

END OF MESSAGE
See Sanitized File
Number
For sterile copy of this document