

NATIONAL ARCHIVES AND RECORDS ADMINISTRATION
Presidential Libraries Withdrawal Sheet

WITHDRAWAL ID 013449

REASON FOR WITHDRAWAL National security restriction

TYPE OF MATERIAL Biography

TITLE Andrey Andreyevich Gromyko

DESCRIPTION Member, Politburo, CPSU Central
Committee; Minister of Foreign Affairs

CREATION DATE 05/31/1974

VOLUME 5 pages

COLLECTION/SERIES/FOLDER ID . 032500292

COLLECTION TITLE NATIONAL SECURITY ADVISER. PRESIDENTIAL
COUNTRY FILES FOR EUROPE AND CANADA

BOX NUMBER 16

FOLDER TITLE USSR (2)

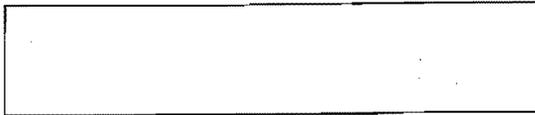
DATE WITHDRAWN 08/06/2001

WITHDRAWING ARCHIVIST GG

Exempted 4/11/05

Sanitized 3/18/08

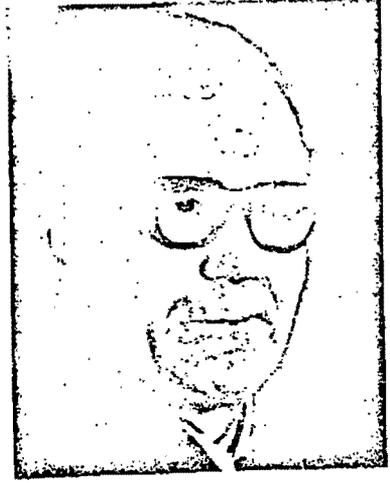
50



Andrey Andreyevich GROMYKO
(Phonetic: gruhMIKuh)

USSR

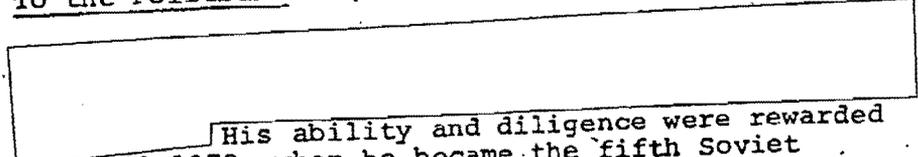
Member, Politburo,
CPSU Central Com-
mittee; Minister
of Foreign Affairs



Addressed as:
Mr. Minister

Andrey Gromyko, manager of one of the world's largest Foreign Service bureaucracies, is the most senior diplomatic leader among the major powers. Appointed in 1957, he is the first Soviet Foreign Minister to have received all of his diplomatic training under the Communist regime. During his rise to the top of his profession, he has held some of his government's most demanding foreign posts: Ambassador to the United States, Ambassador to Great Britain and Permanent Representative to the United Nations.

To the Politburo



His ability and diligence were rewarded in April 1973, when he became the fifth Soviet Foreign Minister--and the first career diplomat--to be elected to the ruling Politburo of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union (CPSU). The earlier Foreign Ministers on that body (Leon Trotskiy, Vyacheslav Molotov, Andrey Vyshinskiy and Dmitriy Shepilov) were either old Bolsheviks or Party bureaucrats.

The full significance of Gromyko's appointment as it relates to a political realignment in the Kremlin is still not apparent. The most immediate

DECLASSIFIED • E.O. 12958 SEC. 3.8
WITH PORTIONS EXEMPTED
E.O. 12958 SEC. 1.5

MR 02-04 #14 CIA ltr 2/28/07

BY LLR NARA DATE 3/18/08

reason for the promotion, however, probably was an increased recognition among Politburo members of the importance of foreign policy and the extent to which it impinges on domestic affairs. Gromyko's new position gives him greater political weight and prestige in the conduct of Soviet affairs abroad.

A Peasant Becomes
an Economist

Born on 18 July 1909 in a rural district near Gomel', Belorussian SSR, Andrey Andreyevich Gromyko rose from obscurity because of his ability to absorb the education that was available under the new Soviet regime. The son of semiliterate peasants, he began his studies at an agricultural school in Gomel', went on to the Borisov Pedagogical Institute, and then attended the Minsk Institute of Agricultural Science.

Gromyko then went to Moscow to continue his education. He studied at the Institute of Economics and was awarded a candidate of economic sciences degree in 1936, by which time he was also secretary of the editorial board of the USSR's national economic journal, *Voprosy Ekonomiki* (Problems of Economics). He served as a senior instructor at the Institute of Economics from 1936 to 1939. Gromyko apparently never lost his interest in economics. Two decades later, between the Foreign Service assignments of his new career, he earned a doctorate of economic sciences.

The Economist Becomes
an Instant Diplomat

In 1939 Gromyko joined the Foreign Service, became chief of the American Countries Division of the People's Commissariat of Foreign Affairs, and was assigned to Washington as Counselor of the Soviet Embassy. He had never been abroad before and spoke no English, but 4 years later, at the age of 34, he succeeded Maksim Litvinov as Ambassador to the United States.

[REDACTED]

In 1946 Gromyko was appointed a Deputy Foreign Minister and the Permanent Representative to the United Nations, where he gained international notoriety through his frequent vetoes and "walkouts" in support of the USSR's policies. During the 1946-49 period he attended most of the important conferences of the time, including those held at Yalta, Dumbarton Oaks, San Francisco, London, Berlin and Geneva.

In 1949 Gromyko was recalled to Moscow and appointed First Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs. He held that position until 1957, with the exception of a period from 1952 to 1953, when he served as Ambassador to the United Kingdom. [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] Gromyko's assignment to London was not a setback for him personally but was part of an effort by the USSR to strengthen relations with the United Kingdom while weakening British ties with the United States. At any rate, Moscow did not name a replacement for Gromyko as First Deputy Foreign Minister in 1952, and he resumed that post when he returned in 1953.

As Foreign Minister

As a major spokesman on Soviet foreign policy since becoming Foreign Minister in 1957, Gromyko has led an extremely active professional life. He has participated in numerous international conferences and bilateral negotiations, and he has headed the Soviet delegation to the UN General Assembly every year since 1962. He accompanied Khrushchev and later Kosygin and Brezhnev on almost all of their visits abroad. Gromyko headed the Soviet delegation during the tripartite talks leading to the signing in August 1963 of a nuclear test ban agreement. In April 1965 he visited Paris, paving the way for closer Franco-Soviet relations. In 1969, in a speech given before the USSR Supreme Soviet, he was the first high-level Soviet official to call for closer US-USSR relations. He took part in negotiating the Indo-Soviet Friendship Treaty in 1971, and in 1972 he came to the United States to sign the ABM Treaty.

[REDACTED]

Gromyko participated in President Nixon's talks with Brezhnev in Moscow in May 1972 and in the United States in July 1973. He met with President Nixon and Secretary of State Henry Kissinger in Washington in February 1974 and had subsequent meetings with the Secretary in Moscow (March), Washington (March), Geneva (April), and Nicosia and Damascus (May).

Personal Life

[REDACTED] He is a skilled negotiator and a master of parliamentary tactics. He has a prodigious capacity for work, putting in strenuous 6-day weeks for long periods.

[REDACTED] An avid hunter, Gromyko has a collection of handguns and rifles. He speaks fluent French and English and uses American idiomatic expressions with ease.

Family

Gromyko is married. His wife, Lidiya Dmitriyevna [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] One of the best traveled of all the wives in the Soviet leadership group, Mrs. Gromyko is at ease among foreigners. She speaks excellent English. Formerly a teacher, she now is primarily occupied with her grandchildren. She is well-read in politics and literature and is particularly interested in painting.

The Gromykos have a son and a daughter. Their son, Anatoliy, studied in the United States and served at one time as a section chief at the Institute of the USA in Moscow. He currently is

[REDACTED]

a Minister Counselor of the Soviet Embassy in Washington. Anatoliy has been married twice and has two sons--one, born in about 1959, by his first wife, and another, born in about 1967, by his present wife. The Gromykos' daughter, Milya, is married to Aleksandr S. Piradov, a Foreign Ministry legal expert who is the Soviet Permanent Representative to UNESCO.

31 May 1974