

November 12, 1957

Dear Skinnell,

It seems ages since I left America. Being here in the USSR seeing so much meeting so many wonderful people and I really mean I believe honest people, time seems to have very little meaning until you realize my time is with you.

We arrived here in Tashkent from Samarkand, Uzbekistan after being grounded because of bad weather. First in Georgia and then in Tashkent. Anyway, we are trying to squeeze an our schedule. When we arrived as usual, we are taken on a flight tour of the city and give some history and statistics. Then Museums, their Artists and their Studios. Then our request is to see the old city and people. Some many of these places are antique old many of the customs and dress of the people still exist. The officials are proud of the new city but many times search for materials in the old city. The old section of Tashkent are fascinating. We had tea with one of the families in that section. There a ceremony at tea time. We visit the Folk Museums, we introduced to many artists. Showed slides and photo of our work.

Then later visited an Arkh and his
studio and had dinner. What a
dinner. Six hours of eating and I've
learned many tricks about them.
"Singing & the art", singing and
playing of their folk instruments
were wonderful.

Early next morning we took the
plane to Samarkand. Same procedure
Some of the most beautiful mosques
I've ever seen are here or rather
there. This may seem confusing
we flew one hour to spend the day
in Samarkand and flew back to
Tashkent for the night.

Today at 9³⁰ AM we take off
by plane to Alma Ata.

The people in this section of
Central Asia and we are going
farther north east are Mongolian,
and I seem to have a particular
wealth and understanding for them
and I've received the same response
from them. Many of the faces
seem like the real Americans
and sometimes, many times I have
seen us within of those early
types.
Keep my love with you dear?
Love
John

Гостиница „Советская“

РАЙОНА



МОСКВА, ЛЕНИНГРАДСКОЕ ШОССЕ, Д. 46/2



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