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The Image of Russia on the Western Screen in the Ideological Confrontation Epoch (1946-1991): From the Late Stalinism to the "Thaw", from "Détente" and "Stagnation" to the "Perestroika"

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Abstract. This article included the analysis of evolution Russian image representation on the Western (USA, UK, Germany, Canada, France, Italy) screen - of the period of ideological confrontation (1946-1991): ideological and social trends, myths, stereotypes, illusions, classification of the contents' models and modifications of genres. The main conclusion: the image of Russia in the majority of the Western fiction films of 1946-1991 is treated as an image of something "enemy", "alien", "different", often hostile...

Keywords: cold war; Western films; screen; image of Russia; USA; ideological confrontation; media studies; film studies; spy; enemy.

Introduction.

Five Media Myths of Ideological Confrontation Times

The epoch of the *Cold War* and ideological confrontation between the West and the USSR spawned many myths.

Myth 1: The anti-Soviet, anticommunist orientation was principal for western cinematographers in the 'ideological struggle'

Certainly, the western screen anti-Sovietism played a crucial role in the Cold War, however, one should not forget that at all times the West policy in many respects was anti-Russian, and any strengthening of Russia (economical, military, geopolitical) was perceived as a threat to the Western world. This trend can also be traced in many western works of art – both before the appearance of the USSR and after its disintegration. In the same way, the anti-bourgeois / anti-capitalist orientation of Soviet films about foreign countries naturally combined with some anti-western motives conventional for Russia...

Myth 2: Famous masters tried to be above 'the ideological struggle'; therefore the ideological confrontation was the lot of ordinary handicraftsmen

Even a superficial glance at a filmography (see Appendix) of the screen confrontation times (1946-1991) refutes this thesis completely. Both on the West side and on the Soviet side such known film makers as Costa-Gavras, J. Losey, S. Lumet, S. Peckinpah, B. Wilder, P. Ustinov, A. Hitchcock, J. Huston, J. Schlesinger, G. Alexandrov, A. Dovzhenko, M. Kalatozov, M. Romm and, certainly, dozens of well-known actors of different nationalities were involved in the process of the *ideological struggle*.

Myth 3: The Soviet censorship prohibited all films of western authors involved in creating at least one anti-Soviet media text

In practice the Soviet censorship usually prohibited films of those figures of the western culture (for example, Y. Montand and S. Signoret after the release of their joint work in the film *L'Aveu*) who, besides being involved in *confrontation* films, openly and actively took an anti-Soviet position in real political life.

Shooting in anti-Soviet films of B. Anderson, R. Barton, I. Bergman, K.M. Brandauer, Y. Brinner, L. Ventura, A. Delon, M. Caine, S. Connery, F. Noiret, P. Newman, L. Olivier, G. Peck, M. Piccoli, Max von Sydow, H. Fonda and many other celebrities did not at all affect the showing of *ideologically neutral* films with their participation in the Soviet Union.

Moreover, some of these masters were even invited to take part in joint Soviet-western film productions. It is another matter that their ideological *pranks* were not mentioned in the Soviet press. Probably, the Kremlin administration of that time realized that prohibition of all films, books

and articles of *faulty* western prominent people of culture would induce a super-deficit of foreign media texts as a whole in Soviet libraries and cinemas...

Myth 4: Western anti-Soviet media texts were always more truthful than Soviet anti-western opuses

Here media texts do differ. On the one hand, the films *Nicholas and Alexandra* directed by F. Shaffner and *The Assassination of Trotsky* directed by J. Losey look much more truthful and convincing in comparison to some anti-western movies (for example, *Silver Dust* by A. Room or *The Plot of the Doomed* by M. Kalatozov). However, the anti-Soviet action films *Red Dawn* or *Amerika* look, to put it mildly, improbable even in comparison with the Soviet militarist action movie *Solo Voyage* which became a kind of a counter-response to the victorious pathos of American *Rambo*...

Myth 5: 'Confrontational' media texts are of low artistic value and deserve neither attention nor critical analysis

On the one hand, there are not many media products of the *Cold War* period that are of any significant artistic value (*I am Cuba* directed by M. Kalatozov, *Dead Season* by director S. Kulish, *The Assassination of Trotsky* directed by J. Losey, *Reds* by W. Beatty, *1984* by M. Radford, et al.). But on the other hand, no method can be declared exhaustive for analysis, "since even the most primitive film is a multilayer structure containing different levels of latent information which reveals itself only in cooperation with the socio-political and psychological contexts. ... No matter how tendentious – or, on the contrary, unbiased – the filmmaker might be, he depicts much more aspects of the time than he thinks and knows himself of, beginning with the performance level of his work and ending with the ideological myths which he reflects" (Turovskaya, 1996, p. 99).

Brief History of the 'Ideological Struggle' on the Screen (1946-1991)

Under a *Cold War* we usually understand "a total and global confrontation of two superpowers within a bipolar system of international relations. The preconditions for the Cold War consisted in the principal difference in the socio-economic and political systems of the leading world powers after the defeat of the aggressors' block: a totalitarian political regime with elements of personal dictatorship and a super-centralized plan-based economy on the one hand, and the western liberal democracy and market economy on the other hand" (Narinsky, 2006, p. 161). To a considerable degree the Cold War was caused by the political and social development of the so-called *Third World* (decolonization, revolutions, etc.) (Westad, 2007, p. 396), and each of the antagonists aspired to broaden its zone of influence in Africa, Asia and Latin America by all means.

At the same time, the opposition between **Russia** (at all times and under any regimes) and the **West** (also at all times and under any regimes) was also connected with much deeper reasons.

Here we fully agree with J. Shemyakin: "the civilization status inconsistency of Russia is directly reflected in the way it is perceived in the West: there is direct evidence of the collision of different values turned into the invariant dynamics factor of such perception. In whole, Russia always both attracted and repelled the West. One of the attraction factors is the historic community reflected in Indo-European language roots, an ancient Indo-European mythological background and Christian origins. All these reasons taken together, undoubtedly, create a common symbolic field of diverse Russia-West contacts. But the influence of this factor was often overlapped in the history by a sharp feeling (and very often consciousness) of the Russian civilizational alienation from the West, its otherness, and that surely was a strong factor of rejection. ... The most irritating aspect was its *alienation in spite of resemblance* which was perceived as an outward form that concealed something different, non-European" (Shemyakin, 2009, pp. 19-20). At the same time, the stronger and more influential Russia became the stronger became its ideological confrontation (and media confrontation in this century) with the Western world (what actually occurred after 1945 when everyone realized the Soviet Union that had defeated the Nazi empire possessed the most powerful military force in Europe).

The concept of *Cold War* is closely associated with such concepts as *informational and psychological war*, *ideological struggle*, *political propaganda*, *propaganda* (hereafter we shall mean under *propaganda* an intentional regular media mass consciousness inoculation of this or that ideology to achieve a calculated social effect), and *the enemy concept*. According to the reasonable definition given by A. Fateyev, "*the enemy concept* is an ideological expression of social antagonism, a dynamic symbol of the powers hostile to the state and the citizen, a political instrument of the ruling social group. ... the concept of the enemy is an important element of a

psychological war which is a goal-directed and regular use of propaganda by political opponents among other means of pressure for direct or indirect influence on the views, moods, feelings and conduct of the opponent, allies and their own population in order to make them act in the direction preferable for the government” (Fateyev, 1999).

There is an opinion that “in the *Cold War* period (evidently, the initial period of 1945-1955 is meant – A.F.) the Russian question was avoided by men of art, but in the 1970-1990s many films on the Russia subject were shot” (Moseyko, 2000, p. 30). We cannot agree with this statement. Actually *the Cold War* era became the source of creating a great number of both anti-Soviet/anti-communist and anti-Western/anti-bourgeois films released during the above-mentioned period (after W. Churchill delivered his well-known Fulton speech on March 5th 1946 that contained sharp criticism of the USSR policy, and in August-September, 1946 J. Stalin initiated the adoption of the *anti-cosmopolitan* resolutions “About the Journals *Zvezda* and *Leningrad*”, ‘On the Repertoire of Drama Theatres and Measures for Their Improvement’, and ‘On the Subscription to and Usage of Foreign Literature’).

From the Late Stalinism to the “Thaw”

The mutual ideological confrontation concerned all the fronts of the Cold War. Since February, 1947 the Munich VOA radio station began to broadcast propaganda programs in Russian (which the Kremlin ordered to listen to using all accessible technical means since the spring of 1948). And in October, 1947 Senator G. McCarthy initiated hearings in the Washington State Capitol of the fact-finding results of the *anti-American and communist activity* of some known figures of the American culture. A. Johnston, PGA president of that time, told his listeners in the R.K.O. Pictures studio “that after the conversation with Secretary of State Marshall, Senator Vandenberg and others he came to a firm conviction about the necessity of initiating an immediate official opposing policy of the Soviet expansion power, and pointed out that this policy should find support in motion pictures produced in the USA” (Fateyev, 1999).

The situation in the USSR developed in much the same way. P. Babitsky and J. Rimberg calculated that the amount of western negative film characters (excluding Germany soldiers from films about the Second World War) portrayed in Soviet films increased three times and attained 36 films from 1946 to 1950 in comparison with the 1920-1930s (Babitsky and Rimberg, 1955, p.223). On the other hand, in 1946 the Soviet Cinematography Committee sorted out only 5 from 50 films for mass distribution in the USSR offered to them by American distribution companies (Ivanyan, 2007, p. 248).

Moreover, in April-May, 1949 there was worked out a special ‘*Plan for the Intensification of Anti-American Propaganda in the Near Future*’ which prescribed “systematic printing of materials, articles, pamphlets exposing aggressive plots of American imperialism, the anti-national character of the USA public and political systems, debunking the myths of American propaganda about the ‘thriving’ of America, demonstrating drastic contradictions of the USA economy, the falsity of bourgeois democracy, and the decay of bourgeois culture and morals of modern America” (Action Plan ..., 1949). In addition, the exterior threat was “a convenient pretext for justifying the internal disorders and contradictions in the socio-economic and political formation which otherwise could be perceived by USSR citizens as evidence of the regime imperfection” (Fateyev, 1999).

Both well-known classical filmmakers such as A. Dovzhenko (*Farewell, America!*), M. Kalatozov (*Plot of the Doomed*), M. Romm (*Secret Mission*), A. Room (*Silvery Dust*) and script writers and producers, now forgotten, were involved in making anti-Western (first of all – anti-American) films. In these propaganda films “almost all American characters were depicted as spies, saboteurs, anti-Soviet provocateurs” (Ivanyan, 2007, p. 274).

The Cold War films emphasized the motive of unsuccessful attempts of western secret services to entice Soviet scientists. For example, in G. Roshal’s film *Academician Ivan Pavlov* (1949) “a traitor Petrishchev brings American Hicks who offers Pavlov to go to America. Hicks disguises his dirty business with a favorite argument of cosmopolitans — acolytes of imperialism: ‘It is not relevant for mankind where you will work’. Being an ardent patriot the big Russian scientist answers: ‘Science has a fatherland, and the scientist is bound to have it. I am, my sir, Russian. And my fatherland is here whatever happened to it’” (Asratyan, 1949).

M. Turovskaya who studied this period of the Cold War reasonably remarked that the media “transmutation of the recent allies into the *enemy image* was executed through the plot telling

about some secret connections of Americans (naturally, of the class adversary: generals, senators, businessmen, diplomats) with Nazis, either about a *secret mission* of separate peace negotiations or patents abduction, or chemical weapons manufacture. The identification of Americans with Nazis is the only *secret* of the whole bulk of the Cold War films. And in *Plot of the Doomed* East European social democrats are equated with absolute evil, with Americans” (Turovskaya, 1996, p.100).

It is paradoxical, but the author of the placard anti-western *Plot of the Doomed* (1950) which is overfilled with propaganda clichés and dramaturgically primitive, M. Kalatozov only seven years after became famous for a humanistic masterpiece *The Cranes are Flying*, and was awarded *Golden Palm (Palme d'Or)* of the Cannes film festival. But then, at the peak of the ideological confrontation, M. Kalatozov created some kind of a political comic strip which illustrated newspaper leading articles of the *Pravda* and the *Krasnaya Zvezda (Red Star)* frame by frame.

... In a certain East European country (probably - Czechoslovakia) a wide alliance of conspirators (nationalists, Roman Catholics, former Nazis and social democrats who joined them) conceptually and financially bolstered by the USA and their *Yugoslavian henchmen* is formed. The only force protecting *the genuine concerns of workers* in this country is, certainly, communists who are firmly and irrevocably oriented to the Soviet Union (the authors did not at all think of how ludicrous/exposing their slogan sounds in the film: ‘We swear to Stalin and the Soviet people - to protect freedom and independence of our country!’). Having disbanded the local parliament after the Bolshevik example of 1917-1918, communists easily defeated *the doomed* parliamentary deputies (appointed, by the way, through a democratic election)...

Many famous actors of that time (P. Kadochnikov, V. Druzhnikov, M. Strauch, etc.) were involved in the film who were potentially capable of playing complex characters. However, in this case they were asked to do something different – to show strongly emphasized grotesque and pathos. And it should be mentioned they coped with the task excellently: in *Plot of the Doomed* there is not a single real, or in the slightest degree humanized character... Here, for example, is a description of the Roman Catholic cardinal (played by famous actor A. Vertinsky) given by one of the most competent Soviet film experts R. Yurenev: “whimsical intonations, sophisticated gestures, the pomposity of Roman church Prince serve as a disguise for the accomplished saboteur and conspirator. Vertinsky accentuates the two aspects of the cardinal’s psychological portrait: on the one hand – his refined and aristocratic appearance, and on the other hand, – his malicious and cowardly nature inside” (Yurenev, 1951)

At the same time, evaluating M. Kalatozov's film in whole, R. Yurenev made a conclusion which was characteristic of Stalin’s propaganda: it is “a work of art telling the truth about the struggle of freedom-loving nations under the direction of communist parties against the dark reactionary international powers for socialism construction. The film *Plot of the Doomed* is a truthful and bright product of the Soviet motion picture arts and a new contribution to fight for peace, freedom and independence of nations, for communism” (Yurenev, 1951).

In this context the film expert M. Shaternikova recalls her school impressions (of the 1940s-1950s) of the collective review of this film: “We did not reflect. Everything was clear: the imperialism showed its real cruel face. The film *Plot of the Doomed* related us about what was happening in Eastern Europe: the local reactionary forces together with Americans wanted to enslave workers who frustrated their plot and unanimously voted for communists. It did not even occur to us then that in real life (not in the film) the situation was quite different” (Shaternikova, 1999).

So *Plot of the Doomed* performed its political mission in the Cold War in hundred per cent.

Similar media texts but of anti-Soviet orientation were produced in the late 1940s – the early 1950s in the West, first of all – in the USA (*The Iron Curtain, Berlin Express, Red Danube, I Was a Communist for the FBI, Prisoner of War*, etc.).

The Iron Curtain (1948) was some kind of a marquee media event of the Cold War era. The plot of the film is based on true facts connected with life circumstances of Soviet diplomat Igor Gouzenko, who asked Canada to be granted a political asylum. In addition, the film was meant to depict the exhausting, intense life of Soviet citizens, and Gouzenko in particular, who were tyrannized by officials and special services (Rubenstein, 1979, p. 39). As the USSR had not signed the international Berne Convention for the Protection of Literary and Artistic Works by that time Americans included plenty of ‘infringing’ music by D. Shostakovich, S. Prokofiev, A. Khachaturian

in the film which sounded in the extremely undesirable ideological context to the Kremlin from the screen.

J. Lomakin, Soviet Consul General in New York, wrote that “the film is very hostile. Soviet people are shown repelling, cynical and slandering their native country.... In connection with the forthcoming release of such a film, it would be advisable to write a number of critical articles in the Soviet press and launch an attack against Hollywood reactionaries and war-mongers... our sharp and competent pronouncement can prepare viewers for adequate comprehension of the film and produce a positive impact on the public opinion. On the other hand, our keen criticism of Hollywood reactionaries and warmongers will give a moral support to progressive circles in the USA and Canada in their struggle against reactionary forces, against the production of such films” (Lomakin, 1947, pp. 242-246).

Though American film experts G. Parish and M. Pitts admitted a low artistic level of the film, even 30 years after its release they were convinced that *The Iron Curtain* related about the Russian espionage in Canada in 1943 giving the public a lenient interpretation of the harsh truth: red agents inundated the USA (Parish and Pitts, 1974, p. 25). This interpretation ‘lenience’ consisted in the following: though *The Iron Curtain* became a gold-mine of right-wing propaganda which painted the ruthless red and their followers in harsh colors, the communists’ actions were comical rather than real (Parish & Pitts, 1974, p. 243).

After six years some kind of a sequel of *The Iron Curtain* entitled *Operation Manhunt* (1954) was shot in Canada. The film went flop and that was not surprising as almost all films (produced in North America in the late 1940s-1950s) were restricted to minimum dialectics in the analysis of the communist doctrine. Almost all of them were not commercially successful and despised both by critics and intelligentsia (Lacourbe, 1985, p. 20).

In 1949 a new film about communists’ intrigues was released in the USA - *Red Menace* - which was aimed at persistent demonstration of calculating assassination methods used by red agents working in America (Parish and Pitts, 1974, p. 389). And though Russian characters, as a rule, appeared only in small episodes in films about American communists (Strada, Troper, 1997, p. 93), the whole ideological orientation did not alter.

Often the subject parallels of the mutual ideological confrontation were obvious. For instance, in A. Fainzimmer and V. Legoshin's film (S.Mikhalkov's script) *They Have a Motherland* (1949) Soviet agents while overcoming the resistance of the British special services were bringing home patriotic Russian children who found themselves in the occupation zone of western countries after the Second World War. But in *Red Danube* (1950) directed by G. Sidney Soviet citizens who remained in the western occupation zone of Vienna did not want to return home because of fear to become Stalin repression victims...

It must be noted in advance that in J. Lee Thompson's drama *Before Winter Comes* (1969) there was a variation of the plot from *Red Danube*: spiteful Soviet ‘allies’ (shown, by the way, in Thompson's film rather grotesquely, on the verge of a parody) in the autumn of 1945 demanded from the English major to deport *displaced people* of Russian and East European origin to the Soviet occupation zone in Austria. And when one of the unfortunate tried to run to the woods he was shot dead by Russian snipers...

In this respect it is rather curious to consider the overlap of real events on either side of the *Iron Curtain*. I am inclined to agree with M. Turovskaya that “the atmosphere of mutual suspiciousness, rudeness, cynicism, pavor, complicity and dissociation which coloured the last years of Stalinism and was completely driven out of the home ‘subject matter’ could be realized only in the *enemy image* conception” (Turovskaya, 1996, p. 106). But, alas, a quite similar atmosphere contrary to all American democratic traditions took place during the *witch-hunt* (initiated approximately in the same years by Senator J. McCarthy) and affected many Hollywood producers and script writers of that time who were accused of sympathy for communism and the USSR...

At the same time, both these mutually hostile tendencies found similar media versions where genuine facts were combined to some extent with ideological and aesthetic falsification.

The latter consisted in visual presentation of everyday life conditions in *enemy countries* in Soviet and western media texts of the 1940s – 1950s which was far from reality. Perhaps, only the quasi-documentary visual aesthetics characteristic of the *cinema vérité* of the 1960s altered the

situation a little (one of the brightest illustrations of the new stylistics is S.Kulich's spy movie *Dead Season*, released in 1968).

For truth's sake, it should be noted that even at the height of the Cold War era in the USA there were shot films with Russian characters. However, they usually became positive if they fell in love with Americans and preferred to live in the West. So, in the melodrama *The World in His Arms* (1952) countess Marina Selanova falls in love with an American and becomes a happy American housewife as she thinks that true love and freedom go hand in hand (Strada, Troper, 1997, p. 81). A more illustrative example of the similar idea was shown in the melodrama *Never Let Me Go* (1953) where Clark Gable played an American journalist accredited in Moscow: love for beautiful and talented Russian ballerina Maria suddenly changes his life.... Phillip and Maria hope to leave for America but Soviet officials (shown always under Stalin's or Lenin's portraits) lie and finally refused Maria an exit visa.... However, thanks to the stolen Soviet officer uniform the journalist takes Maria through the Baltic sea to freedom (Strada, Troper, 1997, p. 80).

As a whole, the movie *Never Let Me Go* is a telling illustration of a stereotyped plot when the Hollywood of the 1950s, as a rule, chose love and marriage as a neutralization means of the communist ideology (Strada, Troper, 1997, p. 92). The same goes with such films as *No Way Back* (1955), *Anastasia* (1956), *The Iron Petticoat* (1957), *Jet Pilot* (1957), *Silk Stockings* (1957), etc. However, sometimes religion (*Guilty of Treason*, 1950) became an antidote for *the plague of communism* on the screen.

J. Stalin's death (March, 1953), negotiations of heads of world leading countries in Geneva (1954-1955), N. Khrushchev's anti-Stalin speech at the Communist Party congress on February 25th 1956 turned *the bipolar world* to the so-called political *Thaw* when the communist regime slightly opened the *Iron Curtain* between the USSR and the West. D. Mann's American television movie *The Plot to Kill Stalin* (1958) was a direct cinema consequence of Khrushchev's exposures of Stalin's *personality cult*, with N. Khrushchev, G. Zhukov, G. Malenkov, L. Beriya and other leaders of the Soviet administration of that time as characters.

Alas, in October and December of 1956 the Egyptian and Hungarian events again sharpened the mutual confrontation between the USSR and the Western world...

I failed to find either western or Soviet fiction films about the Egyptian conflict, but the Hungarian topic of 1956 when thousands of Hungarians emigrated to the West (after the popular uprising in Budapest was crushed by Soviet troops) was reflected in the films *The Journey* (1959) by director A.Litvak and *The Beast of Budapest* (1958) by H. Jones. It is natural that in both the films Hungarian rebels and refugees were shown as heroes or defenseless victims of communist repressions, and their enemies – Hungarian and Soviet communists were depicted as devils incarnate.

However, sometimes this negative information was also coloured with a certain share of sympathy. For example, in *The Journey* the Russian major performed by legendary Yul Brynner not only easily cracked glass with his steel teeth but also was capable of passionate love and melancholy...

Since 1957 political contacts between the strongholds of *communism* and *imperialism* began to gradually develop again: despite acute contradictions the two world's largest nuclear powers did not seek a direct military man/nuclear collision threatening to obliterate the whole planet... In the summer of 1957 the World Festival of Youth and Students took place in Moscow which was the biggest in the history. The west got even more interested in the Soviet Union when the world's first artificial satellite of the Earth was launched (October 4th, 1957) and the first manned space ship was put into Earth orbit (April 22nd, 1961). This progress in space exploration determined to a large degree the appearance of a new wave of sci-fi movies about distant planets on the screen of the late 1950s and early 1960s...

In 1958 the administration of the USSR and the USA signed a cultural exchange agreement, and then an American exhibition took place in Moscow (1959) which was a tremendous success. It promoted the achievements of the leading power of the western world in industry, agriculture, science, education and culture (USA documentary film makers shot a comparatively well-disposed film about it entitled *Opening in Moscow*). In the same year for the first time in a long while millions of Soviet *not-permitted-to-travel-abroad* viewers were able to see new products of the western screen at the Moscow International Film Festival...

Peter Ustinov, a well-known actor and producer (by the way, of Russian origin) reacted to the *Thaw* with his amusing comedy *Romanoff and Juliette* (1961) about children of American and Soviet diplomats who being separated by ideological barriers passionately fell in love with each other in defiance of the Cold War bans. Here it is necessary to do justice to the authors of the film: the Soviet and American characters – a personage to a personage – were equally balanced (Strada, Troper, 1997, p. 91).

But soon the mutual confrontation became aggravated again because of the American spy plane being brought down in the USSR (May, 1960), the defeat of the anti-Castro landing in Cuba (1961), the building of the anti-western Berlin Wall (1961), outbreaks of the Caribbean rocket crisis (1962), the sustained Vietnamese war (1964-1975) and the *Prague Spring* (1968) ...

As a whole *the Thaw* of the late 1950s and the early 1960s did not radically change the situation of ideological confrontation in media production. The mutual hostile representation of Russia and the West went on; only the image of the *potential adversary* became more verisimilar.

There were enough political pretexts for ideological and media confrontation in the 1960s as before, and that was often observed both by western and Russian scholars (Jones, 1972; Keen, 1986; Lafeber, 1990; Levering, 1982; Shlapentokh, 1993; Small, 1980; Strada, 1989; Strada and Troper, 1997; Whitfield, 1991; Ivanyan, 2007; Klimontovitch, 1990; Kovalov, 2003; Turovskaya, 2003).

For example, the topic of the Soviet-American antagonism concerning Cuba dominated in the films *Submarine* (1961) by Y. Vyshinsky and *Black Seagull* (1962) by G. Koltunov. Berlin separated with a concrete wall appeared in such confrontational films of different genres as a comedy *One, Two, Three* (1961) by director B.Wilder, a detective *The Spy Who Came in from the Cold* (1965) directed by M. Ritt and a drama *Funeral in Berlin* (1966) by G. Hamilton.

A mutual nuclear threat became a subject matter for powerful anti-war films *On the Beach* (1961) by S. Kramer, *Dr. Strangelove* (1964) by S.Kubrick and *Fail-Safe* (1964) by S. Lumet. According to the plot of the latter a technical malfunction in the American aircraft control system (in spite of direct telephone negotiations of the USA and the USSR leaders) caused a 'symmetric' atomic bombing of Moscow and New York...

It goes without saying, that each of the opposing sides chose facts which were more expedient for them thus avoiding 'black spaces' in the history. For example, though the events which occurred in Hungary and Czechoslovakia were reflected in Soviet documentary films (where an off-screen commentary accused *the bourgeois West* of *counter-revolution* and *extreme anti-Sovietism*) they fell short of feature films produced in the USSR.

But Soviet films willingly turned to plots connected with Cuba, Africa, Indochina, Chile (*Black Seagull, I am Cuba, Night on the 14th Parallel, Night Over Chile, Centaurs, On Rich Red Islands, TASS is Authorized to Declare..., The Interviewer, etc.*). Sometimes films were about the countries and regions which were chosen deliberately to charge the bourgeois world with imperialist aggression, colonialism, racism, suppression of national democratic movements, etc.

Using the western appearance of Baltic actors the Soviet screen created year after year a certain image of hostile America and the Western world as a whole, where the spirits of greediness, hatred, racism, militarism, corruption, debauchery, humiliation of simple workers, etc. triumph in cities of 'the yellow devil'. Sometimes such films were based on selected classical novels of the American critical realism (*An American Tragedy; Rich Man, Poor Man*). But more often unmasking plots were composed simply on the run (*A Parisian Melodrama, European Story, Honeymoon in America*). The major task was to suggest Soviet viewers the idea of horrors and vices of the inevitably decaying West.

On the other hand, the West for years cultivated the image of hostile, aggressive, armed cap-à-pie, but otherwise underdeveloped totalitarian Russia – with cold snow-covered open spaces, poor population cruelly oppressed by malicious and perfidious communists who got stuck in corruption and debauchery. The goal was analogous – to suggest western viewers the idea of horrors and vices of the inevitably decaying USSR.

It should be noted that the western cinema of the Cold War years rarely ventured to shoot films where the whole action took place in Russia after 1917 (L. Tolstoy's and F. Dostoyevsky's novels were filmed more often). In spite of the fact that D. Lean's melodramatic screen version of B.Pasternak's novel *Doctor Zhivago* was prohibited in the USSR and became one of the blockbusters of 1965-1966.

The reason for a comparatively rare resort of western cinematographers to the Soviet household topic is simple – they were keenly conscious of the fact that they were practically unable to realistically represent particulars of life in the USSR.

Firstly, because of a rather approximate notion about how exactly Soviet people lived (what was especially noticeable in any *confrontational* media text in which the action took place in the Soviet Union). Secondly, because of the impossibility to obtain permission for filming on the Soviet territory as KGB strictly controlled the actions and relocations of all foreigners who came to the USSR.

It makes clear why, even if the action of western films took place in Moscow, Russian characters, as a rule, were pushed to the sidelines thus giving way to English-speaking spies or visitors (*Firefox, Gorky Park*).

However, there were some exceptions: a grotesque farce about the twilight of J. Stalin's power *Red Monarch* (1983), a psychological drama *Sakharov* (1985) and, in our opinion, less successful as works of art, western screen versions of A. Solzhenitsyn's novels *One Day in the Life of Ivan Denisovich* (1970) and *Den Foerste kreds/The First Circle* (1973, 1991). They were followed by some other exposing films about Soviet concentration camps.

...Except for screen versions of B. Pasternak's and A. Solzhenitsyn's literary works there were European film adaptations of M. Bulgakov's novels *Maestro e Margherita* (1972), *Cuore di cane* (1976) and *Le Uova fatali* (1977) which played their role in the ideological confrontation. Anti-Soviet motives were offensively obvious in them. Certainly, Italian film versions of great M. Bulgakov's prose had an approximate texture (for obvious reasons the authors had no opportunity to shoot films in the USSR); however, each of them had its own advantages: the role of the *Master* brightly played by Ugo Tognazzi and Ennio Morricone's melodious music resembling Russian melodies (*The Master and Margarita* by A. Petrović); ironic intellectuality of Max von Sydow in the role of *Professor Preobrazhensky* (*Cuore di cane* directed by A. Lattuada)...

The espionage topic, as usual, occupied an important place in the mainstream of mutual denunciations/exposures. In the USSR the appreciable examples of the kind were the movies: *Mission Top Secret, Dangerous Paths, Tracks in the Snow, The Shadow Near the Pier, Above the Tissa, Operation Cobra, The Case of Corporal Kotchetkov, The Mystery of Two Oceans, A Man Changes Skin, Border Silence, The Game Without a Draw, Black Business, A Man Without a Passport, Dénouement, Aqualungs In The Depths, Dead Season, Resident's Mistake*, and many others.

One of the wide-spread Soviet plot stereotypes of the espionage topic was a story about talented scientists and inventors who made a great scientific discovery which western special services try to find out/steal/purchase (*A Shot in the Fog, A Trace in the Ocean, The Hyperboloid of Engineer Garin, Failure of Engineer Garin, Marked Atom, Death on the Rise*, et al.)

For example, in the film *A Shot in the Fog* (1963) directed by A. Bobrovsky and A. Sery a KGB agent relentlessly follows a secret Soviet physicist (at work, on a business trip, in the chase, at home, etc.) whose military know-how was the aim of western espionage. A most curious thing is that the scientist accepts this constant surveillance as a matter of course, for he is surrounded by perfidious spy-diplomats and residents of enemy secret service disguised as barbers... In the film *A Trace in the Ocean* (1964) by O. Nikolayevsky Soviet scientists devise a gas mixture allowing scuba divers to submerge deep in the ocean, but again the enemy spy contrives his sinister design in cold blood.

But more often espionage films did without scientists. For instance, in the film *Game with No Rules* (1965) by I. Lapshin (after L. Sheynin's play) "Americans greedily reach for our secrets ... descend to cooperation with fascists and grill our valiant Komsomol members using Gestapo methods, and above all, they restrain Soviet people in their occupation zone ..." (Stishova, Sirivlya, 2003, p. 13). In the film *The Case of Corporal Kotchetkov* (1955) a whole espionage group was near a Soviet garrison.

In the detective *Above the Tissa* (1958) an experienced spy and homicide (everything points to the fact that he is American) plots a trans-Carpathian bridge explosion... In short, earlier "the enemy was transparent and distinct – fascists. Now Americans replaced Nazi. Without an enemy image, more or less clearly outlined, the totalitarian state cannot exist, even in the most *vegetarian, thaw times*" (Stishova, Sirivlya, 2003, p. 13).

Western media texts of ideological confrontation time contained similar schemes: besides negative characters-Nazis there were more often Soviet/socialist perfidious spies and terrorists (*From Russia with Love, Topaz, Kremlin Letter, Embassy, The Mackintosh, Le Serpent, The Prize, Telefon*, etc.).

In the detective *The Prize* (1963) directed by M. Robson perfidious DDR (East Germany) special services (undoubtedly in cooperation with their Soviet colleagues) are developing an anti-western propaganda operation aimed at a secret substitution of the Nobel Prize winner for his twin-brother who is a Soviet agent (see a similar plot with a substitution of a 'good' brother by a bad one in the Soviet film *The Mystery of Two Oceans*) for the latter to declare at the solemn prize presentation ceremony in Stockholm that he is disillusioned with the Western world and will emigrate to socialist Germany...

And here, for example, is the plot of the French thriller *Le Serpent* (1973) by A.Verneuil: "Colonel Vlasov escapes to the West and plays a role of a defector – with the task to help the Soviet secret service annihilate the leaders of the military and investigation bodies of the NATO. Americans treat the fugitive with suspicion. He wins their trust after an authentic explanation of Vlasov's deeds which was given by the American investigation deputy chief (who, according to the plot, is also a Soviet resident) to his colleagues: he shows some photographs – a parade on Red Square, with Colonel Vlasov sitting on a side tribune of the Mausoleum" (Dolmatovskaya, 1976, p. 221) ...

In the Soviet cinema espionage scenes were persistently included in subject schedules of children's films to be released. So, screen pioneers did not only do well at school and on holiday, but also unmasked or helped with catching experienced enemy agents (*The Ship's Boy from Schooner 'Columbus', Aqualungs In The Depths*, etc.). We would like to mention also that it was teenagers in American films who quite often took up the struggle with Soviet enemies and resembled furious boy scouts (*Red Dawn*).

In the 1950s - 1980s some anti-western trends in Soviet media texts acquired a clear "naval" tint... Military confrontation at sea – was probably the only sphere where we were equals with Americans. They had vessels – and we had vessels, they had radars – and we had radars, they had missiles – and we had missiles... So, there was a reason to unleash a little screen war which would be certainly won by our people. Here is both entertainment and patriotic education and a mobilization pulse as if saying that while you are living, working and breathing – the world hangs by a thread, the enemy is ruthless and perfidious contriving to start the third world war... It was more preferable to shoot such films for the gross audience where the created enemy image was deprived of the enemy bourgeois household particulars. After all we had already lost the competition in the field of, so to speak, 'light industry' by then, and any western belongings, beverages, cars and other attributes caused people's unhealthy excitement. One had to be extremely careful when demonstrating overseas consumer goods on the screen. And that is why it seemed somehow more comfortable in this sense to depict marine collisions..." (Stishova, Sirivlya, 2003, pp. 13-15).

Here is only half the list of Soviet films about marine confrontation: *In Halcyon Days* (1950) by V. Brown, *The Mystery of Two Oceans* (1956) by G.Pipinashvily, *The Blue Arrow* (1958) by L. Estrin, *Submarine* (1961) by Y.Vyshinsky, *Neutral Waters* (1969) by V. Bernstein, *Visit of Courtesy* (1972) by Y. Raizman, *The Right to Shoot* (1981) by V. Zhivolub, *Incident at Map Grid 36-80* (1982) and *Solo Voyage* (1985) by M. Tumanishvili, *Pirates of the 20th Century* (1979), *Secrets of Madame Wong* (1986) and *Gangsters of the Ocean* (1991) by S. Puchinyan...

A similar *naval* scheme but in a smaller amount and with an inverse ideological content was used in the West (a striking example – *The Hunt for Red October* directed by J. McTiernan). One of the few exceptions to the rule is N. Jewison's pacifist comedy *The Russian Are Coming!, The Russian Are Coming!* (1966) where mostly doltish Russian submariners who took the ground near California were shown with some sympathy... Being shot several years after the traumatic Cuban rocket crisis of 1962, the comedy *The Russian Are Coming...* was of great importance: the mankind should get over it and co-operate in order to survive and prosper (Strada, Troper, 1997, p. 97).

Naturally, both Soviet and western filmmakers added some plots about air confrontation (*Rocket Attack U.S.A., Your Peaceful Sky, Firefox, We Accuse*, etc.) and ground war stories (*Prisoner of War, Amerika, World War III, Rambo III*) to the naval antagonism.

Certainly, not all Soviet media texts about *ideological confrontation* were openly schematic. Let us remember for example, a quite politically correct film *Dead Season* (1968) by S. Kulish in which both Russian and western spies were shown as adversaries (a well-known scene with a swap of *residents* on the frontier). The western spy image was given in V. Dorman's detective *Resident's Mistake* (1968) with an unexpected sympathy for a conservative view but just because later (in the following series) he began to work for the Soviet espionage...

The western screen also quite often tried to avoid straightforward ideological cliché. In A. Mann and L. Harvey's film *A Dandy in Aspic* (1968) a Soviet spy looked even attractive – charismatic, courageous, dreaming to return home. But it was only because the authors conceived to show a gripping episode at the end of the movie where the spy betrayed by his Moscow boss gets killed in a shoot-out...

One can find many faults with the artistic and factographic aspects of foreign screen versions of A. Solzhenitsyn's prose (*Den Foerste kreds / The First Circle, One Day in the Life of Ivan Denisovich*), though they were made with the measure of reliability available to western filmmakers who, of course, had no opportunity to shoot such films about Russia in the Soviet Union. So, today it is hardly possible to agree with G. Dolmatovskaya's pathos and unfounded critical remarks of F. Shaffner's film *Nicholas and Alexandra* (1971) which quite verisimilarly related a dramatic story about how a defenseless family of Nicholas II was shot by communists in the summer of 1918: "The Bolshevik clandestine organization headed by Lenin is shown in the film as a group of vicious and suspicious terrorists. But even such a ludicrous image of the leader allegedly obsessed by terror and spy mania seems insufficient to the producer. He adds new touches to his slanderous portrait painted with deliberately malicious, extremely anti-Soviet intentions. Instead of the genuine historical person we see a morose image on the screen that has nothing in common with genuine reality. The authors of the film are so far gone on the anticommunism path that descend to using the most disgusting, stinking methods for attacking the relics of the proletariat revolutionary history" (Dolmatovskaya, 1976, p. 223).

At the same time, among western political dramas of the ideological confrontation time it is possible to discover genuine masterpieces in which there is not a slightest hint at a political caricature (*The Assassination of Trotsky* directed by J. Losey, 1984 by M. Radford).

"Détente"

The next decline in the mutual political confrontation was connected with concluding an official agreement of contacts, exchange and collaboration between the USSR and the USA in June, 1973 followed by a widely advertised Soviet-American Apollo-Soyuz test project (1974). The ideological *détente* had lasted practically till the end of 1979 when the Soviet Union launched an enduring war in Afghanistan...

The following serial of *Bondiana - The Spy Who Loved Me* (1977) contained a most striking episode which reflected the lessening of the mutual confrontation of the 1970s: when kissing Bond the Soviet spy Anya utters a significant phrase: "Well, well... a British agent in love with a Russian agent. *Détente, indeed...*".

By the way, the archaically constructed films directed by Y. Dzigan – *Always On the Alert* (1972) and by G. Aleksandrov – *Starling and Lyre* (1974) fell victims to this *détente*. The first was banned by the Soviet censorship because of an almost caricatural presentation of *the iron stream* of western spies and saboteurs trying to steal through the Soviet *sealed border*. The latter was banned because of the ill-timed stereotypic scheme used in the film which showed how the Nazis were replaced by vile Americans after 1945 (however, there are some other less politicized versions of the reasons for the film being prohibited). The stereotype used in the film of the same G. Aleksandrov *Link-up on the Elbe* (1946) was enthusiastically met by the Stalin regime and seemed *outdated and politically incorrect* to Brezhnev's Kremlin in 1974.

At the same time, despite a short political *truce* in the middle of the 1970s the Soviet Union and the West were in the heat of the ideological struggle practically up to the *perestroika* period which reached its culmination at the end of the Soviet *stagnation epoch* (the early 1980s). Even at the peak of *the ideological détente* the opposing sides did not forget about mutual attacks. For example, in the context of screen espionage and terrorism.

For example, let me analyze the plot retelling of the thriller *Telefon* by D. Siegel (1977) made by E. Kartseva for illustration: "viewers are shown numerous explosions occurring in different parts of the United States. But the objects being exploded lost any strategic meaning long ago. The

American investigation is very surprised at it, though, of course, they do not doubt that the explosions are the work of the red. The underlying story is the following. At the height of *the Cold War* in the late 1940s the Soviet Union placed 136 agents near important military bases, industrial complexes and research-and-development centers of the USA. Being hypnotized they were quite unaware of their future mission. But when they heard a certain codeword on the phone they began to carry out the operation implanted in their minds under the old hypnosis. After that each agent – it was programmed – committed suicide. A certain employee of the Soviet espionage Dalchinsky who knew about the telephone terrorism and disagreed with the Soviet investigation policy went on a business trip to the USA where he started to realize a dreadful plot. Americans informed the Soviet government about this past operation. Then an experienced agent, Grigory Borzov, – a replica of James Bond, was sent to America. Working hand in hand with beauty Barbara, a double agent, gallant Borzov neutralized Dalchinsky and prevented the most disastrous explosions in the nick of time. After performing the exploit he did not return to Moscow and remained with Barbara” (Kartseva, 1987, pp.199-200).

Nevertheless, the West did not often turn their attention to the Russian subject during the *détente* epoch: 6-9 films about Russia were shot annually from 1975 to 1978 (only 1-4 among them were American films).

M. Strada and H. Troper wrote: Why did not the Hollywood of the 1970s show much enthusiasm about cooperation with the Soviet Union? Why did not the portraits of Russian film characters become more positive in the *détente* epoch? Some factors will help explain the situation. The first one, as they say, – out of sight, out of mind. At the height of *the Cold War* the threat sources for America seemed to be external, and namely: the Soviet Union and their automatic weapon... In the 1970s began the *détente* policy, arms control support, nuclear risks reduction. As a result, the fear of the atomic war was diffused. The second reason for the ambivalent Hollywood reaction to the *détente* epoch was its ambiguous character (Strada, Troper, 1997, pp. 143-144).

While *Dr. Zhivago* (1965) directed by D. Lean was, undoubtedly, a most *symbolic* western film of the 1960s concerning Russia, W. Beatty's *Reds* (1981) became one of the most outstanding western films about Russia in the 1980s, a kind of an American answer to the enthusiasm of the Russian revolutionary epoch (Strada, Troper, 1997, p.166).

W. Beatty's drama told about the Russian events of 1917-1918, about the Bolshevik movement seen by an American journalist, John Reed. The producer tried to avoid grotesque and ideological preconception. His position was neutral and sympathetic rather than accusatory.

The movie *Reds* was an Oscar nominee in 12 awards. As a result, the director, cameraman and a supporting actress got the cherished statuettes. American film critics included *Reds* in the top five Hollywood films of the year.

The movie with its star actors (leading actors – W. Beatty, J. Nicholson, etc.) was supposed to become a box-office hit. But in the first year of its showing in cinemas (since December 4th, 1981) the film earned 40 million dollars (not a very impressive result taking into account that the film cost \$32 million) and got only the 197th position in box-office receipts among the films of the 1980s (Strada, Troper, 1997, p. 167). Apparently, it was because the movie *Reds* was made contrary to a stereotyped simplified western notion of Russia and deprived of the *Dr. Zhivago's* melodramatic character and entertaining nature *per se*...

“Star Wars” and Ideological Confrontation

On account of the Soviet troops invasion of Afghanistan (1979) and R.Reagan's conception of *star wars* the ideological confrontation between the Soviet Union and the West rapidly increased (Strada & Troper, 1997, p. 154; Golovskoy, 1987, p. 269). As a result, - in the early 1980s the post-war stereotypes of the *Cold War* were reanimated.

So, in the sanguinary action movie *Invasion of the USA* (1985) terrorist-psychopath Michael Rostov's cruelty is quite adequate to the tortures of KGB Colonel Nikita Biroshilov from the old movie *Prisoner of War* (1954) (Strada and Troper, 1997, p. viii). In *Invasion U.S.A.* Russian terrorists blast buildings, innocent men, women and children. In fact, never before had Hollywood films shown such a degree of the Soviet aggression (Strada, Troper, 1997, p. 146).

The action movie *Red Dawn* (1984) where the Russian aggression is shown as a moral equivalent of the Nazi invasion (Strada, Troper, 1997, p.160) was shot in a similar spirit. No wonder that the chairman of the American National Coalition on Television Violence named *Red Dawn* as a screen violence leader: 134 acts of violence per hour (Strada, Troper, 1997, p. 160).

The film *Rambo III* was filled with not less Russophobia pathos and narrated about the Soviet troops' atrocities in Afghanistan (take, for example, a sadist character of Colonel Zaitsev who possessed all the *Cold War* stereotypes of negative characters). *Rambo III* cost \$63 million and became the most expensive film of 1988. But it did not meet the expectations of Hollywood producers for it proved to be an unprofitable investment: the film was released at the height of the Soviet *perestroika*, in other words, it was out with a 3 years delay. By the time the former anti-Soviet moods of American viewers had changed significantly and the released film was a flop: its box-office receipts were only \$ 28,5 million (Strada, Troper, 1997, p. 182).

In addition to conventional denunciations of mutual espionage and aggression (*Gorky Park* directed by M. Apted, *The Soldier* by J.Glickenhous, *Invasion U.S.A.* by J. Zito, *World War III* by D. Greene, *Red Dawn* by J.Milius, *Secret Weapons* by D. Taylor, *Rambo II* by G. Cosmatos, *Amerika* by D. Wrye, *The Right to Shoot, Ordered to Take Alive* and *The Barman from 'Golden Anchor'* by V. Zhivolub, *We Accuse* by T. Levchuk, *On Rich Red Islands* and *The Secret of the Villa 'Greta'* by T. Lisitsian, *Alert Flight* by V. Chebotaryov, *Solo Voyage* by M. Tumanishvili, *Interception* by S.Tarasov, etc.) there emerged more sophisticated ideological altercations.

For example, in 1985 in the USSR and in the USA there were released two films which told about the fate of well-known actors-defectors. S.Mikaelyan in *Flight 222* made an attempt to act a true story about how famous Soviet ballet dancer Alexander Godunov escaped to the West: according to the plot of the film Americans try to prevent the defector's wife, who is very patriotic, from jetting off to Moscow. And T. Hackford in *White Nights* using an image of another well-known ballet dancer (Michael Baryshnikov who was shining on Broadway stages at that time) designs a symmetrical situation. His character is a leading Petersburg ballet soloist who ran away to the USA and was captured by KGB because of some technical failure of an American airliner which force-landed in the USSR. However, despite the generous promises of the Soviet special services he refused to compromise and soon managed to escape again to the West...

The topic of forced emigration, this time because of anti-Semitism, was chosen by *Streets of Gold* (1986) directed by J. Roth. According to the plot of the film the Soviet authorities do not wish Jew Neumann to present the Soviet Union at the coming Olympic Games. And in protest the offended sportsman emigrates to the United States...

Unlike the American cinema art of the 1970s which ignored *boring* Russian characters, the Hollywood of the 1980s produced over 80 films about Russia. As M. Strada and H. Troper wrote: almost all of them demonstrated negative sides of the Russian and Soviet system frightening viewers with malicious Soviet enemy portraits which should be annihilated. ... All films of the kind began with the idea that the Soviet communism was an evil. It was not new but it was implied that peaceful co-existence was impossible and negotiations efforts with the enemies of freedom had no sense (Strada, Troper, 1997, pp. 154-155).

In addition to the espionage-adventure genre the negative image of the West was widely cultivated by the Soviet screen in sci-fi movies where scientific discoveries fell into the hands of cruel maniacs wishing to become the lords of the world (*The Hyperboloid of Engineer Garin, The Air-Seller, Professor Dowell's Testament*). The American fantastic cinema in its turn showed films about how the Soviet troops invaded Alaska (*Amerika*) or allegoric films about extraterrestrial invasions... The British screen presented a second screen version of the J. Orwell' anti-communist masterpiece – *1984*.

A special part was assigned to gloomy fantastic (by the way, often pacifist) films about consequences of a nuclear war (*Five, On the Beach, Chosen Survivors, Dead Man's Letters, etc.*). These 'warnings from the future' – nightmares of the insanity of atomic and space wars, ruin of the human civilization – became quite customary on the *bipolar world* screens. This is a special type of fantasy which still frightens the mankind with its topicality as there are a lot of the so-called *local conflicts* on our planet today.

In 1985 Hollywood released a costly blockbuster *2010* telling about how Americans destroyed a Soviet vessel and the Kremlin revenged 'asymmetrically' by blasting out an American military satellite. Despite all this negative attitude the movie *2010* anticipated the transition from rigid Russophobia to new American-Soviet collaboration (Strada, Troper, 1997, p. 168).

Perestroika

Anyhow, the media *Cold War* lasted till the end of the 1980s when in connection with the Soviet *perestroika* a mutual sympathy between the West and the USSR was shown more often (*Red*

Heat, Russkies, Superman IV, The American Spy)... Apart from the former ideological patterns the Soviet system against Russian people' or 'a bad system vs. good people' they began more often to shoot 'positive films about the advantages of mutual demilitarization and the Soviet-American cooperation (Strada, Troper, 1997, p. 196).

For example, *Superman* (1987) saved the Soviet administration from the enemy missiles; good-natured Russian mariner Michael Aleksandrovich Pushkin (Misha) (1987) from *Russkies* in fact turns out to be a good friend of Americans. In the movie *Red Heat* (1988) legendary A. Schwarzenegger with all his terminator charisma played the role of a Russian militiaman who came to the USA and easily browbeat New York gangsters. And in the film *Red King. White Knight* (1989) an American agent prevented an attempt on the president's life and rescued M. Gorbachev; he also prevented a coup d'état planned by reactionary elements of the Soviet Union including KGB: the new spirit of cooperation should be protected (Strada, Troper, 1997, pp. 190-191).

By the way, *Red Heat* became the first western film shot in part in Moscow (Do you remember how apparently inauthentic the Russian capital looks in *Kremlin Letter* directed by J. Huston in Helsinki?).

Spies like Us (1985) by director J. Landis was one of the brightest comedies of the epoch – a humorous spoof on spy thrillers. The main characters of the film (a star duet of D. Aykroyd and C. Chase) arrive in Siberia on the American investigation instruction where together with local missile-women they avert a nuclear war. Then they make love in order to cement the Soviet-American relationship.

By ridiculing the stereotypes used in spy thrillers and Bondiana, John Landis turned the film into a skit for his friends and familiar filmmakers including, of course, film fans. So, minor roles of aggressive Russian frontier guards were played for fun by well-known producer Costa-Gavras (*Zeta, L'Aveu, Missing in Action*) and a disk jockey of the BBC Russian sector – Seva Novgorodtsev.

The plot of the other American comedy of those years – *Young Nurses in Love* (1987) is also very amusing. It is a parody on 'hospital' soap operas: in order to steal the American sperm bank (containing the donations of P. Picasso, D. MacArthur, E. Hemingway) KGB agent Dombrovskaya passes herself off as an American nurse...

In my opinion, the Book of American researchers Tony Snow and Denise Youngblood, *Cinematic Cold War: US-Soviet Battle for Hearts and Minds* (2010) is new appeal to the era of 1946-1985, when at times it seemed that the ideological battle between America and the Soviet Union was doomed to Eternity. Book by Shaw and D. Youngblood is well structured, balanced, and her peculiar sound assessment cinema steeped in a broad sociocultural context. Felt in every scope of the work done: with the support of several foundations and organizations, the authors of a number of years worked in the U.S. and Russian archives and libraries, looking for maximum coverage of literary and film material.

T. Shaw and D. Youngblood divide this period into five segments - the extremely negative propaganda (1947-1953), mostly positive propaganda (1953-1962), propaganda in favor of detente between the USSR and the USA (1962-1990), the return to a rigid confrontational propaganda (1980-1986) and promote peaceful co-existence (1986-1990) (Shaw and Youngblood, 2010, pp.18-19). The authors also reasonable to note that this circuit except during the 1947-1953 year has never been strict: in the U.S. and the Soviet Union at the most "thaw days" on the screen to get tough on the tone of films, directed against the main enemy.

Rightly pointed out the fact that, unlike 1930, the Soviet post-war films of the Cold War internal enemies have been honored for special attention, and were successfully replaced by foreign spies and saboteurs (Shaw and Youngblood, 2010, p.49). But an internal enemy - the communists - to pay the lion's share of the on-screen confrontation in American films 1947-1953's also...

The book of T. Shaw and D. Youngblood has different kind of construction: after a brief historical overview of "cinema cold war" between the U.S. and the USSR, the authors provides a detailed analysis of the typical American and Soviet "confrontation" films – from *Meeting on the Elbe* (1949) to *Rambo: First Blood. Part II* (1985).

And here, at first glance may seem odd presence in this list peaceful and lyrical Russian melodrama *Spring on Zarechnaya Street* (1956). But even here the logic of the authors convinced - these are entirely immersed in the everyday atmosphere of the film (both Soviet and American) to

convince the audience in the stability and “correctness” lifestyle characters (Shaw and Youngblood, 2010, p.97; 112).

Conclusions. Of course, the on-screen battle of two state systems was initially unequal. Many American films related to the Soviet-themed (*From Russia with Love, Gorky Park, Fire Fox* and many others) have had wide international distribution and resonance, in time, as virtually all Soviet anti-American movies were “goods for domestic use”. In addition, Hollywood Cold War (especially in the 1960-1970) was sometimes much more pluralistic and tolerant (for example, *The Russian Are Coming, The Russian Are Coming!* by Norman Jewison) against the Soviet Union than the Soviet “ideological film battle with USA” (Shaw and Youngblood, 2010, p.219).

On the other hand, the authors of the Soviet confrontational film and did not count on international success. Their mission was originally a local - ideological influence over the hearts and minds of the population, “the sixth part of the globe” (plus, perhaps also dependent on the people of the then - Soviet Union “socialist camp”).

It is difficult to disagree with M. Strada and H. Troper's conclusions – only few films of the confrontation epoch are jewels which stood the test of time and keep on shining but the majority of these films seem banal, even senseless today and quickly fade from the memory (Strada, Troper, 1997, p. ix). It is curious that ponderous and pathos confrontation dramas of 1946-1986, as a rule, look rather archaic now while less ambitious, openly adventure films (*The Mystery of Two Oceans, From Russia with Love*) or comedies (*Silk Stockings, Moscow on the Hudson*) demonstrate a surprising *durability* in TV ratings.

Anyhow, films of the *Cold War* epoch are quite suitable for content analysis and can be systematized according to dominant stereotypes (in terms of problems, ethics, ideological messages, plots, types of characters, representation methods, etc.).

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Образ России на западном экране в эпоху идеологического противостояния (1946–1991): от позднего сталинизма к "оттепели", от "разрядки" и "застоя" к "перестройке"

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Аннотация. Данная статья включает анализ эволюции образа России, представленного на западных (США, Великобритания, Германия, Канада, Франция, Италия) экранах периода идеологической конфронтации (1946-1991): идеологические и социальные тенденции, мифы, стереотипы, иллюзии, классификация содержимого моделей и модификаций жанров. Основной вывод: образ России в большинстве западных игровых фильмов 1946-1991 трактуется как образ чего-то "враждебного", "чужого", "другого", противоположного западным ценностям.

Ключевые слова: холодная война; западные фильмы; экран; образ России; США; идеологическое противостояние; кинематография; шпион; враг.