

REBECCA B. MATLOCK

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Mrs. Matlock accompanied her husband, Ambassador Jack F. Matlock, on his State Department Foreign Service assignments in the United States and abroad.

Background

- Born and raised in Tennessee
- Duke University; Columbia University; Vanderbilt University
- Teacher, Art Consultant
- Married Jack T. Matlock in 1946
- Mother of five children

General Comments

- Children's foreign languages
- Learning foreign languages
- Involvement in foreign cultures
- Tandem couples in the Foreign Service
- "Trade offs" in working wives
- Association of American Foreign Service Wives (AAFSW)
- Foreign Service Associates
- Paid opportunities for spouses, including wives of ambassadors
- Divorce rate in the Foreign Service
- Changes in diplomatic protocol for wives
- Tandem spouses

Posts of Assignment

Washington, DC, 1956-1958

- Established FS wives reading group

Vienna, Austria, 1958-1960

- Hotel living
- Protocol calls

Garmisch-Partenkirchen, Germany, 1960-1961

- Husband's Russian language study
- Children's German language facility

Moscow, USSR, 1961-1963

- Children
- Hospitals
- Furnishing Spaso House
- Rug making
- Soviet culture

Lee Henry Oswald and wife
Cuban Missile Crisis
Khrushchev's letters
Local atmosphere
Ambassador Foy Kohler

Accra, Ghana, 1964-1967
Kwame Nkrumah
Soviets
Russian evacuation panic

Zanzibar, Tanzania, 1967-1968
East Germans
Children's schooling
Calvert System
Swahili school

Dar es Salaam, Tanzania, 1969

Washington, DC, 1971-1974

Moscow, USSR, 1974-1978

Washington, DC, 1978-1980

Moscow, USSR, 1981
Fourth of July party
Stockmans
Housing
Children

Prague, Czechoslovakia, 1981-1983
Husband was US Ambassador to Czechoslovakia
Soviet affairs
Havel, Head of Government
Liberation ceremonies
National Day celebrations
Ambassador's Residence
General impressions
"Berlin Wall" anecdote
Korean Air Liner shot down

Washington, DC, 1983-1986
Husband's role as President's Advisor on Soviet Affairs
Established International Designers Corporation
Professional photographer

Representation in US of foreign artists
Exhibitions in USSR
Origins
International Film Festival
Photojournalist Union
Development of photography skill
State Department Book Fair
Foreign Service Club exhibition
Czechoslovakian art exhibit

Moscow, USSR, 1987-1991

Recollections of Moscow in previous years
Author, Spaso House, Backdrop to History
Great Seal bugged
US ambassadors
Narkomindel fireplace
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Susan Eisenhower marriage
Relations with staff and families
Relations with local American community
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Mr. and Mrs. Gorbachev