Michael Elley, the singer, was keen to go with me so we arrived at 10:20 just to be on the safe side, and we were taken into his office almost as soon as we got there.

Prof. Arbatov read my letter to Gorbachov and said that it was an impractical idea because Gorbachov would be totally controlled by the U.S. Government during his stay here and they would cite such a concert as a "Security risk". He also seemed familiar with my previous correspondence with Gorbachov and gave me some hope for an end to the arms race.

But when I spoke of forgiveness, he also responded: "You mean you want us to forgive the Nazis for what they did? just as had so many others. We did not have time to really discuss the matter fully but when I mentioned Einstein's quote about changing our way of thinking, I found that he knew it by heart but did not seem to connect it with forgiveness. Following our talk together, Arbatov suggested that we continue to talk with his assistant, Prof. Radomir Bogdanov and we spent another 20 minutes with him in a more relaxed way which let me express my concerns better.

The interview with Georgi Arbatov led me to believe that there are things that I and others could do now which could bring about a complete end to the arms race some time next year and I would like to work on that full time. To do that we need some financial assistance and other help and I would be happy to discuss the details with people who would like to help out in this matter. They can call me at any time, (215) 849-3237 or 1259.

THE POSITIVE APPROACH

In summary we find that the adult population of the Soviet Union is a traumatized people who have been so hurt by war and suffering and threats of war by those who ought to be their best friends, that they are weighed down by the past and not able to take a joyful, positive view of the future which their classic theories suggest.

They are in great need of the positive thinking that prevails in our new age movements and there is, indeed a tremendous openness to such new thinking in the fields of science fiction, poetry and the like.

We urgently need a vast increase in communication of all kinds with the Soviets and additional missions of citizen diplomacy and citizen exchange. A vast change of thinking is not only possible for both our countries, but is almost a certainty and the speed with which it takes place depends largely on what

> We could end the arms race and initiate a world transformation in 1987. That would require Americans working full time with Soviets with that intention in mind. The generous support of other Americans could make such efforts a practical reality and bring world peace.

Americans will do to help it happen.

In the following columns I will review two books that deal with the positive approach.

A VISIT WITH PROF. MARK ABELEV

Shortly before leaving Moscow, I took time to speak by phone with a number of people who were fluent in English and who could tell me more about Sovet life.

One was Laura Undrvich whose name I received from a friend in Philadelphia. We spoke for hours (phone calls are free) and I can't remember all she told me, but I came away with a better understanding because of the talks. One thing I do remember is that Soviet schools are just now starting classes in sex education. However they are doing that more because of a desire to keep up with the West than because of any extreme problem. There are some teen pregnancies in the Soviet Union but they are extremely rare compared to the same problem here. Considering the much greater security of Soviet youth, and the great amount of time they put into common interests together in their Pioneer (hobby) clubs, that is easy to understand.

When I called Mark Abelev, director of the School of Civil Engineering of the University of Moscow, I got a surprisingly enthusiastic response. He agreed to come and meet with me in my hotel room in just three hours.

When he arrived together with a woman who was more fluent in English to help with language, I had my video camera set up to record our conversation. He said that was fine and paid little or no attention to it.

As in America, some people in the USSR do

Georgi Arbatov

**"I have a strange feeling when I study modern military doctrines that aim at ensuring victory in a nuclear conflict. The madness of the thesis that a nuclear war can be winnable is obvious. What is not clear is whether this thesis results from genuine madness of its authors and advocates or whether it is a calculated madness designed to scare the other side. After all, is there really a big difference between these two kinds of madness? Playing nuclear 'Russian roulette' (incidentally, the game was invented in the American army, not the Russian army, more than 100 years ago) may provoke a catastrophe as quickly and surely as a fit of madness."**

live with a certain fear of the authorities, but it is clearly an individual matter. Other people seem to be totally confident and, as in our country, they tend to find themselves in leadership positions.

In the hour together, we shared thoughts very openly and Mark was enthusiastic about the work I was doing and wanted to help in any way he could. He also liked the concept of forgiveness and did not refer to the Nazis but took as many forgiveness cards printed in English and Russian as I could spare and would share them with friends.

He also loved our Natural Birth Control Book and felt such a book was very much needed in the Soviet Union where present methods (mostly the 'coil') are not considered satisfactory. Abortions, of course are free.

I wrote to Mark recently and asked him to help us with the publication of the birth control book in the Soviet Union and to help Igor with the power supply for his VCR.

COMMENTS ON SOVIET CULTURE

I have to report that there is a higher level of culture in the Soviet Union than in the U.S., if you look at the ordinary worker. Soviet TV does not carry the junk programing seen by vast numbers of Americans though, I'm sorry to say they do frequently carry stories of World War II. Most of their TV is news from a Soviet viewpoint and classical films, educational programs and sporting events.

They have at least one huge art museum and many smaller ones, no doubt and all who I asked said it would be a difficult thing to locate a Soviet adult who has never been to the art museum even though one must stand in line, sometimes for hours, to get in. The cost, however, is nominal.

Soviets also read a great deal and I am told (by an American) that more English language books are sold in the USSR than in the USA. Science fiction works, such as those of Isaac Asimov are especially popular.

RETURN TO HELSINKI

We left Moscow by train for Helsinki but we were surprised on the Railroad platform by a farewell party of 30 Soviets, families with children who came out by public transportation to sing to us and bid us farewell.

On the train we again had to go through passport control when the train stopped at the border in the night. All passports were collected, inspected and returned an hour later but one of our party did not get his back and complained. He was removed from the train and it looked bad until he finally discovered his passport in his pocket. He had failed to give it in and would have been entirely overlooked had he not complained, not knowing of his error. As on entry, none of our bags were inspected.

THE FINNISH PEACE MOVEMENT

Finland is very much like America with a 'free enterprise' system in spite of a socialist government. Taxes are high but the poor are well-taken care of; I believe education and medicine is free. Some of our group who live on the East Coast had an extra day in Helsinki and I had the good fortune of meeting with the largest Finnish Peace organization 3 blocks from our hotel. They have about 30,000 members throughout the country. Many Finns, including peace people make frequent trips to the USSR and know it well.

The attitude of the general population, however, is similar to that in the U.S. People think peace is important and good, but