ADVANCE FACT SHEET

EXHIBITION:  Treasures from The Hermitage and
The Russian State Museum, Leningrad

DATES:  To premiere in mid-July

SCOPE:  An unprecedented loan exhibition, announced last week in Moscow by the U.S.S.R. and Dr. Armand Hammer, will open at the National Gallery of Art this summer before beginning a tour of American cities, including New York, Los Angeles, Detroit and Houston. The exhibition includes a selection of thirty paintings--some of the greatest masterpieces of The Hermitage, the imperial art collection established in 1764 by Catherine the Great. In addition, the Russian State Museum, the world's largest repository of Russian art, will lend a group of paintings by eighteenth- and nineteenth-century Russian artists.

BICENTENNIAL EVENT:  The exhibition, which marks the first loan by the U.S.S.R. to the U.S. of old master paintings, is one of the officially designated American Revolution Bicentennial Administration events between the United States and the U.S.S.R. celebrating America's Bicentennial.

CONTENTS:  Included are two paintings by Rembrandt, one each by Velázquez, van Dyck, Hals, Chardin, Fragonard and two each by Picasso and Matisse. (Checklist follows.) Also among the selected works from The Hermitage is Lute Player by Caravaggio, an artist whose work changed the course of Western art history but is so rare as to be largely unrepresented in the United States. In all, thirty-six artists from seven countries are represented in the exhibition. The selection of pictures was made jointly by Soviet and American specialists.

NEGOTIATIONS:  Negotiations for this historic cultural event were conducted by the Soviet Ministry of Culture and Dr. Armand Hammer, Chairman of the Armand Hammer Foundation and Chairman of the Board and Chief Executive Officer of Occidental Petroleum Corporation, Los Angeles. On behalf of the Ministry of Culture, the agreement was signed April 3, 1975 by A. Halturin, (more)
member of the Collegium and head of the Fine Arts Department of the Soviet Ministry of Culture. Witnessing the signing ceremony was U.S. Ambassador to the U.S.S.R. Walter J. Stoessel. The agreement implements a protocol signed February 7, 1975. An exchange exhibition will be offered from the U.S., including five paintings from the National Gallery of Art, twenty-five from the participating institutions and the personal collection of Dr. Hammer, and ten western paintings from the Buffalo Bill Museum in Cody, Wyoming.

PARTICIPATING U.S. INSTITUTIONS: National Gallery of Art Washington, D. C.
M. Knoedler & Co.
New York, New York
The Los Angeles County Museum of Art Los Angeles, California
The Detroit Institute of Arts Detroit, Michigan
The Houston Museum of Fine Arts Houston, Texas

ITINERARY: Specific dates and order of tour to be determined.

PAINTINGS FROM THE HERMITAGE (arranged chronologically by artist within country)

FRENCH
Louis Le Nain (1593-1648) A Visit to Grandmother
Poussin (1593/4-1665) Tancred and Erminia
Claude (1600-1682) "Noon" (Rest on the Flight)
Chardin (1699-1779) Still Life
Fragonard (1732-1806) The Kiss
Boucher (1703-1770) Landscape on the Outskirts of Beauvais
Cézanne (1839-1906) Still Life
Gauguin (1848-1903) Woman Holding Fruit (Eë hæere ia oe)
Matisse (1860-1954) Fruit, Flowers and The Dance

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Matisse (1860-1954) **Family Portrait**

SPANISH
Zurbaran (1589-1664) **Youthful Madonna**
Velásquez (1599-1660) **Breakfast**
Murillo (1617-1682) **Boy with a Dog**
Picasso (1881-1973) **Friendship**
Picasso (1881-1973) **Woman with a Fan**

ENGLISH
Gainsborough (1727-1788) **Portrait of a Lady**

FLEMISH
van Dyck (1599-1641) **Family Group**
Rubens (1577-1640) **The Carters**

ITALIAN
Veronese (1528-1588) **Pietà**
Caravaggio (1573-1610) **Lute Player**
Fetti (1589-1623) **Portrait of an Actor**
Tiepolo (1696-1769) **Maecenas before Augustus**
Guardi (1712-1793) **Landscape**

GERMAN
Cranach (1472-1553) **Madonna of the Apples**

DUTCH
Hals (c.1581/85-1666) **Portrait of a Man**
Heda (1594?-1678/82) **Still Life with Lobster**

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Rembrandt (1606-1669) Saskia as Flora
Rembrandt (1606-1669) David and Uriah
Terborch (1617-1681) Portrait of a Lady
Ruisdael (1628/29-1682) The Marsh

PAINTINGS FROM THE RUSSIAN STATE MUSEUM

Levitski (1735-1822) Mme. Nelidova
Ventstianov (1779-1847) Fortune Telling
Briulov, C.P. (1799-1852) Self-Portrait
Ayvasovsky (1817-1900) View of Constantinople by Moonlight
Shishkin, I.I. (1832-1898) Snow Scene
Kramskoy (1837-1882) Portrait of I.I. Shishkin
Repin (1844-1930) Portrait of Anton Rubinstein
Repin (1844-1930) Portrait of Tolstoi
Levitan, I.I. (1861-1900) Silence
Serov, B.A. (1865-1911) Portrait of Mme. Morozova

END

April 10, 1975

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION or photographs contact Katherine Warwick, Assistant to the Director, National Gallery of Art, Washington, D.C. 20565, area code 202, 737-4215, ext. 224.