

Invitation Card /Pass #1204, issued to Aleksandra Isayeva to attend a meeting of electors before the 12 March 1950 elections to the Supreme Soviet of the USSR.

Measures 4 1/2" x 3", printed on heavy-stock coated paper, decorated with the State Emblem of the USSR and the calendar date of the elections. The text at the very bottom of the pass reads "Valid only upon presentation of the passport," meaning the internal Soviet photo ID which was called "passport" but was not valid for international travel. It also means that discussions of the free and secret elections of people's deputies was available only for a few named individuals, "more equal than others" in that country of equality and rule of the people.

In excellent condition, not significant wear visible to the naked eye.

The venue for the meeting, The House of Unions, is interesting. This palatial mansion at 1 Bolshaya Dmitrovka Street, Moscow, was built in the early 1770s and originally belonged to Moscow Governor General Vasily Dolgorukiy-Krymskiy. In 1784, it was purchased by the Moscow Assembly of the Nobility as a ball venue for the Russian nobility. During the Soviet era, the show-white Corinthian columns of its Pillar Hall saw the notorious Menshevik Trial and trials of the Old Bolshevik Party leaders and secret police trials of the Great Purge of the 1930s. Vladimir Lenin, Iosif Stalin, Leonid Brezhnev, Yuri Andropov, Konstantin Chernenko, and Mikhail Suslov (the gray cardinal of the Party and its chief ideologue) had their lying in state there. Nowadays, it serves mostly as a concert venue, ready to serve in another historic event.

Item# 45662

\$60.00



