

## Re: Koporye Fortress near St.Pete

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**Date:** 08/17/04

Date: Tue, 17 Aug 2004 21:21:30 +0100

frizyuk@yahoo.com (Andrey Frizyuk) wrote:

>Padraig Breathnach wrote...

>> Is it not "Petrograd" to Russians? Except when it was "Leningrad"?

>

>No. As the name St.Petersburg isn't particularly poetical, Russian  
>poets (Derzhavin, Pushkin, etc) invented Greeko-Slavic names for the  
>capital: Petropol(is), Petrograd, Nevograd, etc. When the WWI started  
>90 years ago, there was a discussion if the name should be changed to  
>Petrograd or to Nevograd. The former version proved more popular in  
>official circles, because it was first used by Pushkin in "The Bronze  
>Horseman". The popular nickname has always been Peter.

>

Thank you. It's nice to learn while making little effort!

>> I spoke last night with a family member who has just come  
>> back from a visit there. She tells me that it is very impressive,  
>> but many of the fine buildings are in a worrying state of  
>> dilapidation and, unless something is done, they might be ruins  
>> in forty years.

>

>Overcentralization of the Russian state resulted in the fact that the  
>capital accumulates 90% of the national finance. After the capital was  
>moved to Moscow in 1918, the older city rapidly overtook Leningrad in  
>population and well-being. Even now, in financial terms Petersburg is  
>little more than an average oblast centre. It is sometimes compared to  
>Venice, for having lost his power, its imperial edifices are slowly  
>succumbing to indifference and decay.

>

That's sad.

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PB

The return address has been MUNGED