

Ambassador for SA from Russia *Argus* with love *30/11/92* *P.1*

Political Staff

THE first ambassador from Moscow arrives in South Africa tomorrow.

Career diplomat Mr Evgeniy Gusarov was appointed as the Russian Federation's ambassador after full diplomatic relations were instituted between the two countries in February this year.

Since March 1991 the then USSR maintained an interest office, attached to the Austrian Embassy, in Pretoria.

Until 1991 there were no diplomatic ties between the two countries after the Soviet consul-general was asked to leave South Africa with the start of the Cold War and because the Soviets served alcohol at functions attended by black and white South Africans.

Mr Gusarov, 42, studied at the Moscow State Institute of International Relations.

● Sapa-AFP reports from Beijing that China is preparing to set up an official trade office in South Africa despite an absence of diplomatic ties, and is working to establish full direct trade links, a newspaper reported yesterday.