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## The state of Ukraine's military takes center stage in official circles

by **Marta Kolomayets***Special to The Ukrainian Weekly*

KYIV — Fifty-seven percent of Ukraine's military officers do not think the nation's armed forces are capable of defending its territorial integrity and independence.

Only 30 percent of the 1,000 officers surveyed this month by the Center for Social Monitoring said Ukraine's armed forces are qualified to defend their country's independence, while 13 percent found this question difficult to answer.

Also, 69 percent of the officers — from all regions of Ukraine — said they were unhappy with their military service; only 24 percent were satisfied; while 7 percent did not express an opinion.

This state of affairs in Ukraine's armed forces, which marked the fifth anniversary of their creation on December 6, does not bode well for the Ministry of Defense, and it has become a hot topic of discussion over the last few weeks among high-level officials.

Speaking to the Defense Ministry's Collegium, the council of generals and high-ranking officers, on December 13, President Leonid Kuchma severely criticized the abysmal situation among the ranks of today's military, citing lack of discipline and disrespect for officers as the main problems among the ranks of enlisted soldiers.

He said he would hold senior armed forces commanders personally responsible for the over-all state of the military, adding that the national program for the development of the armed forces should be approved as soon as possible.

The program has become a top priority for the National Security and Defense Council headed by Volodymyr Horbulin, which includes among its members Minister of Defense Gen. Oleksander Kuzmuk. It has met a few times this year to develop a program for Ukraine's armed forces, and is scheduled to meet again on in late December to finalize a revised draft of a 10-year program to build and develop the armed forces.

The program intends to drastically scale down and modernize the military. According to Defense Minister Kuzmuk, it takes into account Ukraine's current economic situation, as well as the role the military should play both domestically and globally.

President Kuchma pledged that Ukraine's defense budget would not be cut; however, he did not disclose any figures, as the 1997 state budget continues to undergo heated debate in the Verkhovna Rada. The 1996 budget allocated \$738 million (U.S.) for defense.

The Ukrainian commander-in-chief demanded explanations from the top

brass gathered at the Collegium, the Defense Ministry's headquarters: "I have listened to explanations regarding the chaos in Ukraine's armed forces today, and I have stretched my limits to accept what I have been told. But, when we start talking about discipline, I will not accept any excuses, nor do I want to hear any excuses. Discipline is a sacred thing in the army. And what kind of discipline do we see in the army today?"

He offered the following examples:

- a very high death rate in the army, often the result of careless accidents;
- countless incidents of unruly, even barbaric behavior among the servicemen;
- a growing crime wave in the armed forces; as many as 3,000 crimes were committed in the Ukrainian army over the first 10 months of 1996.

"Where is your officers' honor?" President Kuchma questioned the leaders of Ukraine's armed forces, "Where is your understanding that you — from lieutenant to colonel general, from commander of a unit to the minister of defense, are to be, if not parents to these boys, then at least mentors to your subordinates?"

"People entrust to you what is dearest to them — their children," he said. "And your responsibility is to return them to their parents, return them alive, and not crippled physically, spiritually and morally." The president also noted that he holds the leaders of the armed forces in Ukraine responsible for the fact that many soldiers die in the army because of careless accidents or suicide.

He also said he would instruct the Procurator General's Office to immediately begin investigating various reports regarding arms smuggling, and he underlined that no one would go unpunished if found guilty of such crimes.

According to the Procurator General's Office, over 13,000 firearms have been sold in Ukraine — stolen from military bases and arsenals. President Kuchma noted that not only weapons are being sold, but also technical equipment, spare parts and ammunition. He also questioned why none of the 191 motorized and tank battalions are ready to fulfill combat tasks, but insisted that all repairs and renovations on this equipment be done only in Ukraine.

Turning to global matters, the Ukrainian leader said Ukraine's Defense Ministry should take a leading role in relations between the United States and NATO, taking more practical moves rather than just issuing declarations of intent.

The president did express confidence in Ukraine's role as a peacekeeper.

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## Kuchma appoints new chief of staff, a centrist leader and mayor of Kharkiv

by **Marta Kolomayets***Special to The Ukrainian Weekly*

KYIV — Yevhen Kushnariov, mayor of Kharkiv, was appointed President Leonid Kuchma's chief of staff on December 20, just 10 days after the Ukrainian leader sacked his longtime aide and administration chairman Dmytro Tabachnyk.

Mr. Kushnariov, 45, who heads the Association of Ukrainian Cities, supported President Kuchma's presidential bid in 1994, when he was one of the leaders of Nova Ukraina, the centrist organization whose roots are in Kharkiv. He is also an active member of the National Democratic Party, and President Kuchma acknowledged that Mr. Kushnariov's party affiliation "will be profitable for the president and all the people." Political observers note that if President Kuchma is to win his bid for a second term he must have the support of various political parties.

During his first meeting with the press on December 25, Mr. Kushnariov made it very clear that he has no intention "to fill the niche Mr. Tabachnyk occupied." He told reporters he is not one to look for conflicts, and hopes to cooperate with all branches of power. An ethnic Russian, Mr. Kushnariov is a building engineer by profession. In the 1980s he worked as a deputy chairman of the Kharkiv City Communist Party organization, but since the early 1990s he has been considered a centrist-democrat, working on issues of local self-government and serving as a national deputy from Kharkiv in the previous Parliament convocation (1990-1994). He has served as Kharkiv's mayor since 1990.

He noted that he has already met with Parliament Chairman Oleksander Moroz and they discussed various issues they can tackle together.

This is precisely the kind of approach that will help President Kuchma work with the Verkhovna Rada. He recently infuriated the national deputies with a December 17 decree "On the Ukrainian Presidential Administration," which grants the administration authority not outlined in the new Constitution. It states that "the orders given by the presidential chief of staff, the first aide, the first deputy chief and other deputy chiefs of the administration are within the limits defined by the president, and concerning the matters within their competence are mandatory for executive branch agencies and executive officials."

The decree also notes that the presidential administration bears responsibility for the president's interaction with Parliament, other organs of power and local governments. It is responsible for drafting laws and resolutions submitted by the president to the Verkhovna Rada. The president himself is to approve staff members, with the presidential administration, in turn, having over-all responsibility for providing organizational, legislative, consultative and ana-

lytical support to the president.

On December 18, 316 deputies appealed to President Kuchma to cancel his decrees on powers of the presidential administration and restructuring the Cabinet, and making the interior, foreign, defense and information ministers directly subordinate to the president on issues related to the president's constitutional powers.

As a number of deputies have pointed out, according to the Constitution, the prime minister is the head of the executive branch and not the president, therefore, this decree is not constitutional.

President Kuchma has rejected this argument, stating that "all bodies of the executive branch have to fulfill the orders of the presidential administration."

While rumors continue to fly regarding Mr. Tabachnyk's ouster, President Kuchma recently told reporters — in an obvious dig at his former aide — that he views the role of a presidential chief of staff as that of an organizer, "not a personality and much less of a politician."

## Trial of accused baby sellers begins

by **Marta Kolomayets***Special to The Ukrainian Weekly*

KYIV — The long-awaited trial of doctors and bureaucrats from Lviv accused of selling babies for adoption to foreigners in 1992-1994 finally began in the Ivano-Frankivsk Oblast Court on December 25.

But, as soon as it got under way, the trial was delayed until January 13, as one of the defendants, Lviv Deputy Gov. Yurii Zyma asked for time to have his lawyer review 26 volumes of information gathered by the other defendants.

Despite the fact that all four men are on trial, only three have been in jail for almost two years now, as prosecutors have gathered evidence to present a criminal case against them. The three are: Dr. Volodymyr Doroshenko, the head of Lviv's perinatal center; Dr. Bohdan Fedak, chairman of Lviv's Oblast Hospital; and Zinovii Ursul, the former chairman of the Halytskyi raion in Lviv.

Liudmyla Ornst, deputy head doctor of the Kamianka-Buzka hospital, was freed in August, during a general amnesty marking Ukraine's fifth anniversary of independence. She has agreed to testify against Drs. Doroshenko and Fedak. More than 100 witnesses are scheduled to testify during the trial.

Mr. Zyma remains a free man, but has signed a document that he will not leave the country during the trial. He has been charged with exceeding authority, abuse of an official post, forging official documents and negligence.

## FOR THE RECORD: Kuchma speaks on the CIS and Black Sea Fleet issue

Following is the text of a speech by President Leonid Kuchma, which was broadcast by Ukrainian Radio on December 14. The president focused on the Commonwealth of Independent States and the Black Sea Fleet issue.

My greetings to you, dear listeners. This year's memorable dates include the fifth anniversary of the formation of the Commonwealth of Independent States. I would like to devote my conversation with you to precisely this topic and lay special emphasis on Ukrainian-Russian relations, taking into account the following important circumstances: Russia is our closest neighbor, not just from the point of view of its location but, first and foremost, from the point of view of the two countries' age-old common history, their long-standing traditions, and purely human relationships. We expect that Russian Federation President Boris Yeltsin will finally pay a visit to sign a large-scale treaty on friendship, cooperation and partnership. There have been certain events recently which have caused tensions in relations between the two states.

Incidentally, undeniable facts and Ukraine's stand have been deliberately distorted. The results of the nationwide referendum, which outlined the main trends for the development of our state as an independent, democratic, non-aligned and non-nuclear state, were already known by December 8, 1991, when the political vocabulary was complemented with a form of words which was unusual for that time — the Commonwealth of Independent States. Ukraine, having been one of the CIS co-founders, takes part in its activities as an associate member; in other words, we at once rejected any possibility of entering a commonwealth which would be a suprastate formation along the lines of a reshaped USSR.

This is how I explain the need for setting up the CIS: firstly, the impact produced by the collapse of the Soviet Union, which was objectively imminent and unavoidable, was cushioned. Thanks to this, the new independent states obtained their new status in a more or less smooth manner. This process was not the direct cause of political and military upheavals and human tragedies.

I believe that at the present stage the existence of the CIS is potentially useful, primarily from the point of view of developing economic relations, mainly on a bilateral basis. They sometimes accuse us of abusing our special status within the CIS. In reality this means they are trying to impose on Ukraine participation in the joint power suprastructures, and this means, apart from other things, significant spending for the maintenance of these institutions. For whose sake, I wonder? Unfortunately, hundreds of their decisions, programs and projects remain on paper.

Our approach is different. We regard the CIS as an interstate mechanism for consultations and negotiations. And this gives us a real opportunity to work out and polish methods of holding negotiations, to bring our stands closer together, to maintain the balance of interests in a better way and coordinate economic policy principles.

Every state is free to determine the degree of its involvement in the CIS and the trends of its activities within its framework. For example, Russia and Belarus recently set up a commonwealth. Jointly with Kazakstan and Kyrgyzstan, they agreed to deepen integration. This is their right, which we respect. However, one cannot deny the fact that unreserved participation in the customs union would

have resulted in an unequal exchange, and this would have significantly complicated the situation for domestic producers and resulted in economic losses.

Our stand on military and political agreements within the CIS framework is clear-cut and unambiguous. Ukraine's accession to these agreements would run counter to its policy of non-alignment and neutrality. We view this stand of principle in the light of each of our citizens and of each family, in the light of a specific life.

I would not like to say that the CIS has already exhausted itself and its possibilities. But it will have realistic prospects for the future only if there are no elder and younger [brothers], if every member-state enjoys equivalent and equal rights.

Esteemed compatriots, I think no one needs to be convinced of the importance of maintaining friendly and good-neighborly relations between Ukraine and Russia. Peace and tranquillity not just on our lands and in our homes, but throughout Europe, in many ways depend on this. This is a truism that originates from history and present-day realities. It is precisely this principle that forms the basis of Ukraine's foreign policy. We have abided by it consistently and unswervingly, except, perhaps, for a short period of time following the declaration of independence, when some manifestations of isolationism were allowed to take place in relation to Russia and other ex-USSR republics — although these were often a response to, let's say, unfriendly moves by the other side.

Those who talk about Ukraine's unilateral dependence on the Russian Federation are wrong. Both countries are keen to develop mutually beneficial and equal relations — this is an objective reality and necessity. Unfortunately, attempts to douse our relations with a cold shower of alienation and mistrust are made from time to time. Not everyone in Russia has so far learned to perceive Ukraine as a sovereign state. They still cannot get rid of the syndrome of aggressiveness in relations with us and refrain from ordering Ukraine about. Hence attempts to exert pressure on Ukraine and to put forward obviously unacceptable conditions and demands.

The issue of dividing up the Black Sea Fleet and the status of Sevastopol have been turned into a particularly knotty problem. One month ago, we were actually ready to sign an agreement on the fleet. Incidentally, we agreed to provide the most favorable conditions for the functioning of the Russian part of the fleet, and this would automatically have opened the way to signing a large-scale treaty. However, there are politicians in Russia who are stubbornly playing the Crimean card, with very far-reaching intentions in mind.

I would not like to make a detailed assessment of the actions by those who have gone as far as making territorial claims against Ukraine. The futility and danger of their stance are obvious. I would only like to say that making threats, up to promises of the use of force, are not the best method of conducting international affairs in general, and dealing with such states as Ukraine, in particular.

It seems that the authors of those beligerent statements live in another dimension, outside time and space, so to speak. It looks like they continue to take today for yesterday, when a word pronounced in Moscow would echo like a bolt of lightning in all corners of the USSR. Is it not clear that territorial claims and other uncivilized demarches run counter to the very logic of the current international

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## New York City's Mayor Giuliani unveils details of Diversity Visa

NEW YORK — Before a gathering of hundreds of immigrants at the Holy Cross Roman Catholic Church in Brooklyn, N.Y., Mayor Rudolph W. Giuliani on December 3 officially unveiled the details of the 1998 federal immigration Visa Lottery slated to begin on February 3, 1997, and conclude on March 5, 1997.

Participating in the announcement were Department of Consumer Affairs (DCA) Commissioner Jose Maldonado, Federal Trade Commission New York Regional Office Director Michael Bloom, Executive Director of the Mayor's Office of Immigrant Affairs Angelica Tang, and City Council members Una Clarke and Lloyd Henry. Human rights advocate Bianca Jagger also took part in the ceremony.

"I am pleased to announce the federal government immigration Visa Lottery, a terrific program that provides 55,000 opportunities nationwide for prospective immigrants to establish themselves in the United States," said Mayor Giuliani. "New York City benefits more from the contributions of immigrants than any other place in the country. Immigrants are an extremely vital and positive force for progress in our city, where they make up 28 percent of the total population. Immigrants have helped revitalize the economy of entire neighborhoods throughout our city. I know that those who qualify to immigrate through this lottery will also prosper and succeed here."

"My grandfather, Rodolfo Giuliani, arrived in New York City without much money in his pocket, but with a dream in his heart. And his dream of freedom and success became my dream. His dream of opportunity and achievement is shared by millions of immigrants to this country from every part of the world. Their dreams have transformed New York City, Los Angeles, Miami and many other American cities."

"Each one of us owes so much to immigration. That's why anti-immigration movements, like the one that is sweeping this country now, eventually die out. In the past we have always returned to the recognition that new Americans are good for our country. I know immigrants are a great source of cultural renewal and of positive change in our communities. We have to realize that any effort to eliminate immigration or unfairly burden immigrants could destroy the very process that is the key to American success, and the key to New York City's success," Mayor Giuliani added.

The mayor also announced that the Department of Consumer Affairs will conduct an educational outreach campaign to steer prospective lottery participants away from the fraudulent practices of unscrupulous immigration service practitioners.

DCA Commissioner Maldonado said, "We are joining forces to insure that the

maximum number of prospective green card candidates will participate in this lottery, which is absolutely free, and that they receive the easy-to-enter instructions. It is important that the Department of Consumer Affairs help educate immigrants about the Diversity Visa Lottery, not only to protect them from falling victim to immigrant service con artists, but to welcome them as our newest consumers."

"The federal program is an integral part of our country's continued faith in immigration and diversity," said Executive Director Tang. "The Giuliani administration's active role in facilitating the information process of the program is critical amidst the national pervasive, anti-immigrant climate. It is imperative that accurate information is effectively distributed to prevent misunderstanding, confusion and fraud. Working as a clearinghouse for information and resources for immigrant communities, the Mayor's Office of Immigrant Affairs is proud to contribute to the strength of New York as the world's most diverse city."

From February 3 through March 5, 1997, the U.S. State Department will conduct its fourth annual Diversity Visa Lottery to award 55,000 permanent resident visas nationwide. The lottery program was established by the Immigration Act of 1990 to help expand the number of countries from which new immigrants to the United States originate. Being randomly selected in the Visa Lottery does not guarantee the "lottery winner" a permanent resident visa, but it does make the prospective green card candidate eligible to apply immediately for a permanent resident visa.

Mayor Giuliani and other officials explained the rules governing the free lottery competition. Visa Lottery applicants must now furnish a recent 1 1/2-by-1 1/2-inch photograph and their signature with their lottery entrance applications. The following lottery rules and restrictions also govern the lottery:

- Lottery applicants must have a high school education (or its equivalent — not a GED) or two years of experience in an occupation requiring two years of training, with such experience being attained within the past five years.
- Applicants can submit only one application. More than one application will result in automatic disqualification.
- Applications are made by mail only during the dates of February 3, 1997, through March 5, 1997. Any applications received before February 3 or after March 5 will be discarded.
- The Visa Lottery will be open to any-

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Assistant editor: Khristina Lew  
Staff editors: Roman Woronowycz (Kyiv)  
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## 1996: THE YEAR IN REVIEW

### *Ukraine: at last, a new Constitution*

Although Ukraine was preparing to observe its fifth anniversary as an independent state in 1996, it seemed it would mark that milestone while retaining its Soviet-era constitution. And, though Ukraine was the last of the former Soviet republics to ratify a new Constitution, its Verkhovna Rada did so in dramatic style as the culmination of an all-night intense session that went on for more than 16 hours without a break.

The big event occurred in the morning hours of June 28. The mood was euphoric and the atmosphere reminiscent of the day when Parliament had declared Ukraine's independence on August 24, 1991.

The historic new Constitution established Ukraine as an independent, democratic, social, law-governed and unitary state with single citizenship. It enshrined Ukrainian as the official language, while guaranteeing the "free development" of the Russian language and other languages spoken by the citizens of Ukraine.

The new Constitution of Ukraine guarantees basic democratic freedoms and rights, establishes a Western-style judicial system, guarantees the right to private property and the right to own land, and clearly divides power between the executive and legislative branches of power.

"We have joined the league of European nations — nations that have chosen democracy and freedom, and there is no going back," said Serhii Holovatyi, one of the principal authors of the Constitution. Mr. Holovatyi later gave up his seat in Parliament to tackle the duties of justice minister (he did so in accordance with the new Constitution, which stresses a clear division of powers). On June 28 — now a legal holiday in Ukraine called Constitution Day — the national deputies also passed a measure banning lawmakers from serving concurrently in another branch of government or working in commercial ventures and state enterprises.

This hotly debated issue was still a major point of contention at year's end. Verkhovna Rada Chairman and Socialist Party leader Oleksander Moroz has led the drive to force deputies who hold other jobs to make a choice and quit one post. He has sued many of them in court over the issue — including First Vice Minister for Foreign Affairs Anton Buteiko, whose case is pending.

The majority of the deputies also took an oath of allegiance to uphold the Constitution on July 12 — the last day of the fifth session of the 13th convocation of the Ukrainian Parliament. Sixty-three deputies have continued to refuse to take the pledge. Of these, 57 are members of the Communist faction. Although refusal to take the oath, according to the new Constitution, results in the loss of a deputy's mandate, the Communists have argued that the Constitution was adopted and the oath was established after they were elected deputies, and therefore is not binding for this convocation.

Although there were power struggles between many political and regional forces in 1996, the real power struggle occurred during the constitutional process between the legislative and the executive branches.

A Constitutional Committee, composed of representatives from the Parliament, the president and the judicial system, kept redrafting the draft constitution, hoping that the Verkhovna Rada would adopt the fundamental law before the Constitutional Accord signed in June 1995 expired and before independent Ukraine celebrated its fifth anniversary. Communists proposed their own draft of the constitution, the Constitution of the Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic.

When President Leonid Kuchma on June 27 issued a decree that he would take the constitution to the people via a national referendum in September, the deputies in Parliament reacted. They refused to be labeled ineffective and unproductive by the nation's president. Feeling challenged by President Kuchma's move — which implied that the legislative branch would be bypassed in adopting the Constitution and thus negated its importance — the Parliament chairman rose to the occasion.

Political observers who spent the long night of June 27-28 in the press gallery of the Parliament said it was Mr. Moroz who played a pivotal role in getting the Ukrainian Constitution adopted, as he refused to take breaks, worked diligently and sought compromise among the factions.

The adoption of the Constitution was a dream come true for President Kuchma. During his New Year's Eve greeting on December 31, 1995, he had expressed hope that 1996 would bring Ukraine a new fundamental law.

#### Economic woes

Economist Oleh Soskin, director of the Kyiv-based Transformation of Society Institute, told The Wall Street



**June 28: Deputies celebrate the adoption of Ukraine's new Constitution by throwing Mykhailo Syrota, chairman of the Verkhovna Rada's ad hoc Committee on the Constitution, up into the air.**

Journal in the summer of 1996: "The government still has little idea of where it is headed on the economic front. They see the past reform policies haven't worked ... and so they want to keep administrative control of the economy."

President Kuchma had hoped that 1996 would also bring economic transformations, which the majority of Ukrainians would see as changes for the better. But, 12 months later, on the eve of 1997, he told reporters that his biggest disappointment in 1996 was the budget. He called it "an absolute failure" because it was adopted with a huge hidden deficit and was managed improperly, which resulted in wage, pension and stipend arrears.

Many state workers suffered as a result of the economic situation in 1996; miners, teachers, doctors, retired folks, students and many others went without wages for months. A comprehensive yearlong study of poverty in Ukraine, funded by the World Bank, determined that 29.5 percent of the country's citizens live in poverty.

Many of the poor are elderly who live on measly pensions of less than \$20 a month, and there is little they can do to change their lives. The willing and able — miners, teachers and students — protested their economic straits, taking to the streets to demand back pay.

President Kuchma has promised to make their cause his No. 1 priority in 1997. Viktor Yushchenko, the chairman of the National Bank of Ukraine, said in December that the Ukrainian government owes its citizens over 3.625 billion hryvni in back wages.

Mr. Kuchma emphasized that the Verkhovna Rada must pass a state budget as soon as possible so that these matters of social protection and labor can be resolved. "If the same thing happens to the 1997 budget as did to the 1996 budget, those who are to blame will bear responsibility," said President Kuchma during a meeting with journalists on December 21. He also reaffirmed his intention to run for a second term, saying that "everything will depend on the economic situation. If it changes for the better, I will decide finally whether I will participate in the elections or not, because only a long-term program can be fruitful."

President Kuchma had first announced on September 16 that he would run for re-election in order to see through economic reforms. Presidential elections are scheduled for October 1999, but already President Kuchma's likely contenders include former Prime Minister Yevhen Marchuk and Parliament Chairman Moroz, and there is even speculation that Prime Minister Pavlo Lazarenko will take up the challenge.

During his meeting with the media, President Kuchma cited some positive achievements in the Ukrainian economy, including relative financial stabilization.

Ukraine had overcome inflation; whereas in 1993 it had peaked at 10,155 percent for the year, in 1995 it was down to 182 percent, and this year economists estimate that it will level out at 38.5 percent — the lowest rate since Ukraine declared independence in 1991.

The highlight on the economic scene in 1996 was the introduction of the long-awaited hryvnia. Almost like a fifth anniversary present to Ukrainian citizens, the government made the announcement on August 25, amid holiday celebrations.

The Ukrainian government, which had launched a wide-reaching public relations campaign aimed at its citizens, was pleased with the monetary reform results. The National Bank of Ukraine set its exchange at 1.76 to the U.S. dollar, 1.18 to the deutschemark and 1 to about 3,000 Russian rubles, and the rates remained pretty much stable until the end of the year.

A public opinion poll conducted in Kyiv a week after the new currency was introduced showed that citizens of the capital were upbeat about the hryvnia: 58 percent said that the introduction of the new money would change the situation in Ukraine, while 29 percent said it would not and 13 percent could not venture an opinion.

#### Changing faces

Mr. Marchuk, who made a name for himself as the head of the Ukrainian Security Services, as vice prime minister and finally as prime minister, being appointed to that post by President Kuchma in June 1995, was sacked less than a year later in May 1996. According to the president, Mr. Marchuk "failed to ensure the effective and stable functioning of the government." He was also accused of spending too much energy on building his own political image. He was immediately replaced by Mr. Lazarenko, Mr. Kuchma's political ally from Dnipropetrovsk, who had served as Ukraine's first vice prime minister.

After winning approval for his prime ministerial candidate, the president began streamlining the Cabinet of Ministers, dissolving various ministries and creating state committees in their place. Among the liquidated ministries were the Chernobyl Ministry and the Civil Defense Headquarters, merged and replaced with the Ministry for Emergency Situations; and the Ministry for Youth and Sports, replaced with a state committee.

But many of the players in the Kuchma government remained the same. Among those replaced were civilian Defense Minister Valerii Shmarov, who resigned in July. Lt. Gen. Oleksander Kuzmuk was named to the post of defense minister.

Mr. Lazarenko's ascent to power also added fuel to the fire of rumors concerning clan wars between two eastern Ukrainian regions, Donetsk and Dnipropetrovsk, and claims that the Dnipropetrovsk "mafia" was running Ukraine.

No sooner was Mr. Lazarenko approved as prime minister by the Parliament than an attempt was made on his life. On July 16, while traveling to Kyiv's Boryspil Airport to catch a plane to Donetsk, where he was to meet with striking coal miners demanding back wages, a remote-controlled bomb exploded along the roadway.

Investigators called it a professional job, but to date no one has been found guilty of the terrorist act. Mr. Lazarenko became the first high-ranking official in post-Soviet Ukraine to be the object of a terrorist act. Until he came to power, Kyiv had felt only the reverberations of scandals and shoot-outs that occurred in Crimea and eastern regions of the country.

Yevhen Scherban, a national deputy from Donetsk and the president of Aton, an international trading firm that deals with the energy and metals markets, was not

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as lucky as Mr. Lazarenko. He was killed in a gangland-style hit while disembarking from a plane in Donetsk. The 50-year-old's wife and a Donbas Airlines technician also were killed in the attack on the tarmac.

Mr. Scherban, considered one of Ukraine's wealthiest businessmen, was long thought to be connected with racketeers and was at times mentioned as tied in some way to the July assassination attempt on Mr. Lazarenko.

However, the biggest surprise was the firing of Presidential Chief of Staff Dmytro Tabachnyk, 33, who was dismissed on December 10. No explanation was given for this move, although there has been much speculation. Mr. Tabachnyk, who had served as President Kuchma's press secretary while the latter was prime minister and later ran his successful presidential campaign, was sacked "in connection with his transfer to another job," according to the official announcement.

To date, Mr. Tabachnyk, who was widely regarded as one of the country's most influential politicians, has not reappeared on the political scene. President Kuchma has named a new chief of staff: Yevhen Kushnariov, 45, head of the Kharkiv City Administration and the mayor until his appointment by President Kuchma. He has also served as the president of the Association of Ukrainian Cities and leader of the Nova Ukraina association.

### Of crime and corruption

Unfortunately, in 1996 Ukraine saw much crime and corruption. A Ukrainian vice minister for internal affairs recently reported the following statistics to Parliament: the authorities registered 109 contract killings in Ukraine for the first 10 months of 1996, but only 17 of them, or 16 percent, have been solved; the regions with the highest murder rate are the Autonomous Republic of Crimea and the Odesa and Donetsk oblasts.

Another report recently released by the Internal Affairs Ministry cited 1,800 cases of bribe-taking. According to Serhii Puhachov, deputy chief of the state service to combat economic crimes, 150 of these bribes were registered in the trade sector, 110 in the privatization sector, 71 in the financial and credit sector, over 60 in the foreign economic sector and 28 in the banking system.

In the first 11 months of 1996, said Internal Affairs Minister Yuriy Kravchenko, the number of murders in Ukraine increased by 0.2 percent; and the militia uncovered over 880 organized crime groups. He added that 59 militiamen were killed in 1996 — 21 of them in the line of duty.

However, Minister Kravchenko said the crime rate in Ukraine had actually decreased by 4 percent during 1996. "A decrease in criminal activity is the first sign of successful economic changes conducted in the country," he said.

In December, the criminal trial of doctors and local officials in Lviv accused of selling babies to the West began, but as the year came to a close no verdict had yet been reached.

Though the Parliament finally had lifted the moratorium on foreign adoptions in January, the law only went into effect in July, and the establishment of a national adoption center, as stipulated by the law, was viewed as an effective way to ensure that a baby scandal, such as the one uncovered in 1995 in western Ukraine, would never recur.

### The international arena

Foreign Affairs Minister Hennadii Udovenko, speaking at the 51st session of the United Nations General Assembly on September 26 in New York, warned that his country is concerned about the possible deployment of nuclear weapons on the territories of Ukraine's neighbors. Should NATO expand into Central and Eastern Europe, Ukraine, a non-bloc state could be flanked by nuclear weapons to the east and west, pointed out the seasoned diplomat.

And, the North Atlantic Treaty Organization heeded his words: meeting in Brussels on December 10, the member-states passed a resolution declaring that NATO has no intentions, plans or reasons to deploy nuclear weapons on the territories of its new member-countries, which will be announced next summer.

NATO member-states spoke highly of Ukraine's initiative and reaffirmed their regard for Ukraine as a serious partner on security issues. They also emphasized the development of a close long-term relationship between Ukraine and NATO as an important aspect of the future European security system, a relationship that goes beyond the Partnership for Peace program.

And, Ukraine reaffirmed this position. During NATO Secretary General Javier Solana's visit to Kyiv on April 15 (the first-ever by a NATO chief), Foreign Affairs Minister Udovenko emphasized that the special relationship between Ukraine and NATO includes Ukraine's active participation in the Partnership for Peace program, its involvement in NATO's Cooperation Council, its com-

mitment to peacekeeping with the IFOR troops in Bosnia, as well as official visits between NATO and Ukraine.

"Ukraine intends to move toward NATO, not into NATO," President Kuchma told reporters after a meeting with Secretary-General Solana. Later in the year he said "the highest success of Ukrainian diplomacy" was the fact that at the last NATO summit it was officially announced that the alliance will not deploy nuclear weapons on the territories of its future members. "Ukraine started to play its role in international politics," he said.

Ukraine also forged closer ties with such European institutions as the European Union and the Western European Union during 1996. In December the EU outlined its plans for Ukraine, expressing its willingness to support and develop Ukraine's civil society, and its economic and energy sectors, increase political dialogue and encourage Ukraine to form a European safety system.

But Ukraine did experience some trouble regarding its Council of Europe membership, to which it was admitted in November 1995. Full membership in the council means adherence to its requirements, such as the adoption of a democratic Constitution and the abolition of capital punishment. While Ukraine adopted a new Constitution in June, it did not cancel the death penalty. As a matter of fact, Ukraine was ranked second only to China, with 89 people sentenced to death in 1996, according to the London-based Organization on Human Rights Protection.

### Ukrainian-Russian relations

Perhaps the thorniest issue in Ukraine during 1996 was Ukrainian-Russian relations. Throughout the year, Ukraine kept moving closer and closer to Europe and the West, and farther and farther away from matters involving the Commonwealth of Independent States. At the January meeting of CIS heads of state, Ukraine resisted pressures for further integration with former Soviet republics. President Kuchma said Ukraine did not participate in discussions about CIS symbols since it is not a signatory of the CIS charter and only an associate member of that body. He noted that the "Commonwealth today has a significant role as a consultative body."

And despite several attempts throughout the year by the Communists to get the Ukrainian Parliament to join the CIS Inter-Parliamentary Assembly, their efforts failed.

President Kuchma commented on the influence of the Communists in Ukraine in February: "The one big problem with the Communists today: they want to build a Soviet socialist republic, while I want to build a civilized, lawful state."

There were fireworks in March when the Russian Duma voted to reconstitute the Soviet Union, a move regarded both by Ukraine and Western nations, including the United States, as highly irresponsible.

"President Kuchma was certainly correct when he said that the tide of history cannot be turned back. Ukraine and other countries of the former Soviet Union are independent, sovereign nations. Any unilateral attempt to change their status will be rejected by the international community," said U.S. Secretary of State Warren Christopher during his March visit to Ukraine.

When the Duma and the Federation Council of Russia, respectively, the lower and upper houses of the Russian Parliament, were not trying to revive the defunct Soviet Union, they were making claims to the Ukrainian city of Sevastopol on the Crimean peninsula, or unilaterally calling for the suspension of the Black Sea Fleet's division.

In the autumn, the Duma, Moscow's influential mayor Yuriy Luzhkov and recently fired National Security Advisor Alexander Lebed all declared that the Crimean city of Sevastopol, which is the home of the Black Sea Fleet, is part of Russia. It is an issue that has stirred controversy and distrust between Ukraine and Russia virtually since the Soviet Union fell apart in 1991.

President Yeltsin's press spokesman, Sergei Yastrzhembsky, said that at their meeting at the Barvikha Sanitarium prior to Mr. Yeltsin's heart surgery, the presidents of Russia and Ukraine had agreed all the issues regarding a treaty of friendship between the two countries had been resolved and that "the big treaty between the two states is completely ready." He said it would be signed after Mr. Yeltsin recuperated, perhaps in November, but the end of the year came and President Yeltsin made no moves to come to Kyiv.

Foreign Affairs Minister Udovenko stated unequivocally that Ukraine would not conduct any negotiations with Russia over Sevastopol. "Sevastopol has been recognized as Ukrainian territory, and this cannot be thrown into doubt," he said in December. He observed that current claims by Russian lawmakers were the result of domestic political developments and the fact that Mr. Yeltsin had not been at the helm for the past few months.

Western nations supported Ukraine: the EU issued a statement on December 20 supporting Ukraine's territorial integrity and denouncing any Russian claims to Sevastopol; U.S. Ambassador to Ukraine William Green Miller on December 19 discussed U.S. concerns regarding Sevastopol and the Black Sea Fleet with First Vice Prime Minister Vasyl Durdynets. Mr. Miller said Ukraine can count on further U.S. support in resolving such difficulties.

With the New Year comes hope. And President Kuchma's hope is that he will finally meet with President Yeltsin to resolve matters of importance to both countries.

"I am confident that the situation will change when Boris Yeltsin returns to work in the Kremlin," said Mr. Kuchma on December 21. [President Yeltsin was to report back to work on December 23.]

The Ukrainian leader said the Verkhovna Rada must pass a law defining terms for stationing foreign troops on Ukrainian territory in order to solve the Black Sea Fleet issue; as for the fleet, he noted that "confrontations must be avoided, and the realities must be reviewed."

"Ukraine and Russia need each other," President Kuchma told journalists recently. "Not only does Ukraine depend on Russia — from a strategic point of view, Russia depends on Ukraine also. We suggest having a normal relationship with Russia. Ukraine will never act like Belarus while Kuchma is president," he said.

During a year-end meeting with journalists President Kuchma underscored: "Ukraine's foreign policy is based, first and foremost, on Ukraine's national interests."



Associated Press

March 29: Ukraine's Defense Minister Valerii Shmarov shoots from a sporting rifle in Tysovets, Ukraine, to the applause of his Russian counterpart, Gen. Pavel Grachev. The ministers met to discuss the Black Sea Fleet issue.

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### Chornobyl: legacy of a disaster

A decade later, public debate continues as to the significance and gravity of the explosion at the Chornobyl Atomic Energy Station (AES) on April 26, 1986.

For the Group of Seven industrial states, Chornobyl was a significant disaster and continues to be a significant threat to Ukraine and neighboring European countries. A Memorandum of Understanding had been signed on December 20, 1995, in Ottawa between representatives of Ukraine and the G-7 member-states. Ukraine agreed to completely decommission the Chornobyl AES by the year 2000. In turn, the G-7 would provide a package of credits and loans that would help Ukraine with the plant closing.

Within Ukraine there was opposition, foremost from the chairman of the Verkhovna Rada, Oleksander Moroz. Mr. Moroz felt that the amount of money offered was too little, the timetable too short and that, in general, bowing to international pressure to decommission Chornobyl was a bad idea. He was joined in opposition by the administrators and engineers of the plant itself, who insisted that as a result of enhanced safety features and procedures, Chornobyl should remain on line. Claims were made that power stations in Armenia and Lithuania were bigger safety threats.

Various politicians argued that during an energy crisis, one in which Ukraine was increasingly dependent on expensive oil and gas supplies from Russia and Turkmenistan, the country could not afford to shut down the two remaining reactors at Chornobyl, which supplied Ukraine with 5 percent of its electricity.

Nonetheless, President Leonid Kuchma kept the promises he made to the international community in 1995, and on April 21, during the G-7 Summit on Nuclear Safety and Security in Moscow, he formally agreed to close Chornobyl by the year 2000 in exchange for \$3.1 billion in assistance from the G-7. At the final stage of discussions, President Kuchma added a condition that the G-7 nations review the issue of the rebuilding of the sarcophagus as separate from the closing, and that international experts be assigned to assist with the project.

As part of the decommission package, Ukraine's conditions included funds to complete construction of plants to replace lost energy production; relocation, retraining and compensation for dislocated workers; and a new facility for management of nuclear waste, since 95 percent of Ukraine's nuclear waste is stored at Chornobyl.

#### Medical and public health consequences

While the G-7 states have determined that Chornobyl continues to be a hazard and threat, in an apparent contradiction the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) continues to maintain that other than an increase in juvenile thyroid cancers, no medical or public health consequences can be definitively attributed to Chornobyl.

Ten years after the disaster, the topic that continues to be surrounded by the most conflict and controversy is the health consequences of the Chornobyl explosion.

At the conclusion of the conference "One Decade After Chornobyl: Summing up the Consequences of the Accident," sponsored by the IAEA, the World Health Organization (WHO) and the European Commission (EC) on April 8-12 in Vienna, key findings included: 1) the only serious health repercussions from Chornobyl that can be attributed to radiation is an increase in thyroid cancer among children; 2) radioactive cesium has no impact on the human organism; 3) low-level radiation is harmless to people; 4) many of the illnesses and disorders reported by Chornobyl-affected populations, including repressed immune systems are a result of stress and anxiety, or "chronic environmental stress syndrome."

The IAEA studies — which did not include the populations most affected by radiation contamination, 800,000 firefighters, first aid and clean-up workers throughout the former republics, and several hundred thousand evacuated residents — provoked a strong reaction from academic, government and medical sectors.

In fact, experts cite the following: there has been a precipitous rise in diabetes and childhood anemia; the rate of male infertility in Ukraine, the country that provided the largest number of clean-up workers, is the highest in the world (it is highest among former clean-up workers, men in their 20s and 30s); there has been a precipitous rise in childhood diseases that result from a weakened immune system; about half of the former clean-up workers are receiving medical treatment for digestive, respiratory and skin diseases; and birthrates in Ukraine and Belarus, the two former republics most affected by Chornobyl, are dropping precipi-

tously. In addition, a University of Hiroshima study reported a doubling of birth defects among newborns in Belarus.

A study by the Canadian Society for International Health found that for every two live births in Ukraine, there are three abortions. Fear of giving birth to deformed children as a consequence of Chornobyl in great part fuels this trend.

A report from a 1995 study by the Canadian Red Cross found that even after almost a decade, one-third of the food tested for consumption by residents of the Rivne Oblast registered higher than normal levels of radiation.

The Canadian Red Cross study also found that though poor nutrition as a result of no funds for food is in part the cause of the increase in malnutrition among children in Ukraine, in certain regions parents will not feed children local produce and dairy products, preferring to risk the child's health with lack of nutrients, rather than permanently contaminate their bodies with radionuclides.

The lack of money to monitor simple public health problems, not to mention the complex health consequences of Chornobyl exacerbates the problem of identifying Chornobyl-related disorders.

**"An accident has taken place at the Chornobyl power station, and one of the reactors was damaged. Measures are being taken to eliminate the consequences of the accident. Those affected by it are being given assistance. A government commission has been set up." — Announcement of USSR Council of Ministers, broadcast on Soviet television from Moscow on April 28, 1986.**

**"The Chornobyl disaster is a catastrophe of the 21st century, not the 20th ... humanity does not yet comprehend its scale ... the real disaster is just beginning." — National Deputy Volodymyr Yavorivsky, former chairman of the Parliament's Special Committee on Chornobyl, speaking at Columbia University on April 9, 1996.**

In a statement issued at the conference "Chornobyl: Implications of a Decade," held August 24 in Rio De Janeiro, participants stressed the need to increase the role of independent investigators, in contrast to "experts" employed or engaged by "bureaucratized agencies," as the latter have lacked credibility and public confidence.

Among the independent studies ongoing is a project by the University of Alberta, "The Chornobyl Children's Project," and a study at Baylor University in Texas of clean-up workers with preliminary indications that leukemia rates are elevated among this population.

The University of Illinois Ukrainian Environmental Health Project is participating in a collaborative Chornobyl thyroid cancer study with the National Cancer Institute and the Kyiv Institute of Endocrinology.

The Canadian Red Cross has deployed six mobile diagnostic labs since 1992 in Ukraine to measure radiation contamination in soil, air and produce, and has been screening adults and children for various ailments. Of the 55,617 individuals screened for thyroid ailments in 1995, all registered measurable increases in various thyroid disorders, and especially an increase in the number of tumors among children.

UNESCO's Chornobyl Program has established three centers in Ukraine to assist in the social and psychological rehabilitation of populations affected by Chornobyl.

#### Environmental contamination

An issue over which there is much less controversy is the environmental damage caused by Chornobyl. Over the past 10 years, numbers have been revised, mostly upwards, concerning percentage of land contaminated, number of curies released, direction of cloud movement. Soviet authorities originally reported 50 million curies released; recent studies have revised the figure at least

threefold to between 150 and 200 million curies (15 curies were released at Three Mile Island).

More than 10 percent of Ukrainian and about 80 percent of Belarusian territory was contaminated by fallout, thus, millions of acres of contaminated land in those two states have been excluded permanently from economic activity.

The nexus of environmental and public health concerns for the next decade is the leaching of radionuclides from the fallout into drinking water. Plant root systems also take up radionuclides leached into lakes and rivers.

#### Socio-political consequences

The word "Chornobyl" is recognized the world over as a reference to the explosion of a nuclear power plant. It has also come to signify disaster, hubris, tragedy, fear, anger, illness, deformation, stupidity, incompetence, lies, deceit.

From the very beginning of the tragedy, medical and environmental consequences were predicted and debated. However, one of the least defined and least predicted areas of impact was the socio-political consequences.

In the past several years, a consensus has developed that Chornobyl was a major catalyst for the final disintegration of the USSR. In a recent interview, former Ukrainian President Leonid Kravchuk, then head of agitation and propaganda for the Communist Party in Ukraine, recalls the reviewing stand on May 1, 1986, during the May Day parade:

"(I was told) to let the television station know that there should be footage of people frolicking, ... children singing, ... this is the directive of the Politburo, to convey that everything is calm, that nothing terrible has happened."

This deceit after the promise of "glasnost" was a heavy blow for those who held out for change from within the system. According to Oleksandr Burakovsky, a former member of the leadership council of Rukh, the Popular Movement of Ukraine, Chornobyl "was a jolt that awakened the intelligentsia, ... particularly the intelligentsia that was living in the republic's capital, Kyiv, mere kilometers from Chornobyl. This was not yet a movement for independence, but a movement into awareness ... Chornobyl showed 'glasnost' and 'perestroika' to be a fiction."

According to Zyanon Paznyak, Belarusian activist, "Chornobyl had enormous impact on national consciousness in Belarus ... the impact is not only physiological, but psychological ... long-term apathy and despair has set in. People feel imprisoned by (the) consequences."

Furthermore, the financial burden of ameliorating the consequences of Chornobyl limits economic development. This is resented by the population in Belarus and Ukraine. According to former Prime Minister Marchuk, Ukraine spends \$1 billion a year to manage the Chornobyl's effects.

#### Commemorative events

Throughout the world, the tragedy of Chornobyl was commemorated on the national and local levels. In the United States, the Chornobyl Challenge '96 coalition was organized at the initiative of Ukraine's ambassador to the United States, Dr. Yuri Shcherbak, and chaired by Alex Kuzma, director of development for the Children of Chornobyl Relief Fund (CCRF).

An official delegation from Ukraine, headed by Vice Prime Minister for Humanitarian Affairs Ivan Kuras attended the commemorative dinner on April 8 hosted by Ukraine's Permanent Mission to the United Nations and CCRF at Columbia University's Low Library.

On April 23 on Capitol Hill, the Commission on Security and Cooperation in Europe (CSCE) heard testimony on the legacy of Chornobyl. Testimony was provided by Dr. Shcherbak, Ukraine's ambassador; Serguei Martynov, Belarus' ambassador; Mr. Kuzma; and Prof. Murray Feshbach of Georgetown University. The next day, the ambassadors of Belarus, Russia and Ukraine held a joint press conference and released a trilateral statement at the National Press Club in Washington to mark the anniversary.

More than 1,000 participants attended the ecumenical service at St. Patrick's Cathedral in Manhattan on April

sponsor: U.N. World Information Transfer.

- April 27, Toronto, "Chornobyl: The Legacy"; sponsor: University of Toronto, Toronto Branch of the Ukrainian Medical Association of North America, Children of Chornobyl Canadian Fund, Prometheus Foundation, Shevchenko Scientific Society, Toronto Branch of the Ukrainian Canadian Congress.

- August 24, Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, "Chornobyl: Implications of a Decade"; sponsor: the U.S. National Institutes of Health, University of Alabama, Ukrainian Medical Association; conference held in conjunction with the Ninth International Congress of Human Genetics.

### For the record:

Conferences held on the topic of Chornobyl included:

- March 25-28, Miensk, Belarus; sponsor: Belarusian Academy of Sciences.

- April 8-12, Vienna, Austria, "One Decade After Chornobyl: Summing up the Consequences of the Accident"; sponsor: IAEA, WHO, EC.

- April 8-9, New Haven/New York, "Chornobyl: Ten Years After"; sponsor: Yale University, Columbia University, Chornobyl Challenge '96.

- April 25-26, New York, "Health and the Environment: Global Partners for Global Solutions";

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26 hosted by Cardinal John O'Connor and attended by representatives of the Ukrainian Catholic, Ukrainian Orthodox and Roman Catholic Churches. Among the dignitaries addressing the public were New York Gov. George Pataki and Ukraine's ambassador to the U.N., Mr. Zlenko.

On May 1, First Lady Hillary Clinton and Vice-President Al Gore hosted a Chernobyl commemoration at the White House. Also invited to speak were Mr. Kuzma, and 11-year-old Vova Malofienko, a Chernobyl survivor who is being treated in the U.S. for leukemia. After the White House commemoration, an ecumenical service was held at the "Church of the Presidents," St. John Episcopal Church.

April 26 is also National Arbor Day. The association American Forests began a reforestation project to commemorate Chernobyl, and memorial forests were planted near Orlando Fla., and in the Kyiv, Chernihiv and Poltava oblasts.

In Canada, commemorative activities included a Chernobyl Memorial Concert staged by the Ukrainian Opera Association; an exhibit in Toronto, "Chernobyl Through the Eyes of Children;" an official commemoration on Ottawa's Parliament Hill; and also in Ottawa, across from the Arts Center, a billboard-sized memorial designed by Ukrainian British artist Stefan Gec featuring photographs of six original firefighters killed on the disaster scene.

April 26 in Ukraine was an official day of mourning: blue-and-yellow flags flew with black ribbons attached. Commemorative events in Kyiv included a U.S. government airlift that arrived on April 25 with more than \$11 million in aid; the opening by U.S. Ambassador William Green Miller and Minister of the Environment Yurii Kostenko of the International Chernobyl Center for Nuclear Safety, Radioactive Wastes and Radio-ecology on April 26; the unveiling on April 25 of a monument to the heroic efforts of the firemen and clean-up workers; and a Presidential Commemorative Concert at the Taras Shevchenko Theater on the evening of April 26.

President Clinton and Prime Minister Jean Chrétien of Canada issued commemorative statements, and both houses of the U.S. Congress issued resolutions. The United Nations designated April 26 as an international day of commemoration.

### Local events and commemorations

Many local events and commemorations included fund-raising to assist the victims of Chernobyl. Fund-raisers took place in Cleveland, Boston, Rochester, N.Y., Ottawa, Toronto, Hartford, Conn., Buffalo, N.Y., Perth Amboy, N.J. and other cities throughout North America.

On February 4, the Ukrainian Orthodox Church of the U.S.A. hosted a benefit. The guest speaker was actor Jack Palance, the 10th anniversary spokesman for the CCRF. Funds raised were used by CCRF to buy equipment for a neonatal clinic in Chernihiv. Throughout the 10th anniversary year, the CCRF leveraged more than \$3 million of aid to help the victims of Chernobyl in Ukraine.

Other major efforts: Manor Junior College donated \$44,000 to the Ukrainian National Women's League of America for their programs to aid Chernobyl victims; the Children of Chernobyl Canadian Fund sent hundreds of thousands of dollars of medical aid to Chernobyl-affected areas; the Ukrainian Cultural Institute in North Dakota organized 10 tons of food and clothing that was sent to the Chernobyl region; and Hand in Hand Together, a charitable organization in Minnesota, with the help of the Ukrainian American community sent 50 tons of supplies to a hospital in Chernihiv Oblast.

\* \* \*

The tragedy of Chernobyl has become a symbol of the world's worst environmental disaster. But it is more than a symbol, it remains a disquieting reality.

As of December 1, only reactor No. 3 remains on line. In keeping with international commitments made in April, reactor No. 1 was taken off line on November 30. Reactor No. 2 was taken off line in the fall of 1991, after a fire in the reactor's control room, and reactor No. 4 exploded on April 26, 1986.

According to Minister Kostenko, securing the crumbling sarcophagus that covers the exploded reactor is top priority: "... Ukraine will need about 70 years (to neutralize Chernobyl) and make the sarcophagus safe ..."

As the 10th anniversary year of the Chernobyl nuclear disaster comes to a close, it is worth recalling the words of Ambassador Shcherbak in an April interview with this newspaper: "If the world ignores the lessons of Chernobyl, then someone will have to relive the tragedy again."



Roman Woronowycz

**October 13: A divine liturgy is celebrated in Lviv's Freedom Square by Archbishop-Metropolitan Michael Bzdel, Cardinal Achille Silvestrini, and hierarchs and clergy of the Ukrainian Greek-Catholic Church.**

## Church affairs: Sobors and Synods

In religious matters, 1996 was a year of consecrations of new bishops, more inter- and intra-confessional strife in Ukraine, and the 400th anniversary of the Union of Brest, which included the first Sobor of the Ukrainian Greek-Catholic Church and a Synod of Bishops.

The year began with the consecration of the Rev. Cornelius John Pasichny as the Ukrainian Catholic eparch of Saskatoon on January 17. The 68-year-old Basilian priest was elevated at St. Nicholas Ukrainian Catholic Church in Winnipeg, where he had served as pastor for the past decade and had been baptized as a child. His consecrators included Bishop Severian Yakymyshyn, who was elevated to the episcopacy in March 1995, Canadian Archbishop-Metropolitan Michael Bzdel and Bishop Basil Filevich, his predecessor.

Then on April 17, the Ukrainian Catholic Church elevated the Rev. Stephen Soroka to assist one of its ailing leaders, Canadian Archbishop-Metropolitan Bzdel, who had just undergone quintuple bypass heart surgery. The Rev. Soroka, 44, who had been the archeparchy's chancellor, now carried the title auxiliary bishop. The youngest Canadian bishop was consecrated on June 13 at Ss. Vladimir and Olga Cathedral in Winnipeg.

On May 3, Canada's first Ukrainian Catholic archbishop-metropolitan, Maxim Hermaniuk, who had retired in 1992 and was succeeded by Metropolitan Bzdel, passed away. He was 84. The Redemptorist monk was born in Nove Selo in western Ukraine in 1911, and was ordained a priest in 1938. Fluent in several languages, including ancient Babylonian, he received his licentiate from the University of Louvain in Belgium in 1943 in Oriental languages and history. He was elevated to auxiliary bishop of the Exarchate of Winnipeg in 1951. He was appointed Canada's first Ukrainian Catholic metropolitan on November 3, 1956, and was enthroned on February 12, 1957, in Ss. Vladimir and Olga Cathedral in Winnipeg. More than 1,000 people attended his funeral at the same cathedral on May 2, 1996.

The most prominent of several new appointments to head Ukrainian Greek-Catholic eparchies around the world was that of Bishop Lubomyr Husar to the newly established Kyiv-Vyshhorod Exarchate in Ukraine on April 2. Bishop Husar had been consecrated by the Lviv archbishop major and head of the Church, Cardinal Josyf Slipyj, 19 years earlier at the Studite Monastery in Castelgandolfo, near Rome.

The 63-year-old Studite monk, along with Bishop Ivan Choma, who was named Cardinal Myroslav Lubachivsky's special envoy to Rome the same day, were the last Ukrainian Greek-Catholic bishops to come out of the underground when they were consecrated by Patriarch Josyf.

Bishop Husar was installed as the Kyiv-Vyshhorod exarch on June 2 at the chapel-rotunda known as Askold's Mound (Askoldova Mohyla). The event was attended by the papal nuncio, Cardinal Antonio Franco, Patriarch Filaret of the Ukrainian Orthodox Church — Kyiv Patriarchate and Ukrainian Greek-Catholic Bishops Pavlo

Vasylyk, Yulian Voronovsky, Vasyl Medvit, Ivan Margitych, Mykhailo Sabryha and Mykhail Koltun.

In a year of shake-ups and restructuring for the Ukrainian Catholic Church, Bishop Husar, still not settled into his chair as the leader of the Kyiv-Vyshhorod Exarchate, was moved again on October 14. The bed-ridden leader of the Church, Cardinal Lubachivsky, assigned him extraordinary powers as his auxiliary bishop, which was approved by both the Synod of Bishops, which had just been completed, and the Vatican.

The role that Bishop Husar was now to assume was not clear at the time of his appointment. However, Archbishop-Metropolitan of the United States Stephen Sulyk told *The Weekly* at the time that Bishop Husar had been granted almost all the powers of the Church. "He has the power to call synods, to preside over them and to approve their decisions."

According to Bishop Husar, his is a humble role. He said on October 22 at a press conference in Kyiv that he was appointed merely to carry out the responsibilities and the duties of Cardinal Lubachivsky, and that upon the archbishop major's death, his position is liquidated, and carries no right to succession.

"When His Beatitude dies, and with God's blessing that will not happen soon, all my authority dies with him," said Bishop Husar.

The new administrative leader of the Church said he was returning to Lviv to be close to the ailing Cardinal Lubachivsky. A new exarch for Kyiv-Vyshhorod would soon be appointed, he stated.

That happened less than a month later, on November 13. Bishop Husar, with Cardinal Lubachivsky's approval, appointed Bishop Koltun, 47, the second exarch of Kyiv-Vyshhorod. Bishop Koltun, who has had a dramatic rise in the Church, was installed a bishop in September 1993 at St. George Cathedral in Lviv, the seat of the Ukrainian Greek-Catholic Church. He was the first bishop consecrated in Ukraine since the Church had come out of the underground.

The decision to give Bishop Husar his new responsibility was made at the Synod of Bishops held in October in Lviv in conjunction with the historic first Sobor of the Church.

It also coincided with celebrations of the 400th anniversary of the Union of Brest, proclaimed on October 16, 1596, which reunited a portion of Ukrainian Orthodoxy with Rome after the Muslim conquests of Constantinople, divisions within the Ukrainian Church and the establishment of the Moscow Patriarchate.

The Sobor, held on October 6-10 and attended by representatives of the Church's laity, clergy and hierarchy, was deemed an unqualified success by Bishop Husar. "I was also impressed with the fact that our whole Church was at the Sobor — bishops, priests, the laity — all of whom took active part in the discussions ... the collaborations among the various elements of our people is of itself proof of the vitality of our Church," said the bishop.

What showed the extent of the revival of the Church in Ukraine was the turnout for a divine liturgy that was celebrated on Freedom Square on October 13. Some 30,000 people attended the service under a dazzling blue sky. They stood on park benches and on the large flower pots that dot the square for almost three hours, as Canada's Archbishop Bzdel celebrated the liturgy, with Cardinal Achille Silvestrini, representative for Pope John Paul II,

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and Papal Nuncio to Ukraine Antonio Franco in attendance, as well as all the bishops of the Ukrainian Greek-Catholic Church and a large number of the clergy.

While murmurs already abounded at that time that Bishop Husar would become assistant to the leader of the Church, other ones regarding the recognition of a patriarchate by Rome and a visit by the pope also were heard.

Cardinal Silvestrini quickly put to rest any notion of a visit to Ukraine by the pope in 1997 when he told *The Weekly* in a quick interview in Lviv that too many matters still had to be worked out with the Ukrainian government. He added, "We can look at the visit with hope, but at the moment nothing is decided."

As for hope by the faithful of the Ukrainian Catholic Church that a patriarchate would soon be recognized by the Vatican, that still hangs in limbo. As the head of the Ukrainian World Patriarchal Federation, Wasyl Kolodchin, put it, the failure of the Vatican to act on recognition of a patriarchate for Ukraine is "strictly political" in nature. "The only hindrance to recognizing a patriarchate is the Moscow Patriarchate (of the Orthodox Church)."

As unsettled as the situation was with the hierarchy of the Ukrainian Greek-Catholic Church, more so were issues surrounding the Orthodox Churches of Ukraine (there are currently three).

First the Moscow Patriarchate held an anti-Sobor in Lviv during the time of the Ukrainian Greek-Catholic Church's conference. Leaders of the Church, including Moscow Patriarch Aleksey II, Kyiv Metropolitan Volodymyr Sabodan and Metropolitan of the United States and Canada Feodosiy sent a letter greeting that conference, held at the Russian Pushkin Society building. The Orthodox sobor discussed how to prevent a visit by Pope John Paul II, which had been rumored for 1997, and that "Uniates" had persecuted Orthodox.

Other problems within Orthodoxy had arisen earlier. On March 5 at a news conference in Kyiv, Patriarch Filaret of the Ukrainian Orthodox Church — Kyiv Patriarchate stated that the recent rift between Constantinople and Moscow, which considers itself the Third Rome in terms of mainstream Christianity, over Constantinople's recognition of the Estonian Patriarchate could lead to the end of the Russian "spiritual empire."

The leader of the Kyiv Patriarchate had been negotiating with Constantinople for reunion and recognition by the universal seat of Orthodoxy on Ukraine's position in that Church.

Then at the Synod of Bishops held on October 18-19, the Ukrainian Autocephalous Orthodox Church announced that its Patriarch Dymytrii had resigned. Metropolitan Vasylii of Ternopil and Lviv was assigned in his place. The newspaper *Den* wrote that the five hierarchs of the Church had sought for a long time to remove Patriarch Dymytrii for usurping power. His right-hand man, Bishop Ihor Isichenko of Kharkiv, was removed by the Synod after the announcement. (The *Weekly* will cover alleged financial improprieties on both sides in the first issues of 1997.)

One issue that might have finally been resolved, and was a matter between Church and state, was the status of the place where Patriarch Volodymyr of the Ukrainian Orthodox Church — Kyiv Patriarchate, is interred. On July 14 more than 1,000 people gathered in front of St. Sophia Cathedral to pay tribute to the leader of the Church on the first anniversary of his death. His gravesite, which had been dug from the asphalt and rock before the bell-tower of St. Sophia a year earlier amidst brutal police force, was now besplendored with flowers and a marble sarcophagus, courtesy of the city of Kyiv.

Mayor Oleksander Omelchenko had pledged on June 18 that a memorial outside the walls of the historic cathedral would be built for the late patriarch at a cost of \$71,000.

At the time of his burial in 1995, militia and Ministry of Internal Affairs police had bloodied dozens because the faithful resisted a decision by the government that the patriarch could not be buried in St. Sophia Cathedral.

Other notable events in Church affairs included the following:

- Metropolitans, archbishops and bishops of the Ukrainian Orthodox Church (Ecumenical Patriarchate of Constantinople), representing eparchies in Canada, the U.S., South America, Great Britain, Australia, New Zealand and faithful communities in western Europe gathered on June 25-26 for an in-depth discussion of the challenges before the Church.

- The Ukrainian Catholic Eparchy of Stamford celebrated 25 years since Bishop Basil Losten was installed as its eparch on May 22.

- Poland's new Ukrainian Greek-Catholic Archbishop Jan Martyniak announced on August 17 that the Peremyshl seat of the Church had been upgraded by the Vatican to a metropolitan archdiocese.

## *U.S.-Ukraine ties: strategic partnership*

**B**y 1996 the U.S.-Ukrainian relationship had expanded to such a level that official visits between the two countries became commonplace, bilateral relations were normalized to the point where the Kuchma-Gore Commission was created to pursue specific areas of cooperation, and, for the second year in a row, both Republicans and Democrats in Congress agreed that U.S. aid to Ukraine should total \$225 million. In the words of Deputy Secretary of State Strobe Talbott, "It is remarkable that in the relatively short time since Ukraine re-established its independence, the ties, cooperation and over-all warmth of our bilateral relations have developed to the point of a strategic partnership, where each country views the other as a sympathetic friend and ally."

On January 5 Defense Secretary William Perry, accompanied by Ukrainian Minister of Defense Valerii Shmarov and Russian Minister of Defense Pavel Grachev, traveled to Pervomaisk, Ukraine, to witness the destruction of an ICBM missile silo. The silo in Mykolaiv Oblast was the third of 130 that are to be destroyed by Ukraine by November 1998, in accordance with provisions of the START I disarmament treaty ratified by Ukraine's Verkhovna Rada in 1993.

After the silo destruction, a separate ceremony marked the turnover of housing built for Ukrainian officers by the U.S.-funded Cooperative Threat Reduction Program of the Department of Defense.

During his January 4-5 visit to Ukraine, Secretary Perry signed an agreement on closer military cooperation between the United States and Ukraine with Minister Shmarov; discussed NATO expansion and the possibility of trilateral military training exercises during a meeting with Ministers Shmarov and Grachev; and met with Ukrainian President Leonid Kuchma.

On January 21 a 12-member delegation from the Verkhovna Rada arrived in the United States to participate in a 10-day study program on legislative rules and procedures. The delegation of national deputies and Verkhovna Rada staff met with members of Congress, participated in several sessions at the General Accounting Office, and attended the opening session of the Maryland State Legislature.

The program was coordinated by Indiana University and the U.S.-Ukraine Foundation, a not-for-profit organization promoting democratic and economic reforms in Ukraine, as part of the Parliamentary Development Program. PDP is a three-year project funded by the United States Agency for International Development.

Throughout the year another U.S.-Ukraine Foundation program, the Non-Governmental Organization Project, sponsored five workshops

designed to foster the development of the NGO sector in Ukraine. The one-year NGO program, funded by USAID through the Rule of Law Consortium ARD/Checchi, trains Ukrainian NGOs to become effective public policy advocates in Ukraine.

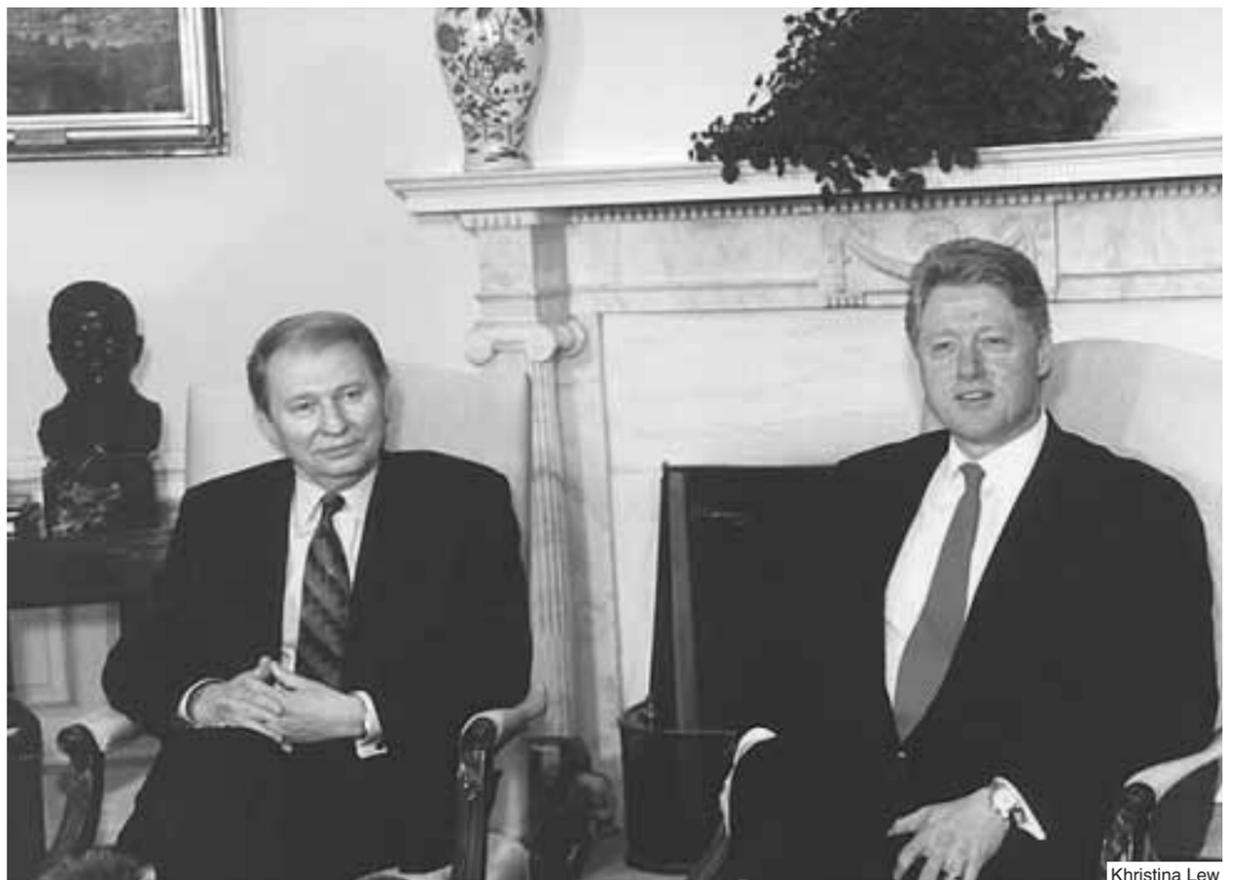
On January 26 President Bill Clinton signed the Foreign Assistance Appropriations Act for Fiscal Year 1996 into law, making Ukraine the third largest recipient of U.S. assistance after Israel and Egypt. The \$12.1 billion legislation mandated "not less than" \$225 million for Ukraine and "no more than" \$195 million for Russia. Bucking the trend of over-all cuts in foreign assistance, Congress earmarked \$75 million over 1995 levels for Ukraine in 1996, with the caveat that Ukraine undertake "significant economic reforms."

On the same day, the Central and East European Coalition, a non-partisan group of 18 national organizations representing more than 20 million Americans with roots in Central and Eastern Europe, sent President Clinton a letter and its position paper on the expansion of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization.

The CEEC, of which the Ukrainian National Association and the Ukrainian Congress Committee of America are members, decried U.S. foot-dragging over NATO expansion and recommended that the United States: propose a timetable for expansion by the end of 1996; introduce a NATO resolution declaring that any attempt to restrict the sovereignty of any Central or East European country will be opposed collectively by NATO countries; issue a statement by the U.S. president that establishes the limits of Western tolerance to threatening behavior by Russia; and enhance the defense potential of Central and Eastern Europe during the transition period preceding admission to NATO by expanding bilateral military cooperation under the Partnership for Peace program.

Two weeks later, on February 12, CEEC representatives were invited by the administration to meet with President Clinton at the White House to discuss NATO expansion and U.S. foreign assistance. During the 45-minute meeting, the president assured the coalition that he would not delay or abandon the timetable for NATO enlargement and agreed with coalition members that Russian rhetoric had gotten irresponsible on the question of NATO.

On February 20-22 President Kuchma visited Washington for the second time since taking office in July 1994, and won assurances from President Clinton of continued U.S. support for Ukraine's economic reforms. The Ukrainian president met with Mr. Clinton, Vice-President Al Gore, Secretary of State Warren Christopher, Secretary of Defense Perry and Treasury Secretary Robert Rubin, and signed a Commercial Space Launch Services Agreement with Mr. Gore. During his visit the United States announced that it was raising its quota on imports of Ukrainian wool coats from 1.2 million to 2 million.



February 21: President Leonid Kuchma meets with President Bill Clinton at the White House.

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On February 21 President Kuchma was presented the 1996 Freedom Award in Washington for his "contributions to world peace, regional security and inter-ethnic cooperation" by Freedom House, the human rights watchdog organization. The Ukrainian president became the 43rd recipient of the award and shares the honor with past awardees such as Dwight D. Eisenhower (1945), Winston Churchill (1955), and the Dalai Lama and Vaclav Havel (1991). The award was presented by Dr. Zbigniew Brzezinski, Freedom House trustee and chairman of the American-Ukrainian Advisory Committee; Ambassador Mark Palmer, Freedom House vice-chairman; and Adrian Karatnycky, Freedom House president.

President Kuchma's visit was marred by a February 20 report in the Los Angeles Times that alleged Ukrainian government involvement in the leasing of Antonov 32B's to Colombian drug traffickers. Mr. Kuchma was forced to counter those allegations on the lawn of the White House, stating that the planes are "owned by a company, not the state."

On March 6 the State Department released its annual human rights report, which noted that in 1995 Ukraine "continued to make significant progress toward building a law-based civil society." The report applauded the Ukrainian government's protection of religious minorities' rights, noting that Jews "have expanded opportunities to pursue their religious and cultural activities."

The report found problems in the "unreformed legal and prison systems, occasional government attempts to control the press, beatings by police and prison officials, limits on freedom of association, restrictions on foreign religious organizations, societal anti-Semitism, some discrimination against women, and ethnic tensions in Crimea," and blamed Ministry of Internal Affairs troops for using "excessive force" in July 1995 to break up the crowd assembled for the funeral of Patriarch Volodymyr in front of St. Sophia Cathedral.

On March 13, FBI Director Louis J. Freeh testified before the Senate Subcommittee on Foreign Operations that Ukraine's Ministry of Internal Affairs had approached the Federal Bureau of Investigation about conducting a joint investigation of the alleged use of Ukrainian planes by Colombian drug traffickers. Mr. Freeh also testified that Ukraine had taken part in special FBI law enforcement training programs for the new democracies of Central Europe and the former Soviet Union.

On April 15 the American-Ukrainian Advisory Committee held a roundtable with the ambassadors of Ukraine, Germany and Poland on Ukraine's relationship with its neighbors and its role in an expanded NATO. Established by the Center for Strategic and International Studies in 1993, the American-Ukrainian Advisory Committee, chaired by Dr. Brzezinski, is a group of nine Americans and 13 Ukrainians who meet yearly to discuss the state of the American-Ukrainian relationship and make recommendations, based on the results of the committee's working groups, to both governments.

In 1996 the advisory committee held working group meetings and roundtables with, among others, Carlos Pascual, director of Russian, Ukrainian and Eurasian affairs at the National Security Council, who assessed the current state of U.S.-Ukrainian relations; Ambassador Richard L. Morningstar, coordinator of assistance to the NIS, and Gregory Huger, USAID mission chief for the Western NIS, who addressed the role of U.S. foreign assistance programs in Ukraine; and National Bank of Ukraine Chairman Viktor Yushchenko, who outlined a government plan to alleviate the acute problem of non-payment of wages to state-sector employees.

(During the June 27 roundtable on U.S. assistance to Ukraine, Mr. Huger caught a bit of flack from Ukrainian Ambassador Yuri Shcherbak, who said "We are concerned that a significant portion of U.S. assistance has been spent, not on trainers, but on consultants and travel expenses," and from Charles Flickner, staff director of the Subcommittee on Foreign Operations of the House Appropriations Committee, who hinted that some of the subearmarks for Ukraine in the Senate foreign aid budget may have been written in more response to U.S. contractors' needs than to USAID or Ukrainian needs.)

U.S.-Ukrainian trade ties were expanded on May 2 with the opening of a West Coast Regional Office of the Ukrainian Embassy's Trade and Economic Mission in Los Angeles by Ambassador Shcherbak. The Los Angeles trade office is Ukraine's fourth in the United States; the other three are in Washington, New York and Chicago.

On May 16 Eugene M. Iwanciw testified before the Foreign Operations Subcommittee of the Senate Committee on Appropriations on behalf of the Central and East European Coalition. Mr. Iwanciw focused on the importance of Central and Eastern Europe to U.S. national security interests, and recommended: increased assistance for the nations of the region, earmarks of assistance to Ukraine and Armenia, assistance for the expansion of NATO, support for the Humanitarian Aid Corridor Act (which suspends assistance to any country that hinders U.S. humanitarian relief efforts to a third country), the use of ethnic-American organizations in the design and delivery of U.S. assistance, and specific program direction to USAID.

On May 21 Republican presidential candidate Bob Dole met with members of the CEEC to reiterate his support for U.S. assistance to Central and Eastern Europe. Sen. Dole discussed his position that NATO expansion should be accelerated.

On June 1-10, 120 U.S. troops from the 1st Infantry Division participated in peacekeeping exercises with members of Ukraine's 24th Mechanized Rifle Division at a training area in Lviv. The exercises, called Peace Shield 96, were designed to promote "regional stability through continued combined exercises with members of the Partnership for Peace program" and included soldiers from Poland, Moldova, Romania, Slovakia, the Czech Republic, Bulgaria and Russia. Peace Shield 96 followed Peace Shield 95 (Lviv) and Peace Shield II (Kansas).

On June 3 the Commission on Security and Cooperation in Europe — the Helsinki Commission — celebrated its 20th anniversary. The independent agency of the U.S. government was created in 1976 to monitor and encourage compliance of participating states with the Helsinki Final Act of 1975. Long supportive of Ukraine, the Helsinki Commission ensured that the plight of Ukrainian political prisoners and Ukraine's Churches were brought to the public eye during the Soviet era; published documents of the Ukrainian Helsinki Group; and monitored elections in both Soviet-dominated and independent Ukraine.

On June 9 Mr. Iwanciw, in an analysis for The Ukrainian Weekly of the State Department's semi-annual report on "U.S. Government Assistance to and Cooperative Activities with the New Independent States of the Former Soviet Union," determined that, despite being the third largest recipient of U.S. assistance worldwide in 1996, Ukraine has the third lowest rate of expenditure of all countries of the new independent states.

According to the report, only 51.33 percent of the budgeted funds were actually spent, in contrast to expenditure rates of 94 percent for Turkmenistan, 89.9 percent for Georgia and 64.01 for Russia. When the expenditures were calculated on a per capita basis, Ukraine fared no better. Per capita assistance to Ukraine was \$11.70, the third lowest in the NIS. The NIS average per capita expenditure was 64.96 percent higher than that of Ukraine.

On June 12 Ukraine's minister for environmental protection and nuclear safety, Yurii Kostenko, told a press conference in Washington that G-7 countries have not been forthcoming with promised assistance to close the Chernobyl nuclear power plant. In the nation's capital to meet with government and congressional leaders, Mr. Kostenko said Ukraine is awaiting credits to complete the Khmelnytsky and Rivne nuclear power plants, estimated at \$280 million, which will replace energy lost with the closure of Chernobyl; would need \$1 billion in grants over 10 years to decommission Chernobyl, and from \$1.6 billion to \$2.5 billion to secure the sarcophagus entombing reactor No. 4. So far, he said, Ukraine has received only \$500 million for the sarcophagus and all other grant needs.

During the press conference, Nadia K. McConnell, president of the U.S.-Ukraine Foundation, announced the foundation's latest initiative, "Chernobyl 2000," an information campaign to develop public support for the G-7 plan to close Chernobyl by the year 2000 and help Ukraine achieve energy self-sufficiency. The initiative was launched with the support of Ukraine's Ministry of Environmental Protection and Nuclear Safety and the Ukrainian Embassy to the United States.

On June 19 the Center for Security Policy in Washington held a roundtable discussion on the future of Radio Free Europe/Radio Liberty, surrogate radio stations created by the United States during the Cold War which broadcast news to Central Europe and the Soviet Union about events within the listeners' countries that totalitarian media would not cover. RFE/RL had fallen victim to the U.S. budgetary ax and watched its annual budget shrink from \$218 million in 1993 to \$72 million, but the overriding opinion of the roundtable was that the stations continue to do a necessary job, do it well, and do it cheaply.

On June 26 Ukrainian Americans held a fund-raiser for Sen. Mitch McConnell (R-Ky.), chairman of the powerful Senate Foreign Operations Subcommittee, in Washington. For several years, the second-term senator has been earmarking the foreign assistance budget and is the driving force behind the \$225 million earmark for Ukraine. The fund-raiser was hosted by George Chopivsky Jr., a Washington businessman, with the assistance of Mr. Iwanciw.

On July 17 Deputy Secretary of State Talbott met with President Kuchma, Prime Minister Pavlo Lazarenko, Verkhovna Rada Chairman Oleksander Moroz, Foreign Affairs Minister Hennadii Udovenko and National Security Council Secretary Volodymyr Horbulin in Kyiv to discuss "ways of strengthening what is already an extremely strong bilateral relationship." The two sides discussed Ukraine's newly adopted Constitution, its ongoing integration into European, regional and global institutions, and the economy.

A day later, on July 18, State Department spokesman Nicholas Burns told a U.S. foreign policy "town meeting" that the biggest mistake of the Bush and Clinton administrations with respect to the new independent



Khristina Lew

**February 21: President Leonid Kuchma is congratulated by Dr. Zbigniew Brzezinski upon receiving the 1996 Freedom Award presented by Freedom House in Washington.**

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states of the former Soviet Union was in remaining Russocentric for too long — to the detriment of developing important relationships with Ukraine and the other republics. Mr. Burns also told the meeting, attended by Secretary of State Christopher and held at the State Department, that the United States made a mistake in being too slow in marshaling the resources necessary for building strong ties with the countries of that region.

On July 25 Ukrainian Prime Minister Lazarenko paid his first working visit to Washington. Fifteen days after being confirmed the head of the Ukrainian government, Mr. Lazarenko met with U.S. congressional and government leaders, and international lending institutions such as the International Monetary Fund and the World Bank, to reassure them that under his leadership Ukraine will stay the course of radical economic reform.

Foreign Affairs Minister Udovenko, a member of the prime minister's delegation, met separately with Deputy Secretary of State Talbott on July 26 to discuss the creation of the Kuchma-Gore Commission, similar to the U.S.-Russian Gore-Chernomyrdin Commission, and to pass along a letter to Secretary of State Christopher that outlined Ukraine's proposal for the creation of a nuclear-free zone in Central and Eastern Europe.

Also on July 26, the Senate approved the Foreign Assistance Appropriations Act for fiscal year 1997 with a \$225 million earmark for Ukraine. The House of Representatives, which had previously passed the bill, did not earmark funds for Ukraine. It added a provision to the earmark in light of allegations made by The Washington Times that Ukraine and Libya had entered into a "strategic partnership." The provision stated that "Funds appropriated under this heading may not be made available for the government of Ukraine if the president determines and reports to the committees on appropriations that the government of Ukraine is engaged in military cooperation with the government of Libya."

The bill moved to the House-Senate conference committee to resolve the differences between the House and Senate versions.

On August 1 Rep. Benjamin Gilman (R-N.Y.), chairman of the House International Relations Committee, re-introduced Concurrent Resolution 120 "Supporting the Independence and Sovereignty of Ukraine and its Political and Economic Reforms" at a committee meeting. It was the first time in history that such a resolution was introduced in Congress. The resolution, which was initially proposed in December 1995, urges the Ukrainian government to stay the course of democratic and economic reform and calls on the president of the United States to, among other things, support U.S. security assistance for Ukraine and insist that the government of the Russian Federation recognize Ukraine's sovereignty. On September 4 the House of Representatives passed the resolution by a vote of 382 for, one against and 49 abstaining; on September 18 it was passed unanimously in the Senate.

On August 7 the new office director for Ukraine, Belarus and Moldova at the State Department, Jack Segal, briefed a group of Ukrainian American representatives on the state of U.S.-Ukrainian relations. Mr. Segal said the United States wants Ukraine to join the Anti-Ballistic Missile Treaty the U.S. signed with the Soviet Union in 1972, and pointed out that Ukraine recently joined 28 other arms-producing countries in the Wassenaar agreement, which obliges arms producers to notify each other about major arms sales. He also said Ukraine had agreed not to trade in dual-use products or technologies with states that sponsor terrorism.

On August 23 the Embassy of Ukraine in Washington hosted a fifth anniversary of independence reception attended by White House and State Department officials, diplomats from other countries' embassies, visitors from Ukraine and Ukrainian Americans. Melanne Verveer, deputy chief of staff to First Lady Hillary Rodham Clinton, read a letter of greeting from President Clinton to President Kuchma.

Mr. Clinton congratulated the Ukrainian president on Ukraine's achievements in the last five years and reiterated his commitment to "supporting Ukraine through its ambitious and far-sighted reforms and to working with Ukraine and our European partners to promote Ukraine's integration into the European family." The U.S. president also noted the Ukrainian American community's contribution of "invaluable moral support and financial help that have sustained friends and relatives in Ukraine through this unprecedented and challenging transition."

On September 11 two Ukrainian ships made the first ever trans-Atlantic voyage and sailed into the U.S. Naval Base at Norfolk, Va. The Hetman Sahaidachny and the Kostiantyn Olshansky were the first ships of



February 12: President Bill Clinton meets with representatives of the Central and East European Coalition at the White House.

independent Ukraine to show the Ukrainian colors in a U.S. port. They were greeted by Ukrainian Ambassador Shcherbak and the commander of the Norfolk naval base, and remained in Norfolk for one week to conduct joint naval landing exercises with the U.S. Navy.

On September 16-19 Mr. Horbulin, the secretary of the National Security Council of Ukraine, met with Deputy Secretary of State Talbott, Defense Secretary Perry, National Security Advisor Anthony Lake, CIA Director John Deutch and FBI Assistant Director William Esposito in Washington. During his four-day visit, Mr. Horbulin finalized details of the Kuchma-Gore Commission; addressed a congressional luncheon commemorating the fifth anniversary of Ukraine's independence; and discussed the creation of a collective security system in Europe, Ukraine's relationship with NATO, and the possibility of Ukraine joining the Missile Technology Control Regime.

On September 17 the House-Senate conference committee on the Foreign Assistance Appropriations Act resolved all but one of the differences between the House and Senate versions of the bill and agreed to appropriate \$625 million for the NIS, with a \$225 million earmark for Ukraine.

The \$225 million earmark was subearmarked for specific projects in Ukraine: \$25 million as part of the U.S. contribution to the decommissioning of the Chernobyl nuclear plant; \$35 million for agricultural projects; \$5 million for a small business incubator project; \$5 million for screening and treatment of childhood mental and physical illnesses related to Chernobyl radiation; \$50 million to improve safety at nuclear reactors; \$5 million for a land and resource management institute; and \$15 million for commercial law reform. On September 30 President Clinton signed a \$600 billion spending bill that included the \$225 million earmark for Ukraine into law.

On September 19 the White House officially announced the creation of the Kuchma-Gore Commission, named the U.S.-Ukraine Binational Commission. President Kuchma and Vice-President Gore chair the commission and will meet annually to guide its work, which will be carried out by four committees: Foreign Policy; Security; Trade and Investment; and Sustainable Economic Cooperation.

On the same day the Central and East European Coalition presented its Distinguished Service Award to Sens. McConnell and Barbara Mikulski (D-Md.) and Reps. Gilman and Richard Durbin (D-Ill.) for upholding the principles of freedom, democracy and the development of free-market principles for the people of Central and Eastern Europe.

On October 21-22 Foreign Affairs Minister Udovenko met Secretary of State Christopher, Deputy Secretary of State Talbott, Defense Minister Perry and Deputy National Security Advisor Samuel Berger during a working visit to Washington. Discussion centered on the expansion of NATO, which President Clinton announced on October 22 would expand to include the first group of East European countries in 1999. Throughout his two-day visit, Mr. Udovenko reiterated Ukraine's position on an

expanded NATO: that expansion be evolutionary; that NATO strengthen its relations with Ukraine as it expands; and that NATO not introduce nuclear weapons on the territory of new NATO members.

On November 5 Ukrainian Ambassador Shcherbak hailed the re-elections of President Clinton and Ukraine's supporters in Congress. The election results, he said, assure "four more years of stable development of Ukrainian-American relations" and the continuity of the existing friendly and bipartisan U.S. policy toward Ukraine.

## Canada and Ukraine: expanded cooperation

Canada's relationship with Ukraine in 1996 started on a sour note after the federal government announced it would discontinue funding Radio Canada International, which transmits programming to Ukraine, as a cost-saving measure.

In January, the Canadian Institute of Ukrainian Studies at the University of Alberta issued a news release decrying the move: "It is ironic that the Ukrainian section of RCI is due to be closed when RCI has finally gained rights from Ukraine's state radio authorities to rebroadcast RCI's Ukrainian section programming on Ukraine's AM state radio on a daily basis."

Also in January, the third phase of a Canadian-Ukrainian nursing initiative, sponsored by the Canada-Ukraine Partners Program Partners in Health project, began bilateral exchanges and the development of a master's degree program for Ukrainian nurses.

In February, Ukraine's third ambassador to Canada, Volodymyr Furkalo, who headed the foreign policy directorate in the president's administration in Kyiv, presented his credentials to Governor General Romeo LeBlanc at a Rideau Hall ceremony on February 14 — three weeks after Canada's second ambassador to Ukraine, Christopher Westdal, who served as Canadian ambassador to South Africa, Bangladesh and Burma, presented his to Ukrainian President Leonid Kuchma on January 23.

In welcoming Mr. Furkalo, Governor General LeBlanc, who serves as the queen's official representative to Canada and functions as the country's constitutional head of state, said Canada had "devoted much energy to expanding [its] bilateral trade and establishing the necessary framework of agreements [with Ukraine]. With time, and as the economic reforms in Ukraine take hold, we can expect that our commercial ties will grow substantially."

In March, Deputy Prime Minister Sheila Copps, who also serves as Minister of Canadian Heritage, announced that Radio Canada International would be spared the fiscal-cutting knife for another year.

On April 26, Foreign Affairs Minister Lloyd Axworthy addressed the House of Commons on the

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occasion of the 10th anniversary of the Chernobyl disaster. He said Canada intends to continue its "political and economic cooperation with Ukraine in nuclear safety and energy sector development and other vital fields – both bilaterally and multilaterally."

About 500 people gathered in front of Parliament Hill on April 29 to remember the tragedy. During the 10th anniversary remembrances, the Canadian Friends of Ukraine also presented an incubator to Ambassador Furkalo; it will be used in the neonatal ward of the Zhytomyr Regional Children's Hospital. Also, a photo and art exhibit recalling the accident was held at the Art Gallery of the Regional Municipality of Ottawa-Carleton; the Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA) announced an agreement with SaskPower Commercial to help modernize a thermal power plant in Ukraine in a \$3.5 million (about \$2.6 million U.S.), five-year contract; and Ottawa Mayor Jacquelin Holzman declared April 26 "The Chernobyl Nuclear Reactor Accident Day."

Also in late April, the Ukrainian-Canadian firm Kozlova Enterprises Inc. organized the country's first Ukrainian trade fair at the Metro Convention Center, at which more than 200 private- and state-run firms exhibited their products and services. A Ukrainian-Canadian business seminar was also held.

Meanwhile, in Ottawa, Ambassador Furkalo told a Ukrainian Canadian Professional and Business Association audience in late May that Ukrainian exports to Canada had increased by five times between 1994 and 1995, while Canadian exports to Ukraine had doubled during the same period. Also in May, a delegation from the Toronto-based Canada-Ukraine Chamber of Commerce travelled to several Ukrainian cities promoting bilateral trade and partnerships.

Several new Canadian-Ukrainian partnerships were launched throughout 1996, including one on June 24, in which CIDA announced a \$5 million (\$3.6 million U.S.), five-year Small Business and Economic Development project for the Ivano-Frankivsk region, led by Confederation College's Northwest Enterprise Center in Thunder Bay, Ontario.

For the fifth year in a row, Canada Day celebrations were held the weekend before the July 1 birthday. This year heralded the planting of Ukraine's first Canadian sugar maple tree in Kyiv's Taras Shevchenko Park.

On August 23, Ambassador Furkalo hosted a diplomatic reception at his residence to mark Ukraine's fifth anniversary of independence.

Ukrainian Justice Minister Serhii Holovatyi spent a week in Canada in late September. During his visit, Mr. Holovatyi signed a bilateral treaty with Canada's justice minister, Allan Rock, "On Mutual Assistance in Criminal Matters" (which took effect November 1).

Earlier in the month, CIDA had announced a \$2.5 million (about \$1.8 million U.S.) project over close to three years to support a Canadian Bureau for International Education-run program involving

Ukraine's Academy of Public Administration, as well as an exchange and internship program at several Canada-based academic institutions.

In the area of health care reform in Ukraine, two Canadian physicians travelled to Ukraine to help with the country's anti-AIDS and anti-drugs strategy as part of the Partners in Health initiative.

In late October, the federal government announced five new aid projects for Ukraine during Minister Axworthy's visit to Ukraine, where he attended a meeting of the Canada-Ukraine Intergovernmental Economic Commission in Kyiv. All of them dealt with the after-effects of the 1986 Chernobyl nuclear accident and all were to receive CIDA funding.

They included: Toronto's Help Us Help the Children, which received \$235,000 (\$169,000 U.S.) to provide medicine, food and clothing to about 30,000 children age 17 and under who live in almost 150 Ukrainian orphanages; and four projects worth \$7.5 million (about \$5.4 million U.S.) to help Ukraine shut down the Chernobyl nuclear power station, as well as to modernize its old hydroelectric power plants and electricity distribution worth \$2.8 million (about \$2 million U.S.).

Following his October 24 meeting with Ukrainian Foreign Minister Hennadii Udovenko, Mr. Axworthy also announced a series of agreements that would develop Ukraine's energy sector, including a \$150 million (about \$109 million U.S.) project by Ontario-based Northumberland Power for the reconstruction and modernization of Ukrainian electric power plants and a plan to build a "World Trade Center" in Kyiv at a cost of about \$400 million (about \$290 million U.S.).

In mid-November, the Ukraine Enterprise Corp., whose mandate is to offer Ukrainian enterprises Western partners and capital, technical assistance, accounting expertise and personnel management, began trading on the Edmonton-based Alberta Stock Exchange. In the first phase of funding, the company had raised close to \$9 million (about \$6 million U.S.).

By year's end, 26 Ukrainian law professors had been interviewed for eight, one-year training positions in the law schools at the University of Alberta in Edmonton, McGill University in Montreal and Toronto's York University. The Ukrainian academics will comprise the faculty at the Center of Legal Studies at Taras Shevchenko University in Kyiv.

And, just two weeks before Christmas, the fate of Radio Canada International was again in doubt. In mid-December, the Canadian Broadcasting Corp, which oversees RCI's mandate, announced the international service would, after all, have to go. But, no sooner did the sad news come from CBC President Perrin Beatty's mouth than federal Ministers Copps and Axworthy arrived at the 11th hour to save the short-wave radio service. RCI's \$16 million (about \$12 million U.S.) budget would be shared by the departments of Canadian Heritage, Foreign Affairs and International Trade, National Defense, and CIDA.

## Summer Olympics: Ukraine debuts

Podkopayeva, Klichko, Oliynyk, Serebrianska, Sharipov, Kravets, Taimazov ... These are just some of the names that gave Ukraine prominence in the field of sports in 1996 and made its debut as a free nation at the XXVI Summer Olympics, held in Atlanta in July, an unqualified success.

The 1996 Olympic Games, which celebrated 100 years since the Games were renewed, were the pre-eminent sporting event of the year. With 23 medals, nine of them gold, Ukraine took 10th place in medal totals, finishing ahead of countries such as Britain, Canada, Brazil and Poland.

The Ukrainian team arrived in the United States on July 6, after a send-off by thousands of Kyiv residents on Independence Square, which featured rock bands and an address by Prime Minister Pavlo Lazarenko. Until the beginning of the Games on July 19 they trained in Carrollton, Ga., the Ukrainian pre-Olympic training site.

Once in Atlanta, spunky Lilia Podkopayeva led the team of 235 athletes with two golds and a silver medal in gymnastics. The 4-foot-9 inch dynamo did not get her fair share of the limelight, however. She was constantly overshadowed by the United States team, which took the team gold, but failed miserably in the individual events. The press gushed over Americans Shannon Miller, Dominique Dawes, Kerri Strug and Dominique Moceanu, none of whom surpassed Ms. Podkopayeva in terms of either performances or medals.

When it came to crunch time in the individual all-around finals, Ms. Podkopayeva showed that she would not be stopped. In the final event, it took a misstep by her nearest competitor, Mo Huilan, to assure the 17-year-old her gold. But Ms. Podkopayeva had everything to do with it. In the floor exercise she had given an explosive performance, which the judges rewarded with a 9.87, the highest mark of the day.

The Americans Miller and Dawes made disastrous mistakes, both stepping out of bounds in the same event, which cost them medals.

The first gold medal for Ukraine was captured by Viacheslav Oliynyk of Mariupil on July 23, four days into the competitions. Strongman Timur Taimazov was the first to set new Olympic and world records when he lifted 235 kg. in the clean and jerk in the 108-kg. weightlifting class. He broke his own mark by 1 kilogram.

A surprise to many, but not to those who had followed his quick rise through the amateur ranks, was the golden victory of boxer Volodymyr Klichko in the heavyweight class on the final day of the Olympic competitions. In the preliminary bouts he had upset two favorites, Laurence Clay-Bey of the United States and Russian Alexei Lezin, before meeting Paea Wolfgramm of Tonga in the finals. Mr. Wolfgramm said after his defeat that he wasn't used to the Ukrainian's style. "They have a different style. Tonight he outboxed me."

The biggest disappointment was Sergey Bubka, whose string of bad luck at the Olympics continued in 1996. He withdrew from competition in the pole vault hours before the contest began and placed the blame on a strained Achilles' tendon. The only person to clear 20 feet and the odds-on gold medal favorite said doctors had told him he needed three to four months of complete rest. In 1992 Mr. Bubka had done badly, failing to qualify for the finals. At Seoul in 1988 he won the gold medal.

The press seemed to have its eyes only on the Americans throughout the Atlanta Games, an impression that members of the foreign press also carried. NBC was especially guilty of maintaining a narrow viewpoint. One example given in The Weekly editorial from August 4 is a photo of the three medal winners in the shotput, two Americans and the Ukrainian bronze medalist Oleksander Bahach. As the caption commented, "He did not share the NBC spotlight, however, as the unabashedly jingoistic network's cameras focused on the two Americans, leaving Bahach out of the picture. Was there no room for Bahach on our TV screens?"

And then there was the bomb, which changed everything at the Games. The bomb exploded in Centennial Park a week into the competitions. One night the park was jammed, everybody was partying and enjoying



Canada-Ukraine Monitor

**September 23: Justice Minister Serhii Holovatyi (seated, left) of Ukraine signs a treaty on cooperation in criminal matters with Justice Minister Allan Rock of Canada.**

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themselves. The next, police were everywhere, the park was closed and a tension hung over the city of Atlanta and the Olympic Games.

Besides that tragic incident and the truly messed-up transportation system for the press corps and athletes, the heat, which the Atlanta Committee for the Olympic Games was less than forthright about when it pitched Atlanta as the site of the Olympics, was unbearable. The first week the temperature averaged in the mid-90s, which had fans, athletes and the press steaming in several ways.

Such temperatures made one wonder how come in the Olympic Village the Ukrainian athletes could only think of borsch and pampushky. On a day that the temperature hovered around 95 degrees? But that's what they told us. There was a definite lack of Ukrainian dishes in the Village cafeteria and an obvious desire by the Ukrainian team for some Ukrainian home-cookin'.

A week and half into the two-week competitions, a contingent of Ukrainian Olympians who had finished competing returned to Ukraine, but not before they were feted by the Ukrainian Association of Georgia at the lush residence of businessman Ihor Prockow.

Nope. They did not have borsch and pampushky there either. But there was enough of everything else so that all who attended went home satisfied.

Among those who attended were Minister of Sports and Youth Valerii Borzov. He and Laryssa Barabash-Temple of Atlanta were the major coordinators in obtaining the financing and making the arrangements that allowed the Ukrainian team's stay here to go off without a hitch.

Financing the squad was a particular problem. In May, the National Olympic Committee of Ukraine (NOC-Ukraine) was informed that the budget crisis of the government would limit the size of the team and the money it would receive. On May 13, Volodymyr Lytvyn, the president's assistant chief of staff, said that at the time only 20 percent of the Olympic budget was available — this two months before the Games were to begin.

Funding for the Ukrainian Olympic movement was provided not only by the government but by Ukrainian organizations in Canada and the U.S. After the completion of the Games, on August 15 the Ukrainian National Association received a letter of gratitude from Mr. Borzov for the \$15,000 in total that the UNA donated to the NOC-Ukraine. Another major fund-raiser for the NOC-Ukraine was the Philadelphia Regional Olympic Committee, which collected more than \$50,000, and the Ukrainian Sports Federation of the United States and Canada. All told, Ukrainians in the United States and Canada donated \$574,212.24 to the National Olympic Committee of Ukraine, according to figures released by Ms. Barabash-Temple. There were additional donations by the International Sports Corp., which handled ticket sales and covered the cost of the hospitality package, and the donation of an arthroscopic surgery unit by Dr. Kurt Chambless and the Memorial Orthopedic Hospital of Chattanooga, Tenn.

Ms. Barabash-Temple, who worked tirelessly in the last months leading up to the Games, also was a tremendous help in obtaining accreditation for The Weekly from Ukraine after our yearlong effort seemed to be on the verge of failure. Nineteen days before the Games were to begin we received a phone call from the Atlanta Committee for the Olympic Games that our documents had been received from Ukraine and that we were fully accredited.

Ms. Barabash-Temple, along with Bob Young of the Carrollton Chamber of Commerce, was also largely responsible for coordinating a training site for the Ukrainian athletes in Carrollton, about an hour's drive west of Atlanta. West Georgia College donated student dormitories and the college's athletic facilities, and even built a new, Olympic-caliber track. The Olympians arrived in Carrollton several weeks before the Games began for final training and acclimatization.

Athletes and coaches with Ukrainian ancestry also represented countries other than Ukraine at the 1996 Olympics. Among them, Yaro Dachniwsky, goaltender for the Canadian handball team; Joanne Malar of the Canadian Olympic swimming team; Coach Mike Burchuk, Canadian women's volleyball coach; Taras Liskevych, U.S. women's volleyball coach; and Rick Oleksyk, U.S. men's handball coach.

### Other sports venues

For all his Olympic problems, Mr. Bubka had success as well in 1996. At the Millrose Games held in



Associated Press

**July 28: Ukraine's top rowers (from left) Olena Ronzhyna, Inna Frolova, Svitlana Maziy and Dina Myftakhutdinova celebrate after winning the Olympic silver medal in the quadruple sculls.**

Madison Square Garden in Manhattan on February 2, he took first place in the pole vault, one of the few meets where he had not claimed success. The 32-year-old Ukrainian set a new games record with his vault of 19 feet 2 1/4 inches, which at that time was the highest jump of the year.

Mr. Borzov, the sports minister, was also in New York that week to be honored with nine of the 11 winners of the Olympic 100-meter dash who are still living. Mr. Borzov won the gold in Munich in 1972 in both the 100-meter and 200-meter dash, and a bronze in Montreal in 1976. He joined well-known figures such as Bob Hayes, Hasely Crawford and Linford Christie at the Jesse Owens Memorial Trophy Awards on the occasion of the 50th anniversary of the 1936 Olympics held in Berlin, Germany, in which Mr. Owens competed. This year's award winner was Michael Johnson, who would go on to more success at the Atlanta Olympics five months later.

Not everything in Ukrainian sports centered on the Olympics or Olympic figures, although it seemed that way. In basketball, Vitaliy Potapenko on June 26 became the second player from Ukraine drafted by a National Basketball Association team, the Cleveland Cavaliers, who picked him 12th over all (Alexander Volkov played for the Atlanta Hawks a few years back). The 6-foot-10-inch 21 year old, whom the Associated Press dubbed the "Ukraine Train," played college ball at Wright State University in Dayton, Ohio, where he averaged 20.7 points and 7.4 rebounds in his senior year.

In soccer, Ukraine's Kyiv Dynamo found itself surrounded by more controversy. On April 19 the Union of European Football Associations reinstated the team after it served seven months of a three-year suspension from all European competition because the Dynamo coach had allegedly attempted to bribe a Spanish referee to fix a match against a Greek team. A month earlier, on February 11, the team had contributed \$42,000 of earnings from a soccer tournament it had won in Moscow to an organization of widows and orphans of Russian soldiers who had died in Chechnya.

Knowledge of the donation provoked Ukrainian diaspora leaders in North America to fire off a letter to Minister Borzov condemning the move. He released a statement expressing anxiety and anger over the contribution.

There has been contention that the donation was a bribe to a Russian vice-president of the UEFA to intercede on the team's behalf to have the ban on play lifted, although that charge has not been substantiated.

In figure skating, Ukrainians maintained a presence

in the top 10 in three of four categories. At the World Championships held in Edmonton on March 17-24, the ice dancers Irina Romanova and Ihor Yaroshenko placed fifth, the highest ranking for any Ukrainians. In the men's category Viacheslav Zahorodniuk placed sixth and was criticized by TV commentators for a technically strong but artistically listless and emotionless program. Other Ukrainian showings were: Dmytro Dmytrenko — 16th, men's; Olena Belousovska and Serhiy Potalov — ninth, pairs; Olena Liashenko — 12th, women's; Yulia Lavrenchuk — 17th, women's; Olena Grushina and Ruslan Honcharov — 19th, ice dance.

A week prior to the competition the team had practiced in Vegreville, Alberta, the home of the world's largest pysanka. On March 9, they presented an exhibition, and in one of the performances the entire group came out in traditional Ukrainian folk costumes.

Ukraine also had only limited success in the World Junior Hockey Championships held in Massachusetts. After beating the United States in the first game, 4-3, the team did not win another game, losing three times in round-robin play and two more times in the relegation play-offs, all by a combined score of 9-20.

But in yachting it did better. At the SPA Regatta held in Medemblik, Netherlands, on May 26, the Ukrainian women's team of skipper Ruslana Taran and crew member Olena Paholchuk finished second in the 470 class. The other Ukrainian boat, crewed by V. Kravchun and N. Hapanovich, placed 11th. In the men's division, Ihor Matvienko and Yevhen Braslavets placed sixth, with the team of A. Overchuk and V. Honcharov coming in 31st.

In the Biathlon World Championships, held on February 10 in Ruhpolding, Germany, Ukraine found more success, taking the bronze in the 4x7.5-kilometer relay thanks to Olympic bronze medalist Valentyna Tserbe and teammates Tetianna Vodopianova, Elena Petrova and Olena Zubrilova.

Finally, one more item on the Olympics. On February 29, Reuters reported that Andrei Medvedev, the tennis star from Kyiv, had made a bid to represent Russia at the Summer Olympics. It quoted an interview with Mr. Medvedev in the Moscow newspaper Sports Express in which he said, "I grew up in the Soviet Union, my homeland was the Soviet Union, my capital was Moscow, even if Kyiv was my hometown. But everything is so complicated, it is hard for me to say what it means now," he explained. Mr. Medvedev ended up not competing in the Olympic Games in Atlanta. His sister, Natalia, however, did compete for Ukraine in women's doubles.

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July: Transfiguration Ukrainian Catholic Church in Prnjavor, Bosnia, which was destroyed during the war in that region, was razed, but parishioners are determined to rebuild.

### Ukrainian diaspora: organizations, issues

As it was for most Ukrainians, for the Ukrainian World Congress, the Ukrainian diaspora's West-based umbrella body, 1996 was a year of portentous anniversaries (the 10th of Chernobyl and the fifth of Ukraine's independence) and cheerleading for the Atlanta Olympiad-focused fund-raising effort to aid the National Olympic Committee of Ukraine.

More importantly for the UWC as an institution, it was a year when concerns over its past debt were finally laid to rest, when its Religious Council was revived, and when irritation with its Kyiv-based counterpart, the Ukrainian World Coordinating Council, came to a head.

Early in the year, at the Presidium of the Secretariat's meetings on January 26-27, UWC chief financial officer William Sametz implored constituent national representations and international bodies to honor their financial obligations. As 1996 drew to a close, Mr. Sametz had engineered a minor miracle: total fiscal solvency, thanks to a sleight of hand. At the Presidium meetings of November 22-23 it came to light that requests for budgetary appropriations had been ignored or put on the back burner. As a result, there was no more deficit.

After being in hiatus for over 10 years, the UWC's Religious Council was formally resurrected at the May 31-June 1 Presidium meetings, with Bishop Yuriy Kalishchuk of the Ukrainian Orthodox Church of Canada to act as its chairman, and the Rev. Vasyl Makarenko of the Ukrainian Orthodox Church of Canada, the Rev. Roman Dusaniwsky of the Ukrainian Catholic Church of Canada, the Rev. Mike Melnyk of the UOC-Constantinople Patriarchate and Pastor Iwaskiw of the Ukrainian Evangelical-Baptist Alliance of Eastern Canada making up the secretariat.

The UWC's Religious Council was re-established barely a month after the passing of Metropolitan Maxim Hermaniuk of the Ukrainian Catholic Church of Canada, the man who had dedicated so much energy to making this revival a reality. The council chairman drew up communiqués on its renewed activity, on the need to give former Ukrainian Orthodox Patriarch Volodymyr Romaniuk a decent reburial, and on the controversy surrounding the disassembly of the cupola atop the former Ukrainian Catholic cathedral in Peremyshl (Przemysl in Polish), Poland.

#### Peremyshl cupola furor

No doubt, Poland's Ukrainian community appreciated every expression of sympathy and solidarity it could get, given the rising tensions in Peremyshl, a city about

seven miles from the Ukrainian border.

The Cathedral of St. John the Baptist, also known as the Church of St. Theresa, an edifice that over the years has served alternately as a shrine of the Polish Roman Catholic Carmelite Order and the cathedral of a Ukrainian Greek-Catholic Eparchy, has long been a symbol of ethnic divisions plaguing the city.

In late March the Carmelite Order began acting on its intentions to dismantle a dome placed by Ukrainians atop the church in the late 19th century, intentions announced in 1992 when Polish Cardinal Josef Glemp handed control of the controversial edifice back to them.

Miroslaw Czech, a Ukrainian deputy to the Polish Sejm, spearheaded a barrage of entreaties sent by the Ukrainian Polish community to the Carmelites and to national and local Polish authorities. The Ukrainian World Congress sent a letter to the mayor of Peremyshl, calling on him to allow the dome to remain as "a symbol of Christian tolerance, reverence for historical patrimony and proof of the friendly co-existence of our two peoples."

These efforts were bolstered by letters from Lviv Mayor Vasyl Kuibida and Lviv Oblast Council Chairman Mykola Horyn, but in the end they had no effect.

The Carmelites, backed by defiant Polish municipal officials who attacked the Ukrainian petitioners as "nationalist extremists," disregarded orders issued by the conservator general of historical monuments in Poland, Prof. Andrzej Tomaszewski, to stop work. By April 30, most of the structure was gone.

On May 14 in Warsaw, Polish Minister of Culture and Art Michal Jagiello hosted a press conference with his Ukrainian counterpart, Dmytro Ostapenko, to apologize for the incident. "Days of Polish-Ukrainian Friendship" scheduled to take place later in the month proceeded without a further hiccup, and it appeared that a landmark of Ukrainian culture in Poland was sacrificed to the new-found political comity between Kyiv and Warsaw.

#### Polish Consulate's panel on relations

A willingness to set aside historical differences in favor of a pragmatic approach in the present was well in evidence on February 23 during a panel discussion on "Poland and Ukraine: Perspectives for the Future," held at the Polish Consulate in Toronto, and co-sponsored with the Ukrainian mission in the city.

Panelists Prof. Orest Subtelny of York University and Prof. Piotr Wrobel of the University of Toronto examined the troubled past and the present amity enjoyed by the two countries, and the opportunities inherent in future harmony.

Both Serhii Borovyk, Ukraine's consul general in Toronto, and Polish Consul General Wojciech Tenchinski made much of the fact that Poland was the first country in

the world to recognize Ukraine following the historic referendum on independence of December 1, 1991.

Prof. Subtelny observed that "Poland and Ukraine both lost their political independence as nation-states, and struggled long and hard to get it back. No matter what the trend is toward continental integration, Poland and Ukraine will likely play a strong role in championing the idea of the nation-state."

Prof. Wrobel said the Solidarity movement and activists such as Adam Michnik laid the foundation for the present good will between the two newly independent states, but that Poland's handling of national minority questions will serve as a benchmark for its full acceptance into the club of Western European nations.

To conclude the evening, Consul Tenchinski said, "The emotions are strong and the path is difficult, but consensus is possible and within reach."

#### Diaspora's Olympic support

July 1996 was the UWC's "Ukrainian Olympic Month" and the culmination of international fund-raising efforts, led by Atlanta's Larissa Barabash-Temple, official U.S. representative of the National Olympic Committee (NOC) of Ukraine and Canadian Friends of the NOC's Stan Haba of Toronto.

At the November meetings of the UWC's Presidium, Sports Commissioner Vsevolod Sokolyk praised the diaspora for helping make Team Ukraine's first independent participation in a summer Olympiad not only a reality, but a success.

Mr. Sokolyk reserved special accolades for the Ukrainian Youth Association (SUM). As part of its 50th anniversary celebrations this year, SUM held its sixth quadrennial jamboree, or "Zlet," to coincide with the Olympic Games.

The Weekly carried coverage of SUM's Zlet, attended by over 100 youths from the U.S., Canada, Ukraine, the United Kingdom, and Australia. The jamboree's program included volunteer work in support of Ukraine's athletes at the Olympiad.

However, Mr. Sokolyk did not have only positives to report at year's end. He said communications with Ukrainian sports authorities at the intermediate to lower levels continue to be poor and that the exodus of trainers from Ukraine is continuing. "If this trend goes unchecked," he said, "there could be a collapse of the country's sports system."

#### Trouble with the UWCC

UWC dissatisfaction with the Ukrainian World Coordinating Council came to a head in 1996. At the UWC Presidium's January sessions, UWC President Dr. Dmytro Cipywnyk and General Secretary Yaroslav Sokolyk reported on the snubbing of Eastern diaspora members by UWCC organizers of meetings with Ukrainian President Leonid Kuchma, to general displeasure.

Evhen Czolij of the Conference of Ukrainian Youth Organizations (CUYO), the Ukrainian Canadian Congress's Oleh Romaniw and Askold Lozynsky, of the Ukrainian Congress Committee of America continued to voice their dissatisfaction with the UWCC, as they had at previous meetings.

Mr. Lozynsky criticized the UWCC's anemic response to problems of discrimination against Ukrainians beyond its borders. Others joined in with criticism of UWCC officials' constant deviations from by-laws. Many expressed exasperation with UWCC President Ivan Drach's "administrative incompetence."

In January, Mr. Czolij went so far as to suggest that there is no need for an umbrella body based in Ukraine, only a mechanism ensuring that international Ukrainian congresses take place every four years or so. By November, the UWCC's mishandling of this basic task (the second world conference is now scheduled for August 1997 instead of May) was making people angry.

At the November Presidium meeting the UWC effectively issued an ultimatum to the UWCC that it would not participate in the world gathering unless an agenda was set by late January at a meeting in Kyiv attended by Dr. Cipywnyk and Mr. Lozynsky. Dr. Cipywnyk added that if the level of disorganization persists, the UWC should seriously consider withdrawing from the UWCC.

The UWC will be marking two anniversaries in 1997. One is the 50th anniversary of the notorious "Akcja Wisla," the Polish government's operation involving the forcible internal deportation of Ukrainians from ethnographic territories in the Lemko and other regions to points in western Poland, and the UWC's own 30th anniversary, as it was constituted as the World Congress of Free Ukrainians on November 16-19, 1967, in New York.

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### Historic Prnjavor church to be rebuilt

In July, The Weekly carried a heartening report from a zone of devastation in the former Yugoslavia. Yuri Holowinsky, who completed an extended active duty tour in Bosnia with the Allied Rapid Reaction Corps, wrote about signs of revival among the Ukrainians of Prnjavor that he had witnessed.

Capt. Holowinsky's photograph showed the ruins of the Transfiguration Ukrainian Catholic Church, built in 1910, and completely destroyed during the recent war.

"Nevertheless, the indomitable Ukrainian spirit has not been crushed," Capt. Holowinsky wrote. "The faithful have already razed the ruins and are beginning rebuilding. According to the Rev. Petro Ovad, the parish priest, the Ukrainians of Prnjavor will once again have a church of their own."

### Our U.S. community: activity on the wane?

With all due respect, our community life in the United States seemed to be on the wane in 1996. There seemed to be few things that got the whole community truly involved or excited, and, when there was activity, for the most part it seemed to be more of the same (or should we say less of the same ...). To be sure, there were the solemn 10th anniversary commemorations of the Chernobyl nuclear accident (see section titled "Chernobyl: 10 years after") and there were myriad events marking the joyous fifth anniversary of Ukraine's independence, but, by and large it seemed our community was somewhat disjointed, suffering still from the disunity that has characterized our community life for 16 years now, and the disorientation that came in the wake of Ukraine's independence as our community here seeks to redefine its role.

The major community event marking the fifth anniversary of Ukraine's independence proclamation took place on Capitol Hill on September 18. The luncheon reception, held in the Russell Senate Office Building with more than 250 persons in attendance, was sponsored by the Ukrainian American Coordinating Council and the Ukrainian Congress Committee of America, and Sen. Carl Levin (D-Mich.), as well as some 30 other members of the Senate and House of Representatives. The keynote speaker was Volodymyr Horbulin, secretary of the National Security Council of Ukraine, who was then in Washington for four days of talks with Clinton administration officials. Mr. Horbulin expressed his gratitude and that of President Leonid Kuchma to Ukrainian Americans "who never lost the dream of an independent Ukraine" and continued working on its behalf after the advent of independence.

Other speakers included: Sens. Levin, Mitch McConnell (R-Ky.), Frank Lautenberg (D-N.J.), Paul Sarbanes (D-Md.) and Reps. Steny Hoyer (D-Md.) and Benjamin Gilman (R-N.Y.), as well as Melanne Verveer, deputy assistant to President Bill Clinton and deputy chief of staff to the first lady, who greeted her fellow Ukrainian Americans on behalf of the Clinton administration.

And, of course, since it was a presidential election year, Ukrainian Americans got involved in the campaign both on the Democratic and the Republican sides (at times, as seen on the pages of this newspaper, the debate between supporters of Bill Clinton on one side and supporters of Bob Dole on the other got quite heated). As Election Day approached, the Ukrainian National Information Service, the Washington Bureau of the Ukrainian Congress Committee of America, released the presidential campaigns' answers to a questionnaire it had prepared on behalf of the Ukrainian American community. The questionnaire covered five major points of interest: U.S. foreign assistance to Ukraine, the work of the U.S. Agency for International Development, Russian foreign policy and aggression, security guarantees for Ukraine, and consequences of the Chernobyl nuclear accident. The responses were published in the October 13 issue of The Weekly.

Two weeks after that, the paper published a "Congressional Scorecard," a rating of congressional candidates on both sides of the political aisle and where they stood on issues relating to Ukraine and U.S.-Ukrainian relations. The scorecard, compiled by the Washington representatives of the Ukrainian National Association and the Ukrainian Congress Committee of America, listed those among the candidates for 34 Senate seats and all 435 seats in the House who were considered supportive of Ukrainian

issues as well as those who were deemed unresponsive to the Ukrainian American community's concerns.

The fact that 1996 was an election year was evident also at many community gatherings, including conferences like the annual Leadership Conference organized by The Washington Group (see below) and the Congress of Ukrainians in America, the quadrennial convention of the UCCA, held on October 18-20 in East Hanover, N.J.

The UCCA honored President Clinton with the Shevchenko Freedom Award for his "commitment to pursuing steadfast relations with Ukraine and the recognition of Ukraine's vital importance in the continued peace and security of the European continent" and for his "keen understanding and close working relationship with the Ukrainian American community." The award was accepted on President Clinton's behalf by Ambassador Madeleine Albright, U.S. permanent representative to the United Nations (who has since been nominated by President Clinton to serve as U.S. secretary of state during his second term). Ambassador Albright spoke of the significance of the growing relationship between the United States and Ukraine, and noted that "The administration envisions an undivided Europe that is increasingly stable, secure, prosperous and democratic ... If this vision of Europe is to become a reality, Ukraine — because of its size, its location, its resources and the abilities of its people — must play an integral role."

Other recipients of the 1996 Shevchenko Freedom Awards were Sen. McConnell, Reps. Gilman, Sander Levin and David Bonior, as well as Hennadii Udovenko, foreign affairs minister of Ukraine and long-time permanent representative of Ukraine to the United Nations.

The Dole campaign was represented at the UCCA conclave by Edward Derwinski, former congressman and former secretary for veterans' affairs. Mr. Derwinski underscored the importance of familiarizing the Western world with Ukraine.

The UCCA congress also elected new governing bodies, and Askold Lozynskyj was re-elected president for a second term.

The other Ukrainian central organization in the United States, the Ukrainian American Coordinating Council, whose president is Ulana Diachuk, continued its organizational work in 1996. It had hoped for a congress of reunification to occur in October of this year at the time the UCCA held its regularly scheduled congress, but apparently that was not to be. The UACC's next congress, meanwhile, is slated to take place next year in September — unless, of course, an agreement on forming one central organization is reached before then.

Other major community developments during 1996 included the following.

- The Ukrainian Museum in New York City marked the 20th anniversary of its founding (the date was celebrated with an anniversary luncheon on October 20 at the Westbury Hotel). But, perhaps more importantly, it was marked by an intensified fund-raising campaign as this institution builds a new home for itself on East Sixth Street on a site purchased 10 years earlier. The museum is now rebuilding on the site, and architect George

Sawicki of Greenfield, Sawicki, Tarella Architects, P.C., has been engaged for the project, which is estimated cost between \$3.5 million and \$4 million, and is scheduled for completion in 1997. In other news, Ivan Luchechko was elected president of the board of trustees at the museum's annual meeting on June 9.

The Ukrainian Museum, it must be underlined, is succeeding in its goals: to collect, preserve, exhibit and interpret objects of artistic and history significance relating to Ukrainian life and culture. It does this through its permanent exhibits and special exhibitions, and via traveling shows that have enabled diverse audiences in diverse locales to appreciate the Ukrainian heritage. In its new building The Ukrainian Museum promises to do even more as it looks to cooperative projects with other institutions, and greater interaction with cultural and artistic communities in this country and beyond, and as it pledges "to preserve the values and traditions of the past" as well as "to identify the accomplishments of the present."

- The museum's parent organization, the Ukrainian National Women's League of America, held its 24th convention in Trevese, Pa., on the outskirts of Philadelphia with more than 300 women (and some men) in attendance. For four days beginning on May 24, they reviewed the work of the UNWLA and set a course for the next three years, re-electing Anna Krawczuk to a second three-year term as president.

This year's triennial convention was special because it marked 70 years of the organization's work and was given a serious underpinning because it occurred in the year of the 10th anniversary of the Chernobyl explosion. The convention included presentations and panel discussions on current events, organizational matters and plenary sessions. The UNWLA was created in 1925 in New York "to unite women of Ukrainian descent or belonging to the Ukrainian community who live in the United States, in order to preserve Ukrainian ethnic identity and cultural heritage. Functioning in a democratic country, the UNWLA is guided in its activities by the principles of Christian ethics, religious tolerance, political non-partisanship and the support of human rights within the framework of a non-profit charitable, education and cultural organization." That statement of purpose has been transformed in practice into myriad projects, including aid to orphans, widows, the elderly, new immigrants to the U.S., and medical and scholarship aid to various countries, including Chernobyl relief activities.

- The Ukrainian American Veterans continued their activity, shipping their 35th and 36th shipments of humanitarian aid to Ukraine through the Adopt-A-Hospital program. Launched in 1993 by the New Jersey State Department of the UAV, by the end of 1995 the program had shipped 322 tons of medical equipment and supplies donated by hospitals in New Jersey and New York to hospitals and medical schools in Zaporizhia, Chortkiv, Ternopil, Lviv, Dnipropetrovsk and Krasnohorivka, Ukraine. This year's shipments benefited hospitals in Brody, Ukraine.

The program solicits used hospital equipment, such



October 19: Ambassador Madeleine Albright accepts the Shevchenko Freedom Award on behalf of President Bill Clinton from Askold Lozynskyj, president of the Ukrainian Congress Committee of America.

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as respirators, X-ray machines, dental chairs and operating tables, and ships the donated goods to Ukraine through a State Department program that assists the newly independent states of the former Soviet Union.

Speaking at the UAVets 49th annual convention held in Philadelphia on September 20-22, Robert Gulay, the prime mover of the UAV Adopt-a-Hospital program in Ukraine, expounded on the potential avenues of charity that could evolve from this kind of project. He focused on the efforts of New Jersey veterans who have been able to deliver more than \$11 million in medical aid in two and a half years. "I strongly urge that all veterans' groups in America take part in this humanitarian project," Mr. Gulay concluded.

At the 49th convention, which brought together Ukrainian American Veterans who served in World War II, Korea, Vietnam and the Persian Gulf, National Commander Dmytro Bodnarchuk was re-elected to another term. The UAVets' sister organization, the National Ladies Auxiliary, held its deliberations at the same time and elected Rosalie Polche president. The Ukrainian American Veterans will mark the 50th anniversary of their founding next year with a convention at Soyuzivka.

- The Ukrainian-American Military Association was established in Chicago during a conference concerning "The Evolving Relationship Between Ukrainian and United States Armed Forces." Held on September 28-29 at the Ss. Volodymyr and Olha Ukrainian Catholic Church's Cultural Center, the conference was attended by some 35 officers and noncommissioned officers from the U.S. Army, Army National Guard, U.S. Naval Reserve, Air National Guard and Air Force Reserve, all of Ukrainian descent.

Membership is open to all military personnel, active and reserve, who are of Ukrainian descent. Lt. Col. Oryshkevych of Silver Spring, Md., was elected the UAMA's first president.

- Ukraine's accomplishments and shortcomings during the first five years of its independence came under review at the 1996 annual Leadership Conference of The Washington Group, and the many speakers and expert panelists gave the country a mixed report card: high marks in the area of geostrategic relations, domestic politics, democratization and human rights; marked improvement in economic reforms; but lagging far behind in energy and health care.

The conference, held on October 11-13, heard from President Clinton's point man on relations with the new independent states, Deputy Secretary of State Strobe Talbott; former U.S. representative to the United Nations Jeane Kirkpatrick, who spoke on behalf of President Clinton's Republican presidential challenger, Mr. Dole; Ukrainian Supreme Court Judge Oleksandr Volkov; and some 20 other experts representing the U.S. and Ukrainian governments, the World Bank, the International Monetary Fund, academic institutions, think-tanks, corporations and foundations dealing with Ukraine.

About 300 persons from throughout the United States and Canada attended the three-day event, which was co-sponsored by the Embassy of Ukraine, the U.S.-Ukraine Foundation and the Ukrainian Medical Association of North America. During the conference banquet The Washington Group presented its "Friend of Ukraine" award to Hobart Earle, music director and principal conductor of the Odesa Philharmonic Orchestra, in recognition of his "outstanding contribution to Ukraine's efforts to take her rightful place in the international cultural community of nations."

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Last year we closed this section wondering: What will 1996 bring for the Ukrainian American community? Will it be a renewed unity, or continued squabbling? Will there be a refocusing on our priorities in this country, or will we continue to set our sights on Ukraine, often to the detriment of our community life here? The same questions could be posed again this year.

But, in all fairness, it should be noted that there is at least a glimmer of hope for unity. Since April, tripartite negotiations have been going on in an effort to reunite the Ukrainian American community into one central organization, and representatives of the Ukrainian Congress Committee of America, the Ukrainian American Coordinating Council and the Conference of Non-Aligned Organizations are moving toward a resolution of the divisiveness that has existed since 1980. There has been some progress, as well as some setbacks, but in the end it seems the right intentions are there: all three parties want unity and would like to reunite into a new body called the Ukrainian Congress of America. Hopefully, a congress of reunification will take place in 1997.

## Canada's community: at a crossroads

For the second year in a row, Canada had been rated the most desirable country to live in by the United Nations, but this was cold comfort to a polity threatened by surging separatism in one of its larger provinces, Québec, and by the impact of the international virus of cut-backs, which had spread from the business world to government social programs and cultural institutions.

The Ukrainian Professional and Business Federation did its part in grappling with the situation, sponsoring a series of talks and panels titled "Canada in Crisis." The first, held on February 24 in Toronto, dealt with the nature and character of the sovereignty movement in Québec. The featured speaker was a hard-line federalist Prof. Yarema Kelebay of McGill University's faculty of education in Montreal.

The second Toronto-based event involved a square-off between one of Canada's best-known champions of multiculturalism, Dr. Manoly Lupul, and former Liberal Member of Parliament John Nunziata, an outspoken critic of the policy.

On March 29, the debate took place, in a fashion and a setting that was most closely in accordance with the series' purpose, as envisioned by UCPBF Ukrainian Canadian Congress liaison Michael Wawryshyn. At the outset of the series, Mr. Wawryshyn said he hoped to provide a forum for discussion and contact, and to attract the participation of Canada's other ethnic communities in the project. Attended by members of both the Italian and Ukrainian communities, it also featured a feisty debate.

Dr. Lupul, the founding director of the Canadian Institute of Ukrainian Studies, presented an impassioned defense of multiculturalism as a policy that is part and parcel of an activist government agenda. Mr. Nunziata gave an equally forceful presentation of the hard-headed "anti-affirmative action" approach to the question, with a candor rarely matched by members of the Liberal government.

A similar evening, at which speakers addressed the questions "What Kind of Unity? What Kind of Separatism?", was organized by the National Council of Ethnic Canadian Business and Professional Associations and held on March 26 at Ottawa City Hall.

Prof. Seymour Wilson of Carleton University moderated a panel that included five federal politicians: Maria Minna of the Liberal Party (substituting for Secretary of



**July 15: Sgt. Filip Konowal, who earned the first Victoria Cross awarded to a Canadian, was remembered with the unveiling of a trilingual plaque in Ottawa.**

State for Multiculturalism Dr. Hedy Fry), Gilles Duceppe of the Bloc Quebecois, Jim Abbott of the Reform Party, Simon de Jong of the New Democratic Party and Progressive Conservative Sen. Consiglio de Nino.

Secretary of State Fry did attend the Canadian Ethnocultural Council's general meeting of May 25-26 in Toronto and delivered a stirring speech reaffirming her government's commitment to multiculturalism.

The May meeting also marked the end of Dr. Dmytro Cipywnyk's tenure as the Canadian Ethnocultural Council president, who was stepping down at the end of his second term in order to devote more time to his duties as president of the Ukrainian World Congress.

In his parting speech, Dr. Cipywnyk welcomed the sentiments expressed by Dr. Fry, but warned of backsliding toward a bilingual and bicultural (English and French) orientation, particularly in the country's bureaucracy, "while the governing politicians sing praises of Canada's multiculturalism policy at home and abroad."

Such fears were amplified by comments made during the meetings by Susan Scotti, a senior civil servant of the Heritage Department, who suggested that the need for a multiculturalism policy would diminish.

### The UCC at a juncture

Nationally, the Winnipeg-based Ukrainian Canadian Congress seemed to be at a crossroads in 1996. While its Alberta, Saskatchewan and Manitoba provincial councils continued to show vitality and leadership, and although its Shevchenko Foundation continued to play an important and much-needed role in supporting individual and group endeavors in the community, there were signs of malaise.

At its triennial congress in October 1995, the UCC had gamely faced the reality of the elimination of federal and provincial operating grants, but either the community did not hear the UCC's call to compensate for the shortfall, or it wasn't set out clearly enough.

In late May, the UCC moved its Ottawa Office to lower-rent premises. Then, in an August 1 shocker, both Ottawa Office Director Andriy Hluchowecy (who had established the UCC's Ottawa Information Bureau nine years ago) and National Public Relations Director Ihor Shawarsky were let go in a cost-cutting measure. Administrator Lydia Migus was asked to act as a part-time acting director, but departed for greener, and somewhat more secure, pastures soon after, and the office closed.

The Canada-Ukraine Foundation, created by a UCC steering committee in 1995, held its inaugural meeting on the weekend of March 23-24 in Winnipeg, and elected noted local heart surgeon Dr. Jaroslaw Barwinsky as its president.

However, CUF again failed to secure the endorsement and participation of the Ukrainian Professional and Business Federation and the influential Canada-Ukraine Chamber of Commerce (CUCC).

The UCC also took steps to establish a Canada-Ukraine Advisory Council with the participation of Canada's Department of Foreign Affairs and International Trade, and even held meetings in March with Minister Lloyd Axworthy in anticipation of his October trade mission to Ukraine. Perhaps due to the UCC's difficulties mentioned above, the council's participation in the mission became increasingly marginalized, with the CUCC becoming the main player in the effort, and the mandate of the council itself has come into question.

Rubbing salt in the wounds, the UCPBF, which has increasingly taken a leading role in confronting issues facing Ukrainian Canadians, took direct aim at the UCC at its Eastern Canada Conference held in Ottawa on July 12-14.

In a report to the federation, Mr. Wawryshyn, the UCPBF's representative to the UCC, criticized the congress for not devoting "enough attention to getting its message across to our community in any language (Ukrainian/English/French). As far as the mainstream media is concerned, we are virtually non-existent."

Mr. Wawryshyn also recommended the UCC's headquarters be moved out of Winnipeg, claiming that the umbrella body had become regarded as the "Winnipeg UCC, and not the Canadian UCC."

As mentioned above, the UCC Alberta Provincial Council showed little of the drift that seemed to plague its national counterpart. On October 5, the Edmonton-based council held the "Building a Future '96" conference jointly with the Canadian Institute of Ukrainian Studies, drawing participants from across the country to discuss everything from bilingual Ukrainian-English education, to technical assistance to Ukraine, with issues of immigration, travel, investment in Ukraine's energy industry, Canadian unity, heritage and multiculturalism in between.

All sessions were heavily attended, as conference organizers coped with the crush of about 300 scholars,

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educators, business leaders, legal and medical professionals and community activists with happy bewilderment.

### SUSK has a pulse

The Ukrainian Canadian Students' Union (SUSK) showed signs of returning to life by holding a congress in Montreal on February 23-25. Attended by 36 delegates representing nine Ukrainian student organizations from across the country the congress elected its executive, with Volodymyr Boychuk (Edmonton), president, and Jon Tomas (Montreal), vice-president.

The topics discussed, appropriately enough, included student apathy and the role of Ukrainian student organizations; and defining a Ukrainian ethnicity within a Canadian framework heading into the 21st century.

During the week of September 14-21, SUSK held a Chernobyl Commemoration Blood Drive in Edmonton.

### Internment issue

The Ukrainian Canadian Civil Liberties Association effort to commemorate those interned as "enemy aliens" by the Canadian government during World War I met with success in Alberta.

On June 1, the association unveiled three trilingual historical panels at the Cave and Basin site in Banff National Park. The panels, which feature text and archival photographs, and which explain how, when, why and where Ukrainians were interned in Canada's first national park, were paid for by Parks Canada. So far, that contribution remains the only one by the federal government.

Alberta's Ukrainian community counted another feather in its cap after ceremonies on October 12 unveiling a monument in Jasper National Park.

Unfortunately, the UCCLA was stymied in its effort to get the Canadian government to set up a memorial at a site near Spirit Lake, Québec, despite cooperation secured from farmers who own the land where the camp was situated.

On a positive note, there were a number of evenings held across the country, devoted to the publication of a children's book on this topic, namely Marsha Forchuk Skrypuch's "Silver Threads," released by Penguin Books of Canada (in English) and the University of Alberta's Ukrainian Language Education Center (in Ukrainian).

### Konowal honored

Ironically, while many of his compatriots were being held in internment camps, Sgt. Filip Konowal was busy on the frontlines of the "Great War," earning the first Victoria Cross bestowed on a Canadian.

On July 15, Canada's Defense and Veterans' Affairs Minister David Collenette unveiled a trilingual plaque in his honor at the Governor General's Foot Guards' Cartier Square Drill Hall in Ottawa.

The commemoration occurred thanks to the efforts and funding provided by the UCCLA, Montreal's Royal Canadian Legion Branch 183 (Mazepa Branch) and Toronto's Branch 360 (Konowal Branch), the Ukrainian Canadian Professional and Business Association of Ottawa and the Governor General's Foot Guards.

A biographical booklet on Sgt. Konowal written by the UCCLA's Dr. Lubomyr Luciuk and Ron Sorobey — an amateur historian from Ottawa who spent years researching the Ukrainian Canadian war hero's career — was also released on July 15.

### Community honors activists

On February 4, Media Watch Ukraine lauded three high-profile activists for "accomplishment in the media and a contribution to the public's awareness and understanding of Ukrainian issues." The honorees, dubbed "Ukrainian Media Leaders," included film-maker Yuriy Luhovy, the UCCLA's Dr. Luciuk, and renowned investigative journalist Victor Malarek.

In a July 28 "Canada Courier" item, Weekly columnist Chris Guly honored the efforts of UCCLA's "task-oriented" Chairman John Gregorovich, ranging from his work concerning the Deschenes Commission, to recent efforts to have the federal government formally recognize the wrongful internment of Ukrainian Canadians at 26 camps across Canada in 1914-1920.

On November 30, the Ukrainian community "roasted" one of the fixtures of the Toronto scene, William Kereliuk, on the occasion of his 80th birthday. The veteran activist is well known to those familiar with the workings of the Ukrainian World Congress and particularly its former incarnation, the World Congress of Free Ukrainians; the Ukrainian Canadian Congress and the St. Vladimir Institute in Toronto. Mr. Kereliuk was feted at a gala evening by a number of distinguished speakers who fondly, but harshly, expressed their appreciation for his contributions to the life of the community.

## Academia: jubilees, conferences, projects

North America's two leading Ukrainian scholarly institutions celebrated anniversaries this year. In the U.S., the Harvard Ukrainian Research Institute's "Summer Institute" marked its silver jubilee, while to the north, the Canadian Institute of Ukrainian Studies marked its 20th anniversary as an institution.

### At Harvard

HURI prepared for the 25th anniversary of its summer courses by putting out a call to all alumni to attend the first weekend of this year's sessions, June 28-30, and 177 did.

At the first night's dinner/symposium held at the Faculty Club, this year's program director, Dr. Halyna Hryn, provided a synopsis of its history. She mentioned that while enrollment peaked in 1977-1979, now success is seen in figures indicating that 55 percent of students who signed up in 1995 were not of Ukrainian background.

The next day, the professors of Harvard's three chairs in Ukrainian studies, Prof. Roman Szporluk, the Mykhailo Hrushevsky Chair of History, Prof. Michael Flier, the Oleksander Potebnja Professor of Ukrainian Philology, and Prof. George Grabowicz, the Dmytro Cyzevskyj Professor of Ukrainian Literature, delivered addresses.

On July 1, Prof. Szporluk succeeded Prof. Grabowicz as HURI director. In an interview with *The Weekly's* Roman Woronowycz, Prof. Szporluk said he would concentrate on contemporary 20th century history, with an emphasis on Polish-Ukrainian relations and a general reconceptualization of Eastern European history.

Prof. Grabowicz told *The Weekly* he considered his biggest achievements as director to be the institute's expansion into the fields of contemporary political science and economics, and the broadening of contacts with Ukraine.

As 1996 drew to a close, HURI joined with George Washington University (the host institution) and the Ukrainian Embassy in the U.S. in sponsoring a conference with perhaps the most high-powered cast assembled during the year, as part of a project known as "Ukraine — Five Years of Independence."

Held December 12-14, the "Ukraine in the World" conference included Dr. Zbigniew Brzezinski, former national security advisor and Center for Strategic and International Studies counselor; James Collins, special advisor to the U.S. secretary of state on the newly independent states; Richard Morningstar, U.S. ambassador at large for the NIS; Anton Buteiko, Ukraine's first vice minister for foreign affairs; and Dr. Yuri Shcherbak, Ukraine's ambassador to the U.S.

As chair of the American-Ukrainian Advisory

Committee, Dr. Brzezinski appears to have coaxed the most assuredly positive stance on Ukraine's independence and strategic importance to date from Deputy Secretary of State Strobe Talbott. In his December 12 address to the National Press Club, Dr. Brzezinski read from a letter received from Mr. Talbott in which the latter states "a strong prosperous, democratic and independent Ukraine can make a critical contribution to the stability and well being of Europe as a whole — a core U.S. national security interest."

Ambassador Morningstar's luncheon speech was the most cautionary of all, suggesting that Ukraine must progress from economic stability to growth if it hopes to continue to attract outside support from investors and foreign governments.

Five other sessions dealt with Ukraine's relations with its direct neighbors (including Russia), the Near and Middle East, Western Europe and the U.S., Eastern and Central Europe, and general issues of security and military affairs.

Conference organizer Lubomyr Hajda indicated that the "Five Years" project will include two more conferences — one on economic issues and the other on nation-building and social issues — and the total package will eventually appear as a two-volume publication of proceedings and data.

### At the CIUS

The Canadian Institute celebrated its 20th year with a full-day conference (held jointly with the Ukrainian Canadian Congress's Alberta Provincial Council), a gala banquet, and the launching of Dr. Bohdan Bociurkiw's important new study of the Soviet regime's war against the Ukrainian Catholic Church.

Ukraine's Ambassador to Canada Volodymyr Furkalo brought greetings from President Leonid Kuchma during a special luncheon in honor of the institute.

In his keynote banquet address CIUS Director Dr. Zenon Kohut traced the history of the CIUS's founding in 1976 thanks to its first director, Prof. Manoly Lupul of the University of Alberta (U of A); a trio of scholars — the U of A's late Prof. Ivan Lysiak Rudnytsky, University of Toronto's Prof. George S.N. Luckyj, Carleton University's Dr. Bohdan Bociurkiw; and politically connected lawyer and U of A Chancellor Peter Savaryn.

Dr. Kohut listed the institute's major accomplishments, including the five-volume English-language Encyclopedia of Ukraine, the establishment of a number of programs in Ukrainian studies at the University of Alberta, the development and publishing of the Nova Ukrainian language development series for bilingual (English-Ukrainian) schools, the launching of a project to translate Mykhailo Hrushevsky's monumental 10-volume "Istoria Ukrainy-Rusy" (The History of Ukraine-Rus'), and the publication of more than 100 books and 58 research reports.

As the year drew to a close, the Hrushevsky Project,



January 30: Karekin I, the supreme patriarch and catholicos of all Armenians, visits the Metropolitan Andrey Sheptytsky Institute of Eastern Christian Studies, an academic unit of the faculty of theology of St. Paul University in Ottawa. He met with professors and students, and imparted a blessing after a talk on the creative vitality that Eastern Churches have to offer the modern world. Patriarch Karekin, the spiritual leader of some 8 million Armenians worldwide, is seen above flanked by the Rev. Andriy Chirovsky (right) and the Rev. Peter Galadza of the Sheptytsky Institute.

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conducted by the Petro Jacyk Center for Ukrainian Historical Research at CIUS under the directorship of Dr. Frank Sysyn, gained impetus as it handed a completed manuscript of the first volume to CIUS Press for publication in the summer of next year.

In April, Canadian Cabinet Minister Anne McLellan announced a grant totaling \$2.2 million in support of the CIUS's Canada-Ukraine Legislative Education Project. Over the three-and-a-half-year term of the project, customized educational programs will be organized for up to 120 Ukrainian legislators and government officials. They will involve the governments of Canada's three prairie provinces, Alberta, Saskatchewan and Manitoba, as well as the Speaker's Office of Canada's House of Commons. In Ukraine, CIUS's partner in managing the project will be the non-profit International Center for Policy Studies, whose board of directors is chaired by Dr. Bohdan Krawchenko, former director of CIUS.

On April 26-28, CIUS's parent institution, the University of Alberta, hosted a conference titled "Studies in Ukrainian Culture and Ethnicity: Academic and Community Perspectives."

Sponsored by the Huculak Chair of Ukrainian Culture and Ethnography (the only center of its kind in North America conducting educational and research programs in Ukrainian folklore), it featured presentations by Dr. Andriy Nahachewsky, holder of the Huculak Chair, and Dr. Robert B. Klymasz of the Canadian Center for Folk Culture Studies in Hull, Quebec, as well as various graduate student forums and workshops.

### Two major conventions

The two events that drew scholars in the field of Ukrainian studies in the greatest numbers were the third International Congress of Ukrainian Studies (ICUS) held in Kharkiv, and the annual meeting of the American Association for the Advancement of Slavic Studies (AAASS) in Boston.

The ICUS, held on August 26-29, was more like a meeting of the tribes, attracting over 600 scholars from 24 countries. University of Delaware political scientist Prof. Yaroslav Bilinsky provided a report for *The Weekly*, whose dour tone was balanced by accounts of tributes offered to "returning heroes" Columbia University Prof. Emeritus Yuriy Shevelov, who started his academic career at Kharkiv University in the 1930s, and to Prof. Assya Humesky of the University of Michigan, whose late father was a poet and public figure who lived in the eastern Ukrainian city.

Prof. Bilinsky also celebrated Prof. Wolf Moskowicz, chair of the Israeli Association for Ukrainian Studies, as "the most resolute defender of speaking Ukrainian, and only Ukrainian, in Kharkiv - even to his American colleagues"; and Tokyo University's Prof. Kazuo Nakai, "who in nearly flawless Ukrainian brilliantly analyzed 'Independent Ukraine in the Contemporary World,' " in the midst of a Russified city.

Harvard Ukrainian Studies journal managing editor Andrew Sorokowski described the AAASS convention of November 14-17 for *The Weekly* as a four-day extravaganza of "business meetings, banquets and bookstalls, as well as scores of receptions, roundtables and rival rosters of speakers. Topics covered the entire panoply of Slavic learning, from the momentous to the arcane, from the profound or provocative to the merely obscure."

About two dozen panels and roundtables dealt directly or indirectly with Ukraine, and those dealing with its relations with Russia "naturally attracted attention," including a session chaired by Harvard's Prof. Szporluk, titled "Constructing and Deconstructing Empire in the Eurasian Space." Yet another panel was conducted as part of an ongoing Ukrainian-Russian studies project coordinated by the CIUS, Columbia University's Harriman Institute and the University of Cologne.

On November 17, the annual meeting of the American Association of Ukrainian Studies was convened by President Humesky. The AAUS prize for best article in Ukrainian studies was awarded to Oleh Ilnytskyj of the University of Alberta, with honorable mention to George Mihaychuk. The AAUS translation prize was awarded to Michael Naydan of Pennsylvania State University, with honorable mention to Halyna Hryn of Yale University and Ukrainian writer Oksana Zabuzhko.

### Two oral history projects

On August 19, on the fifth anniversary of the failed 1991 coup in Moscow, a press conference was held at the Writers' Union building in Kyiv to announce the "Project on the Oral History of Independent Ukraine." The inter-

views, recorded in over 200 hours of videotape, begin with the celebrations of the Millennium of Christianity in Ukraine and go through 1991, capturing the individual accounts and opinions of more than 70 political, cultural and religious leaders and journalists from Ukraine, Russia, Poland, Belarus, Lithuania, the United States and Canada.

Margarita Hewko, who lived through the events leading up to Ukrainian independence in Kyiv, took the initiative to set up the project and became its first director, working out of Ukraine. She was later joined by Sarah Sievers, who now acts as the U.S. co-director and is a fellow at the Harvard Ukrainian Research Institute.

Excerpts selected by HURI were published exclusively in *The Weekly*, giving readers a glimpse of the type of materials that will be available some time in 1997. Phase two of the project, which has already begun, includes transcribing and editing the hundreds of hours of "oral history," translating into Ukrainian and English, and then making this available to students, scholars, researchers and journalists in both Ukrainian and Western university libraries and research centers.

Financial support totaling \$37,000 was proffered by the Yale Center of International and Regional Research (Council on Russian and Eastern European Research), the Chopivsky Family Foundation and the Embassy of the Netherlands in Kyiv.

Viktor Susak, academic director of the "Living History" laboratory at Lviv University's Institute for Historical Research, conducted a more grass-roots oral history project in Canada and the U.S. from October 1995 to June 1996, under the joint auspices of his institution and the Multicultural History Society of Ontario.

Mr. Susak conducted 50 interviews with members of 12 extended families as project manager of an effort known as "Ukrainian Canadian Families in the 20th Century: Continuity and Discontinuity, Social Trajectories and Inter-Generational Relationships." He hopes to trace the impact of historical events on individual lives, based on a sociological approach.

Other major developments included the following.

- In October Prof. André Bandrauk became the first lecturer to visit Ukraine under the Royal Society of Canada - Ukrainian National Academy of Sciences Cooperation Agreement in a follow-up to the visit of the inaugural exchange lecturer, Dr. Anatolij Zagorodny, who came from Kyiv to tour Canada in March 1995. Dr. Bandrauk, from the University of Sherbrooke's department of chemistry, gave lectures on his specialty, lasers and computational chemistry, in Kyiv, Kharkiv, Lviv and Odesa, and addressed public organizations about science and education in Canada.

- George Washington University (GWU) received a donation of stock valued at \$400,000 from William Petrach of Arlington, Va., and established the William and Helen Petrach Endowment for Ukrainian Exchanges and Programs. The endowment will support exchanges of faculty and graduate students between GWU and Lviv State University, with a focus on training and upgrading scholarship in Ukraine and on generating first-rate research, teaching and policy analysis at GWU, in such disciplines as economics, international affairs, political science, history, languages and literature, geography, law, anthropology and other fields.

- In his June 23 "Canada Courier," *Weekly* columnist Chris Guly offered insights into the adversities that Dr. Bohdan Bociurkiw overcame in completing his book, "The Ukrainian Greek-Catholic Church and the Soviet State (1939-1950)" - everything from the over-eagerness of his publisher (CIUS Press) to a grave illness that almost led to the amputation of his right leg in 1992. During his convalescence, Dr. Bociurkiw received copies of documents from the Lviv archives from a researcher-friend from Ukraine, and these quickly revived the ailing political scientist. The material enabled him to isolate the man responsible for conducting the liquidation campaign against the Ukrainian Catholic Church at Joseph Stalin's behest. "His name was Karin," Dr. Bociurkiw told Mr. Guly, "Serhiy Tarasevych Karin."

- The Shevchenko Society of Canada held a one-day conference on September 12 to commemorate the 400th anniversary of the Union of Brest at the University of Toronto. Panelists included historian Dr. Frank Sysyn; the Rev. Petro Bilaniuk, professor emeritus of theology and Church history at the University of Toronto; Prof. Ihor Monchak, a lecturer at the Lviv Theological Academy and formerly an instructor at the Ukrainian Catholic University in Rome and the University of Ottawa; and Prof. Alexander Baran, a historian from the University of Manitoba.

## The cultural scene: marked by enrichment

The 1996 cultural season was marked by prominence, for the second year in a row, in the area of theater and a coming to the fore of contemporary Ukrainian literature as well as important developments in art. The cultural scene has undoubtedly been enriched by creative and performing artists who have emigrated to North America, seeking greater artistic renomee and material security abroad. In music and dance, they are of world-calibre.

Among the highlights of the season were:

### ART EXHIBITIONS/SALES

- Art historian and archaeologist Dr. Ludmyla Pekarska, head of the Department of Ancient and Medieval Kyiv at the National Museum of Ukraine, was at the Metropolitan Museum of Art in New York in April, providing documentation for hundreds of relics of the Kyivan state, previously identified as Russian. As a result of her work, some 400 Ukrainian artifacts will be shown next year in the Met's "Glory of Byzantium" exhibit, in which 25 countries will participate.

- Among lenders to the "Georges de La Tour and His World" exhibition held at the National Gallery of Art in Washington on October 6-January 5, 1977, comprising 32 major paintings by or attributed to the 17th century French painter from collections around the world, was the work "The Payment of Taxes," on loan from the Lviv Picture Gallery in Ukraine.

- Alexander Archipenko's sculpto-painting, "Karaffe" (1921), a work long recorded as lost and one of few works by the artist that is not in a public collection, was among the highlights of the Mauerbach Benefit Sale, an international auction offering heirless art confiscated by the Nazis between 1938 and 1945, conducted by Christie's on October 29-30 at the MAK-Austrian Museum of Applied Arts in Vienna.

### ARCHITECTURE

- Contemporary Ukrainian architecture, as represented in the work of Ukrainian Canadian architect Radoslav Zuk, has continued to gain international exposure, most recently at the prestigious Architekturgalerie München in Germany where the exhibit "Radoslav Zuk: Tradition and the Present - Ukrainian Churches in North America and Museum Projects in Ukraine" was held on July 26-September 21.

### MUSEUMS

- A museum honoring Serhii Pylypenko, a leading figure in the Ukrainian cultural renaissance of the 1920s who was later repressed by the Soviet regime, opened on August 28 in the Kharkiv State Academy of Urban Planning. The museum was dedicated to Mr. Pylypenko and his family: his wife, Tetiana Kardynalowska, a pedagogue, writer and translator; his daughter Assya Humesky, professor of Slavistics at the University of Michigan and president of the American Association of Ukrainian Studies; and his other daughter Mirtala, a sculptor and a poet who donated her sculptures to the Kharkiv museum.

### ARTISTS

- The 100th anniversary of the birth of prominent Ukrainian modernist painter and graphic artist Mykola Butovych (1895-1961) was marked both here and in Ukraine with special programs dedicated to the artist: in Ivano-Frankivsk on December 1; in New York, with a presentation by Stefania Hnatenko and a retrospective of the artist's work, from the Butovych family and the UVAN collections, held at the Ukrainian Academy of Arts and Sciences on June 9-23; and in Poltava on October 25-26 with a two-day conference titled "Mykola Butovych: The Man and The Artist," under the auspices of the Committee on the Return of National Cultural Treasures at the Cabinet of Ministers of Ukraine. On the occasion UVAN also committed itself to publish the artist's memoirs, "Te, Scho Pryhaduyu" (That Which I Remember), and the illustrated work "Eneida" (1953).

- An exhibit commemorating the 50th anniversary of the death of prominent Ukrainian artist Vasyl Diadyniuk (1900-1944), known for his work in portraiture, graphics and iconography, and a series of historical figures from Ukraine's princely and Kozak eras, was held at the Ukrainian Institute of America in

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New York on May 31-June 9.

- The 80th anniversary of the birth of sculptor Leo Mol (Leonid Molodozhanyan), who earned an international reputation as one of Canada's leading sculptors, was marked by the publication in Ukraine of the monograph "Skulptor Leo Mol: Zhyttia i Tvorchist" (The Sculptor Leo Mol: His Life and Work) by Dr. Dmytro Stepovyk and Mysterstvo Publishers. (A book launch was held in the Canadian Embassy in Ukraine on December 14, 1995; the event was covered in the February issue of The Weekly).

### FILM, PHOTOGRAPHY

- The film "Atentat," (Assassination: An October Murder in Munich," directed and produced by Oles Yanchuk), portraying the struggle of the Ukrainian Insurgent Army against both the Nazis and the Soviets and the assassination of Stepan Bandera, head of the Organization of Ukrainian Nationalists, was screened (having premiered in Kyiv in October of 1995) in New York in January and subsequently in movie theaters and Ukrainian American community centers across the U. S.

### LITERATURE

- A collection of works by the legendary group of western Ukrainian poets Bu-Ba-Bu, titled "Tvory," was published in Lviv by Kameniar on the occasion of the group's 100th anniversary (i.e., the collective sum of its members' ages). Bu-Ba-Bu was formed in Lviv in 1985; its members are Yuri Andrukhovych, Viktor Neborak and Oleksandr Irvanets.

- Canadian Ukrainian writer Janice Kulyk Keefer's latest novel, "The Green Library," was nominated for the prestigious Governor General's Award. In writing about Ukraine, Ms. Keefer wanted "to stress not only what makes Ukrainian a unique and a very definitive culture but what makes the Ukrainian experience speak to other people." Among topics dealt with are the reclamation of the past, the interaction between history and personal and family history, and the idea of displacement and survival.

- An anthology introducing contemporary Ukrainian writing in English translation, titled "From Three Worlds: New Writing from Ukraine," appeared in October as a publication of Zephyr Press and Glas, a Moscow-based independent literary journal. The collection of prose and poetry showcases the work of 15 contemporary writers, among them: Volodymyr Dibrova, Kostiantyn Moskalets, Evhenia Kononenko, Yevhen Pashkovsky, Valery Shevchuk, Yuri Andrukhovych, Bohdan Zholdak, Yuri Vynnychuk, Oleksandr Irvanets, Halyna Pahutiak, Vasyi Holoborodko, Natalka Bilotserkivets, Oksana Zabuzhko, Viktor Neborak and Oleh Lysheha. The work was edited by Ed Hogan, with guest editors Askold Melnyczuk, Michael Naydan, Mykola Riabchuk and Ms. Zabuzhko.

- Askold Melnyczuk, author of "What Is Told," (1994) received the Massachusetts Cultural Council Award for Fiction in 1996.

### THEATER

- For the second time since its founding in 1988, the innovative and highly acclaimed Les Kurbas Theater of Lviv, under the direction of Volodymyr Kuchynsky, was in New York at the invitation of the Harriman Institute and the Oscar Hammerstein II Center for Theater Studies to conduct workshops and performances at Columbia University. The company presented "Games for Faust" (in Ukrainian with an English synopsis) on February 23 and "Grateful Erodii," a staging of a parable by the 18th century philosopher Hryhoriy Skovoroda, on March 22 at the Katherine Bache Miller Theater at Columbia.

The group also conducted workshops at the University of Pennsylvania and at the Saratoga International Theater Institute in New York, as well as made guest appearances at Harvard University and at Ukrainian community venues in New York, New Jersey and Pennsylvania. Featured actors were Oleh Drach, Andriy Vodychev, Natalka Polovynka and Tetyana Kaspruk.

- Two of Kyiv's leading stage and screen actors, Larysa Kadyrova and Serhiy Djigourda, appeared in the Suzirya Theater's production of "The Radiance of Fatherhood," a play written by Karol Wojtyla (Pope John Paul II), which was the Ukrainian entry at the second Eastern European Theater Festival held at the Players Forum in New York at the end of April.

- The New-York based Yara Arts Group, under the direction of Virlana Tkacz, presented "Wayward Wind" in a workshop production on May 9-19 at La Mama

(with the full production to be presented in January 1997). Yara also conducted its ninth theater workshop at the Harvard Ukrainian Summer Institute, featuring a reading of contemporary Ukrainian poetry titled "Spinning Spells: Poetry by Ukrainian Women." Included was poetry by Oksana Batiuk, Victoria Stakh, Ludmyla Taran and Oksana Zabuzhko.

- The Ukrainian Stage Ensemble, under the direction of Lydia Krushelnytska, marked its 30th anniversary by staging Lesia Ukrainka's "Lisova Pisnia" (The Forest Song), with set design by Vladyslav Klech, in the Sylvia and Danny Kaye Playhouse at Hunter College in New York on June 1-2.

- The Lalka Puppet Theater of Toronto, with the aim of giving Ukrainian children something to share with their non-Ukrainian friends, presented "The Green Goofy Being and the Tanner," an English version of the Ukrainian fable "Kyrylo Kozhumiaka," updated as a puppet show and satire by puppet-maker Mirosława Betlej. The production, featuring an all-adult amateur cast, was staged at Toronto's Ontario College of Art on March 26 and the St. Vladimir Institute on May 4-5 and 11-12.

### DANCE

- The world-renowned Veryovka Ukrainian National Choral and Dance Company of Kyiv, under the direction of Anatoly Avdievsky, was on a three-month tour of the U.S. and Canada, making its U.S. debut on January 11 in West Palm Beach, Fla.

- Ballet came to the fore this season with two Ukrainian-born dancers — Vladimir Malakhov and Maxim Belotserkovsky — in American Ballet Theater productions at the Metropolitan Opera House. Mr. Malakhov, named "best male dancer in the world" by Japan's Dance Magazine and a "new find" by the ABT, joined the American Ballet Theater in the spring of 1996, appearing in leading roles in productions of "Romeo and Juliet," "Manon," "La Bayadère," "Swan Lake" as well as in a special all-Tchaikovsky program. Mr. Belotserkovsky, leading soloist with the National Opera of Ukraine and member of the ABT corps de ballet since 1994, was appointed soloist with the ABT in May.

### MUSIC

- A project to publish the works of Artem Vedel, the original manuscripts of which are housed at the Central Library of the Academy of Sciences of Ukraine in Kyiv, was initiated this spring by Maestro Volodymyr Kolesnyk in collaboration with composer Zenon Lawryshyn, with the Ukrainian Music Society of Alberta undertaking the administrative tasks of the publication process. The completed publication, to be titled "Masterpieces of Ukrainian Classical Spiritual Music: Artem Vedel, 1767-1808," will bring to light one of the most prominent Ukrainian composers of the 18th century whose work was censored by the Russian government for close to two centuries, allowing Vedel's music to take its rightful place within world musical tradition.

- Composer of avant-garde music Leonid Hrabovsky's 1993 work for voice and chamber ensemble titled "And It Will Be" (I Tak Bude), a 10-minute work built around eight poems by Mykola Vorobyov, was premiered in New York by Continuum, with Joel Sachs conducting, in a gala concert at Merkin Concert Hall on February 24.

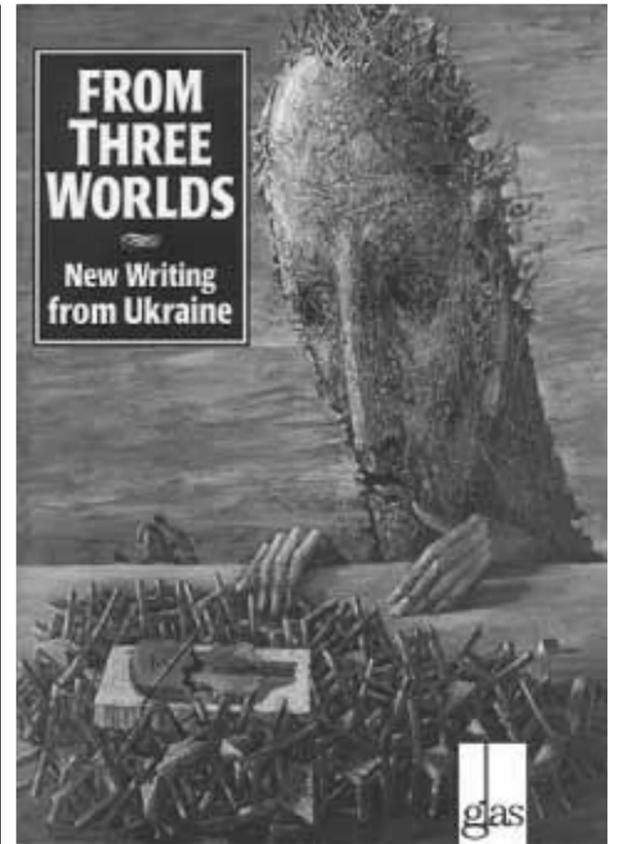
- Composer Virko Baley's work "Dreamtime" was performed at New York's Weill Recital Hall at Carnegie Hall by the California E.A.R. Unit, under the direction of Rand Steiger, on March 18.

- The work of Myroslav Skoryk, one of Ukraine's most prominent composers, was performed in Weill Recital Hall on October 1. Featured were eight chamber works, including the premiere of Partita No. 6 for String Quartet, performed by the Leontovych String Quartet. Performing were pianists Mykola Suk and Volodymyr Vynnytsky, baritone Oleh Chmyr, cellist Vagram Saradjian and the composer himself.

- The Carnegie Hall debut of 20-year-old pianist Alex Slobodyanik with the New York Youth Symphony, under the direction of Miguel Harth-Bedoya, took place on February 18.

- A recital featuring winners of the First International Vladimir Horowitz Piano Competition held last spring in Kyiv was held at the Ukrainian Institute of America in New York on March 2. Among the young pianists touring the U. S., Israel, France and Ukraine were Artem Liakhovych, Oleksiy Yemtsov, Oleksiy Koltakov and Shai Cohen.

- The statesman of Ukrainian music, Prof. Mykola



October: An anthology of contemporary Ukrainian writing in English translation was published by Zephyr Press and Glas.

Kolessa, returned to the U.S. for the second time, at the invitation of the Ukrainian Music Institute of America, appearing at concerts held in his honor in Port Charlotte and Hollywood, Fla., in April. Featured performers were soprano Oksana Krovtytska and pianist Mykola Suk.

- Twenty-two year old Ukrainian pianist Vitaliy Samoshko was top finisher at Montreal's 26th International Music Competition held on May 27-June 8.

- The Olexander Koshetz Choir of Winnipeg, one of the largest and oldest community-based Ukrainian choirs in Canada, celebrated its 50th anniversary with commemorative concerts on October 11-13, with Anatoly Avdievsky of Ukraine and Larry Ewashko of Ottawa as guest conductors as well as soloists past and present.

- The Odesa Philharmonic Orchestra, under the direction of American conductor Hobart Earle, made its Washington debut in a concert commemorating the 10th anniversary of the Chernobyl nuclear disaster at the John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts on April 28. The concert was presented by the Washington Performing Arts Society. The orchestra also appeared in commemorative concerts in Toronto on April 21, at the United Nations on April 26, and in Princeton, N.J., on April 23.

- Oksana Krovtytska, in her third consecutive season as a lead New York City Opera soprano, appeared as Violetta in NYCO's production of "La Traviata" to excellent reviews in the spring.

- Odesa-born mezzo-soprano Maria Guleghina appeared in "Andrea Chenier" with Luciano Pavarotti and Juan Pons on opening night at the Metropolitan Opera on September 30.

- Soprano Victoria Loukianets, formerly principal soloist of the Kyiv National Opera, member of the Bolshoi Opera, and since 1994, with the Vienna State Opera, made her American debut at the Metropolitan Opera on October 2 in the lead role in "La Traviata."

- The concert "Stars of Tomorrow," sponsored by the New York Grand Opera Guild under the direction of Maestro Vincent La Selva, featured a group of 10 outstanding singers, among them New York soprano Elena Heimur and baritone Oleh Chmyr of Ukraine. The concert was held at New York's Weill Recital Hall on February 15.

- The U.K. rock band The Ukrainians (only half of whom are of Ukrainian origin), who play a highly intense and original mixture of Ukrainian folk music and rock to predominantly non-Ukrainian audiences throughout Europe, were on their first tour abroad promoting their latest CD "Kultura" in Canada, playing in Toronto on August 7.

- The rock band Deep Purple of 1970s fame played at the open-air concert Autumn Rock Marathon held in Kyiv on September 15. The appearance preceded the group's concert tour in the U.S.

# 1996: THE YEAR IN REVIEW

## The UNA: mergers, mission statement

For the Ukrainian National Association the year began with a report that it had initiated merger negotiations with the Ukrainian Fraternal Association, which is based in Scranton, Pa. Officers of the two fraternal benefit life insurance societies met on January 11 at the UNA Home Office, and the major topic of discussion was whether the two associations could effect a merger before waiting for the regularly scheduled conventions of both, slated to take place in 1998. The meeting came after the UNA's General Assembly in November 1995 had voted to go ahead with merger negotiations with the UFA and the Ukrainian National Aid Association of America. (The first meeting with officers of the UNAAA had taken place in mid-December 1995.)

By year's end several more meetings about the proposed mergers had been held by representatives of the UNA, UFA and UNAAA, as well as with representatives of the New Jersey Department of Banking and Insurance, which oversees insurance companies in the state where the UNA is chartered. As President Ulana Diachuk reported at the November 6 meeting of the UNA Executive Committee, both mergers have encountered problems that need to be resolved before a merger with the UNA can take place (in the case of the UFA, the sale of the Verkhovyna resort must be accomplished by the owner; in the case of the UNAAA, the UNA is trying to satisfy requirements of regulatory authorities in New Jersey, Pennsylvania and Ontario). However, Mrs. Diachuk emphasized that both are still on track.

As regards the UNA headquarters building (which was put up for sale last year following a vote to that effect at the May meeting of the UNA General Assembly), at its 1996 annual meeting in November the General Assembly voted not to revisit the issue of its sale. Thus, the building remains on the market (it is being handled by Cushman & Wakefield, the largest commercial real estate company in New Jersey), and the UNA still plans to move its Home Office to a smaller, more suitable space, probably in Morris County, N.J. In fact, New Jersey's insurance authorities have indicated that sale of the building would be desirable in view of the fact that the UNA's loan to the Ukrainian National Urban Renewal Corp. (i.e., the headquarters building) has a negative effect on the surplus of the UNA.

The 1996 meeting of the General Assembly was marked by intense discussions at plenary sessions, at committee deliberations, and in discussions among the UNA's officers, advisors, auditors and honorary members of its General Assembly. These were a much-needed follow-up to the Assembly's November 1995 special meeting at which members checked on progress made in implementing the difficult cost-cutting decisions made six months earlier.

This year's annual meeting was a session at which the UNA began to take a serious look at itself, where it stands today and where it hopes to be tomorrow. The resolutions and recommendations proposed by the Assembly's committees, and subsequently adopted by the entire body, reflected that atmosphere. To wit, as a result of a proposal by the Resolutions Committee, the General Assembly resolved that the UNA consider and adopt "a concise mission statement setting forth with specificity the role the Ukrainian National Association intends to play within the Ukrainian American and Ukrainian Canadian communities."

At the same time, the Assembly passed a resolution that recommitted the UNA "to supporting and working with Ukrainian Americans and Ukrainian Canadians, Ukrainian educational institutions, and religious and civic organizations" in "preserving, promoting and developing our rich Ukrainian heritage, language, culture and the arts." For that same reason, the Assembly voted to continue supporting and subsidizing the UNA's most important fraternal assets, its two newspapers, Svoboda and The Ukrainian Weekly, and its year-round resort, Soyuzivka. Assembly members also approved continuation of the UNA's support for schools of Ukrainian studies and pedagogical courses for their teachers, student scholarships and the Kyiv Press Bureau, as well as projects that provide aid to Ukraine.

Another noteworthy development within the UNA during 1996 was the activation of the Ukrainian National Foundation Inc., which had been chartered four years earlier, after the May 1992 meeting of the Supreme Assembly



June: The second issue of the UNA's newly inaugurated newsletter for its members was published.

voted to create a non-profit tax-exempt foundation to support charitable, religious, educational and scientific projects. This past June the UNF was granted tax-exempt status. [That's a 501 (c) (3) entity for all you accountants and tax specialists.] The Executive Committee meeting on July 12 voted to expand the foundation's board of directors, and the first meeting of that board was held in November, following the General Assembly meeting.

The directors are: the UNA President Ulana Diachuk, Vice-President Nestor Olesnycky, Vice-Presidentess Anya Dydyk-Petrenko, Secretary Martha Lysko, Treasurer Alexander Blahitka, Auditor Anatole Doroshenko, Advisors Roma Hadzewycz and Eugene Iwanciw and Honorary Member of the General Assembly Walter Sochan. More on this foundation will be forthcoming soon.

The UNA Fund for the Rebirth of Ukraine continued to support the work of the UNA Press Bureau in Kyiv, and it gave donations to schools in Donbas and Luhansk regions of Ukraine (\$1,000 allocated in July). But the bad news was that donations to the fund slowed down in 1996. In 1995 they totaled \$33,424, while in 1996, as of September, they stood at \$16,663.

UNA assets continued to grow in 1996 and as of September 30, 1996, stood at \$75.7 million. However, the number of members declined; as of the end of September the UNA had 59,813 members in the United States and Canada.

There was good news and bad at the UNA's publishing house as income for Svoboda and The Ukrainian Weekly increased and expenses decreased, while the number of subscribers declined markedly. The General Assembly did give a vote of confidence to the papers, however, as it passed a recommendation to continue publishing Svoboda as a daily newspaper, in keeping with last year's vote by subscribers and previous decisions of both the UNA Convention (1994) and the General Assembly (1995).

The UNA's trail-blazing Teaching English in Ukraine program marked its fifth year in 1996. More than 4,500 students in Ukraine have benefited from the English language courses organized in conjunction with Prosvita, the Taras Shevchenko Ukrainian Language Society, annually since 1992. This year also marked the fourth year of a companion program called the Summer Institute on Current Methods and Practices in TESOL (Teachers of English to Speakers of Other Languages). That program has established resource centers, outfitted with the most current audio-visual materials and equipment, in Kyiv, Kharkiv, Vinnytsia and Lutsk. Both programs are run by Prof. Zirka Voronka. But the real key to the programs' success is the many volunteers who travel to Ukraine at their own expense to impart knowledge to students of all ages and backgrounds.

Other notable happenings around the UNA in 1996 included the following.

- The 1996 edition of the UNA Almanac — the 86th annual release — was dedicated to the fifth anniversary of Ukraine's independence and the 10th anniversary of the Chernobyl nuclear disaster.
- The UNA donated a set of books on Ukrainian history, politics and culture to the Foreign Service Institute

Library to augment the institute's teaching materials on Ukraine. The institute, part of the U.S. State Department, offers courses on Ukraine to foreign service officers and other government officials who will be serving tours of duty at the U.S. Embassy in Kyiv.

- During the first few months of 1996, the UNA took its longtime role as patron of the arts to Poland, via Kyiv. With the assistance of Victor Kytasty, the director of America House in Kyiv, and a \$500 donation from the UNA, the Kyiv-based Christian Arts Fund, whose aim is to promote young artists, revitalize Ukrainian culture and promote spiritual rebirth, organized an exhibit in Krakow of works by Ukrainian artists. The theme of the exhibit was "Good News: Christian Motifs in Contemporary Ukrainian Art."

- A newsletter for members called The UNA in Focus (U poli zoru — UNSoyuz), which focuses on UNA insurance offerings, membership benefits and fraternal activities, was inaugurated in 1996. Some 26,000 copies of the premiere issue of the bilingual (English-Ukrainian) newsletter, dated March 1996, were mailed to UNA members in the United States; subsequent issues of the four-page newsletter were published in June and November.

- Dividends paid out to members in 1996 totaled \$300,000.

- The UNA Scholarship Committee met at the Home Office on July 11 to review 234 applications for student scholarships submitted by its members from across North America. The committee awarded 203 scholarships totaling \$65,400, including several special memorial scholarships awarded in larger amounts to deserving college/university students.

- As it was an Olympic year, the UNA urged its members to help support the Ukrainian Olympic movement. In September The Weekly reported that the UNA and its members had raised more than \$15,000 in donations to the National Olympic Committee of Ukraine, which was duly acknowledged in a letter to the UNA from Valeriy Borzov, president of the NOC-Ukraine and minister of youth and sports.

- In November, the beginnings of the Ukrainian National Association's homepage appeared on the Internet. It now contains information describing just what the UNA is and what it does, as well as special sections on fraternal activities, membership, aid to Ukraine (where the UNA's new Christmas cards may be viewed in full-color) and insurance. The homepage was set up through the work of an Internet Committee established by the UNA General Assembly and consultant Bohdan Peter Rekshynskij. Readers may find the UNA site — still under construction — at <http://www.tryzub.com/UNA/>

Meanwhile, the UNA's upstate New York resort, Soyuzivka, hosted its 43rd annual season, which opened as is traditional on the July 4 weekend. Even before that, however, the UNA estate hosted a Memorial Day weekend event dubbed "Springfest '96," the 22nd annual conference of the UNA Seniors' Association and the 12th annual Fathers' Day program sponsored by the UNA, a.k.a. "Batko Soyuz." It should be noted that the seniors conference was attended by 108 members who unanimously re-elected Anne Chopek as president.

The summer brought the usual array of camps and campers, concerts and art exhibits, entertainment programs and dances, and, of course, sports — most notably the tennis competitions on the opening and closing weekends and in between, and the swimming championships and volleyball tournament during the Labor Day weekend.

A new Miss Soyuzivka was crowned on August 18. Tanya Kost, 22, of North Royalton, Ohio, was chosen from among nine young women who competed in the UNA's 41st traditional contest. Ms. Kost is a summa cum laude graduate of Case Western Reserve University with two bachelor's degrees, in physics and German. She is an active member of Plast and is director for "novatstvo" (children up to age 11) of the U.S. National Plast Command. She traveled this summer to Zalischyky, Ternopil Oblast, as part of the UNA's Teaching English in Ukraine program.

The following weekend, August 24-25, was dedicated to the fifth anniversary of the proclamation of Ukraine's independence. The season closed the weekend afterwards, that is during the Labor Day weekend, with the traditional programs and sports competitions, plus special events commemorating the fifth anniversary of Ukraine's independence.

At year's end, Soyuzivka played host to its owner, as the Ukrainian National Association held its annual Christmas party for employees of the UNA Home Office and its publications, Svoboda and The Ukrainian Weekly. It was a beautiful snowy weekend in the Catskills enjoyed by all.

## 1996: THE YEAR IN REVIEW

### *The noteworthy: people and events*

Some notable events and people defy classification in any of our yearend categories. For that reason we have this section.

So, here goes: the noteworthy of 1996.

- Two Ukrainians were among the 68 persons awarded the Order of Canada, the country's highest civilian honors system which recognizes outstanding achievements in diverse fields. Dr. Walter Curlook, a metallurgist, is the inventor of several patented process innovations in mining and metallurgy; he pioneered bulk mining concepts and automation, and helped improve the industry's efficiency and safety. Walter Podiluk served as superintendent of schools for the Saskatoon Catholic Board of Education, where he helped develop French-English and Ukrainian-English schools; he served as deputy minister of health for Saskatchewan, as deputy chairman and executive director of the Saskatchewan Commission on Directions in Health Care and as a special consultant to the provincial Ministry of Health. The citations were presented in February by Governor General Romeo LeBlanc.

- Nestor Burtnyk, 67, the "father of computer animation technology in Canada," and his longtime associate, Dr. Marcelo Wein, were hailed on February 9 as pioneers at the Festival of Computer Animation at the Ontario Science Center. Then, in November, our Ottawa correspondent, Chris Guly, reported that Mr. Burtnyk and Dr. Wein are among the 22 scientific and technical achievements nominees for the 1997 Oscar awards (scheduled for March 1). Mr. Burtnyk headed the team, which included Dr. Wein, that developed the technique of key frame animation. The team used that technique in a 1974 National Film Board of Canada animated film called "Hunger" — the first computer-animated movie to be nominated for an Oscar. It won a jury prize at that year's Cannes Film Festival.

- During 1996 the North American TV program "Kontakt" seemed to be expanding into new markets all the time. On February 28 the Ukrainian community show's Metropolitan New York producers traveled to Washington along with other members of the Coalition of Ethnic Broadcasters to protest the sale of city-owned station WNYC-TV (Channel 31) to ITT-Dow Jones. The sale, they argued, would leave ethnic broadcasters homeless and the cable TV station would reach only 20 percent of the current audience, thus ignoring the needs of ethnic communities. "Kontakt" premiered in the New York City area on WNYC in September 1992 and can now be seen on Channel 63 (WMBC) in New York/New Jersey and Channel 73 (Crosswalks) in New York City. In addition, it is broadcast in Ottawa, Toronto, Edmonton, Vancouver, Winnipeg, Saskatoon, Thunder Bay, Sacramento and Chicago, and is soon scheduled to be shown in Montreal, Washington, Philadelphia, Pittsburgh, Detroit and Florida.

- Our former Weekly staffer Natalia (Dmytrijuk) Warren reported from Florida that the idea of the Ukrainian pavilion at Walt Disney World's EPCOT Center had advanced as Jason Harper, president of the Ukrainian Project Fund, had met on March 4 with the executive VP of EPCOT, George Kalogridis. As a result, Ukraine was added to the list that includes two other countries vying for a site between the Chinese and German pavilions. Mr. Harper was also given the go-ahead to discuss the Ukrainian pavilion project with other Disney officials.

- A seminar called "Examining New Realities in Ukraine" was held on March 24 in Washington under the joint sponsorship of the American Jewish Committee, as part of its Project Ukraine, and the Embassy of Ukraine. The all-day event brought together 50 experts representing the governments of Ukraine, Israel and the United States, as well as representatives of non-governmental organizations, and community and religious leaders from Ukraine and the United States. Topics covered included the blossoming of Jewish life in Ukraine, emigration, Ukraine's proposed new Constitution, inter-ethnic relations and foreign relations.

- In April it was reported that the U.S. Court of Appeals would hear the case of two Ukrainian Americans who had petitioned the Federal Communications Commission in a move against CBS for its broadcast on "60 Minutes" of the segment called "The Ugly Face of Freedom." Alexander Serafyn of Troy, Mich., and Oleg Nikolyszyn of Providence, R.I., had filed petitions with the FCC to block transfer of CBS licenses in their hometowns because, they argued, CBS had failed to meet its public interest obligations. The court was scheduled to hear oral arguments in October of this year, but the case was postponed due to an unrelated matter (a challenge to CBS in Detroit which was

awaiting an FCC decision). It now appears, according to attorney Arthur Belendiuk, that 1997 will be the year in which the Ukrainian Americans' case against CBS will be resolved. Mr. Belendiuk told The Weekly that the court will issue a new briefing schedule and that he expects oral arguments could be heard as early as spring, or perhaps in the fall. "We're still in this," he advised.

- Julian Kulas and Dr. Myron B. Kuropas were among the 11 ethnic leaders presented the first annual David Roth Community Relations Award on May 22 by the Illinois Ethnic Coalition (formerly the Illinois Consultation on Ethnicity in Education). The two Ukrainians received the award as "goodwill ambassadors" in relations among ethnic groups.

- Frances Swyripa, director of the Ukrainian-Canadian Program at the Canadian Institute of Ukrainian Studies, University of Alberta, was the co-recipient on June 20 of the City of Edmonton Book Prize, inaugurated in 1995 to mark the 200th anniversary of Fort Edmonton. Dr. Swyripa and Bob Hesketh were honored as editors of "Edmonton: The Life of A City" (NeWest Press), a collection of more than 30 articles, poems and photos highlighting people and events from Edmonton's fur trade past to its professional hockey present.

- Yoram Sheftel, the courageous Israeli lawyer who defended John Demjanjuk and secured his acquittal by the Supreme Court of Israel on charges that he was the notorious "Ivan the Terrible" of Treblinka, was honored on June 30 by the Ukrainian American Justice Committee with its Humanitarian Award. Also in 1996, Mr. Sheftel's inside account of the strange case of Mr. Demjanjuk, "Defending 'Ivan the Terrible': the Conspiracy to Convict John Demjanjuk" was published in the U.S. by Regnery Publishing. The book had previously been published in 1993 in Israel and in 1994 in Great Britain as "The Demjanjuk Affair: The Rise and Fall of a Show Trial."

- The Arkan Dance Company of Toronto took the art of Ukrainian folk dance to Taiwan in July, performing at the International Folklore Festival on that distant island. The group's artistic director, Danovia Stechishin-Stefura, commented: "We were told to expect that [the Taiwanese] would be restrained." But, the group took the extra effort of learning how to sing "It's a Small World" in Mandarin, and the audience loved it. "People sang with us. They went nuts. We were one of the few groups who were always asked back for encores." The dancers also endeared themselves to the local audience because in one number they carried the Taiwanese national flag.

- During fifth anniversary celebrations of Ukraine's proclamation of independence, a special awards ceremony was held at Kyiv's Mariyinsky Palace on August 23. On the eve of Ukrainian Independence Day, President Leonid Kuchma presented special state medals to activists in various fields, ranging from politics to the arts and humanitarian endeavors. Thus, the Order of Yaroslav the Wise was awarded to National Deputies Leonid Kravchuk (the first president of independent Ukraine) and Ivan Pliushch (former chairman of the Verkhovna Rada) and academicians Yurii Myropolskyi and Volodymyr Frolkis. The Order of Bohdan Khmelnytsky was presented to Col. Gen. Viktor Bannykh, chairman of the state committee on borders; Lt. Gen. Mykola Yoltukhovskiy, commander of the northwest border troops; and Lt. Gen. Volodymyr Ostapenko, first deputy to the general inspector of the President's General Military Inspection. The Medal of Courage was presented to soldiers and workers of the Ministry of Internal Affairs. Volodymyr Hryshyn and Lidiya Kondrashevska of the State Opera were named national artists of Ukraine; Iryna Dats and Tetiana Kuzmyn, also of the opera, were cited as merited artists of Ukraine. A highlight of the program was the presentation of Presidential Medals of Honor to several foreigners for their contributions to Ukraine: Erast Huculak of Canada, Zenon and Nadia Matkiwsky of the United States and Yaroslav Shurkalo of Slovakia. A special posthumous Presidential Medal of Honor was awarded to Zina Botte of Australia, Ukraine's honorary consul in Australia, whose husband was present at the ceremony.

- In September, at a meeting at the State Capitol in New Jersey, Dr. Paul Winkler, executive director of the State of New Jersey Commission on Holocaust Education, advised officers of the Ukrainian American Professionals and Businesspersons Association of New York and New Jersey that the commission had adopted the study guide on the Great Famine of 1932-1933 that had been developed in New York state. He noted that the guide is available to any school district in New Jersey upon request, adding that about 30 districts had already requested them. Furthermore, Dr. Winkler promised that if persons or organizations in the

Ukrainian community were to provide the commission with 30 copies of a film or other audio-visual materials relating to the famine, which killed between 7 million and 10 million in Ukraine, his commission would have these distributed to the state's 30 regional source centers on the study of the Nazi Holocaust and genocide.

- "Malarek writes again" was the headline for a book review written by Marta Dyczok. It referred to the newly published book by Ukrainian Canadian journalist Victor Malarek, co-host of the CBS's "Fifth Estate," an investigative TV news program. Titled "Gut Instinct: The Making of an Investigative Journalist," the book attracted much attention and, in fact, was published on a best-seller run by Macmillan Canada. The book was released in the fall, and a book launch was held on October 22 in Toronto at the Ukrainian-owned Future Bakery Cafe.

- In November, The Weekly carried a story by Dr. Michael J. Kozak of Minneapolis focusing on Lt. Cmdr. Heidi Stefanyshyn-Piper of the U.S. Navy, who had just been chosen for the astronaut training program of NASA. She told a Navy publication that she had joined the space program for the same reason she became a diver: "I was looking for something challenging that would broaden my horizons." She said her work as a diver gave her a chance to work in a foreign environment, adding that "space is the ultimate foreign environment, and it really is the final frontier." The new member of the NASA Space Training Program is a member of the Ukrainian community in the Twin Cities.

- To our knowledge, there were two Ukrainian of the Year awards presented in 1996 — both in November. One, presented by the Ukrainian Graduates of Detroit and Windsor (Ontario, that is) went to Rep. David Bonior for his support of Ukrainian issues and causes in the U.S. Congress. The other was awarded to Nickolas G. Kotow by the Ukrainian Technological Society in recognition of his work as a chronicler of Pittsburgh Ukrainian community life and his longtime involvement in many of that community's organizations.

- At year's end (December 8 issue), it was reported that the Petro Jacyk Educational Foundation had initiated a campaign for the nomination of President Leonid Kuchma of Ukraine for the 1997 Nobel Peace Prize in recognition of his active support of global nuclear non-proliferation and his prominent role in combating and reducing the threat of global nuclear catastrophe. The foundation's nominating letter to the Norwegian Nobel Committee was co-signed by seven prominent professors representing prestigious universities in North America, Great Britain and Japan. The scholars agree that President Kuchma had played a pivotal role in the process of Ukraine's ratification of the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty and the Verkhovna Rada's decision to surrender and destroy Ukraine's nuclear arsenal.



**August 23: President Leonid Kuchma presents Presidential Medal of Honor to Dr. Zenon Matkiwsky during ceremonies at the Mariyinsky Palace.**

## 1996: THE YEAR IN REVIEW

### *They are mourned by our community*

During 1996 we mourned the passing of bishops, politicians, writers, artists, community activists and other prominent individuals. The following were among them:

- Bishop Myron Daciuk, 76, Ukrainian Catholic eparch of Edmonton — Edmonton, January 14.
- Slaw Rebchuk, 88, politician with 28-year tenure as alderman of the Winnipeg City Council and former deputy mayor of Winnipeg — Winnipeg, January 15.
- Petro Shelest, 87, first secretary of the Communist Party of the Ukrainian SSR (1963-1972) and member of the Politburo of the Central Committee of the Communist Party (CPSU) of the Soviet Union (1966-1972); purged in 1972 for pursuing domestic policies that encouraged cultural and educational Ukrainization and a measure of autonomous administration and economic development; author of the book, "Ukraino Nasha Radianska" (Our Soviet Ukraine, 1970) — Moscow, January 25.
- Msgr. John Beckage, 70, pastor of Ss. Cyril and Methodius Ukrainian Catholic Church in Berwick, Pa., and other parishes throughout the U.S. — Berwick, Pa., February 16.
- Viktor Kryzhanivsky, 27, son of Consul General Viktor Kryzhanivsky of Ukraine's Consulate General in New York — Kyiv, March 19.
- Dokia Humenna, 88, writer active in Ukraine and in the Ukrainian emigre literary scene — New York, April 4.
- Ivan Teslia, 93, noted geographer and demographer — Toronto, April 10.
- Archbishop-Metropolitan Maxim Hermaniuk, 84,

Canada's first Ukrainian Catholic metropolitan (1957-1992) — Winnipeg, May 3.

- Arcadia Olenska-Petryshyn, 61, noted artist and critic — murdered in New Brunswick, N.J., May 6.
- The Rev. Jaropolk Radkewycz, 52, vicar-general of the Ukrainian Archeparchy of Winnipeg — killed in a car accident outside Winnipeg, April 29.
- Eugene Skotzko, 88, economics editor of the Bureau of Labor Statistics' Monthly Labor Review and founding member and first secretary of the Organization for the Rebirth of Ukraine — Silver Spring, Md., March 19.
- Michael Herman, 85, teacher and authority on folk dance; founder and director of the Folk Dance House in Manhattan (1940-1970) — Babylon, N.Y., May 10.
- Leo G. Wynnyckyj, 65, management consultant and active member in the Ukrainian Canadian Students' Union and Plast — Ottawa, May 31.
- Sister Therese Bochnewich, founder of the order of the Basilian Contemplative Nuns — Middletown, N.Y., June 10.
- Marta Shmigel, 56, multifaceted community activist: member of the national board of the Ukrainian National Women's League of America, founding member of the organizing committee of the Coordinating Committee to Aid Ukraine and member of its executive — Rochester, N.Y., May 28.
- Zina Botte, citizen of Australia and honorary consul of Ukraine; hosted Ukraine's first consular reception in Australia on the second anniversary of Ukrainian independence in 1993; member of the "Ti Scho Hrebli Rvut" Plast sorority; awarded the Presidential Medal posthumously by President Leonid Kuchma on August 24 — Melbourne, June 30.
- Ihor Suchoversky, 68, aeronautical engineer and president of Alcan International Ltd. (1982-1989); founding member of the Burlaky Plast fraternity —

Toronto, July 19.

- Zenon Babiuk, 64, prominent New Jersey businessman and active participant in the Ukrainian community; member of the board of directors of the Ukrainian Institute of America and the Harvard University Ukrainian Studies Fund; president, Foundation for an Independent and Democratic Ukraine; executive with Robinson Lake — Maplewood, N.J., July 18.
- Orest Woronowycz, 61, longtime broadcast design pioneer at Home Box Office — Queens, N.Y., July 26.
- Yaroslava Szafraniuk, 91, art patron and co-founder of Ukrainian Canadian Art Foundation; awarded the Presidential Medal by Ukraine's chief executive, Leonid Kuchma, in 1995, and the St. Volodymyr Medal in 1966 by the Ukrainian World Congress Secretariat — Toronto, August 18.
- Semen Kalba, 84, lawyer and prominent member of the community known for his work within the United Ukrainian American Relief Committee, the Ukrainian Canadian Relief Fund, the Ukrainian Canadian Committee and the World Congress of Free Ukrainians — Toronto, August 25.
- Dr. Alex Cybriwsky, 82, research physicist and prominent member of the Ukrainian community — Milwaukee, September 3.
- Ted Komar, 67, premiere music man, with a six-decade career in radio and television; well-known for his appearances at Canada's major Ukrainian festivals — London, Ontario, October 3.
- Walter Kosonocky, 64, pioneer in solid-state electronics — Skillman, N.J., November 2.
- Viktor Batiuk, 57, diplomat, permanent representative of Ukraine to the United Nations (1992-1994); ambassador to Canada (1994-1996); and member of the Ukrainian Writers' Union — killed in a car accident near Latorytsia in the Zakarpattia region of Ukraine, December 2.

### *Meanwhile, back at The Weekly ...*

Here at The Ukrainian Weekly the year was full of special issues covering special events and anniversaries. Yes, 1996 was the year that this newspaper brought you reports on Ukraine's Olympic successes direct from Atlanta as Staff Editor Roman Woronowycz was officially accredited to cover the Games. The results of his work were seen in The Weekly issues from July 28 through August 18. Prior to the Olympics, Mr. Woronowycz did a series of articles under the heading "On the road to Atlanta," while Associate Editor Marta Kolomayets, then stationed in Ukraine at the Ukrainian National Association's Kyiv Press Bureau, covered the capital city's official send-off for Ukraine's top athletes.

It was also the year that The Weekly planned to do a special issue dedicated to the 10th anniversary of Chernobyl — and that special issue (dated April 21) was followed by two more special issues and five more issues containing special sections on Chernobyl. All of which prompted us at The Weekly to decide that we should prepare a special book devoted to the 10th anniversary of the Chernobyl nuclear accident. That book, dear readers, is nearly ready to go to print. More on that in the new year.

Both the Olympic coverage and the Chernobyl issues appeared also on the Internet on the Ukraine FAQ Plus page, with the added attraction of photos that are seen in color.

For those of you who don't remember, or have already forgotten, highlights of The Weekly's top stories appear each week on that site under the Current Events section. For the record, The Weekly has been on the Internet since the issue dated July 14, 1995. According to Bohdan Peter Rekshynskyj, the computer consultant who helped connect us to the Internet and suggested putting our newspaper's highlights on the World Wide Web, The Weekly excerpts have become one of the most popular sections on the Ukraine FAQ Plus.

Soon after his Olympian feats at the Olympics, Mr. Woronowycz was off to Ukraine for his second tour of duty at our Kyiv Press Bureau. Ms. Kolomayets then returned "home" to our editorial offices in Jersey City for a few months. However, in December Ms. Kolomayets left The Weekly after working on our staff for 11 years (1982-1984 and 1988-1996), as she had decided that home for her was in Kyiv with her husband. We wish Ms. Kolomayets well in her new endeavors and we will miss her, but there is some con-

solation in knowing that she will continue to write on a free-lance basis for The Weekly. (In fact, she's covering for Mr. Woronowycz during the two weeks that he is on home leave at The Weekly in Jersey City, N.J.)

Back to our special issues, for just a moment. The Weekly also published two issues commemorating the fifth anniversary of Ukraine's independence proclamation. The materials for these issues (August 18 and 25) were prepared by the Harvard Ukrainian Research Institute and put together by The Weekly editors. The sections in the first issue included an oral history of Ukrainian independence, a photo essay on the first years of independence and a sampling of youthful perspectives on independent Ukraine; the second issue featured analytical discussions and articles on contemporary Ukraine, covering the political scene, economic development, foreign affairs, literature and culture, contemporary music, and religious life.

Concerning special topics, much space was devoted to Forbes magazine's scurrilous attack in an article headlined "Tinderbox" and a sidebar titled "Messianic Mission," both written by Paul Klebnikov. "The world hasn't seen the last of ethnic turmoil in Eastern Europe. Keep your eye on Ukraine," Forbes warned ominously. Responses to the article from the Harriman Institute and the Canadian Institute of Ukrainian Studies, among others, were published on the pages of The Weekly along with editorials.

The scoop of the year had to be The Weekly's news story by Ms. Kolomayets about the adoption of the new Constitution of Ukraine following a marathon all-night session of the Verkhovna Rada on June 27-28. Parliament had approved the Constitution on Friday, June 28, at 9:18 a.m. Kyiv time. Ms. Kolomayets e-mailed the story about this historic event to the home office by early Friday morning Eastern time, the day The Weekly goes to press, so that it still made the front page of the paper dated June 30.

As R.L. Chomiak noted in an item published in The Washington Group's newsletter, a TWG forum held on June 28 "included an unscheduled speaker: the Ukrainian Embassy's press attaché, Vasyl Zorya, who briefed the audience about this fundamental law [the Constitution] that took at least three years to write. And, Orest Deychakiwsky [of the Helsinki Commission], came armed with photocopies of Marta Kolomayets' news story for The Ukrainian Weekly printed hours earlier and faxed to him from the paper's Jersey City editorial offices."

Mr. Chomiak continued: "Readers of the local paper, The Washington Post, had to wait until the next morning to read James Rupert's story about the Constitution, but those attending the forum could read about it 12 hours earlier, which reinforced Mr. Rupert's contention made a few months earlier at another TWG forum that, in Washington, Ms. Kolomayets' coverage gets more atten-

tion than his own."

Speaking of the earlier forum, held January 19, Mr. Rupert had said he considers The Ukrainian Weekly "a very important element of the Western press presence in Ukraine." He called Ms. Kolomayets "by far the most influential" of foreign correspondents because, as he explained, "there are very few of my readers who are going to get up in the morning after I've written a story about this or that going on in Ukraine and are going to leap to the phone to call their congressman. But within the Ukrainian American community, of course, that tendency is much greater, and they're reading very attentively The Ukrainian Weekly."

A word about our staff is in order here. Besides Mr. Woronowycz and Ms. Kolomayets, who were both mentioned above, The Weekly staff during 1996 included Assistant Editor Khristina Lew (who covered the Washington visits of President Leonid Kuchma and Prime Minister Pavlo Lazarenko), Staff Editor Andriy Kudla Wynnyckyj of the Toronto Press Bureau (who keeps tabs on the Ukrainian Canadian community and the Ukrainian World Congress, which is based in Toronto), Editorial Assistant Ika Koznarsky Casanova (who works part-time and serves as our arts editor) and Yarema Bachynsky (who filled in as editorial assistant for more than half a year while Ms. Casanova was on leave in Austria). Oh yes, there is also the editor-in-chief, Roma Hadzewycz, typesetter Awilda Arzola (who this year became Mrs. Angel Rolon) and Serhiy Polishchuk, our layout artist and computer troubleshooter. Now the staff has been joined by Irene Jarosewich, who worked for the Children of Chernobyl Relief Fund in 1996 and prior to that worked in Ukraine (1991-1995), first for the Rukh Information Center as liaison with the foreign press and later for various other entities, including UTEL, Ukraine's long-distance telephone company, and the Ukrainian Catholic Church.

Unfortunately, there was some bad news for The Weekly during 1996, as the number of our subscribers fell markedly — due mostly, as we saw from subscribers' letters, to the steep increase in our subscription fees. That, and other developments within our community in the United States and in Canada, led us to question our readers via several editorials published during the year whether they value our community and how they see its future.

Certainly, we at The Weekly hope there is a future for our Ukrainian American and Ukrainian Canadian communities, as we pledge to continue serving them both in 1997 and beyond — as long as we are needed.

To all our readers and our correspondents we send best wishes for the New Year. May 1997 bring you good luck, good health and much happiness.

# Kuchma speaks...

(Continued from page 2)

developments and that not just Ukraine, but the entire world community, will not allow them? Truth is on our side, and everyone should proceed from this fact.

Action always causes counteraction, and one should not bring the situation to the boiling point. Irresponsible statements by well-known figures in Russia cause corresponding reaction by hot-heads in our country. These diametrically opposed stands on both sides stimulate each other and, therefore, they stimulate tensions in Ukrainian-Russian relations. The way out of the situation is through a calm, balanced and civilized negotiating dialogue. Emotions and extremes should not prevail; rather, there should be a desire to understand each other better and to reach a reasonable compromise.

I would like to emphasize again that the division of the Black Sea Fleet must

be completed and agreements regulating the conditions for the temporary deployment of the Russian part of the fleet on Ukrainian territory must be signed. I hope that good will, political wisdom and plain common sense will triumph as far as this issue is concerned. The main thing is to prevent the desirable result from being achieved too late and at too high a price.

Our state is ready to do all it can toward that end. The more constructiveness, sound pragmatism and desire to reach mutual understanding there is in our relations, the sooner the voices of doubt and irreconcilability will fade away. The age-long history and traditions of good-neighborliness between Ukraine and Russia form a basis solid enough to build a new structure for their mutual relations in compliance with the demands of the present complicated time. I sincerely wish this to both states and their peoples.

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**The state of...**

(Continued from page 1)

He noted that Ukraine's armed forces are responsible for as much as 70 percent of activities under the Ukraine-NATO Partnership for Peace program, as well as under its United Nations initiatives. He said in the last four years more than 7,000 Ukrainian soldiers have taken part in joint peacekeeping operations, adding that 17 soldiers have been killed and 50 wounded in these missions. Ukraine is involved in six out of the 16 peacekeeping operations now active worldwide.

"Our peacekeeping activities are broadening; our numbers are growing throughout the world, as various kinds of troops are drawn in," said President Kuchma. He added that "this promotes the strengthening of the international prestige of the state and its armed forces."

Gen. Kuzmuk observed that the possibility of establishing a professional army could not be considered until the completion of the 10-year program in the year 2005.

"A professional army requires the appropriate economic conditions," he said, adding that by the year 2005 armed forces personnel should be down from the cur-

rent level of 400,000 to 350,000.

After the break-up of the Soviet Union, there were about 700,000 troops in Ukraine, including forces withdrawn by Moscow from Germany, Hungary and Czechoslovakia. Under agreed manpower ceilings, these were scheduled to be reduced to 450,000 by 1995, a goal that was achieved.

**Parma liturgy to be broadcast**

PARMA, Ohio - On Tuesday, January 7, 1997, St. Vladimir Ukrainian Orthodox Cathedral here will sponsor its 10th annual Christmas radio program for sick and shut-in parishioners. This year the entire divine liturgy will be broadcast over Radio Station WCCD, 1000 AM, Cleveland, at 9:30-11:30 a.m.

The liturgy will be celebrated by the Rev. John R. Nakonachny and the Very Rev. Stephen Hankavich, with both cathedral choirs under the direction of Markian Komichak singing the responses.

Great Complines and Matins will be held at 7:30 p.m. on Christmas Eve, Monday, January 6.

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# New York City's...

(Continued from page 2)

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Mayor Giuliani and Commissioner Maldonado asked prospective lottery applicants to take note of the following hotlines for assistance:

- U.S. State Department Hotline, 1-900-884-8840 (costs \$5.10 per call);
- Federal Trade Commission, (212) 264-1207;
- New York Immigration Hotline, (718) 899-4000.

The New York City Department of Consumer Affairs together with the Mayor's Office of Immigrant Affairs and Language Services have issued a special publication to explain the rules and restrictions for the upcoming visa lottery. "The Consumer Guide to the DV-98 Visa Lottery" brochure is available in English, Spanish, Chinese, French, Haitian Creole, Russian and Arabic.

DCA and the Mayor's Office of Immigrant Affairs have also published another brochure titled "Beware of Immigration Services Fraud," available to the public in seven languages. To get a free copy of the guides (please specify language), send a self-addressed stamped envelop to: Consumer Affairs Visa Lottery Guides, 42 Broadway, New York, NY 10004. Consumers who believe they are the victims of fraud concerning the green card lottery program are urged to contact the Federal Trade Commission's Regional

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## PREVIEW OF EVENTS

**Saturday, January 11**

**HARTFORD, Conn.:** The Organization for the Defense of Four Freedoms for Ukraine, the Women's Organization for the Defense of Four Freedoms for Ukraine and the Ukrainian American Youth Association (SUM-A) invite the community to a traditional Ukrainian New Year's Eve (malanka) to be held at the Ukrainian National Home, 961 Wethersfield Ave., at 9 p.m. Tickets: \$20, adults; \$15, students. For tickets and table reservations call (860) 296-6955. Evening attire.

**PARMA, Ohio:** The Brotherhood of St. Vladimir Ukrainian Orthodox Cathedral will sponsor its 33rd annual traditional Ukrainian New Year's Eve (malanka) dinner/dance to be held in the parish center, immediately following the 6 p.m. vespers in church. Music for the occasion will be provided by a Ukrainian orchestra. Tickets: \$20. For reservations call (216) 661-5646.

**Thursday, January 16**

**NEW YORK:** Premiere of the Yara Arts Group's new play "Virtual Souls" at La Mama Experimental Theater. The play runs through January 26. Performance time: Thursday-Sunday, 7:30 p.m.; Sunday matinee, at 3 p.m. The theater is located at 74 E. Fourth St. (at Second Avenue). Telephone: (212) 475-7710.

**Saturday, January 18**

**NEW YORK:** The Music at the Institute Series presents the Chamber Music Society of the Institute, with Natalia Khoma, cello; Mykola Suk, piano; and

guest artists Ihor Leschishin, oboe, Mark Peskanov, violin, and Toby Hoffman, viola; in a program of works by Mozart, Beethoven, Baley and Schumann. The commission and performance of Baley's "Treny/Laments" for cello solo (world premiere) was underwritten by W. Howard Hoffman. The concert will be held at the Ukrainian Institute of America, 2 E. 79th St., at 8 p.m.

**Sunday, January 19**

**NEW YORK:** The Dumka Ukrainian Chorus, under the direction of Wasyl Hrechynskyj, will present a concert of Ukrainian Christmas carols at St. Volodymyr Ukrainian Orthodox Cathedral, 160 W. 82nd St., at noon.

**Saturday, January 25**

**WARNERS, N.Y.:** A traditional Ukrainian New Year's Eve will be held at St. Luke Ukrainian Orthodox Church in the parish hall, 3290 Warners Road. There will be a hot buffet dinner at 6:30 p.m., followed by dancing starting at 8 p.m. to the music of Chervona Ruta of Syracuse, N.Y. Tickets: \$12.50 (buffet and dance). For reservations call (315) 672-6361.

**Ongoing**

**NEW YORK:** An exhibit of paintings and drawings by Valeriy Hnatenko (1947-1987) is on view at Atelier 14, 142 W. 14th St., (between Sixth and Seventh avenues), seventh floor, at 6-9 p.m. Gallery hours: Monday-Friday, 2-6 p.m.; Saturday and Sunday, 11 a.m.-6 p.m. The exhibit opened December 19.

To subscribe: Send \$60 (\$40 if you are a member of the UNA) to The Ukrainian Weekly, Subscription Department, 30 Montgomery St., Jersey City, NJ 07302.

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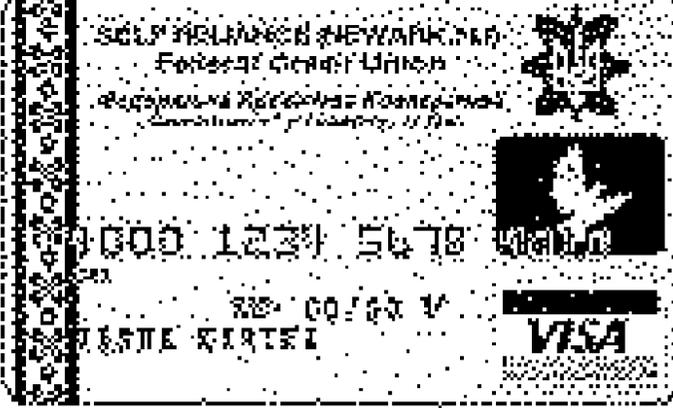
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