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UCC to challenge government on war crimes issue

by Andriy Kudla Wynnyckyj
Toronto Press Bureau

TORONTO — The Ukrainian Canadian Congress has served notice that it will challenge Canada's Justice Department in court over its decision to denaturalize and deport citizens suspected of war crimes, without trying them in a criminal proceeding.

According to a press release issued on January 22, the Ukrainian umbrella body decided upon this course of action "after many years of arguing its position before the Canadian public through the media."

The UCC release denounced the Canadian government's decision to "follow the U.S. example" in pursuing war crimes cases via civil rather than criminal authorities. Justice Minister Allan Rock (since reappointed as minister of health) announced in January 1995 that his department would open 12 such proceedings.

On December 12, 1997, a government press release revealing that the former director of the U.S. Office of Special Investigations, Neal Sher, had been hired as an "advisor" also named the object of its 14th case: Toronto resident Wasyl Odynsky.

"We've sought clarification of the government's position and a meeting with the minister of justice," UCC National Executive Director Lydia Shawarsky told The Weekly on January 28.

"We have sent two letters to Justice Minister Anne McLellan concerning the appointment of Mr. Sher and the government's moves in pursuit of denaturalization and deportation, and we have received no reply to date. Not even acknowledgment," the UCC official added.

To spearhead the legal confrontation, and, according to the press release, "in order to combat what [the UCC] regards to be a grossly unjust course of action by the government against its own citizens," a special committee to deal with the issue was struck on January 8 at a UCC executive meeting held at its headquarters Winnipeg.

The Justice Committee on Deportation and Denaturalization (JCDD) is chaired by John Petryshyn, an immigration lawyer based in

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Team Ukraine leaves for Winter Olympics in Nagano



Efrem Lukatsky

Members of Ukraine's team for the Winter Olympics at a send-off celebration at the Ukraina Palace of Culture on January 28.

by Roman Woronowycz
Kyiv Press Bureau

KYIV — Don't look for a repeat of the Summer Olympic effort by Ukraine at the Nagano Winter Olympics. Ukraine simply does not have the natural environment to produce athletes who can compete with northern countries that do consistently well in the winter sports.

That doesn't mean that Ukraine does not have medal potential. The country's sports system, although lacking finances in an economy that continues to sink, still has the ability to produce world-class athletes, even for the Winter Games.

Ukraine's Winter Olympic squad left for Nagano, Japan, on January 29 to make final preparations for the XVIII Winter Olympics that begin on February 7. A team of 56 athletes will

represent Ukraine in Nagano, along with 47 trainers. They will compete in 10 of the 14 Olympic winter events.

The head of the delegation, the president of the National Olympic Committee of Ukraine, Valeriy Borzov, told The Weekly that the team will be happy with a couple of medals.

"Ukraine's potential and traditions in the Summer and Winter Olympics are different. The winter climate in Ukraine is such that it does not allow athletes to realize their full potential in those types of sports," said Mr. Borzov. "For instance, we don't always have ice or snow. And the potential of the Karpaty [Carpathian Mountains] where we get good winters, is not yet realized."

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Ukraine, IMF to begin talks on long-term credit agreement

by Yaro Bihun

Special to The Ukrainian Weekly

WASHINGTON — Ukraine expects to sign a multi-billion-dollar, long-term credit agreement with the International Monetary Fund to support Ukraine's economic reform program.

Vice Prime Minister Serhii Tyhytko, who headed a high-level Ukrainian economic delegation that conferred with the IMF here on January 22, said the two sides agreed to begin preparatory talks on the subject in early February.

"We would like to see the program prepared in two months and signed in April," he said at the conclusion of his two-day visit on January 23.

His delegation, which included Finance Minister Ihor Mitiukov and

National Agency for Reconstruction and Development Chairman Roman Shepk, also met with officials of the World Bank and the Clinton administration.

The long-term IMF credits would be in the form of a three-year Extended Fund Facility (EFF) of close to \$3 billion. If approved, it would be distributed to Ukraine on a month-to-month basis, provided the government adheres to the IMF's reform guidelines. Currently the IMF's credit assistance of \$542 million is in the form of a "stand-by" agreement, which is also disbursed on a monthly basis.

In talks with the IMF, the Ukrainian delegation also made a case for releasing the next tranche of stand-by credits for Ukraine. Indeed, a few days later, on January 28, the IMF board of directors voted to disburse the tranche, amounting to \$49 million.

Since signing the stand-by agreement with the IMF in August 1997, Ukraine has not been receiving the monthly tranches regularly. As Finance Minister Mitiukov explained, in December 1997 Ukraine received the tranches for the previous two months, and it missed the December disbursement.

With the January 28 release, an IMF spokesperson said, Ukraine is up to date on stand-by disbursements.

Mr. Tyhytko said his optimism about receiving the next stand-by credits and reaching agreement on the EFF long-term credits is based on a number of recent actions taken by the Ukrainian government with respect to its fiscal policy and structural reforms, among them:

(Continued on page 4)

ANALYSIS

Through the political periscope: a look at the pre-election scene

by Markian Bilynskyj

Asked last fall to characterize the forthcoming parliamentary election campaign, former president Leonid Kravchuk replied that it would be a "viina kompromisiv" ("war of compromises"). At the beginning of December, the usually restrained Mr. Kravchuk — who heads up the election ticket of the Social Democratic Party (Unified) — reiterated his view rather more graphically. Commenting on a newspaper piece on the potential of the Ukrainian security service and police for discrediting various candidates or parties, he stated that people should be afraid not of the security forces but of the "hivnometiv" (literally "dung throwers").

At the end of November, the chairman of the Bank of Ukraine, Viktor Yuschenko, had implied something similar — albeit without Mr. Kravchuk's vivid imagery — when he revealed in a TV interview that he would not run for the Verkhovna Rada. It was widely thought that he would appear on the People's Democratic Party (PDP) ticket behind Prime Minister Valerii Pustovoitenko. Mr. Yuschenko explained simply that contemporary Ukrainian politics were too dirty. According to many polls, Mr. Yuschenko is one of the most popular political figures in Ukraine, paradoxically because of his very reluctance to get involved in politics.

The continuing lack of consensus among the Ukrainian leadership elite over Ukraine's future continues to produce a highly politicized and ideologized policy process that invites confrontation. That this tendency would intensify during the pre-election period was not unexpected. Thus, on December 9, 1997, for example, the Verkhovna Rada, under the prompting of Chairman Oleksander Moroz, a Socialist, instructed the appropriate committees to prepare a motion of no confidence in the government on the pretext that it had misused the reserve fund of the Cabinet of Ministers.

The following day, Yevhen Kushnariov, chief of the Presidential Administration, dismissed this move as a blatant exercise in campaign posturing and stated that the president was completely supportive of the government. Appearing on December 12 at the All-Ukrainian Journalists' Economic Forum, President Leonid Kuchma reiterated this thesis, adding that he expected the Verkhovna Rada to begin impeaching him early in 1998 (something that groups within the Parliament had tried to do at different times throughout last year), again for populist campaign reasons.

The same day Mr. Kushnariov condemned the Verkhovna Rada's move against the government, the Rada passed a law limiting the length of time that government officials could discharge their duties on an acting basis without its approval. The timing of this move reinforced the impression that it was indeed little more than a politically motivated attempt to remove two government officials currently of prime importance to President Kuchma: acting Procurator General Oleh Lytvak, who had made it

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his mission (at the prompting of the administration, according to some commentators) to review or re-open cases against high-level officials, past and present, that had been pigeon-holed by his predecessor; and acting chairman of the State Property Fund, Volodymyr Lanovyi, a key player in the impending privatization of Ukraine's strategic enterprises. On December 16, 1997, the Verkhovna Rada again refused to confirm Mr. Lytvak — even though the committees responsible for reviewing his suitability for the post found nothing negative in either his record or character.

The Verkhovna Rada versus the Cabinet of Ministers and the Administration; Chairman Moroz versus President Kuchma: These are familiar, long-established vectors of confrontation characterized by accusations and counter-accusations, usually channeled through those elements of the media (particularly the press) supportive of or — increasingly, and alarmingly — under the control of the respective antagonists. More often than not, however, a kind of collective common sense eventually prevails and a semblance of equilibrium is restored. (Indeed, on December 30, 1997, for the first time since independence, the Verkhovna Rada worked closely with the government to approve a budget on time. Whether or not the budget is realistic is, of course, another matter. Moreover, the Verkhovna Rada's principal concern may have been the fact that no budget would likely have meant no elections.)

Thus, during a December 22, 1997, press conference, Chairman Moroz said he supported the move by 249 deputies to invite President Kuchma to Parliament for a closed clear-the-air session. "This is needed now," he explained, "so that with the elections approaching ... we will not continue to hurl abuse at each other through the media. We have to sit down and figure out what we should do in order to raise the level of stability within society because people have grown weary of the endless accusations, insinuations and so on."

As a further conciliatory gesture, the Verkhovna Rada chairman also explained that he personally was against the dismissal of the government at this time because such a move would further destabilize the general situation. (He did not mention the obvious. With the Verkhovna Rada certain to be completely preoccupied with the elections after the holiday season, dismissing the government would simply strengthen the president's hand significantly. In fact, on December 29, 1997, the no-confidence motion fizzled out principally because the Verkhovna Rada could not decide whether the current or previous government should bear responsibility for any misuse of funds.)

If, over time, a measure of self-regulation has evolved with respect to some of the more established confrontations within the Ukrainian political elite, newer ones, born of, and nurtured by, personal scores and electoral ambitions and imperatives, seem to be developing a life of their own. Most interesting in this respect is the one between Prime Minister Pustovoitenko, Chief of Staff Kushnariov and President Kuchma on the one hand, and Mr. Pustovoitenko's predecessor, Pavlo Lazarenko, on the other.

There is a compelling body of evi-

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NEWSBRIEFS

Crimean leader praises Kuchma on veto

SYMFEROPOL — Crimean Parliament Chairman Anatolii Hrytsenko has praised President Leonid Kuchma for vetoing a Crimean election law as unconstitutional, ITAR-TASS reported on January 24. President Kuchma said a provision in the legislation would permit only Ukrainian citizens living in Crimea to be elected to the autonomous republic's Parliament, which is a violation of the Ukrainian Constitution. He also said it is too early to switch to a proportional election system, as stipulated in the bill. Such a move could inflame political infighting on the peninsula, Mr. Kuchma added. Mr. Hrytsenko called President Kuchma a "constitutional guarantor." Verkhovna Rada Chairman Oleksander Moroz, however, has sharply criticized the veto. (RFE/RL Newline)

Moroz sums up session

KYIV — Verkhovna Rada Chairman Oleksander Moroz on January 19 summed up the results of the eighth convocation of Ukraine's national legislature by citing the following statistics: 89 sessions were held; 376 matters were examined; 127 laws were passed; and 103 resolutions were adopted. The chairman characterized the convocation as "one of the most stressful and most fruitful" and said it "demonstrated the growing potential of the Parliament and the parliamentary system as a whole." He added, "This is precisely what our state needs." The most important achievement of the eighth convocation was the approval of a budget — adopted for the first time in a timely fashion. In general, Mr. Moroz noted, the basic tasks presented to the Verkhovna Rada were realized. Looking forward to the ninth convocation, the chairman said that its principal goal will be to bring about the realization of parliamentary, administrative, municipal and court reform. (Respublika)

Rules approved for foreign observers

WASHINGTON — The Verkhovna Rada on January 13 approved regulations on observers from foreign countries, international organizations, as well as Ukraine's public organizations, who will attend the parliamentary elections in Ukraine. The regulations determine procedures for observers' accreditation and authority. The chairman of the Central Election Commission will decide foreign observer accreditation. The document also states that an official observer's term of appointment expires no later than seven days after the election campaign is completed. The regulations do not permit interference in any

form by observers in the work of electoral committees or the voting process. (Embassy of Ukraine)

Miners demonstrate for back wages

KYIV — Some 200 construction workers from coal mines in eastern Ukraine demonstrated in Kyiv for the payment of back wages, Agence France Press reported on January 26. Some of the workers have not been paid for more than a year. Government wage arrears at the end of 1997 totaled some 5 billion hryv (\$2.6 billion U.S.). The protests continued the following day. (RFE/RL Newline)

Wage arrears protests increase

KYIV — More than 1,500 people demonstrated for their unpaid wages outside a government building in Symferopol, capital of Crimea, during a special meeting of Ukraine's Cabinet of Ministers, Reuters reported on January 27. Prime Minister Valerii Pustovoitenko told the crowd that the autonomous republic's disastrous economy is due to the "independent policy" it has pursued. (RFE/RL Newline)

Ten factions in Verkhovna Rada

KYIV — As of January 16, there were 10 groups or factions in the Verkhovna Rada. Out of a total of 412 national deputies, 366 belonged to factions, while 46 were not members of any grouping. The factions are listed below in order of size: Communists of Ukraine, 79 national deputies; Constitutional Center, 52; Socialist/Peasants' Parties, 37; Regional Rebirth of Ukraine Party, 35; Yednist (Unity), 33; Vpered Ukraino (Forward, Ukraine), 30; Agrarian Party, 26; Rukh for the Nation, for Ukraine, 25; Social-Market Choice, 25; Nezaleznyi (Independents), 24. (Respublika)

Rada appeals to Russian legislature

WASHINGTON — The Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine on January 14 adopted an appeal to the Russian Federal Assembly urging it to promptly ratify the Friendship, Cooperation and Partnership Treaty between Ukraine and Russia. The appeal also urged the Assembly to influence the process of solving certain problems in Ukrainian-Russian relations, such as the delineation and demarcation of borders, and the issue of the former USSR's foreign assets and liabilities. The message also urged Russia to create conducive conditions for the Ukrainian community in Russia, similar to those Ukraine has created for ethnic Russians living in Ukraine. (Embassy of Ukraine)

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Polish cemetery in Lviv at center of bilateral relations

by Yevhen Hlibovytsky

Special to The Ukrainian Weekly

LVIV — Although the most recent meeting between the presidents of Ukraine and Poland, held in western Ukraine on January 3 and dedicated to the opening of a new border pass between the two countries, showed that relations between them are sound, one issue still could change the mutually shared good feelings.

After the official opening of the border crossing, Presidents Leonid Kuchma of Ukraine and Alexander Kwasniewski of Poland traveled to Lviv, where their agenda included a visit to the historic Lychakiv Cemetery, the resting place of many renowned Ukrainians, including the writer Ivan Franko. The cemetery also includes burial sites of Polish war dead.

The restoration of the Cmentarz Orlat, the burial grounds of Polish soldiers who died in the Ukraine-Polish war of 1918-1919 (the war of independence for the Western Ukrainian National Republic), has become a point of controversy between Poles and Ukrainians.

Destroyed by the Soviet Union in 1971, the Cmentarz Orlat has significant historical and cultural value to the Poles. After Ukraine renewed its independence, plans to rebuild the burial grounds were overshadowed by other Polish-Ukrainian religious and cultural problems.

But the issue, of whether the site should be rebuilt according to the original plans laid in the 1920s when Poland occupied western Ukraine obtained presidential-level visibility when it became part of the Polish-Ukraine presidential talks.

As a result of the talks, according to Volodymyr Sereda, the director of Nadsiania, a non-governmental cultural/historic organization in Lviv, the Kuchma administration is putting pressure on the Lviv City Administration to resolve the matter. "Numerous phone

calls from Kuchma's administration were made to Lviv's mayor insisting on a compromise with the Poles," said Mr. Sereda.

The Polish Military Burial Society, a cultural/historic organization in Poland, insists the grounds should be renovated according to the architectural plan developed in the 1920s, which was to include a variety of Polish military symbols. Due to lack of funds, the cemetery was never fully completed.

According to Mr. Sereda, among the plans to which the Ukrainian side is opposed, is inscription of grave markers with patriotic Polish slogans and symbols, which many Ukrainians consider offensive (the Poles see their fallen soldiers as innocent victims of a Ukrainian rebellion).

The compromise into which President Kuchma is pressuring Lviv municipal officials has caused friction of its own. The director of the cemetery, Ihor Havryshkevych, insisted that the matter should remain a local affair. "There is no point for the president to be bothered by a local issue," he said.

Lviv city residents feel that Kyiv cannot fully understand the depth of the emotions involved in the issue because the Ukrainian capital did not feel the oppression of Polish rule over western Ukrainian lands between 1920 and 1939. They believe history could be betrayed in the process of normalizing Ukrainian-Polish relations and the settling of outstanding issues.

At least one Lviv resident also noted that the sides should discuss a parallel issue: the renovation of gravestones of members of the Ukrainian Insurgent Army (UPA) who died in Poland during and after World War II. "It should be part of the bargain — one (grave marker) for you, one for me," said a Ukrainian pensioner living in Lviv who preferred to remain unnamed.

According to Andrzej Czubar, press secretary of the Polish Embassy in Ukraine, there is no outstanding issue concerning grave markers for UPA soldiers buried in Poland. "The gravestones read 'warrior for a free Ukraine,'" he said, "and that is the result of a Polish-Ukrainian compromise on this touchy issue of our history."

The Polish side said the problem over the grave markers for Polish soldiers in Cmentarz Orlat also is settled. "It seems that the question of the inscriptions is basically resolved in favor of the Ukrainian side [Polish patriotic inscriptions will not be used], but a lot of other questions remain," said Eugeniusz Jablonski, consul-general of Poland in Kyiv.

He added that the cemetery is a plus for Lviv because it will attract Polish tourists and bring funds to the local economy.

In Lviv the issue remains alive. Lately roundtables have been held by interested Ukrainian cultural/historic organizations to discuss a solution. The Polish Military Burial Society visited the Polish gravesites in Lviv. And negotiations continue between the Polish Consulate and Ukraine's regional administration over other aspects of the cemetery restoration, among them what to do with two large lion sculptures that were originally at the entrance to the cemetery but now are the gateway to Lviv on a road at the Lviv city limits.

Government officials in Kyiv and Warsaw and city officials in Lviv are all closely following the issue as it is resolved. No one wants the Cmentarz Orlat issue to become another headache in Ukrainian-Polish relations as did events in Peremyshl over the dismantling of the dome of a Ukrainian Greek-Catholic Church, the dismantling of Polish World War II monuments in Volyn and the prohibition of a Ukrainian festival in Peremyshl.

U.S. first lady meets with Shcherbak to follow up on recent visit to Lviv

by Yaro Bihun

Special to The Ukrainian Weekly

WASHINGTON — Ukraine's Ambassador to the U.S. Yuri Shcherbak met with First Lady Hillary Rodham Clinton on January 23 to follow up a number of issues that came up during her recent visit to Lviv.

They discussed Ukraine's proposal to hold an international conference to combat the trafficking in women, increased hospital-to-hospital cooperation, the establishment of a joint university program for managers, and the problem of visa denials to Ukrainians by the U.S. Embassy in Kyiv, according to the Embassy's press counselor, Natalia Zarudna.

During her visit to Lviv in November 1997, Mrs. Clinton spoke about the need to combat the international trafficking in women, which had become a growing problem, especially with respect to women from the countries of the former Soviet Union, including Ukraine. Ambassador Shcherbak suggested that the United States help organize an international conference to address the problem, which is not covered by international law.

Ms. Zarudna noted that, according to Ukraine's Internal Affairs Ministry, over the past 10 years some 400,000 Ukrainian women under age 30 traveled to work in Poland, Germany, Turkey and other neighboring countries, and the fate of many is unknown. There have been press reports about many of these women being forced into prostitution.

[This problem was the subject of a news story filed by Roman Woronowycz of the Kyiv Press Bureau and published in *The Ukrainian Weekly* on August 3, 1997. More recently, *The New York Times* carried a lengthy article on the topic in its January 11 issue.]

The hospital-to-hospital cooperation program between American and Ukrainian hospitals, which has been going on since 1992, was highlighted during the first lady's last trip to Ukraine with a visit to a Lviv hospital. Both sides would like to see this cooperation

expand, especially in the area of children's hospitals, the Embassy official said.

Ambassador Shcherbak also talked about the possibility of forming a Ukrainian-American center to train Ukraine's future managers and of expanding people-to-people exchanges. The latter suggestion, Ms. Zarudna said, led to a discussion of the problems encountered by many Ukrainians seeking visas to visit the United States. In the last few years, visas were denied to an estimated 20,000 to 30,000 Ukrainians seeking them for private visits, business travel and even exchange programs.

The process has become commonly known as "\$20 and 20 seconds," whereby an applicant pays a \$20 visa fee and 20 or so seconds later is informed that the application is denied, Ms. Zarudna said.

These refusals may be in violation of the charter on U.S.-Ukrainian relations and will be addressed during the next meeting of the foreign policy committee of the Kuchma-Gore Commission in February, she said.

The Ukrainian ambassador asked that the White House consider becoming a patron of the annual Horowitz International Competition for Young Pianists held in Kyiv and inquired about the possibility of having the finalists perform at the White House.

Also discussed was a planned large-scale U.S. exhibit of Scythian gold objects. Mrs. Clinton, who saw the famous Scythian gold pectoral during the first family's state visit to Kyiv in 1995, said she would like to see the collection in the United States. The exhibit is being organized for 1999-2000 by two Texas museums. The collection was last seen here as a Soviet exhibit in the 1970s.

Ambassador Shcherbak gave Mrs. Clinton a letter from Ukraine's first lady, Liudmyla Kuchma, as well as a few presents: a scarf, a lacquered box and a candlestick.

Mrs. Clinton gave the ambassador a letter for Mrs. Kuchma.

Britain and Ukraine to jointly fight crime

by Tony Leliw

LONDON — Britain has signed a bilateral agreement with Ukraine to combat serious crime. Senior representatives from four law enforcement agencies from Britain signed the deal with their counterparts in Kyiv on January 16.

These included representatives from the Association of Chief Police Officers, the Crown Prosecution Service, the National Criminal Intelligence Service and Her Majesty's Customs and Excise Service.

The Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between the two countries is the first such multi-agency agreement with a former Warsaw Pact region country. The MOU will establish a framework for cooperation in the fields of prevention, detection, investigation and prosecution of serious crime.

This framework will provide for obtaining admissible evidence, statements and exhibits; providing documents and records; locating and identifying persons; and exchanging information and criminal intelligence.

Although Ukraine plans to ratify the 1959 European Convention on Mutual Assistance in Criminal Matters, until now there has been no bilateral agreement between the United Kingdom and Ukraine to coordinate the fight against serious crime.

Ukraine's ambassador to U.S. meets with new president of OPIC

Embassy of Ukraine

WASHINGTON — Ambassador Yuri Shcherbak met in Washington with George Munos, the new president of the Overseas Private Investment Corp. (OPIC), who informed the Ukrainian envoy that American investors are closely observing election campaign developments in Ukraine and are pinning their hopes on a new Ukrainian Parliament's ability to improve Ukraine's investment climate.

The new OPIC president also expressed his intention to continue collaborating with Ukraine in drafting and implementing joint projects and insuring U.S. private capital investment in Ukraine.

In turn, Ambassador Shcherbak encouraged OPIC to continue and increase efforts to support investment processes in Ukraine. He also informed the OPIC president about the most recent developments in Ukraine's socio-political and economic situation and the electoral campaign.

Dr. Shcherbak informed Mr. Munos about Ukraine's accession to Article 8 of

the International Monetary Fund Agreement, which makes the hryvnia, Ukraine's national monetary unit, a convertible currency. In view of this information, Mr. Munos expressed his willingness to dispatch a team of OPIC experts to Kyiv in the second quarter of 1998 to design proposals for revising OPIC's terms for insuring American private capital investments in Ukraine against likely political risks.

During the meeting, Mr. Munos and Ambassador Shcherbak discussed prospects for setting up a joint team of experts from OPIC and Ukraine's National Agency for Reconstruction and Development to monitor Ukraine's investment environment. Ukraine's ambassador raised the issue of OPIC's likely involvement in the Kuchma-Gore Commission's activities through participation in sessions of its committee on trade and investments.

The two officials also discussed other aspects of interaction between OPIC and the Ukrainian Embassy, particularly their joint efforts to promote several major projects involving leading U.S. companies.

Kuchma announces austerity program

by Roman Woronowycz
Kyiv Press Bureau

KYIV — President Leonid Kuchma announced on January 21 that Ukraine is introducing an economic austerity program to fend off tremors from the economic collapse of Southeast Asia that have hit the country. The shock waves have caused international investors to quit the Ukrainian treasury bond market and have escalated an already severe financial crisis in the country.

Without the infusion of foreign capital, obtained chiefly through the international bond market, Ukraine will be hard pressed to service its borrowing debt, unless it finds the money elsewhere.

"The financial situation of the state is close to critical," said Anatolii Halchynskyi, the president's senior economic advisor. He explained that the major concern before the administration is "how to service the deficit and the national debt, which were earlier serviced through the credit market."

The next day President Kuchma signed a presidential decree ordering the government to cut costs to reduce the projected 1998 budget deficit from the current 3.7 percent of the gross domestic product down to 2.2 percent.

He also ordered his administration and the Cabinet of Ministers to reduce manpower by 20 percent and proposed that the Verkhovna Rada and local administrations do the same.

Speaking on national television that evening, the president explained that Ukraine must live within its means and that an unrealistic budget is not helping Ukraine overcome the international financial crisis. "I decided to sign the decree due to the imperfect and imbalanced nature of the budget, something that a portion of the Verkhovna Rada deputies recognize, and in conjunction with the aggravated situation in international financial markets," said President Kuchma. "This has hurt even the developed countries and naturally could not but affect the financial situation in our country."

However, Mr. Kuchma sought to reassure Ukrainians that the country is not at the brink of disaster. "The situation in the country is under control," stated the president.

Mr. Halchynskyi said Ukraine would continue to repay wage and pension arrears, which stand at \$2.5 million (U.S.) and that the austerity program would "not lead to the worsening of people's lives."

The government hopes that by aggressively pursuing privatization and tax collection, and cutting departmental staffs and extraneous travel, it will collect sufficient money to make its debt payments.

It is relying on the privatization process, which this year will move into its most expansive phase, to supply a good portion of the funds. Ukraine hopes to raise 1 billion hryvnia (just over \$500 million) from the privatization of large, state-owned enterprises scheduled for this year, explained Prime Minister Valerii Pustovoitenko at a January 21 press conference on Ukraine's financial picture for 1998, that was attended also by National Bank of Ukraine Chairman Viktor Yuschenko.

Ukraine will not revert to the policy of printing money to cover debts simply because timid international currency markets are leary of purchasing Ukrainian treasury bonds, explained Mr. Yuschenko. "Printing more money to cover debts is out of the question," he explained.

He also announced a new currency corridor for the hryvnia against the dollar, which had been anticipated for several weeks.

Because of world financial instability, the Ukrainian state bank chairman said the trading corridor for the hryvnia against the dollar for the first half of 1998 would be raised from 1.75 to 1.95 hryvnia per U.S. dollar to 1.8 to 2.25 hryvnia. The NBU raised the corridor because it felt that maintaining an unrealistic value for the hryvnia could lead to further flight from the Ukrainian bond market.

Mr. Yuschenko forecast that inflation in Ukraine for 1998 would not exceed 18 percent, up from the 10 percent experienced last year.

The International Monetary Fund, which Ukraine is hoping will furnish a large portion of the money needed to service the national debt, issued a statement on January 21 supporting the institution of a new currency corridor and President Kuchma's austerity program. "The IMF supports the decision of the NBU and the government of Ukraine to widen the exchange rate band and the hryvnia in the context of a strong stabilization package ... and also welcomes the decision of the president and the government to reduce the fiscal deficit and accelerate structural reforms. This decision, accompanied by the continuation of prudent monetary and interest rate policies, will reduce pressures on the hryvnia," read the statement.

Council of Europe's Parliamentary Assembly seats Ukraine's delegation

by Roman Woronowycz
Kyiv Press Bureau

KYIV — The Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe (PACE) on January 27 rescinded its threat to bar the seating of the Ukrainian delegation — for now.

The Parliamentary Assembly has repeatedly criticized Ukraine for failing to fulfill a promise given when the country accepted membership in the Council of Europe to establish a moratorium on the death penalty and to eventually ban it. All the countries of Europe have either banned capital punishment or have instituted moratoriums.

During several visits to Ukraine, the PACE delegation has found that death sentences continue to be carried out even as Ukraine has denied that capital punishment continues. Ukraine had been warned several times that if it does not come into compliance with Council of Europe membership requirements it would be banned or even thrown out of that body.

Although the last PACE delegation, which visited Ukraine in November 1997, acknowledged that President Leonid Kuchma had de facto implemented a moratorium since March 1997 by giving clemency to each individual whose time was up, it still maintained pressure on Ukraine to issue a formal decree either by the president or the Verkhovna Rada. Neither the executive nor the legislative side is willing to do so at a time that more than 60 percent of Ukrainians favor capital punishment.

At the opening of the January session of the PACE on January 26 it looked as if the Council of Europe finally would act on its threats to ban Ukraine.

A proposal from the floor called for rejection of the mandates of the Ukrainian delegation, which included Ukraine's Minister of Justice Suzanna Stanik, according to Holos Ukrainy. Among other items, the proposal identified an alleged threat from acting Procurator General Oleh Lytvak that if Ukraine were not allowed to participate in the current session of the Parliamentary

Assembly the future of the 200 individuals who still remain on death row in Ukraine would be bleak.

The comment was supposed to have been made while Mr. Lytvak spoke before a plenary session of Ukraine's Verkhovna Rada. (In an unrelated development, Mr. Lytvak resigned his post on January 23.)

After a two-hour break during which the Ukrainian delegation to the PACE, led by National Deputy Borys Oliinyk, obtained documents from Kyiv proving that no such comment was ever rendered, the procedural committee of the PACE met to decide on whether to recommend the seating of the Ukrainian delegation.

Near midnight the procedural committee, led by PACE President Leni Fischer, voted to approve the mandates.

In order for Ukraine to fall into line with PACE requirements, Ukraine must overcome a general feeling among its citizens that the death penalty in Ukraine is needed at a time when crime has drastically increased and the economic situation has made it more difficult to maintain prisons and prison populations.

Verkhovna Rada National Deputy Volodymyr Yavorivskyi, a member of Ukraine's PACE delegation, explained to the assembly on the second day of the session that the period before elections to Ukraine's Parliament is not the right time to pressure Ukraine's democrats to move forcefully to rescind the death penalty. He said such a move by democratic forces would push more of Ukraine's citizens' into the Communist camp, and in the end Ukraine's face would again be turned away from Europe.

Members of the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe seemed to understand and voted to seat the Ukrainian parliamentarians. But the respite is a temporary one. By the next session of the PACE, scheduled for April, the deliberative body expects the new Verkhovna Rada that will be seated after the March 29 elections to approve a moratorium on state executions. Otherwise, Ukraine would again face exclusion.

Ukraine, IMF to begin talks...

(Continued from page 1)

- presidential decrees on budget deficit reductions and privatization;
- timely passage by the Verkhovna Rada and signing by the president of the nation's budget (for the first time since independence it was ready on time, and with the lowest-ever projected deficit); and
- establishment of the 1998 currency exchange corridor for the hryvnia at between 1.85 and 2.25 hryvnia to the U.S. dollar.

At the World Bank Mr. Tyhypko and his delegation focused on three World Bank-financed projects in Ukraine. He said it was agreed that much progress was made in two projects that deal with the development of agriculture and support of entrepreneurship. The third project discussed is in the energy sector.

The Ukrainian delegation also had talks with senior officials at the National Security Council, and the departments of the Treasury, Commerce and State.

"In general, we can say that we are satisfied with the

results of this visit," Mr. Tyhypko said, adding that within a few days a large American delegation will arrive in Kyiv for the next round of discussions of the trade and investment committee of the U.S.-Ukraine Binational Commission, known as the Kuchma-Gore Commission.

Asked whether corruption and foreign investment problems, which seemed to dominate previous bilateral economic talks between Ukraine and the United States, were again among the subjects discussed with U.S. officials, Mr. Tyhypko replied that the issue was not discussed this time.

"Over the last half year we have done much to resolve these issues," he said, noting that the government stopped purchasing grain, made the natural gas distribution market more competitive and transparent, and reformed its privatization program.

"As a result of these steps, in my opinion, the level of corruption has declined in Ukraine," Mr. Tyhypko said.

"But we are far from calling our work complete," he added. "About a month ago, together with the World Bank, we held a major seminar on corruption. And we



Vice Prime Minister Serhii Tyhypko (center) fields journalists' questions about his talks in Washington with IMF, World Bank and U.S. officials. Also participating in the talks and the press briefing were Finance Minister Ihor Mitiukov (left) and National Agency for Reconstruction and Development Chairman Roman Shpek (right).

Team Ukraine leaves...

(Continued from page 1)

Mr. Borzov also cited the economic hardships that continue to plague Ukraine as one reason that better facilities have not yet been constructed in the Carpathians Mountains.

Mr. Borzov, a former Summer Olympics multiple gold medalist, said Ukraine nonetheless has medal potential in several events. Look for Ukrainians to make a show in figure skating, free-style acrobatic skiing, the luge and Nordic combination (biathlon).

Mr. Borzov refrained from naming individuals he believes have the best potential to medal. "Every athlete who goes to the Olympics believes he or she can win the gold. It is not for me to somehow discourage that hope. In the end it is the individual's determination that matters," said the NOC-Ukraine president.

Although there are no Oksana Baiuls on the Ukrainian contingent this year, as Mr. Borzov himself admitted, there are several hopefuls and other dark horses.

Ukraine's biggest hope lies in figure skating and ice dancing. At least four individuals and one pair have the ability to grab a medal for Ukraine. Viacheslav Zahorodniuk has consistently placed high in the European and world men's figure skating championships. He was European champion in 1996 and took the bronze medal at the 1997 European Championships in Paris. His teammate

Dmytro Dmytrenko also has competed with the best in Europe and the world.

The women figure skaters also have two strong contenders for medal positions. Yuliia Lavrenchuk, like Mr. Zahorodniuk, took a bronze in Paris in 1997, and Olena Liashenko was European bronze medalist in 1995.

In ice dancing, the pair from Ukraine to watch is Iryna Romanova and Ihor Yaroshenko, European bronze medalists in 1996.

Historically Ukraine has been strong in the Nordic combination, or the biathlon. This year that remains true again – especially for the women. In addition to 1994 Olympic bronze medalist Valentyna Tserbe-Nesina, look for Olena Zubrilova, Olena Petrova and Tetiana Vodopianova to make their mark.

In the men's biathlon the hopefuls are Andrii Deryzemlia, Ruslan Lusenko and Viacheslav Derkach.

Freestyle acrobatic skiing was going to be Ukraine's strong suit at the Nagano Games until a lack of snow in the Karpaty severely curtailed the team's training efforts. At least one member, Serhii But, still is considered to be a medal hopeful, but he has much catching up to do in his final training in Nagano. The freestyle skiers left for Japan early, on January 23, to get in a few extra jumps and revive their chances for medals.

Besides the climate, financial constraints most inhibit Ukraine's chances for medals in Nagano.

The NOC-Ukraine has found sponsors to absorb the cost of the big-ticket items: Adidas will again supply Ukraine's official uniforms and warm-up suits. Air Ukraine International and Lufthansa have signed on to transport the athletes, ASCO Insurance has medically insured the athletes, and Coca-Cola Ukraine made a financial contribution to the NOC-Ukraine.

This year, as in the two previous Olympics in which independent Ukraine

has participated, diaspora contributions were significant as well – although to a much lesser degree than in Atlanta at the 1996 Summer Games.

At a January 28 send-off gala for the Winter Olympians, Prime Minister Valerii Pustovoitenko thanked the Ukrainian diaspora, particularly Canadians, for their financial support for the 1998 Nagano Olympic effort.

Ukrainian Canadians contributed \$53,000 (Canadian) towards the purchase of athletic equipment for the Olympians and booking of hotel rooms outside Nagano for the biathlon athletes, who, otherwise, would have had to make a several-hour-long daily trek to the site of their event for the practices and competitions.

The contributions also covered the purchase of skis and figure skates, as well as walkie-talkies for the biathlon team.

Stan Haba, Canadian representative of the National Olympic Committee of Ukraine, said Ukraine still needs the financial support of the diaspora. "It had to be done. They still need our help," said Mr. Haba, who headed the fund-raising drive.

He explained that even the Canadian Olympic team looks for financing outside of its government. "In Canada we have an Olympic lottery. The Canadian government only partially supports the team. They need to find other sources of financing, as does Ukraine."

Mr. Haba thanked his fellow countrymen for their support for Ukraine's Olympic team initiative, but said that more fund-raising needs to be done because a portion of the money spent has not yet been raised.

And Mr. Haba explained that whether Ukraine wins medals or not, the fund-raising is well worth it. "If the athletes win, that's great. If they don't, well, Ukraine was still present as an independent country. That is important. The

high-priced aces Alan Borovoy and J.J. Robinette.

"We have a good inventory of people who can react effectively and rationally to the issues at hand," Mr. Petryshyn said.

The first meeting of the full committee is scheduled to take place in Winnipeg on February 4. Ms. Shawarsky said "members of the legal and academic community from across the country are being invited to participate."

The January 22 announcement affirmed that the UCC "has consistently argued that all war criminals should be brought to justice. It also fully supported the recommendation of the Deschenes Commission [of Inquiry on War Criminals] that legal proceedings against accused war criminals take place in Canada using Canadian rules of evidence."

Ms. Shawarsky said an Educational Research Fund on Deportation and Denaturalization will be established. She said the fund will be administered by the UCC in a fashion similar to that which backed the civil liberties commission set up during the Deschenes Commission's mandate. A figure of \$250,000 was mentioned in the January 22 press release.

The UCC's executive director said a lobbying effort targeting Justice Minister McLellan, Immigration Minister Lucienne Robillard and other federal members of Parliament has also be set in motion. Justice Minister McLellan represents the riding of Edmonton-Northwest, in a city with a significant Ukrainian Canadian population.

"It's easy to forget what's at stake here," Ms. Shawarsky said. "We are a nation of immigrants, and yet anyone who came to Canada after the war is a potential target."

Nagano bound

Following is the list of Ukraine's Olympic team for the XVIII Winter Games to be held in Nagano, Japan, on February 7-22. The names are transliterated into English based on the Ukrainian-language listing provided by the National Olympic Committee of Ukraine.

BIATHLON

Valentyna Tserbe-Nesina
Iryna Merkushyna
Nina Lemesh
Olena Zubrilova
Tetiana Vodopianova
Olena Petrova
Viacheslav Derkach
Ruslan Lysenko
Mykola Krupnyk
Andrii Deryzemlia
Alternate
Mykhailo Syzon

FIGURE SKATING

Ruslan Honcharov
Viacheslav Zahorodniuk
Dmytro Dmytrenko
Ihor Yaroshenko
Olena Hrushyna
Iryna Romanova
Olena Liashenko
Yuliia Lavrenchuk
Ihor Marchenko
Yevheniia Filonenko

FREESTYLE SKIING

Stanislav Kravchuk
Serhii But
Yurii Stetsko
Olena Yunchyk
Alla Tsuper
Yuliia Kliukova
Tetiana Kozachenko

LUGE

Liliia Ludan
Nataliia Yakushenko
Oleh Avdieiev
Andrii Mukhin
Ihor Urbanskyi
Danylo Panchenko

CROSS-COUNTRY SKIING

Olena Haiasova
Iryna Terelia
Valentyna Shevchenko
Maryna Pestriakova
Anna Slipenko
Mykola Popovych
Oleksandr Ushkalenko
Mykhailo Artiukhov
Oleksandr Zarovnyi
Hennadii Nikon
Alternate
Pavlo Zabolotny

SHORT-TRACK SPEED SKATING

Yevhen Yakovlev
Nataliia Svierchko
Alternate
Volodymyr Cherneha

ALPINE SKIING

Yuliia Kharkivska
Mykola Skriabin

SKI JUMPING

Ivan Kozlov
Liubym Kohan
Alternate
Volodymyr Hlyvka

SPEED SKATING

Lesia Bilozub
Oleh Kostromitin
Svitlana Konstantinova
Alternate
Serhii Pryz

BOBSLED

Yurii Panchuk
Oleh Polyvach

Kyiv celebrates January anniversary

Embassy of Ukraine

WASHINGTON – A solemn gathering commemorating the 80th anniversary of the Ukrainian National Republic was held at the National Opera House in Kyiv on January 21.

The gathering was attended by President Leonid Kuchma, Prime Minister Valerii Pustovoitenko, national deputies, and representatives of public organizations, labor collectives and diplomatic missions accredited to Kyiv.

In his opening speech, Kyiv Mayor Oleksander Omelchenko stressed the great historic significance of the declaration of the Ukrainian National Republic's independence on January 22, 1918. Yet another epoch-making event happened on January 22, 1919, when two sovereign Ukrainian states, the Ukrainian National Republic and the Western Ukrainian National Republic, united into one independent state.

Vice Prime Minister Valerii Smolii noted the 1918 independence declaration's great influence on the Ukrainian people's future, as it uplifted the national spirit and created "a genuine outburst of liberation energy." The Ukrainian revolution of 1918, as a social phenomenon, was determined by the laws of historical progress; it justly ranks high among liberation processes of the peoples of Europe and the whole world, he said.

The gathering was addressed also by Justice Minister Suzanna Stanik; the director of the Taras Shevchenko Literature Institute of the National Academy of Sciences, Mykola Zhulynsky; and Academician Ivan Dzyuba.

UCC to challenge...

(Continued from page 1)

Manitoba's provincial capital.

Mr. Petryshyn, speaking from his office at the firm of Glowacki & Labitka, said that because the Canadian government has abandoned its own legislation and decided to disregard the recommendations of the Deschenes Commission of Inquiry on War Criminals, the committee will pursue everything from intervention in individual cases based on technical matters through the immigration process, to challenging the constitutionality of the government's "civil not criminal" approach.

"We're taking the example of the [abortion rights crusader Dr. Henry] Morgentaler cases, in which women's and church groups were given standing in court to provide both legal and technical assistance to the proceedings," Mr. Petryshyn said.

"Technically speaking, there are many questions surrounding the issue of what documents exist to prove the alleged deception committed in gaining entry to Canada, whether the officials who interviewed these people are still around to be cross-examined, and whether the alleged misrepresentations people committed were material – that is, whether the misrepresentation could materially have prevented an inquiry into the person's past," the attorney explained.

"In many instances allegations of misrepresentation are highly speculative," Mr. Petryshyn asserted.

In terms of pursuing the constitutional challenge, the JCDD chair said "it would not be Uncle Harry's lawyer who'd be hired. We would hire of someone of stature," such as widely respected and

Prima ballerina Valentina Pereyaslavac dies at age 90

by Ika Koznarska Casanova

WOODSIDE, N.Y. — Valentina Pereyaslavac, prima ballerina of major theaters of opera and ballet in Ukraine, choreographer, faculty member at the American Ballet Theatre School in New York, and coach and teacher to world renowned dancers, died on January 4 at the age of 90.

Mme. Pereyaslavac dedicated her whole life to the ballet. As a teacher, she was known for her demanding and exacting teaching method and relentless discipline. She was wont to say that "There is no secret method ... only work, work, work. And passion ... inner passion."

Some of the world's foremost dancers, from leading companies in the U.S. and abroad, came to her famous 11:30 a.m. class at ABT School, among them, Rudolf Nureyev, Alicia Alonso, Erik Bruhn, Anton Dolin, Margot Fonteyn and Carla Fracci.

Mme. Pereyaslavac also served as consultant at the Royal Ballet in London and at seminars and festivals in Copenhagen, Cologne and Cannes. In Vienna, she worked with Nureyev and Dame Fonteyn in the film production of "Swan Lake."

Born February 10, 1907, in Yalta, she was accepted at the age of 9 at the Imperial School of Ballet in Moscow. Upon completing her training and education in 1926, she was engaged by the Kharkiv Ballet and embarked on a 22-year career as prima ballerina in Kharkiv, Kyiv and Odesa.

As prima ballerina she went to Leningrad with the Sverdlovsk opera-ballet theater and remained there for three years to study under Agrippina Vaganova.

In 1939 she was invited to the Lviv Opera and Ballet Theater as prima ballerina.

With the outbreak of the war, Mme. Pereyaslavac was sent to work by the Germans in a factory in Leipzig. At war's end, she was in a camp for Ukrainian displaced persons in Ingolstadt, where she taught children, free of charge, forming a small yet select and well-trained dance group. The group gave numerous performances under the auspices of the United Nations Relief and Rehabilitation Agency (UNRRA).

Upon coming to the United States in 1949, with \$11 to her name, she found work in factories in Philadelphia, first cleaning peaches and then packing cig-

rettes (to which she aptly referred to as "something à la Carmen").

In 1949 she moved to New York where she obtained a teaching position at Tatyana Semyonova's Studio 819 at Carnegie Hall.

In 1951 she was invited to teach at the newly opened American Ballet Theater School, under the direction of Lucia Chase.

Mme. Pereyaslavac taught at the ABT for over 30 years, imparting her experience and knowledge to several generations of dancers.

Apart from her classes at the ABT, Mme. Pereyaslavac also taught, as she referred to them, "my Ukrainian children," in downtown New York.

At all classes, be it at the ABT or at Ukrainian community venues in downtown Manhattan, Mme. Pereyaslavac was perceived as a teacher with high expectations, a strict disciplinarian, and as a source of inspiration.

In an interview with Mme. Pereyaslavac, which appeared in Dance Magazine (November 1960), Mme. Pereyaslavac, in response to a question regarding the difference between the Ukrainian and American students, noted: "Americans have good bodies, but are less passionate. However, Ukrainian dancers raised in the U.S. suffer the same lack. It must be the comfortable life."

In 1976, on the occasion of the 25th anniversary of her teaching career at the ABT School, Dance News (December issue) carried an article by Mme. Pereyaslavac as well as tributes from the world's leading ballet dancers (see sidebar).



Valentina Pereyaslavac

The Ukrainian community honored Mme. Pereyaslavac on her diamond jubilee at an event organized by her former students and emceed by ballet dancer and teacher Roma Pryma-Bohachevsky, which was held at the Ukrainian Institute of America in New York in February 1983.

Funeral services for Mme. Pereyaslavac were held January 7 at St. Mary's Christian Church in Woodside, N.Y. Internment was at St. Michael Catholic Cemetery in Jackson Heights, N.Y.

Basilian Sisters present award to Melanne Verveer in Washington



Sister Dorothy Ann Busowski (right), provincial superior of the Sisters of St. Basil, with Melanne Verveer in the office of the first lady.

WASHINGTON — The Sisters of St. Basil the Great based in Fox Chase Manor, Pa., presented Melanne Starinshak Verveer, assistant to the president and chief of staff to the first lady, the Basilian Humanitarian Award at a private reception in December 1997 in the Office of the First Lady.

Ms. Verveer, who is the highest ranking Ukrainian American in the Clinton Administration, was presented the award for her distinguished service in politics. The Sisters of St. Basil established the award to honor people in politics, business, religion, media, sports, education and volunteer service who through their

distinguished careers have been influential and instrumental in bringing hope to the future life of the Church, family and society.

Ms. Verveer accompanied First Lady Hillary Rodham Clinton on her recent visit to Ukraine, as well as on good will missions around the world, including Southeast Asia, Latin America, Central Europe, Bosnia and Africa. She also accompanied President Bill Clinton on his state visit to Ukraine in 1995.

From January 1993 to January 1997, Ms. Verveer held the position of deputy assistant to the president and deputy

(Continued on page 13)

Tributes to a remarkable teacher

Among the tributes paid in 1976 to Valentina Pereyaslavac from company directors and leading ballet dancers on the occasion of the 25th anniversary of her teaching career at the American Ballet Theatre School in New York were the following:

"She is undoubtedly one of the greatest teachers today."

— Lucia Chase, former director, American Ballet Theatre School, New York

"...one of the most wonderful teachers in the western world..."

— Brian Shaw

"The power Mme. Pereyaslavac exercises over the students: an intense, stoic discipline, rewarded by exploding into a vibrant sense of rhythm, creating an almost heroic exaltation.

In other words putting you through extremes of repressing and expressing maximum effort (in the form of rhythm), giving you already a taste of the great stage dancing, in its utmost power and intensity.

A remarkable woman, totally possessed by her love and devotion to dance."

— Violette Verdy

"Valentina Pereyaslavac is a great teacher. I was lucky to fall into her hands when I came from Russia where things were slightly disorganized. The discipline in her class helps to focus on one's work. Her classes give fantastic strength. My work with her helps me to maintain myself so well.

I brought Margot (Fonteyn) to her class. She was apprehensive. Nevertheless, since the first lesson, she never misses the opportunity to take her class. Often, Margot makes a special stopover in New York on her way to Australia or Panama in order to take Mme. Pereyaslavac's class. Margot says that if you survive Madame's barre, you can survive anything.

Although she is stern and demanding, after class she turns into the softest person, like a mother. In class she is possessed by the muse, a priestess of dance.

Congratulations on your 25th anniversary and many more to come."

— Rudolf Nureyev



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THE UKRAINIAN NATIONAL ASSOCIATION FORUM

Toronto committee plans concert, banquet for 34th UNA Convention

PARSIPPANY, N.J. — For the first time in its 104-year history, the Ukrainian National Association will hold its convention in Canada. The 34th Regular Convention of the UNA will take place May 15-19 in Toronto.

The local Convention Committee, which is chaired by the Rev. Myron Stasiw, an advisor of the UNA, met in Toronto on Sunday, December 28, 1997, to make further plans for the quadrennial convention. Committee members examined the task before them and adopted a plan of action.

Present at the meeting were chairpersons of the Convention Committee's subcommittees: Wasyl Didiuk, press; Yaroslava Zorych, concert; Anna Burij, banquet; and Stephan Czolij, information. The minutes were recorded by Secretary Ivan Shlapak, and Treasurer Roman Benesh reported on financial matters. Wasyl Sharwan, longtime secretary of UNA Branch 407 and a former district chairman, was co-opted as a member of the Convention Committee.

Also present at the meeting was UNA President Ulana M. Diachuk.

The committee reviewed a proposal by the Vesnivka Choir, which will appear in a special concert organized as part of the convention program. The concert will take place on Sunday, May 17, at St. Patrick's Church, located on Dundas and McCall streets in Toronto. The program will be highlighted by the first Toronto appearance of singer Alexis Kochan of Winnipeg. Tickets to the concert will be sold for \$20 for adults and \$10 for children up to age 12. The church's capacity is 1,000 persons.

Also discussed was attendance by UNA convention delegates at Sunday divine liturgies in local Ukrainian churches.

The Convention Committee is charged with soliciting advertisements for the convention book; this effort is being directed by Mr. Benesh.

Also touched upon was the UNA convention banquet, scheduled to take place on Saturday, May 16, at the Toronto Hilton, where the convention deliberations will be taking place.

Convention Committee members said they believe Ukrainian community members will attend the convention banquet, as well as the special concert featuring Vesnivka and Ms. Kochan.

Colleagues bid farewell to Khristina Lew

PARSIPPANY, N.J. — Colleagues bid farewell on Friday, January 23, to Khristina Lew, assistant editor of The Ukrainian Weekly, on her last day with the UNA's English-language publication. Ms. Lew has resigned from The Weekly's editorial staff to take on the position of director of public relations for "Focus: Ukraine," a get-the-vote-out effort led by the Ukrainian Congress Committee of America.

The UCCA project is funded by the U.S. Agency for International Development through the Eurasia Foundation. The civic education program will target Ukrainian youth through town-hall-style meetings with candidates, a weekly television program, an interactive website, and public service announcements to be broadcast on radio and TV.

Ms. Lew left for Kyiv, where the

"Focus: Ukraine" project will be headquartered, on January 27.

Ms. Lew, who holds a B.A. in English from the College of the Holy Cross in Worcester, Mass., and previously was employed by NKM Associates as a public relations associate, joined The Weekly staff on November 26, 1990. Three months later she was named an assistant editor at the paper.

In the November of 1991, while on a three-week leave from The Weekly, Ms. Lew participated in the "Aktyv Voli" campaign in Ukraine's eastern oblasts, which was aimed at promoting support for Ukrainian independence in preparation for the December 1, 1991, referendum.

Ms. Lew served three tours of duty at the Ukrainian National Association's Kyiv Press Bureau: August through

October 1992, July through September 1995 and mid-July through August 1997.

A farewell reception for Ms. Lew in The Ukrainian Weekly's conference room was attended by fellow staffers, as well as editors of the Svoboda Ukrainian-language daily newspaper and employees of the newspapers' print shop and administration.

Ms. Lew was presented with framed copies of the first and last issues of The Weekly that she had worked on during her seven years with the newspaper, as well as with a framed reproduction of the news story that first announced her appointment to The Weekly staff.

Words of farewell were offered by Roma Hadzewycz, editor-in-chief, and Irene Jarosewich, a fellow staffer. A hearty (but very off-key) "Mnohaya Lita" was sung by all present.



Volodymyr Kaploun

Khristina Lew (center, holding flowers) with her colleagues at The Weekly (from left) Serhiy Polishchuk, Awilda Rolon, Irene Jarosewich and Roma Hadzewycz.

Organizing results for December

During the month of December in 1997, branch secretaries and professional organizers were very active, which yielded good organizing results. The UNA Home Office received 158 new membership applications for a total insurance coverage of \$2,544,200.

The top organizers among branch officers were: Michael Turko, Branch 63, nine members; Stefan Hawrysz, a UNA auditor and secretary of Branch 83, eight members; and Vira Krywyj, Branch 174, and Miron Pilipiak, Branch 496, seven members each. Even secretaries who had not exhibited any organizing activity throughout the year became active in December.

The UNA's professional organizers, who had worked constantly throughout the year, enrolled 29 new members insured for \$1,584,200 during the month of December.

Sincere thanks go out to all organizers for their contributions to the growth of the UNA. We believe that the December push to enroll new members will not die down, but will carry on into the new year.

UNA Home Office

Mission Statement

The Ukrainian National Association exists:

- to promote the principles of fraternalism;
- to preserve the Ukrainian, Ukrainian American and Ukrainian Canadian heritage and culture; and
- to provide quality financial services and products to its members.

As a fraternal insurance society, the Ukrainian National Association reinvests its earnings for the benefit of its members and the Ukrainian community.



The 34th Regular Convention of the Ukrainian National Association
May 15-19, 1998, Toronto Hilton

THE UKRAINIAN WEEKLY

Prosecuting war crimes: déjà vu

For many of us in the United States, recent events in Canada seem like a very bad case of déjà vu.

We are speaking, of course, about the Canadian government's decision to pursue prosecution of Nazi war crimes suspects via civil — rather than criminal — proceedings. The rationale: The previous "made in Canada" approach of prosecuting suspects in such cases was not succeeding. So, to increase its "success rate" in the face of accusations that it is "soft" on war criminals, Canada opted to change the rules — no matter that the cause of justice is not served.

Does this remind anyone of the Office of Special Investigations, the Nazi-hunting arm of the U.S. Justice Department? That agency was guilty of such zeal in its activity that the cause of justice was subverted on more than one occasion. The most notorious example, of course, was the case of John Demjanjuk, in which the Justice Department was so set on getting a big-time war criminal that it ignored evidence which pointed to another man as being "Ivan the Terrible" of Treblinka, and then purposely withheld that information and other exculpatory evidence from the defense. Ultimately, Mr. Demjanjuk was found not guilty by Israel's Supreme Court and was allowed to return to the United States, where a federal appeals court later ruled that OSI prosecutors had "acted with reckless disregard for the truth" and committed "fraud on the court."

To add to our sick feeling of "here we go again," there is the fact that, not only has the Canadian government chosen to follow the U.S. example in pursuing suspected war criminals via civil cases, but it has hired a former director of the OSI, Neal Sher, as a special consultant to the Ministry of Justice. The appointment was defended by Justice Minister Ann McLellan who said the new appointee is "one of the world's leading experts in dealing with war criminals." Oh sure, and given his experience with the discredited OSI, he brings with him a wealth of knowledge on how to use the justice system to win a case, i.e., how to lower the legal standards to obtain the end result: denaturalization and deportation of war crimes suspects. We emphasize "suspects" because under the "American model" they are never proven to be war criminals — just liars, persons who misrepresented information on their applications for entry into the country.

The Ukrainian Canadian Congress has announced that it will challenge the Canadian government in court over its decision to denaturalize and deport suspects rather than try them on war crimes charges. The UCC has called this decision "a grossly unjust course of action by the government against its own citizens," while reiterating its position that all war criminals should be brought to justice and tried in criminal proceedings using Canadian rules of evidence.

On the other side of the issue are groups like the Canadian Jewish Congress. Two of the organization's leaders noted in a recent letter to the editor of *The Globe and Mail* that the new approach is "the only way Canada might bring some justice for survivors of the Nazi Holocaust."

They were responding to the newspaper's January 14 editorial, which said the following about Canada's new tack on war criminals: "It's an easy solution with an uneasy feel to it. Singling out certain individuals for a retrospective look at their immigration documents, based on information that cannot prevail in a criminal court, has the whiff of selective enforcement of our laws."

Such an approach — no matter how good its intentions — cannot be tolerated.

Feb.
5
1809

Turning the pages back...

Hryhorii Hynylevych was born on February 5, 1809, in Yavoriv, Galicia. A clergyman in the consistory of the Greek-Catholic Church, he was in charge of schools in the Peremyshl

Eparchy and was rector of the Peremyshl Greek-Catholic Theological Seminary.

In 1848 he was among the many priests led by Bishop Hryhorii Yakhymovych who signed the petition to the Austrian emperor requesting the introduction of the Ukrainian language in the schools and administration of Eastern Galicia, access to government positions for Ukrainians, and genuine equality of the Greek and Roman Catholic clergy.

Hynylevych participated in the Supreme Ruthenian Council, the first modern Ukrainian political organization, established in May 1848, and in early June led the Ukrainian delegation to the Slavic Congress in Prague.

While it had been organized by the Czechs to promote Slavic solidarity, ironically it proved to be the forum for Polish-Ukrainian antagonisms to come out into the open. Since the spring revolts that had weakened Austrian authority that year, the Poles had been pressing for social liberalization and greater autonomy for themselves, all the while ignoring the issue of Ukrainian nationality.

At the Slavic Congress, Hynylevych's Ukrainian delegation put the issue of Ukrainian distinctiveness from Poles and Russians front and center, and almost succeeded in wresting concessions from the former.

While the Prague congress was still in session (just before the Austrians decided to disrupt it by bombarding the Czech city), elections to the Galician Diet, a lower house in the newly founded imperial Parliament, were conducted.

Hynylevych was one of 25 Ukrainians who won seats in that campaign, one marred by Polish rumor-mongering and threats designed to keep the Ukrainian peasantry away from the polls.

Once elected, he championed the cause of dividing Galicia into two parts — Polish and Ukrainian — and secured the first government subsidy for a Ukrainian cultural institution, the Ruska Besida Theater.

In 1852, the graduates of the Peremyshl seminary dedicated their first almanac to Hynylevych. He died in Peremyshl on November 30, 1871.

Sources: "Hynylevych, Hryhorii," *Encyclopedia of Ukraine*, Vol. 2 (Toronto: University of Toronto Press, 1988); Orest Subtelny, "Ukraine: A History" (Toronto: University of Toronto Press, 1988).

STUDENT REFLECTIONS

I am 32 nationalities, and then some

by Kendra Mikula

When I think of multiculturalism, I think of my sixth-grade teacher forcing us to make really tacky collages. Mine usually took the shape of a mangled maple leaf with various pasted-on color pictures of Elvis Stojko, Corey Hart, David Suzuki and Ray Hnatyshyn. I did, however, have fun with the glue stick and the manila tag paper. Just the thought of manila tag paper perked me up and made me get my pencil, glue and tiny squares of tissue paper, ready to make little dots of these tissue papers form a new-age, objet d'art. My sixth-grade teacher also reinforced the fact that these masterpieces had to be representative of the multicultural society that, as we were always told around this time of the year, we are part of.

I am a "multiculturalist" through and through, from this land to those tiny lands my heritage and perogies are derived from. Oddly enough, I am not sure what a multiculturalist is, looks like, or sounds like. In fact, I am not even sure "multiculturalist" is a word, but anyway...

My life is relatively mundane and ritualistic. I could lie and say that my life as a twenty-something-white-suburban-postmodernist-feminist-realist-Aristotelian-female is tough. I mean, just the thought of my daily schedule, at first glance, seems gruelling.

Every day, I wake up and find myself in a queen-size, posturepedic mattress, which can make life damn hard to want to enter into on those mornings when Mom is running late. When Mom is running late, there are harsh consequences. Lunch will not be made for me. Granted, getting to school and opening your nutritiously balanced lunch with the little "I love you" notes placed with care in your environmentally friendly lunchbag can be enjoyable at times. These notes can also be an impediment when you are engaged in a lunchtime conversation with your colleagues as to how ready you are to leave the cozy nest that thwarts your ability to live a struggling artist's life.

There's also the problem of deciding what vintage clothing I will wear to school so as not to look too middle-class, while also trying to avoid being lumped in with those who want everyone to know they can afford those cute, three-to-four-letter-label jeans and shirts.

After putting in a long day at school, attending the courses that will supposedly ensure me a job to perpetuate the lavish lifestyle that I am told by Mom and Dad I have become accustomed to, I arrive at home. Ahhh ... home. Yes, the place where I take off my shoes, pet the dog and rush downstairs to catch the afternoon episode of "Laverne and Shirley," waiting there to be summoned to dinner.

At about six o'clock, Mom calls down to me that dinner is ready. I arrive at the dinner table only to realize that my plate is filled with meager, white-suburban offerings. Or rather, my plate is filled with perogies, a dollop of sour cream and kovbasa for my protein supplement. I have been raised in Winnipeg as a white, middle-class, suburban kid, and this definitely constitutes a big part of who I am. Yet there is this "Ukrainian" in me that I can't get rid of, and wouldn't want to get

Kendra Mikula is on the editorial board of The Manitoban, a student newspaper. Both great-grandmothers arrived in Manitoba from Ukraine. This article appeared in a recent issue of The Manitoban in a section on multiculturalism.

rid of. My Ukrainian heritage sometimes goes beyond having a commonly mispronounced last name. It goes even deeper into who I am — it is a part of what I eat!

Of course, who I am goes beyond that. To enter into the world of clichés, I consider myself to be a part of everything and everyone I have ever met. I have friends of every nationality, creed, race, sex, color, intellectual level and taste (well, maybe not taste). My friends are important to me, and I think this is partly because of the diverse cultural aspects they expose me to, the diverse cultural aspects that make them who they are.

These are the friends who can come to a pot-luck dinner party at my house and dig into every dish, from coleslaw and ravioli to cabbage rolls and samosas, without ever squishing up their faces at the thought of tasting something new.

These are also the same friends who share the same post-grade-school experience of realizing at 2 a.m. that we do not know when in the national anthem the lyric "true and painted love" appears. I used to swear it was there.

These are friends who can tell stories about unique dinner combinations at their great-grandmother's house. Going to dinner there to enjoy little cabbage buns and borsch, only to find that their Icelandic neighbor has dropped by with Vienatarta for dessert.

Ultimately, I believe multiculturalism is sharing the same experiences, and new experiences under the guise of being culturally distinct from one another. Furthermore, I don't think we need to be told we reside in a multiculturalist society. For me, it is an inherent part of every aspect of my life. I don't think there is a time, place, week, month, day, year, or grade when we should celebrate multiculturalism. By simply going through our daily rituals we celebrate it each and every day. So today, let's everyone stand up in your first-year psych class, second-year honors English seminar, or third-year biology of seed plants lab, and yell out: "I am a multiculturalist and damn proud of it! Now pass the perogies!"

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NEWS AND VIEWS

Self Reliance (Newark) reacts to current needs of community

by Joseph Trush

NEWARK, N.J. — The board of directors of the Self Reliance (Newark, N.J.) Federal Credit Union, in the spirit of the credit union ideal of "people helping people" and from the perspective of many years of experience, will continue to provide the Ukrainian community with excellent financial service.

The financial marketplace is constantly evolving; therefore, it is extremely competitive. Demographic data show that our members are increasingly moving out of traditional ethnic Ukrainian neighborhoods to suburban areas to improve their quality of life. Consequently, we are faced with the question of how to meet the present and future financial needs of our members and what we must do to continue to serve them effectively. These realities call for new approaches to meet our stated goal.

With these realities in mind, the board of directors of the Self Reliance (Newark, N.J.) Federal Credit Union took advantage of the opportunity offered by CBS to provide a national forum for presenting information about the credit union's role in the life of the Ukrainian community. The program "Building America: Eye On Business" was prepared by CBS and aired at noon on Sunday, December 14, 1997, and featured the many financial and other services provided by the credit union to its members.

Unlike a previous CBS broadcast on Ukrainians that painted a negative picture, this program allowed the credit union to

emphasize the positive aspects of Ukrainian life in America and underscored the unique and important role played by Self Reliance (Newark, N.J.) Federal Credit Union in helping Ukrainians in America achieve "The American Dream."

The intention of the credit union was to inform younger generations of Ukrainians and new Ukrainian immigrants, who may not be involved in Ukrainian community and professional organizations or are not aware of their existence, that the financial services of the credit union may be equal to or better than the ones they may be using at other financial institutions. Most importantly, we wished to emphasize the fact that the resources of the credit union benefit not only its members, but the Ukrainian community as a whole.

We would also like to take this opportunity to announce that Self Reliance (Newark, N.J.) Federal Credit Union intends to open a branch office in the Ukrainian National Association's corporate headquarters building in Parsippany, N.J., in the spring in order to better serve current members who reside in Morris County. The credit union's main office will remain at its present location in Newark to continue to serve those members who loyally and consistently helped make Self Reliance (Newark, N.J.) Federal Credit Union the viable, sound financial institution to serve all their and their families' immediate and future financial needs.

Joseph Trush is chairman of the board of the Self Reliance (Newark, N.J.) Federal Credit Union.

Hand in Hand Together helps people of Shchors, Ukraine

by Kay Netz

MAPLE GROVE, Minn. — Ukraine is struggling to build an independent nation and Hand in Hand Together was formed in response to the countless needs, both material and spiritual, that were observed on a visit to Ukraine in 1994.

We look back and celebrate all the needs that were met for the Ukrainian people in the past three years. However, in the future, continuing to send the much-needed humanitarian aid will be a struggle.

Hand in Hand Together was able to send aid through a program of the U.S. government called "Operation Support Freedom" (OSF). Private volunteer organizations like Hand in Hand Together gathered, packed and loaded all the donated aid consisting primarily of food, clothing and medical supplies. OSF then paid for the shipping of the donated goods. However, OSF was canceled at the end of 1996.

It costs about \$6,000 to send a 40-foot steel container that holds 20 tons of aid with an approximate value of \$100,000. Just before OSF closed, two containers of aid were sent at the very end of 1996 by Hand in Hand Together. These containers arrived in Ukraine in March of 1997. A total of nine containers of aid have been sent over three years.

This aid was a significant help to the people of Shchors, Ukraine. Many people are unemployed. Those who are working as teachers, doctors and nurses do not receive their salaries for months at a time. Pensioners receive their small pensions many months late. The hospi-

tals and doctors are in desperate need of medical supplies as they struggle to treat their patients. The cost for food and other basic items is about the same as in the United States. However, compared to incomes, these prices are impossible to afford. Therefore, the food, clothing, seeds and medical supplies are especially needed and welcomed. In fact, for many Ukrainians, this aid is their lifeline to survival in difficult circumstances.

A committee of people in Shchors has been organized by Nina Lazurenko. They do an enormous amount of work. When the containers arrive, they work many hours a day to unpack and sort the contents of hundreds of boxes. Then they have the large task of distributing the aid to schools, hospitals, orphanages and needy residents. They visit people in Shchors and in many surrounding villages. Families with many children are given assistance. Old people, widows, orphans and invalids also are given special attention.

Whether a single box is sent to a needy family or to a widow or to an orphanage, or whether an entire 20-ton container of aid is sent, we are extremely grateful to all the people and groups who have supported this worthwhile effort and made it all possible.

Therefore, the challenge before us is to continue to keep the candle of hope and encouragement burning for the needy people of Ukraine. Americans are blessed with great privilege and bounty. Hand in Hand Together is completely dependent upon what God leads people

(Continued on page 13)

Faces and Places

by Myron B. Kuropas



Just in time: a volume about Galicia Division

With Sol Littman poised to pounce on some "2,000 Galicia Division war criminals," as he has consistently told anyone who would listen, the publication of a history of the Division is just in time, a welcome antidote to the Soviet-era lies being perpetrated by the Canadian director of the Simon Wiesenthal Center.

Written by Michael O. Logush, "Galicia Division: The Waffen-SS 14th Grenadier Division, 1943-1945," is literally a 558-page encyclopedia of the Division, from the moment it was proposed to its transformation into the Ukrainian National Army. The 120 pages of reference notes alone are worth the price of the book.

The book is not just a collection of dry facts. Mr. Logush weaves a fascinating story by including many human interest narratives of triumph and tragedy, love and hate, in what is one of the more controversial moments in Ukrainian history.

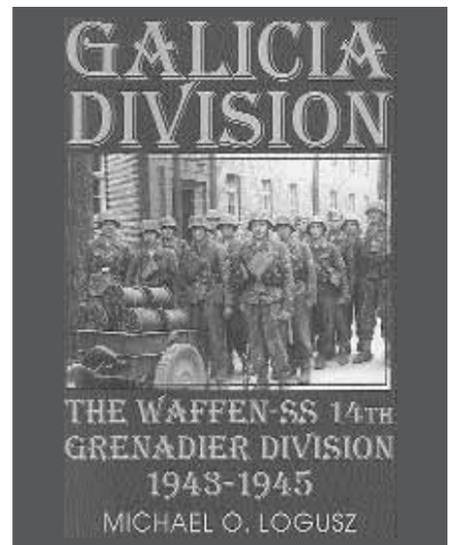
The Division was established in 1943, at a time when it was apparent to most Ukrainians that Germany would lose the war. At the time, Ukrainian leaders were hopeful that a protracted struggle between the USSR and Germany would weaken both. Given their familiarity with Soviet perfidy, they believed that once the war ended, the Western allies would sever their relations with Moscow, creating a power vacuum in Ukraine. Reflecting on the events of 1918-1920 when Poland's superior military forces invaded and captured all of Galicia, they concluded that if Ukraine was to assert itself in the future, it would need a skilled and efficient military force. The plan was to have Germany provide both the training and the equipment for just such a force. An agreement was reached with Germany that the Division would be employed exclusively to fight Communism, would have its own chaplains and would not be subjected to Nazi ideological indoctrination. The Germans refused to permit the Division to call itself "Ukrainian," however. "Galicia" was the compromise.

Soviet-era writers and their apostles in North America have consistently maintained that the Galicia Division was, as Valery Styrkul wrote in the Soviet Ukrainian publication "SS Werewolves," established to fight "Jews and Bolsheviks." Is there any truth to this canard? "With regard to war crimes," writes Mr. Logush, "I want to make it absolutely clear that had I uncovered any crimes, or what may be perceived as such, I assure my readers that I would have inserted it without a moment's hesitation."

It is significant that at the Nuremberg trials Soviet representatives could not produce credible evidence regarding alleged war crimes by the Galicia Division.

Mr. Logush writes that he plans to "produce a work which will examine not only the allegations made against the Division, but what really lies behind the accusations; how certain nations benefited (or continue to benefit) from 'war crimes.'" Our community needs to fervently encourage Mr. Logush in that endeavor.

Mr. Logush makes clear that, contrary to Soviet-era disinformation so enthusiastically embraced by Mr. Littman, the Organization of Ukrainian Nationalists initially was opposed to the establishment of the Galicia Division. The OUN(B), was especially vehement in that regard. With the exception of Oleh Olzhych, who was later executed by the Nazis, most of the OUN(M) leadership, however, supported the endeavor. In the end the OUN(B) adopted a posture of neutrality.



The leadership of the Ukrainian Insurgent Army (UPA) also was initially skeptical of the Division, but then realized that the Division could be useful. The plan was to have Ukrainian youth enlist, receive first-rate military training, and then desert into the ranks of the UPA.

And the training was both first-rate and extensive. There is no truth to the charge that the Division was defeated at Brody because it was ill-prepared, writes Mr. Logush. The Division was "exceptionally well-trained and armed, and equipped with the most modern arms, equipment and material of that era." At Brody they encountered a far stronger Soviet front that "was not only superior in numerical strength but also massively reinforced with armor, artillery, aircraft and a massive supply system."

Allegations by Polish Communists that the Division assisted the Germans in the annihilation of the Warsaw uprising in August 1944, also are proven false by Mr. Logush.

Were Ukrainians the only non-Germans who enlisted in the Waffen SS to fight Bolshevism? In his book "The Waffen SS, 1939-1945," George H. Stein lists a number of units comprising Belgians, Dutch, French, Danes, Norwegians, Finns, Swedes, Swiss, Latvians, Bosnians, Estonians, Croats, Serbs, Albanians, Hungarians, Romanians and Bulgarians. The element that united all of them was their hatred of the Soviets.

During my interview with Mr. Logush, he informed me that he has been a military history buff since childhood. He spent six and half years in the U.S. Army and is now a major in the Reserves. It took him 10 years, on and off, to complete what is thus far the definitive work on the Galicia Division. His book sells for \$35 and is available at Barnes and Noble book stores.

Is he currently writing the promised book on "war crimes" allegations against the Division? Unfortunately, no. He has switched gears totally. He's completing a book titled "Blood on the Tomahawk: The Revolutionary War in New York's Wilderness, 1777."

Although I'm sure his present project is a worthy one, I am disappointed that he has postponed his promise to write more about the Division. In speaking with him, I sensed that he needs encouragement to return to a task that is of critical significance to our community. The sooner Mr. Logush completes his monograph, the better. Our enemies are still out there working day and

Myron Kuropas' e-mail address is: mbkuropas@compuserve.com

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Orthodox leaders need our support

Dear Editor:

During the times of the former USSR, I remember hearing a sad (but true) joke that went like this: "What is the budget of the KGB for infiltrating and dividing the Ukrainian community in the diaspora?" "Zero!" "Why?" "Because the Ukrainians don't need outside help to destroy themselves."

If this is not a true example, why do we have two national bodies representing the Ukrainian community? Remember the 13th Congress of the UCCA? Now our community faces similar problems, only this time it involves the Church.

Readers' letters in *The Weekly* over the past few weeks have expressed various personal opinions on issues regarding the Ukrainian Orthodox Church in the U.S.A. and its relationship to Kyiv and Constantinople. In a recent letter to the editor Victor Babanskyj writes: "There is a definite movement by a large number of clergy within the Ukrainian Orthodox Church of the U.S.A. to remove 'Ukrainian' from the Ukrainian Orthodox Church." He also writes that "there is a definite movement to create a non-ethnic and non-nationalistic pan-American Orthodox Church."

This is absolutely absurd! I would not be wasting my time answering such a ridiculous comment were it not for concerned parishioners who have approached me about Mr. Babanskyj's letter, prompting me to believe that there may be others who have such concerns and require a reply.

For almost 20 years I have been on the Church's highest administrative body – the Metropolitan Council; I have been a member of the Consistory and spiritual advisor of the national executive board of the Ukrainian Orthodox League. Never ever has there been any discussion about changing the name of our Church. This has not even been mentioned in private discussion. Undoubtedly, there may be a few clergy who, privately, think differently, but this is most certainly not a "definite movement by a large number of clergy."

By making such a statement Mr. Babanskyj attempts to use scare tactics to frighten the faithful – especially the elderly – who have concerns about our Church's relationship with Constantinople.

I challenge Mr. Babanskyj to provide names of those clergy who want to remove the name "Ukrainian" from the Church. Let him back up his statement! If, as he states, there are a "large number of clergy," providing these names should not be difficult for him.

For anyone who is truly concerned about our Church being Ukrainian, it is an absolute fact that our Consistory in South Bound Brook, N.J., gives 100 percent support for an Autocephalous Ukrainian Orthodox Church in Ukraine. Last year alone, thousands of dollars were donated to seminaries of the Ukrainian Orthodox Church – Kyiv Patriarchate in Kyiv, Lviv, Lutsk and Ivano-Frankivsk. Our Church recently covered the \$10,000 cost of printing the Book of Epistle Readings in Ukrainian; 3,000 books will be distributed to parishes of the Kyiv Patriarchate and the Ukrainian Autocephalous Orthodox Church. Patriarch Filaret's blessing appears in the beginning of this book.

At the meeting of the Metropolitan Council held in South Bound Brook on January 16, it was resolved that our Church supports the unification of the Ukrainian Orthodox Churches in Ukraine into one Autocephalous Church, under the leadership of a patriarch of Kyiv and all Ukraine.

At that same meeting it was also decided

that our Church would lead a fund-raising drive to purchase bells for the bell tower of St. Michael's Monastery, which is presently being rebuilt in Kyiv. We strongly support the move to have this monastery given to the Kyiv Patriarchate.

On the local level, my parish in Parma has donated over \$15,000 for the remodeling of a building recently turned over by the Kyiv City Administration to the seminary and academy of the Kyiv Patriarchate, as well as \$10,000 to provide scholarships and utility expenses for seminarians in Kyiv, Lutsk and Lviv.

Do these appear to be the actions of a Church whose hierarchs and clergy are abandoning Ukraine? Of hierarchs and clergy who are working for a non-ethnic, non-nationalistic Church?

Finally, let us again remember that the acceptance of the Ukrainian Orthodox Church of the U.S.A. under the spiritual protection of the patriarch of Constantinople was and continues to be a major defeat for Moscow.

Just last month, an interview with Moscow's Patriarch Aleksei II was printed in the *Word*, the official publication of the Antiochian Orthodox Church of North America (December 1997 issue). The following was reported: "The patriarch then went on to explain the situations in the [sic] Ukraine and in Estonia saying, 'Why did Constantinople accept the Ukrainian Autocephalous Church in the United States without even consulting us? Now, we cannot enter into communion with the Ukrainians in the United States and therefore we are not in communion with part of the See of Constantinople.'"

When will a few vocal individuals begin to realize that the recognition of the Ukrainian Orthodox Church of the U.S.A. by Constantinople was a tremendous blow to Moscow? The writing is on the wall for Moscow, and they are afraid that this will be the end of their domination in Ukraine. Moscow's fear is justified. At Archbishop Antony's 25th anniversary celebration in South Bound Brook on January 17, Metropolitan Maximos of the Greek Orthodox Church, Pittsburgh Diocese, publicly expressed his support for an Autocephalous Orthodox Church in Ukraine.

The Ukrainian Orthodox Church has finally found friends and supporters who recognize and speak openly for acceptance of the canonical right of Ukrainians to have their own Church with no ties or obligations to Moscow – people with whom we are able to sit around the table and discuss our Church's future. This certainly is a far cry from the 1960s and 1970s, when we stood around outside as spectators while others discussed and decided our fate.

I remember a visit by hierarchs of the Russian Orthodox Church of the former USSR to Passaic, N.J., and New York City. The Ukrainian Orthodox clergy were not allowed to participate in any of the Church discussions on Ukraine. We stood outside, held protest signs, carried a symbolic casket and served a memorial service for the victims of the Great Famine.

In contrast, today the Ukrainian Orthodox Church of the U.S.A. is an active participant in all aspects of Orthodox Church life. Our concerns are heard and noted. The best example of this occurred when Patriarch Bartholomew met with Patriarch Aleksei last September in Odesa, Ukraine. Archbishop Antony and I flew to Constantinople and held a lengthy meeting with Patriarch Bartholomew, during which we expressed our displeasure with his trip to Ukraine. Three weeks later Patriarch Bartholomew was making history by visiting our center in South Bound Brook, where he listened to speaker after speaker call for a canonically recognized

Autocephalous Church in Ukraine. Each of these speakers was interrupted by applause and standing ovations.

This in itself is cause for great concern in the Russian Orthodox Church. Moscow would want us back on the street, where we had no voice. This is truly sad, but even sadder is the fact that some of our own Ukrainian people are assisting this attempt.

Support for the hierarchs and clergy, especially at this time, is very important for the stability of the Church, both in the U.S.A. and Ukraine. Let us not continue to divide ourselves, but to give them our full support.

Let us also remember that, in spite of all our earthly concerns about the Church, Christ is the head of the Church. Only when we put Him first and pray to Him for guidance will the Church truly find peace and unity.

The Rev. John R. Nakonachny
Parma, Ohio

The writer is pastor of St. Vladimir's Ukrainian Orthodox Cathedral.

Kudos for content of January 4 issue

Dear Editor:

Every issue of *The Weekly* is informative and interesting. However, my hat is off to the editorial staff for the January 4 issue. The content was superb, and I hope it will generate letters to the editor from our readers. The stories in this issue will impact how our communities will evolve into the 21st century – a topic that is worth discussing.

Jerry Dutkewych has done a great job with the Peace Corps in Ukraine. The front-page article points out the initial frustrations, but also the successes. This is crucial grass-roots type work that will have an eventual major impact in Ukraine. Having been to Ukraine with the military, I can appreciate the challenges. At the same time, we have to keep in context historical facts. It is not correct that "Ukraine was a former U.S. enemy"; Russia and the USSR were the enemy. We are still not sure about Russia. Ukraine, having been an occupied country, had no say in the matter.

The Ukrainian American Bar Association has done a great deal for the community. The organization has grown, and the article by Bohdanna Pochoday showed how our legal eagles are confronted with changes both in Ukraine and in the U.S. One key point made was the fact that "... Ukrainians in the diaspora no longer have anti-communism to cement their ties." Au contraire, communism is alive and well in Ukraine. This is obvious from the military side and, in my opinion, opposing forces are now fighting for the soul of Ukraine – all based on the use of the Ukrainian language. The Communists are currently using covert methods, but they may change tactics in the future.

Finally, you have to give Dr. Myron B. Kuropas credit for not being intimidated by the comments made in the recent past. His story about Canada's poor decision to hire Neal Sher to "hunt" Nazi war criminals is an excellent exposé. The OSI has been discredited in the U.S., but its efforts continue. How interesting that no one is concerned about crimes committed by Communists, especially during the Ukrainian holocaust – the Great Famine of 1932-1933. Perhaps some day people will learn to practice historical inclusion and will cease to practice historical revisionism. We must remember the past for the sake of the children

Roman G. Golash
Schaumburg, Ill.

IMF bailout's effects on Ukraine

Dear Editor:

The proposed IMF rescue package in response to Asia's current corrective recession appears to benefit basically secure economies at cost to the truly needy, like Ukraine.

Last summer, when the struggling new republic of Ukraine hastily passed an austere and politically unpopular budget after pleas by its president to meet IMF conditions, the International Monetary Fund and the U.S. Congress continued to withhold funding. The rationale was that the austerity program was insincere and that further measures and additional budgetary changes needed to be made to prove the country's commitment. Needed aid was delayed since the nation's economic and political value was reduced with the fall of the Soviet Union.

Congress and the IMF will most likely go forward with an Asian bail-out, even though microeconomic adjustments through domestic initiatives may be what is necessary for correction.

American funding of IMF was originally intended to help needy nations to stabilize. Now it is being directed towards maintaining viable economies. This in itself would not be bad. However, when new republics like Ukraine still need outside help to maintain the struggle for democracy, the \$20 million request to Congress should be more logically prioritized.

Paul Thomas Rabchenuk
Marblehead, Mass.

Stop focusing on Oksana Baiul

Dear Editor:

I especially enjoyed the "1997: Year In Review" issue of *The Weekly*. However, I wish that *The Weekly* and all Ukrainians would stop providing support and press coverage for Oksana Baiul. She repeatedly refers to herself as being Russian. She does this on national television and in the print media.

I say to all Ukrainian media outlets: do not give her the time of day! We have plenty of good role models who are proud of their heritage. Let's give them the coverage they deserve. Even the world class Russian skater Oksana Grishuk recently changed her first name to "Pasha" so as not to be mistakenly identified as Ms. Baiul. I wonder why?

Let's stop trying to convince Ms. Baiul what is right. We should act as if she doesn't exist. If she is so proud to be a Russian, then she should relocate to Russia and enjoy the quality of life there.

Chrystyna Wynnyk-Wilson
Austin, Texas

Note from the editor:

The Ukrainian Weekly welcomes letters to the editor and commentaries on a variety of topics of concern to the Ukrainian American and Ukrainian Canadian communities. Opinions expressed by columnists, commentators and letter-writers are their own and do not necessarily reflect the opinions of either *The Weekly* editorial staff or its publisher, the Ukrainian National Association.

COMMENTARY: About remembering victims of the Holocaust

by Steve Petylycky

I know all I need to know about the Holocaust.

I know that millions of Jews and others were exterminated by the Nazis.

I believe in bringing war criminals to justice. I don't know anyone who doesn't.

Philosophers and priests can deliberate whether it is better to forget, forgive, do both, or neither. What they decide probably doesn't matter. Canadians will never forget. We are not allowed to. Scarcely a week goes by in which I can not read, or hear, or see references to the Holocaust in the newspapers I buy, on my radio, or on TV.

I don't object. I am a Holocaust survivor. My Auschwitz number is 154922. Even if I wanted to forget, the tattoo the Nazis engraved on my arm won't let me.

That inked-in scar also empowers me. Those who were not in the Nazi death camps do not have the same right to speak about the Holocaust that I do. I welcome the scholars who try to memorialize what happened. Reliable accounts of the mechanics of this great murder have been written. But those who were not there can never understand the essence of the Holocaust. Worse, to my grief, I find that there are many posturers at work who batten themselves on the carcasses of the dead millions, selectively remembering what will be good for them, discarding the rest. That is why I have taken up my pen today.

I fought for Ukraine's independence. I was, and am, a Ukrainian nationalist. That is why the Nazis threw me into a

hell on earth. I was betrayed by a Pole. I say Jews help the Nazis kill their own people. I witnessed bestial things, tens of thousands turned into ash. I saw many sinners but few, very few, saints.

We must include all of the survivors in our memory of the Holocaust, whether they were Ukrainians by birth, Jews by faith, Poles by citizenship, or German resisters. When I lay near death in a pile of corpses before a crematorium's door I did not care whether the body besides me was that of a Romanian or a Russian. I did not ask the nationality or faith or citizenship of my savior. I doubt he knew who I was. We were in hell together. And so he saved me from the flames. Later I learned he was a Pole. I wish I could thank him. The only way I can is by insisting that we must remember that there were many victims of the Nazis, from all of the countries of occupied Europe. No European nation was without its Judases, no people without its blessed martyrs.

Today this is not being remembered. Ukraine suffered more losses than any other European nation during World War II. Never forget, I'm told. Yet, rather conveniently, this fact is being forgotten. Will what happened to me and to Ukraine under the Nazi jackboot be remembered in the new Holocaust gallery of the Canadian War Museum? I hope so, but I doubt it. I suspect Ukrainians will be portrayed as victimizers, not victims. That is unfair and untrue. I know. I was there. A public exhibit in the nation's capital may well end up forgetting the other genocides of this century, those millions of other victims in China, Cambodia, Rwanda and Bosnia, as well as the many millions of victims of the Holocaust who were not Jews. I don't want that. This exhibit should be inclusive, not exclusive, for the sake of the victims – more importantly, for my children and my children's chil-

dren.

I fear what will happen because just about all that I ever hear about when it comes to Ukraine and the second world war are allegations made by groups like the Canadian Jewish Congress, who flail Ottawa for allegedly allowing Nazi war criminals into this country. Whom are they talking about?

Usually not about the many Germans who supported Hitler, or the Italian fascists, or Vichy French collaborators. The organized German, Italian and French constituencies of Canada are too influential. Groups that aren't influential include those made up of Canadians of Eastern European heritage – Latvians, Poles, Lithuanians, Hungarians, Belarusians and others.

They came here after the war as displaced persons. Many had fought against both the Nazis and the Soviets. They lost. They were left with no one to defend them or explain what they had suffered. A powerful Soviet Union and its puppet regimes throughout Eastern Europe mobilized enormous resources to defame these anti-Communist refugees – to say nothing about the bevy of fellow travellers in the West for whom a nationalist was the equivalent of a Nazi, for whom criticisms of communism constituted a politically incorrect crime.

And so, just after the war's end, the Canadian Jewish Congress and its allies alleged that Nazi SS men, war criminals all (they specifically meant the Ukrainian Division "Galicia") were sneaking into Canada. Official investigations dismissed these unsubstantiated claims. Undeterred, Jewish Canadian groups repeated essentially these same charges in the mid-1980s. A Commission of Inquiry on War Criminals, headed by Mr. Justice Jules Deschenes, was set up.

What the good judge found that the supposed problem of alleged Nazi war criminals hiding in Canada had been

"grossly exaggerated." The Galicia Division was specifically cleared, as a unit, of any complicity in war crimes. Do not take my word for it. Read the Deschenes Commission's public report. Nevertheless, a War Crimes Unit was set up by the Ministry of Justice.

For all their effort and expenditures over 10 years, Ottawa's men have not been able to successfully prosecute a single alleged Nazi war criminal in a Canadian criminal court. The evidence is not there.

Could this mean that there actually are no Nazi war criminals in Canada? Perhaps, but such a finding would be inconvenient, even embarrassing. How, then, to explain away the system's "failures"? Concoct a novel accusation. That was done.

Senior members of Canada's War Crimes Unit were allegedly "anti-Semitic," which explains the lack of convictions. Piled onto that canard were, predictably, all the usual allegations from the past, supposedly buttressed with "new evidence" (it wasn't), followed by a postured outpouring of outrage, sometimes by persons styling themselves as "second-generation Holocaust survivors." As a real survivor I find that self-description pitiful, conceited, even a bit obscene. Yet, for reasons I can't fathom, all of these oft-repeated yet never proven allegations were somehow deemed newsworthy. Contrary viewpoints, to say nothing of the facts, have been ignored.

I've had enough. I was tortured by the Nazis when most of those who today feign fits about alleged Nazi war criminals in Canada were in diapers or in their dads' dreams. If the Canadian Jewish Congress or any other Jewish organization has evidence to prove that there are Nazi war criminals in Canada let them produce it now, publicly, conclusively. Let's have the hard evidence instead of the usual hot air. Is that too much for a Holocaust survivor to ask?

Newsbriefs

(Continued from page 2)

East-Central European presidents meet

LEVOCA, Slovakia — The presidents of 11 East-Central European Countries met here in eastern Slovakia on January 23-24 to discuss strengthening civil society in their countries. President Leonid Kuchma of Ukraine told journalists after the summit that his country hopes first to join the European Union and then integrate into other European structures. The presidents declined to comment on developments in Slovakia, but many said they will pay close attention to the country's upcoming presidential elections. Poland's Aleksander Kwasniewski said Warsaw supports Bratislava's efforts to gain access to NATO and the EU, but added that Slovakia's policies need to be "clear and predictable." (RFE/RL Newsline)

Ukraina magazine marks 200th issue

KYIV — The magazine *Ukraina* presented its 200th issue, dedicated to the activity of the Verkhovna Rada, at a special celebratory evening held on January 22 in the Ukrainian capital. Editor-in-Chief Yakym Palchyk said the magazine, which is aimed at foreign readers, will now be published in seven languages: English, German, French, Italian, Spanish, Russian and Ukrainian. *Ukraina* magazine was founded in 1970 and its circulation was 20,000. Beginning in 1990 it was published by the Druzhba (Friendship) and *Ukraina* societies. In the years 1992-1996 the magazine temporarily ceased publication. Today, Mr.

Palchyk explained, the magazine is not government-financed. He added, "We are proud that in such a short time we were able to re-enlist nearly all of our foreign subscribers and to raise the magazine to the necessary level." (Respublika)

USAID supports public transport

KYIV — Representatives of the U.S. Agency for International Development and the mayors of Kirovohrad, Sumy, Zhytomyr and Mariupol signed agreements on January 19 on improving the running of public transport services. USAID invested \$100,000 in the project for each city with funds destined to be spent on vital spare parts for trolleybuses. These cities will also contribute the same sum. The project was begun in Ternopil, and is now being implemented in Lviv, Rivne, Ivano-Frankivsk and Chernivtsi, where repaired trolleybuses are already in use. (Eastern Economist)

Pifer meets with Chamber of Commerce

KYIV — The American Chamber of Commerce held a meeting with the new U.S. ambassador to Ukraine, Steven Pifer, on January 21. Mr. Pifer arrived from Washington on January 8. During the meeting Ambassador Pifer explained his views on the current political and financial situation in Ukraine. In turn, the ambassador received advice from businessmen on how to do business in Ukraine. Mr. Pifer had served as a political officer for the U.S. Embassy in Moscow and as a deputy political counselor at the American Embassy in London. At the end of 1994, Mr. Pifer was detailed to the U.S. National Security Council staff as director for Russian,

Ukrainian and Eurasian affairs. Ambassador Pifer said, "I had no hands-on experience of the economic and commercial side, but I am willing and able to learn, and have strong instructions from President Clinton" to promote American business in Ukraine. (Eastern Economist)

Turkey protests boat's sinking

KYIV — Turkey on January 16 lodged an official protest with the Foreign Affairs Ministry of Ukraine after a Turkish fishing boat sank and two seamen drowned during an incident the previous day that involved a Ukrainian coast guard ship, DPA reported. Ukrainian border guards said 17 Turkish boats were fishing in waters that Ukraine claims as its territory. They say that one of those boats capsized only after it tried to ram a Ukrainian coast guard vessel. Alp Karaosmanoglu, the Turkish ambassador in Kyiv, said Turkey has the right to claim damages. (RFE/RL Newsline)

20,000 become Ukrainian citizens

WASHINGTON — Twenty thousand people received Ukrainian citizenship and more than 19,000 people applied to the president of Ukraine for Ukrainian citizenship in 1997, according to Yevhen Kushnariov, chief of the Presidential Administration. Only 330 Ukrainians reported adopting foreign citizenship in 1997. (Embassy of Ukraine)

Kuchma commuted 25 death sentences

WASHINGTON — President Leonid Kuchma signed decrees last year commuting 25 death sentences to 20-year prison terms, the chief of the Presidential

Administration, Yevhen Kushnariov, disclosed at a news briefing on January 14. He further disclosed that the president had approved only three death sentences in 1996. According to him, the sharp increase in the number of pardons is connected with the moratorium that Ukraine has imposed on the implementation of death sentences in accordance with demands by the Council of Europe. (Embassy of Ukraine)

Pustovoitenko visits Uzbekistan

TASHKENT — Prime Minister Valerii Pustovoitenko of Ukraine was in the Uzbek capital of Tashkent on January 16 to attend the second meeting of the Ukrainian-Uzbek cooperation commission, Tashkent Radio reported. The commission signed five agreements on cooperation in science and technology and improving communications between the two governments. Mr. Pustovoitenko also met with Uzbek Prime Minister Utkur Sultanov and reached a "preliminary agreement" on Uzbek shipments of up to 6 billion cubic meters of gas to Ukraine this year. They also discussed joint projects in passenger and cargo airplane construction, and Ukrainian assistance in building new rail tracks in Uzbekistan. (RFE/RL Newsline)

Kyiv denounces new 'union treaty'

KYIV — Presidential administration chief Yevgenii Kushnariov has described plans by Communist groups from former Soviet republics to sign a new union treaty in Kyiv on February 7 as a publicity stunt, Interfax reported on January 8. He noted that no one can speak on behalf of countries except their duly constituted authorities. (RFE/RL Newsline)

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Institute to host benefit for Svito-Vyd journal

NEW YORK – On Saturday, February 7, the Ukrainian Institute of America in New York will host an evening of music and theater with the participation of a number of well-known figures in music and theater. The event, whose aim is to benefit the journal Svito-Vyd, is sponsored jointly by the institute and the New York Group, the association of avant-garde Ukrainian émigré writers.

The journal, a quarterly devoted to literature and the arts, has been coming out since 1989 and was the first joint effort of this type between the diaspora and Ukraine. It is published by the New York Group and the Writers' Union of Ukraine. This is the second benefit for Svito-Vyd; the first took place in February 1996, also at the Ukrainian Institute of America.

The musical part of the evening will feature the Ukrainian pianist Mykola Suk and the Polish cellist Wanda Glowacka in Beethoven's Sonata for cello and piano, Op. 5, No. 1 in F Major. Both of the artists have appeared in the institute's musical series of which Mr. Suk is the artistic director. Ms. Glowacka is the winner of the Concertino Praha International Competition; Mr. Suk is laureate of the Liszt-Bartok competition.

The Ukrainian soprano Alexandra Hrabova, originally with the Lviv Opera but currently residing in this country, will give a recital of arias and songs from her repertoire. She is the winner of the Lysenko International Vocal Competition in Odesa. Her accompanist will be Inna Leitush.

The theater part will feature Gregory Hlady and the New York Art Theater under the direction of Anatole Fourmantchouk.

Mr. Hlady, a director and actor of stage and screen, is a native of Ukraine.

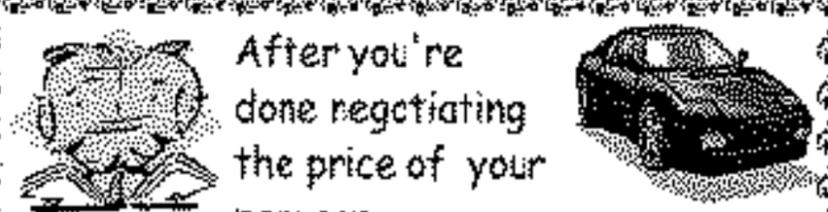
Since the early 1980s he has been living in Montreal, where he directs, teaches and acts in theater and television productions, as well as films.

His first major role was that of Prince Fernando in the 1980 production of Calderon de la Barca's "The Constant Prince" at Molodizhny (now Molodyi) Teatr (Young Theater) in Kyiv. The play was made famous by Ryszard Cieslak in a milestone staging by Jerzy Grotowski in the 1960s. Last summer in Switzerland he conducted a workshop devoted to a project based on Mykola Hohol's "Ukrainian" stories. His Montreal staging of Harold Pinter's "The Return" won the 1992 Prix de la Critique. Mr. Hlady will present an excerpt from his recent work based on Dostoyevsky.

Mr. Fourmantchouk, also a native of Ukraine, came to this country three years ago and resides in the New York area.

He teaches at the Michael Howard Studio in New York and is the founder and artistic director of the New York Art Theater, whose aim is to expose American audiences to the most interesting recent international theater trends and serve as a conduit for international stage talent, including that from Ukraine.

Mr. Fourmantchouk served as the artistic director at the Kyiv Teatr Yunoho Hladacha (Theater of the young spectator) where he staged "Metamorphoses," based on Ionesco's and Beckett's plays. His staging of "Romeo and Juliet" in the all-male Learned Monkey Moscow production toured Great Britain to great acclaim. He also staged Garcia Lorca's "El Publico" at the Madrid Cuatro Paredes Theater. The New York Art Theater will present excerpts from "Romeo and Juliet" with Stas Klassen and Christopher Cartmill.



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New York bandurists resume work at St. George School



St. George bandurists, with their director Julian Kytasty and a special guest, following their performance during a celebration of the feast day of St. Nicholas.

NEW YORK – New York's newest bandura group resumed work last week in a classroom at St. George School in the East Village. Ten elementary school students and four boys from the high school are sharing the instruments donated by the parents' committee of St. George School. The group works under the direction of bandurist Julian Kytasty, artistic director of the New York School of Bandura.

The St. George bandurists began learning to play Ukraine's demanding national instrument in October 1997, when Mr. Kytasty returned to New York from touring with the Ukrainian Bandurist Chorus. In December 1997 they had their first performance, playing Christmas carols and traditional dance melodies for parents and fellow students on the occasion of the visit of St. Nicholas to St. George School.

The audience that day included another Nick: Nick Czorny, administrator of the New York School of Bandura, who has been responsible for establishing and supporting bandura groups not only in the New York metropolitan area, but also in South America and Ukraine, and for many years has been the publisher of Bandura magazine, the only publication devoted to Ukraine's national instrument.

The initiative for beginning a new bandura group at St. George's came from the school's principal, Sister Monica, who contacted Mr. Kytasty within days of his

return to New York. Mr. Kytasty had spent several years in western Canada, where he directed music programs at St. Vladimir's College in Roblin, Manitoba, and St. Andrew's College in Winnipeg.

Support for this and other bandura-related programs in the New York City area is also provided by the New York School of Bandura (partially funded by a grant from the New York State Council on the Arts).

Hand in Hand Together...

(Continued from page 9)

to provide for Ukraine. What will our response be?

The Hand in Hand Together Benevolent Fund in Ukraine will be used for relief in emergency situations that arise. This is especially important at this time when container shipments have been curtailed. Even a few dollars for a family in a desperate plight will help lift burdens and make a big difference in their struggle to survive.

One hundred percent of all donations are tax-deductible and all donations go directly to aid the people of Ukraine. For more information or to send a donation, please contact Cliff or Kay Netz at Hand in Hand Together, 17619 Weaver Lake Drive, Maple Grove, MN, 55311; telephone (612) 420-3591; e-mail, hands@isd.net; website, <http://www.wrightnet.com/hands>

Basilian Sisters...

(Continued from page 6)

chief of staff to the first lady. She previously held the position of executive vice-president and public policy director for People for the American Way.

Working in a variety of positions on Capitol Hill and in the public interest community, she is a founding member of the Coalition on Human Needs and served on the board of directors of the Leadership Conference on Civil Rights, the Advocacy Institute, Public Allies and NETWORK, among others. In 1989 she was named to "Beachman's Guide to Key Lobbyists."

Her maternal and paternal grandparents were born in Ukraine, emigrated to the U.S. at the turn of the century and settled in Pennsylvania. Ms. Verveer was raised in Shamokin, Pa., where she attended Transfiguration Ukrainian School. She received her high school diploma from St. Mary's Villa Academy in Sloatsburg, N.Y. Both institutions are run by the Sister Servants of Mary Immaculate.

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Through the political...

(Continued from page 2)

dence supporting the thesis that internecine conflicts tend to be more vicious than conflicts between so-called out-groups. And this confrontation tends to corroborate such a belief. Three of the four protagonists hail from Dnipropetrovsk: President Kuchma, Prime Minister Pustovoitenko (a former mayor) and Mr. Lazarenko – who remains a Verkhovna Rada national deputy, where he heads the Yednist faction. He also has a powerful regional base as chairman of the Dnipropetrovsk Oblast Council.

Long-standing personal differences between these erstwhile members of the Dnipropetrovsk clan (always more a useful analytical term than a description of reality) were exacerbated when Mr. Lazarenko was head of government and Mr. Pustovoitenko, a man politically and personally devoted to President Kuchma, was the minister of the Cabinet of Ministers, or chief government administrator. Mr. Lazarenko's predilection for a hypercentralized, micro-management approach to governing effectively froze out the government bureaucracy and did little for his relations with either Mr. Pustovoitenko or the extremely ambitious and openly anti-Lazarenko PDP. Messrs. Pustovoitenko and Kushnariov are leading members of the PDP, which draws many of its members from the bureaucracy – hence its nickname, sometimes used ironically, as the "Party of Power." The PDP, the most obviously pro-presidential party, was absolutely central in prompting a vacillating president to remove Mr. Lazarenko from office last July, thus making Mr. Pustovoitenko's appointment as head of government something of a formality.

President Kuchma has displayed increasing bitterness towards Mr. Lazarenko; for example, last month he said he regretted dismissing Mr. Lazarenko simply for health reasons rather than for abuses of office. The president gave Mr. Lazarenko an extremely broad latitude for discretion in the hope that he would turn the economy around. That confidence seemed well-founded at the time. When appointing him, President Kuchma had, after all, praised Mr. Lazarenko's administrative skills – skills tested and proven, moreover, on the president's home turf. Mr. Lazarenko in every sense was "President Kuchma's man" with an appropriately broad mandate to act more or less as he saw fit.

Mr. Lazarenko's failure to deliver, however, damaged President Kuchma's credibility at home, while his alleged intrigues and extracurricular business activities detracted from the president's

and Ukraine's, image abroad. In short, from Mr. Kuchma's perspective, Mr. Lazarenko betrayed the trust he was shown – something that by all accounts President Kuchma does not easily forgive. Furthermore, Mr. Kuchma's post facto displeasure with Mr. Lazarenko might perhaps be in equal measure attributable to a sense of anger with himself for having shared the former prime minister's optimism and not having been sufficiently resolute to dismiss him sooner.

Soon after his dismissal Mr. Lazarenko became head of the Yednist faction and the force behind, and later the leader of, the Hromada Party. Judging by current performance, this party resurrected last summer by the former head of United Energy Systems (UES), Yulia Tymoshenko, a protege of the former prime minister's, stands a good chance of making a considerable impression in the parliamentary elections. Hromada's populist platform, based on unambiguous opposition towards the current government – and by extension the PDP – is clearly aimed at the potentially decisive left-of-center, non-Communist electorate. To emphasize its opposition, Hromada created a shadow Cabinet led by Ms. Tymoshenko. The composition of the shadow government, however, suggests that it should be regarded essentially as an innovative (for Ukrainian politics) and hence potentially effective publicity stunt devoid of any genuine substance. One of the shadow Cabinet's better known members, for example, is the Foreign Minister Oleh Bilorus, Ukraine's former ambassador to Washington.

Returning to Mr. Kravchuk's imagery, it is, not surprising, therefore that given the intricate interaction of personality and party politics and the stakes involved, some of the heaviest scatological projectiles have been hurled, and will continue to fly along this sector of the campaign front until March and possibly right up to the presidential elections in late 1999.

Shortly after assuming the premiership last July, Mr. Pustovoitenko declared that under his predecessor he came to realize that the Cabinet of Ministers had become a coordinating center for trading in gas and other commodities. (One of the new prime minister's first moves was to restructure the gas market, thus removing UES from its monopoly position. Its activities were extensively investigated by numerous government agencies. Hence Ms. Tymoshenko's antipathy.)

Almost simultaneously, Chief of Staff Kushnariov dismissed Hromada as a party no decent politician would join. This led to a threatened but so far unrealized lawsuit from Mr. Lazarenko. Then, on September 30, 1997, Prime Minister Pustovoitenko claimed, without producing any evidence, that while in office his predecessor had kept a notebook, containing two columns, one for official and the other for personal things to do – with only the latter fully taken care of. This accusation elicited another threat of a lawsuit.

On October 3, 1997, Ukraina Moloda, a heavily pro-presidential newspaper run by President Kuchma's former press secretary, published a detailed exposé of the business dealings of UES under Ms. Tymoshenko and alleged improprieties in the privatization process in Dnipropetrovsk while Mr. Lazarenko was prime minister. Mr. Lazarenko filed a lawsuit against the newspaper which has so far been noteworthy only for its continual postponement.

Matters escalated somewhat in late November and early December 1997. President Kuchma stated that just before the March elections he would reveal the names of people who had illegally deposited money abroad. The insinuation

(Continued on page 15)

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Through the political...

(Continued from page 14)

was clear enough. At about the same time the PDP called for charges to be filed against Mr. Lazarenko.

On December 6, 1997, acting Procurator General Lytvak appealed, unsuccessfully, to the Verkhovna Rada to strip Ms. Tymoshenko of her national deputy's immunity for a currency-related offense in 1995 - a rather incongruous charge given the thoroughness of the government's investigations of UES. And on December 23, 1997, the vice-chairman of the Parliament's Committee on Organized Crime and Corruption, Anatolii Yermak, announced that the Procurator General's Office was about to bring criminal charges against Mr. Lazarenko. The following day, Deputy Procurator General Olha Kolinko announced that the Verkhovna Rada had been asked to strip Mr. Lazarenko of his immunity on the grounds that he had misappropriated state funds to repair a government dacha at his disposal, and that several properties had been illegally purchased abroad by Cabinet officials during his time in office.

The final twist of the old year came at its very end when the secretary of the National Security and Defense Council, Volodymyr Horbulin, condemned a report in a Russian newspaper alleging that he had put together a strategy to discredit both Hromada and Mr. Lazarenko.

In turn, Mr. Lazarenko has gone out of his way, not always convincingly so, to criticize President Kuchma without actually naming him. But by going after the PDP, the government and the administration in a manner that makes Captain Ahab's monomaniacal pursuit of Moby Dick seem like a model search for compromise, the link to the president - and hence the real message - is clear. Thus, for example, speaking at a January 10 press conference, Mr. Lazarenko promised to publish substantiated details concerning the construction of a palatial home 3,200 square meters in area and worth \$28 million (U.S.). Mr. Lazarenko ventured that only one person could afford such a project. (If Mr. Lazarenko proceeds with the publication, the step

would at least be consistent with his claim made late last year that after January 14 the citizens of Ukraine will find out a lot of interesting things.)

At the press conference, he again refused to be drawn on whether he lists President Kuchma among his opponents. But one of his Hromada colleagues, National Deputy Viktor Omelych, was less restrained, revealing that Hromada is prepared to initiate very soon, likely through the Yednist faction, impeachment proceedings against President Kuchma. Moreover, not only has Hromada been calling for early presidential elections, but Mr. Lazarenko reiterated that if Hromada does well in March, he would run for the presidency in 1999.

To be sure, it is quite possible that instead of continuing along what has to date been a path of uncontrolled escalation, this antagonism, too, will find its own level of moderation. Indeed, it would be in the interests of both sides to try to extricate themselves from what could develop into something of a Prisoner's Dilemma conundrum with the credibility of all the parties involved increasingly at stake.

The alternative is that ever more serious charges against Mr. Lazarenko might lead to questions concerning how such egregious violations of public trust had gone unnoticed at the time by both the administration and numerous relevant authorities and agencies (and the corollary: whether the abuses would have come to light at all had Mr. Lazarenko proven more successful in office.) As for Mr. Lazarenko and Hromada, the threat to trump the president, government and the PDP by revealing whatever he might know can at best be of deterrent value only.

To indulge in further escalation is to risk priming and ultimately disenchanting the public's eagerness for such revelations - an outcome that neither Mr. Lazarenko himself nor his ambitious campaign of pious populism can afford. But the omens are not good. At the end of last week's press conference, for example, the maximalist Mr. Lazarenko declared that Hromada is now going on the offensive; everything prior to this was merely preparations.

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Re: Mail delivery of The Weekly

It has come to our attention that The Ukrainian Weekly is often delivered late, or irregularly, or that our subscribers sometimes receive several issues at once.

We feel it is necessary to notify our subscribers that The Weekly is mailed out Friday mornings (before the Sunday date of issue) via second-class mail.

If you are not receiving regular delivery of The Weekly, we urge you to file a complaint at your local post office. This may be done by obtaining the U.S. Postal Service Consumer Card and filling out the appropriate sections.

THE ANNUAL MEETING OF UNA BRANCH 238

will be held right after parasaras for deceased members, at St. Andrew Orthodox Church hall at about 12:30 p.m.

Please remind family and friends to come for a **VERY IMPORTANT** meeting. Election of the 1998 34th UNA Convention will be held.

Larissa Dijak - President
 Juliana Lozynsky - Secretary

TO ALL MEMBERS OF UNA BRANCH 222

As of February 1, 1998, the secretary's duties of Branch 222 will be assumed by Mrs. Luba Mudri.

We ask all members of this Branch to direct all correspondence regarding membership and insurance, as well as their membership premiums to the address listed below:

Mrs. Luba Mudri
 2920 George Ave.
 Parma, OH 44134
 (440) 885-4960

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COMMUNITY CHRONICLE

Metropolitan celebrates liturgy in Parma



PARMA, Ohio – On January 7, the clergy and over 600 faithful of St. Vladimir's Ukrainian Orthodox Cathedral here observed Christmas with divine liturgy celebrated by Metropolitan Constantine. This was the metropolitan's first Christmas at his recently designated cathedral of the Central Eparchy of the Ukrainian Orthodox Church of the U.S.A. Assisting Metropolitan Constantine were five priests, one deacon and 20 altar boys. Responses were sung by both the Ukrainian and English choirs. Also in attendance at the service were five nuns from Holy Transfiguration Monastery in Elwood City, Pa. The two-hour liturgy was broadcast on radio throughout the Greater Cleveland area. Seen above is Metropolitan Constantine with clergy, nuns and altar servers.

St. Nicholas visits Hillside, N.J.



HILLSIDE, N.J. – St. Nicholas visited Immaculate Conception Ukrainian Catholic parish here on December 7, 1997. The children and parishioners presented a program in honor of St. Nicholas. The bilingual program consisted of poems (Danylo and Mike Szpyhulsky, and Gregory Shatynski) and musical performances (Ted and Katie Shatynski, Robin and Donna Brumbaugh). The parish choir, led by Eugene Bratach, also performed. Michael and Olya Stashchysyn dazzled the group by singing Ukrainian Christmas carols to the accompaniment of a bandura and a kobza. The Altar Rosary Society sponsored a raffle. Roman Wernyj served as liaison with St. Nicholas. The Rev. John Stuchlak and the Rev. Leonid Malkov led the group in prayer and extended warm Christmas greetings to all and their families.

Dr. Eugene Sliwowski Retires

Dr. Eugene Sliwowski retired from medical practice at the end of November 1997. Medical records for his patients were transferred to Cabrini East Village Family Medical Practice located at 97 East Fourth Street, just two blocks from Dr. Sliwowski's office.

Cabrini East Village has doctors who speak several Slavic languages, including Ukrainian, Polish and Russian. They would be pleased to provide you the same personal attention and medical care you received from Dr. Sliwowski. Cabrini East Village is not a clinic. You will have one regular doctor who will see you by appointment. The practice is open Monday through Thursday, 8:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. and Friday, 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Please stop by or call to make an appointment. The phone number is (212) 979-3200.

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Your completed, signed and dated application is due by March 31, 1998.
 All required documents listed on the application form and photograph are due by May 1, 1998.

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Please send me a scholarship application for the 1998/99 school year.

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ANNOUNCEMENT

regarding election of delegates in UNA Branches having less than 75 voting members

In accordance with the By-Laws of the UNA a Branch having less than 75 voting members, that is, members whose dues to that Branch include contributions to the Fraternal Fund of the UNA, may unite with another Branch also having less than 75 voting members, for the purpose of electing a mutual representative at the Convention. If, when combined, the aggregate of the two Branches shall be no less than 75 voting members, they shall have the right to elect one delegate.

Branches wishing to unite for the purpose of electing a delegate and an alternate, should each adopt a formal resolution at their meeting and after mutual agreement, should conduct an election. Unless otherwise agreed by the mutual consent of both Branches, the Branch having the greater number of members shall be entitled to elect the delegate and the Branch having the lesser number of members, the alternate.

Both Branches, which have agreed to unite for the purpose of election a delegate and an alternate, should immediately notify in writing, the Recording Department of the UNA Home Office, which will send the proper credentials to each Branch.

In order to facilitate mutual agreements between Branches which have less than 75 voting members, we have listed these Branches below, showing the totals of voting members and the names and addresses of the Branch Secretaries, as well as telephone numbers if available.

| Branch No. | No. of Members | Name and Address of Secretary | Branch No. | No. of Members | Name and Address of Secretary |
|------------|----------------|---|------------|----------------|---|
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| 6 | 38 | CHALANYCH, MICHAEL 2 RANDOLPH ROAD WHITE PLAINS, NY 10607 914-949-0163 | 45 | 65 | PRYSZLAK, NICHOLAS 202 CHURCH ROAD JANKINTOWN, PA 19046 215-379-2230 |
| 9 | 43 | SALAK, WALTER 860 DAVIS AVE. POTTSVILLE, PA 17901 717-622-7132 | 48 | 40 | CAP, EUGENIA 548 SCHOOL LANE SOUDERTON, PA 18964 215-453-7220 |
| 12 | 15 | LUCHKAN, WOLODYMYR 54 FRITZ ROAD N. COLEBROOK, CT 06021 203-379-3718 | 56 | 56 | KOHUT JR., PETE S. 115 GLENN AVE. ST. CLAIRSVILLE, OH 43950 614-695-1812 |
| 16 | 65 | LUCHKIW, VASYL 49 WINDMILL LANE NEW CITY, NY 10956 914-634-9353 | 57 | 70 | SAWKIW, MICHAEL 18 BERKLEY AVE. COHOES, NY 12047 518-237-4700 |
| 17 | 41 | BYLEN, PETER WESTCHESTER PLACE 1103 WESTMINSTER DRIVE WESTCHESTER, IL 60154-5601 708-409-0994 | 58 | 21 | KOWALEWSKY, WALTER 1778 BIG ED'S RD. BOONVILLE, NY 13309 315-942-5794 |
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| 21 | 29 | BARANYK, JOHN 176 ZOA AVE. JOHNSON CITY, NY 13790 607-729-0361 | 66 | 37 | LESHCHYSHYN, PETER 3601 CULVER RD. ROCHESTER, NY 14622-1826 716-342-3874 |
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| | | | 169 | 47 | STEFURY, GISELA 211 CARVERTON RD. TRUCKSVILLE, PA 18708 717-696-1572 |
| | | | 176 | 41 | KUROPAS, STEFKO 126 WILLIAMS DR. SCHAUMBURG, IL 60193 708-294-7858 |
| | | | 177 | 24 | LABA, JOHN 24 CAVALCADE BLVD. WARWICK, RI 02889-1605 401-737-2915 |
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| | | | 182 | 62 | KLYMENKO, GREGORY 9 CHESTNUT ST. CLIFTON, NJ 07011 973-478-0831 212-533-0919 |
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| 256 | 26 | BEZKOROWAJNY, CYRIL M. 389 R.SWEEZY AVE. RIVERHEAD, NY 11901 516-727-3325 | 345 | 64 | KARKOC, MICHAEL 1919 PIERCE ST. MINNEAPOLIS, MN 55418 612-789-3756 609-825-4784 | 438 | 23 | SARGENT, KATHERINE 2330 PARK AVE EASTON, PA 18045-2811 215-252-3289 |
| 261 | 49 | DYKAN, JAREMA 2408 GARWOOD RD. ERIAL, NJ 08081-4902 609-784-4612 | 347 | 63 | NAYDA, DOCIA 572 HOGGIN RD. MILLVILLE, NJ 08332 609-825-4784 | 440 | 42 | KUCYJ, SOPHIA 151 LA ROSE AVENUE, APT 901 WESTON ONT CANADA M9P1B-3 416-763-4594 |
| 264 | 42 | HRYSHCHYSHYN, BOHDAN 701 TRALEE DR. BETHEL PARK, PA 15102-1333 412-833-2551 | 350 | 29 | BAKAJ, STEPHEN 133 KNICKERBOCKER AVE. STAMFORD, CT 06907 203-359-1834 | 456 | 22 | LAWRYNIW, BOHDAN 705 BIRCH STREET S TIMMINS, ON CANADA P4N 2B8 708-264-7487 |
| 267 | 70 | TOLOPKA, GLORIA 293 W. 5TH STREET DEER PARK, NY 11729 516-667-6483 | 352 | 48 | NAZAREWYCZ, IRENA 2 CEDAR STREET MARCUS HOOK, PA 19061 215-485-5233 | 460 | 16 | HRYCKIW, DARIA 213 BURLINGTON STREET LONDON, ON CANADA N5Z 2W3 519-686-6918 |
| 268 | 34 | SNYDER, JOHN P. 2267 KENNEDY ST. PHILADELPHIA, PA 19137 215-533-3981 | 354 | 16 | WIJTEK, MYRON 4423 S. 46TH STREET OMAHA, NE 68117-1507 402-731-7740 | 461 | 66 | GROCH, MYRON 16 KEVIN DR. FONTHILL, ONT CANADA LOS-1E4 905-892-4336 |
| 274 | 26 | SENEDEK, HELEN 3137 KINGSTON LANE YOUNGSTOWN, OH 44511 216-792-5157 716-671-8544 | 355 | 21 | HASIAK, SEMEN 530 KENTUCKY ST. JOSEPH, MO 64504-1408 816-238-5237 | 462 | 18 | FARENECH, JOSEPH R. 77 GRAHAM AVENUE SO. HAMILTON, ONT CANADA L8K-2M2 416-544-3060 |
| 285 | 66 | SKIBICKYJ, ALEX 619 HARD ROAD WEBSTER, NY 14580 716-671-8544 | 356 | 33 | PRODYWUS, OLEKSA 908 AVERY ROAD BELLEVUE, NE 68123-4001 402-292-2551 | 466 | 29 | KRUTYHOLOWA, PETER 21 ALICE STREET BRANTFORD, ONT CANADA N3R-1Y1 519-756-5825 |
| 286 | 38 | BALUTIANSKI, PAULINE 11 MAC ARTHUR AVE. CRANFORD, NJ 07016 908-276-2477 | 362 | 35 | PETRYK, FEDIR 1800 GRIEB AVENUE LEVITTOWN, PA 19055 215-946-3962 | 467 | 19 | LALKA, TEODOR 118 SEMINOLE STREET JOHNSTOWN, PA 15904 814-266-7666 |
| 288 | 42 | HOYSAN, WALTER 1906 PANNSYLVANIA AVE BETHLEHEM, PA 18018 610-866-1767 | 368 | 70 | BERGMAN, MARY 5831 NE 6 CT MIAMI, FL 33137 305-757-5900 | 471 | 32 | DUBAS, BOHDANA 5145 PAISLEY STREET ST. LEONARD CANADA HIS 1V1 514-727-9456 |
| 290 | 16 | CHOMA, MYCHAJLO 1420 ELMTREE STREET BALTIMORE, MD 21226 410-355-3968 | 369 | 26 | KREPICZ, PAUL 8618 REXTOWN RD. SLATINGTON, PA 18080 610-767-8681 | 474 | 8 | MANYLO, ARIADNA DARIA 1A RICHVIEW RD., APT 1202 ETOBICOKE, ONT CANADA M9A-4M5 416-614-8364 |
| 291 | 52 | NAPORA, VERA 3926 BROOKLIN AVE. CLEVELAND, OH 44109 216-749-7851 | 372 | 67 | LONYSZYN, SOPHIE 66 CEDAR GROVE LANE, APT 45 SOMERSET, NJ 08873 908-356-2045 | 479 | 13 | HRECHKA, JAROSLAW R. 331 W GIRARD AVE PHILADELPHIA, PA 19123 215-763-5010 |
| 293 | 65 | FOROSTYNA, ROMAN 4404 SIXTH AVENUE, APT 2A BROOKLIN, NY 11220 718-438-1326 | 374 | 43 | HETMANSKY, WOLODYMIR 5037 TINGSLEY RD. NORTH PORT, FL 34287 N/A | 481 | 27 | HONCHAR, ANGELA 36 SIGRID DR. CARNEGIE, PA 15106 412-429-1536 315-724-3584 |
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| 309 | 15 | GOSKO, THEODOR P. 17765 W. ITHACA ROAD BRANT, MI 48614 313-585-3369 | 378 | 13 | PANCHESINE, KATHERINE 812 WASHINGTON AVE, BOX 445 WOODBINE, NJ 08270 609-861-2239 | 487 | 25 | DENYSIUK, MYKOLA 87 W. WINFRED STREET ST. PAUL, MN 55107-1138 612-224-9896 |
| 312 | 8 | SHERBY, NETTIE 1446 FRANCES LANE PLAINFIELD, NJ 07062-2125 908-757-6157 610-262-9408 | 380 | 15 | FICYK, WALTER 327 EVERGREEN CT APOPKA, FL 32712-3601 407-889-2567 | 488 | 33 | SZWEZ, VICTOR 5818 W. CIELO GRANDE DR. GLENDALE, AZ 85310 602-516-9812 |
| 318 | 18 | SAYUK, STEPHEN 161 W 16TH STREET NORTHAMPTON, PA 18067 610-262-9408 | 381 | 41 | BOYD, BARBARA O. 12922 S.W. DOUG DRIVE LAKE SUZY, FL 34266 941-627-1082 | 490 | 41 | CHORNOMAZ, HELENA 29 PARK EDGE BERKLEY HTS, NJ 07922 908-464-1820 |
| 321 | 22 | FEDYSZYN, KATHERINE PO BOX 189 CHESTER SPRINGS, PA 19425 215-771-2603 | 382 | 36 | CRESINA, JULIA H. 312 N. NICE ST. FRACKVILLE, PA 17931 717-874-0727 | 492 | 26 | KATRUSHENKO, VOLODYMIR 206 WILSHIRE AVE OTTAWA, ONT CANADA K2C-OE5 613-225-5768 |
| 322 | 37 | KEYBIDA, ANDREW 19 RUTGERS STREET MAPLEWOOD, NJ 07040 201-762-2827 | 387 | 56 | OLIYNYK, IRENE 103 BIRCH ST. WILLIMANTIC, CT 06226 203-423-3815 914-626-2256 | 494 | 2 | PROCIUK, PETER 90 RIZZUTO BAY WINNIPEG, MAN CANADA R2C-3Y8 |
| 323 | 31 | BILYK, MICHAEL PO BOX 13 BASEHOR, KS 66007 913-724-2131 | 388 | 61 | MARYNIUK, ANDREW RR. 1 ZOLOTA OSIN 13 KERHONKSON, NY 12446 914-626-2256 | 497 | 12 | NAKONECHNY, MICHAEL 13224 - 101ST STREET EDMONTON, ALTA CANADA T5E-4G2 |
| 331 | 26 | KUJDYCH, IWAN 654 N. MAIN ROAD VINELAND, NJ 08360 609-691-4497 | 389 | 22 | CHOMYN, MICHAEL 1140 BEAVER RUN DRIVE LEHIGHTON, PA 18235 610-377-5015 | 498 | 27 | HEWRYK, LIDA 11440-37A AVENUE EDMONTON, AB T6J 0J5 403-435-1533 |
| 333 | 24 | HOLTER, DEBORAH 1162 FERRIS AVE. BERWICK, PA 18603 717-752-6882 | 416 | 25 | ONUFRYK, KATHERINE 6 GLENDEE RD. HAMILTON, ONT L8K 1Y8 CANADA 905-547-4843 | 500 | 13 | PAWLUK, JOHN 920 CANNEL RD., S.W. CALGARY, ALTA CANADA T2W-1T4 403-281-0280 |
| 339 | 27 | LUCIW, MICHAEL 1009 MELROSE AVE MELROSE, PA 19027 215-635-5109 | 417 | 27 | CYBRIWSKY, ILKO 3313 ELLIS WAY LOUISVILLE, KY 40220 502-458-6168 | | | |
| 340 | 36 | MAKAR, EUGENE 1098 SUNNY SLOPE DR. MOUNTAINSIDE, NJ 07092 908-654-9568 | 421 | 51 | WEIMER, LINDA M. 907 HOPKINS CRESCENT REGINA, SASK CANADA S4X 2N2 306-545-0118 | | | |

London conference to examine foreign investment in Ukraine

LONDON – A conference on investing in Ukraine, “A Look into the Future” will be held on February 9-10 at the Langham Hilton Hotel, 1 Portland Place (at Regent Street) at 9 a.m.-5:30 p.m.

The conference will open with an address by Ukraine’s Vice Prime Minister for Economic Reform Serhii Tyhypko speaking on the topic “The New Scale of the Privatization Process and Government Initiatives to Attract Foreign Investments,” and Ukraine’s Minister of Finance Ihor Mitukov on “Achieving a Stable Economy by Restraining Inflation Growth.”

Other speakers are: Anatoly Bobrovitsky, Bank Ukraina, “Implementing a Strong Monetary System in Order to Serve Economic Reform”; Dr. Alfred Gooding, Britanica JV, Luhansk, “Investing in Industrial Manufacturing”; Dr. Roland Spitz, MC-BBL, Kyiv, “How Foreign Investors Can Participate in Privatization

Tenders in Ukraine”; Edward Coviello, Price Waterhouse, Kyiv, “The Developing Current Tax Structure and Legislation: How Does it Affect a Foreign Investor?”; Yaroslav Kinakh, the EBRD, Kyiv, “The Strategy Behind the EBRD’s Activities in Ukraine”; Dan Stratan, Merrill Lynch, London, “The Role of Investment Banks in Channeling Funds into Productive Investments”; Peter Szopo, Austria-Creditanstalt, Austria, “An Overview of Capital Markets in Ukraine: Opportunities for Portfolio Investors and Investment in the Regions”; and others.

The conference is organized by British IBC UK Conferences Ltd. and Ukraine’s first independent English-language news agency, IntelNews. For further information call 44 (0) 171-453-5491 in London, (410) 433-4941 in Baltimore, Md., and (380) 44-229-6485 in Kyiv. E-mail: intelnews@gluk.apc.org or cust.serv@ibcuk.co.uk

U.S. trade agency conference to focus on Black Sea region

WASHINGTON – Secretary of Commerce William M. Daley announced in an address to the Turkish Foreign Economic Relations Board (DEIK) that the U.S. Trade and Development Agency’s (TDA) “Crossroads of the World” conference has been slated for May 27-29 in Istanbul, Turkey.

The conference, sponsored by TDA in cooperation with the U.S. departments of Commerce, Energy and Transportation, will provide opportunities for U.S. businesses to increase their participation in developmental initiative in the region.

Mr. Daley will speak to the important contribution that can be made by American businesses as partners in the region’s emerging economies, particularly in the oil and gas, mining and minerals, electric power and transportation sectors, which will be the primary focus of this upcoming conference.

Workshops at the three-day conference will highlight more than 65 specific projects worth more than \$60 billion in long-term investments that are being developed in 13 countries in the Black Sea, Central Asian and Caucasus region: Armenia, Azerbaijan, Bulgaria, Georgia, Kazakstan, Kyrgyzstan, Romania, Russia, Tajikistan, Turkey, Turkmenistan, Ukraine and Uzbekistan. Participants will be provided a complete report profiling opportunities in

these countries at the conference.

“Competition from European and Asian companies in the Caspian and Black seas is fierce. By creating opportunities for U.S. companies to discuss prospective projects while they are still in the development stages enables business leaders to evaluate what their opportunities in the region mean to the success of their company,” said TDA Director J. Joseph Grandmaison. “Our most successful U.S. corporate leaders understand that successful development projects in these markets translate into not only an increase of U.S. exports and jobs, but also the mutual rewards of a successful global economy.”

TDA also will facilitate “one-on-one” meetings at the conference between key regional project sponsors and American business representatives. These prescheduled meetings allow American companies to introduce their services and products to key procurement officials, paving the way for future exports.

The U.S. Trade and Development Agency, based in Rosslyn, Va., provides American firms with market entry, exposure and information through the funding of feasibility studies, technical assistance and reverse trade missions.

For more information on the conference, contact Dan Lamey at Management for Meetings, (202) 347-2725.

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ANNUAL MEETING of MEMBERS

on Sunday, February 22, 1998, 3:00

at the Ukrainian Center

240 Hope Avenue, Passaic, NJ

"Selfreliance" Association Annual Meeting will commence immediately after credit union meeting.

Board of Directors

PREVIEW OF EVENTS

Sunday, February 1

CHICAGO: The Ukrainian National Museum, 721 N. Oakley Blvd., presents the exhibit "Ukrainian Contribution to American Life," which will run from February 1 through February 28. For further information contact Olha Mrochko Kalymon, museum director, at (312) 421-8020.

Sunday, February 7

NEW YORK: The Shevchenko Scientific Society is holding a lecture by Dr. Hanna Chumachenko, professor, Kherson Pedagogical University, who will speak on the topic "Kherson Today." The lecture will be held at the society's building, 63 Fourth Ave., at 5 p.m.

Sunday, February 8

CHICAGO: The Chicago District Committee of the Ukrainian National Association, the Ukrainian American Justice Committee and the Encyclopedia of the Ukrainian Diaspora are sponsoring an afternoon with Dr. Myron B. Kuropas, author of "Ukrainian American Citadel: The First Hundred Years of the Ukrainian National Association," who will speak on the topic "The Future of The Ukrainian Community." The event will take place at 1:30 p.m. at the Ukrainian Cultural Center, corner of Chicago Avenue and Oakley Boulevard. Light snacks, wine and cheese will be served. Admission: \$5.

Saturday, February 14

BALTIMORE: The Ukrainian American Youth Association (SUM-A) will hold its traditional "Zapusty"/Valentine's Dance at its headquarters at 2301 Eastern Ave. The dance will begin at 8:30 p.m. and go on until 12:30 a.m. Music will be by the Mandry orchestra. There will be a compli-

mentary hot and cold buffet, and a cash bar. Donations: \$25 per couple; \$15, single; \$10, students. For further information call (410) 276-1908.

BALTIMORE: A romantic Valentine's Dance to benefit new Slavic immigrants - Ukrainian, Slovak, Czech, Polish and others - will be held at the Stodola, 1732 E. Lombard St., at 7 p.m.-2 a.m. Music will be by the Mandry orchestra from Lviv. Everyone is welcome. Donation: \$8. For more information call (410) 342-7200.

Sunday, February 15

LAKE WORTH, Fla.: Holy Apostles Catholic Church, 4868 Hypoluxo Road, is holding its annual picnic at 1-6 p.m. Apart from ethnic food there will be performances by the Ukrainian Dancers of Miami at 2 p.m. and at 3:30 p.m. Music will be provided by Roman's Continental Music. Admission: \$4. For more information call (561) 968-8500 or 686-5735.

Tuesday, February 17

WASHINGTON: The Kennan Institute for Advanced Russian Studies is holding a discussion on "Elections in Ukraine: Will They Make a Difference?" with Jack D. Segal, director of western Slavic affairs, U.S. Department of State. The discussion will be held in the library (third floor) of the Woodrow Wilson Center, 1000 Jefferson Drive SW, at noon.

Monday, February 23

EDMONTON: The Canadian Institute of Ukrainian Studies at the University of Alberta is holding a talk by Darusia Antoniuk, University of Alberta, on "Writing on Afghanistan: The War Stories of Iurii Andrukhovych and Oleg Ermakhov." The presentation will be held at the CIUS Library, Athabasca Hall, at 3:30 p.m.

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For further information or for applications, please contact:
Oksana Trytjak, Special Projects Coordinator,
UNA, 2200 Route 10, Parsippany, NJ 07054; tel.: (973) 292-9800.

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