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- Special pullout section on Vice-President Al Gore's visit to Kyiv featuring his remarks at the Chernobyl Museum and the full text of the joint statement of the Kuchma-Gore Commission, plus photos — pages 9-12.

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\$1.25/\$2 in Ukraine

Canadian government quintuples funding for war crimes prosecution

by **Andrij Kudla Wynnyckyj**
Toronto Press Bureau

TORONTO — Canada's Department of Justice (DOJ) and Citizenship and Immigration Canada (CIC) issued the first of a series of annual joint public reports on the country's War Crimes Program on July 21 in Ottawa. That day, Justice Minister Ann McLellan announced that \$46.8 million (approximately \$31.3 million U.S.) has been allocated over the next three years "to strengthen Canada's ability to bring to justice those responsible for war crimes, crimes against humanity and other reprehensible acts in times of war."

The allocated amount is a dramatic 480 percent increase over the previous funding levels, which had risen to about \$3.25 million in the 1997-1998 fiscal year.

According to a news release issued concurrently with the 17-page joint report on the War Crimes Program, "funding ... announced today was provided for in the February 1998 budget and is, therefore, built into the existing fiscal framework."

The announcement came four days after Canadian officials joined a host of

the world's nations in overriding technical statutory objections from the U.S., Israel, China and four other countries to the creation of a permanent International Criminal Court (ICC) with jurisdiction to put individuals on trial for genocide, crimes against humanity, war crimes and crimes of aggression.

The United Nations Diplomatic Conference on the ICC, held in Rome from June 15 to July 17, established the global tribunal by adopting the Rome Statute of the ICC by a vote of 120 in favor, seven against and 21 abstentions.

The DOJ/CIC press release mentions that the increased funding will enable the CIC "to substantially enhance its ability to process modern-day war crimes cases," while the public report mentions that "since the early 1990s, the CIC has identified nearly 440 individuals suspected of [modern-day] war crimes." The press item also relates that Minister McLellan, also the member of Parliament for Edmonton West, introduced amendments to Canada's Extradition Act on May 5, which "will facilitate extradition to another country

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Verkhovna Rada chairman predicts cooperation with executive branch

by **Roman Woronowycz**
Kyiv Press Bureau

KYIV — Downplaying differences between himself and President Leonid Kuchma on the commercialization of land, Verkhovna Rada Chairman Oleksander Tkachenko said on July 27 that he sees no reason the legislative and executive branches cannot work together to resolve Ukraine's economic and social ills.

"One of my goals for the next session is to deepen relations with the executive so as to develop a good legislative base for this country, especially for the needs of society," said Mr. Tkachenko at a press conference that focused on the accomplishments of the first session of the legislature elected in March of this year. At the news briefing Mr. Tkachenko also outlined his agenda for the next second session. The national deputies began a summer recess on July 24 that will last until September 7.

Mr. Tkachenko took the initiative in working to close the rift between the government and the Parliament on July 21, when President Kuchma, Prime Minister Valerii Pustovoitenko and leading Cabinet ministers met with him and the leaders of Verkhovna Rada factions at the chairman's invitation.

After the meeting, President Kuchma stated that he, too, believes the prospects for cooperation between the executive and the legislative branches are good. "The fact that we have gathered together in such a composition gives me reason to believe that serious cooperation between the president, the government and the Parliament is possible," said President Kuchma.

The previous Verkhovna Rada, led by Socialist Oleksander Moroz, was marked by its confrontational attitude toward the executive branch.

Mr. Tkachenko said during his press conference that another meeting between the executive and legislative branches of government is scheduled for the beginning of September — this time to include the full complement of national deputies.

Mr. Tkachenko explained that he has already convinced the leaders of parliamentary factions that there is no need to approve changes to the 1998 budget that the president has demanded. President Kuchma, under pressure from the International Monetary Fund, wants the budget deficit for 1998 reduced from 3.3 percent to 2.5 percent.

"We concluded that by granting the president and the Cabinet of Ministers the right to incorporate amendments into the national budget, without first examining that issue in the parliamentary session hall, we would not be breaking the law," said Mr. Tkachenko. He said that if the Parliament were to take up the task it could have become a six-month process.



Oleksander Tkachenko

The Parliament chairman explained that the budget problems arise from a shortfall in revenues, which is a result of the government inaccurately forecasting budget receipts; therefore, he added, the government is responsible for adjusting the forecast and making the needed changes.

Mr. Tkachenko, who was elected the leader of Ukraine's Parliament after a nearly two-month process in which scores of nominees were rejected, also said the economy will be the priority for the Verkhovna Rada in its next session.

Forty-seven economic bills will be examined — among them 15 bills based on the 41 presidential decrees issued in the last month by President Kuchma to ward off a looming economic and financial crisis. The crisis was caused, to some extent, by the collapse of Asian economies, as well as strict requirements proposed by the IMF for a multi-billion-dollar loan that Ukraine needs to pay off international debts and outstanding treasury notes.

Ten of those decrees have already taken effect because the Parliament did not act on them within the 30-day period it has to reject presidential orders; three have been rejected.

Mr. Tkachenko said that among the most important issues that need to be addressed in September are the 1999 budget, which he pledged will be approved before the end of the year, government administrative reform, tax reform, banking regulation, hard currency regulation and support for business expansion.

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Ukraine earns nine medals at Goodwill Games

PARSIPPANY, N.J. — Twelve days into the 15-day Goodwill Games, Ukraine's favorite color appeared to be silver as the country's athletes earned five silver medals, three bronze and one gold, placing Ukraine fifth in the overall medals count.

World Champion Olena Vitrychenko will go home as the all-around silver medalist in rhythmic gymnastics when she scored 39.657 to Russia's Alina Kabayeva's 39.781 points in the Goodwill Games on July 23. But she will also take home a gold medal in the individual apparatus portion of the competition for her performance with the rope.

In hoop Ms. Vitrychenko was the bronze medalist, while in both clubs and ribbon she was fifth. Ms. Kabayeva took home gold medals in three of the four individual apparatus events: hoops, ribbon and clubs. Completing the picture was yet another Slav, Yevgeniya Pavlina of Belarus, who took second place in hoops, clubs and ribbon and third in rope.

Up-and-coming rhythmic gymnast Tamara Yerofeyeva of Ukraine placed seventh in the rope, tied for sixth in both the hoop and the ribbon, and took fourth in the clubs. She also came in sixth in the all-around scor-

ing. According to those in the know, this is one young athlete to be watched.

Though pole vaulting phenom Sergey Bubka disappointed his fans at the Goodwill Games by no-heighting, Ukraine still managed a medal in that sport — in the women's competition. Anzhela Balakhanova tied for the bronze medal on July 19 with Australian Tatyana Gregorieva. The silver medalist was another Aussie, Emma George, while the gold medalist was Yelena Belyakova of Russia.

Other medalists for Ukraine as the Goodwill Games continued into their second week were: Olena Zhupyna and Svitlana Serbina, who won the silver in the 10-meter platform synchronized diving on July 25.

Ms. Zhupyna paired with Olha Leonova came in fifth in the three-meter springboard synchronized diving on July 27.

In the 10-meter platform on July 26, Ms. Zhupyna, the world champion in that event, finished just out of the medals, placing fourth. Laura Wilkinson of the U.S. was the gold medalist, while Cai Yuyan and Sang Zue of China were second and third. The Chinese duo also took home the

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ANALYSIS

U.S.-Ukrainian relations after Gore's trip to Kyiv

by Sherman W. Garnett

Vice-President Al Gore's trip to Kyiv last week ended with him resisting Ukrainian President Leonid Kuchma's calls for public U.S. endorsement of an International Monetary Fund bail-out package. Mr. Kuchma sought such an endorsement to strengthen both his bargaining position with an IMF delegation arriving during the weekend and his political standing as he seeks re-election next year. He had counted on U.S. help on both accounts.

Yet, there are good reasons why Mr. Gore hesitated. First, although no one doubts the seriousness of Ukraine's economic crisis, as early as next month the government may not be able to meet its debt service obligations, there are widespread doubts about the Ukrainian government's commitment to reforms, as well as its ability to implement them if adopted.

Second, bad economic policy is not the only source of this crisis. Bad politics are at work as well. The Ukrainian political establishment does not see political and economic reforms as an urgent matter. The most intense struggles in Ukrainian politics take place, not among parties, ideologies or branches of government, but among the political and economic leadership, in both Kyiv and the regions. Various coalitions of leading politicians, bankers, new- and old-style business leaders and government bureaucrats struggle for control over the state's wealth – and especially for the positions of state power that control this wealth (and that make the rules for its privatization). As long as Ukrainian politics are dominated by this still-unfinished competition for power and property, there will be little energy left for

Sherman W. Garnett is a senior associate with the Carnegie Endowment's Russian-Eurasian Program.

Buteiko says Ukraine sees CIS as mechanism for consultations

Embassy of Ukraine

WASHINGTON – Ukraine's First Vice Minister for Foreign Affairs Anton Buteiko said the CIS should be an active mechanism for negotiation and consultation. He made the statement on July 14, while addressing a news briefing at the Foreign Affairs Ministry in Kyiv.

Ukraine sees the main task of the CIS as creating a free trade zone based on the norms and principles of the World Trade Organization and establishing close bilateral and multilateral trade and economic cooperation among its member-states, Mr. Buteiko said.

He also expressed Ukraine's position on improving CIS structures: the four statutory bodies of the CIS, namely the Council of the Heads of State, the Council of the Heads of Governments, the International Economic Committee and the Executive Secretariat, should be retained, while all other organs should be scrapped. The Executive Secretariat's 1,700-strong staff should either be reduced or taken out of CIS jurisdiction, he added.

Mr. Buteiko stressed that Ukraine would link its cooperation within the CIS to its proclaimed strategic goal of inte-

gration into the European Union and trans-Atlantic structures. The CIS should not be a closed forum but should promote negotiations with other European, American and Asian structures, Mr. Buteiko added.

He said this was Ukraine's position at the recent second session of the working group on improving CIS activities and reforming its structures. Ukraine's stance on these issues was supported by the GUAM group of countries (including Georgia, Ukraine, Armenia and Moldova), he noted.

None of the issues raised at the session was finalized, therefore, the next session will be held on July 29-31, Mr. Buteiko said. The participating nations agreed that recommendations on reforming the CIS would be adopted on the basis of consensus.

The vice minister attributed Ukraine's radical position on the CIS to the fact that the body is ineffective. He noted that only 130 out of the 910 documents thus far concluded have been signed by all participating states, and only 30 have thus far been ratified. This, he said, shows low interest in the Commonwealth of Independent States.

Third, the U.S. is right to be wary of appearing to back a candidate in the Ukrainian presidential race given the absence of real progress toward ending the country's political and economic stagnation. For President Kuchma the bail-out is a crucial element in his re-election campaign. The presidential contest has influenced most of the decisions taken in Kyiv during the last six months and will likely influence all decisions in the next 15. Yet the U.S. wants an independent and stable Ukraine. Mr. Kuchma has real accomplishments to his credit, especially in foreign policy and in launching the first set of economic reforms in 1994. But he is presiding over a country heading backward. In such circumstances, the U.S. must be pro-reform, not pro-Kuchma.

Vice-President Gore heard from President Kuchma and his senior advisers another impassioned argument for U.S. and Western assistance to Ukraine and to Mr. Kuchma personally: the fiscal crisis and the resulting economic and political damage that will come in its wake threaten the "survival of the state itself."

Yet it is precisely Ukraine's survival that is not an issue. Even the staunchest left-wing politicians in eastern Ukraine dismiss the collapse of the Ukrainian state and its re-integration with Russia as an impossible scenario.

Rather, the question now is what kind of state Ukraine will become. The broad alternatives can be stated starkly as a choice between gradually becoming a part of Europe or remaining relegated to Europe's periphery. A European Ukraine requires bold choices and actions that have so far been beyond the ability of this or any other Ukrainian government. A peripheral Ukraine comes by default: the leadership need only follow the political rules of the game already deeply

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NEWSBRIEFS

Trade on agenda of Gore-Kirienko talks

MOSCOW – Before talks with U.S. Vice-President Al Gore on July 24, Prime Minister Sergei Kirienko called for the U.S. to grant Russia most-favored-nation (MFN) trade status, Russian news agencies reported. "The classification of Russia as a country with a non-market economy does not meet current realities and leads to the imposition of unjustifiably high anti-dumping duties on a number of key export items," Mr. Kirienko said. ITAR-TASS quoted an unidentified source in the Russian-U.S. Commission on Economic and Technological Cooperation as saying that Vice-President Gore has agreed to support Russia's demand for permanent MFN status. Meanwhile, Mr. Gore told the Russian delegation that he and President Bill Clinton are "absolutely committed to deepening [U.S.-Russian] relationships." (RFE/RL Newsline)

France to expand ties with Ukraine

KYIV – French Foreign Affairs Minister Hubert Vedrine said in Kyiv on July 24 that France wants to expand ties with Ukraine both on a bilateral basis and within the sphere of European policies, Ukrainian Radio reported. Mr. Vedrine stressed that France "is convinced of Ukraine's strategic role in Europe" and pledges to support Ukraine's bid to become an associate member of the European Union. According to Reuters, the French minister backed Ukrainian efforts to win a much-needed \$2 billion loan from the International Monetary Fund. President Kuchma and Mr. Vedrine agreed that during French President Jacques Chirac's visit to Ukraine in September the two countries will create a

new mechanism for top-level bilateral consultations. (RFE/RL Newsline)

Parliament passes budget resolution

KYIV – The Verkhovna Rada concluded its session on July 24 by passing a 1999 budget resolution, Ukrainian Television reported. The legislators granted the government the right to set a budget deficit, providing it can find funds to cover all social programs. During its three-month session the Parliament rejected two economic presidential decrees and failed to consider another 12, thus allowing them to go into force automatically. Another 17 decrees signed by President Leonid Kuchma in June will go into force if lawmakers fail to veto or consider them upon reconvening on September 1. (RFE/RL Newsline)

Belarusian newspaper warned on spelling

MIENSK – The Belarusian State Press Committee has warned the Belarusian-language biweekly *Nasha Niva* not to use the old-style Belarusian spelling, which was banned by the Soviet authorities in 1933. The newspaper, launched in Vilnius in 1991 by editor Syarhey Dubavets, uses that spelling, which, Mr. Dubavets says, is less Russified than the spelling rules introduced under Joseph Stalin's orders. "The 1933 language reform had a repressive rather than literary character," Mr. Dubavets told Reuters on July 22. The press committee maintains that *Nasha Niva* is disobeying Belarusian law by not adopting the "common literary language." The Higher Economic Court, which banned the opposition newspaper *Svaboda*

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Anti-Kuchma newspaper editor shot

KYIV – Serhii Odarych, editor of the Kyiv newspaper *We (My)* and president of the Ukrainian Perspectives Fund, was shot during the early morning hours of July 30.

The shooting came after an unknown man approached Mr. Odarych, who was accompanied by his wife, Anzhela, at about 12:30 a.m. and asked to speak with him. As Mr. Odarych told the newspaper *Den*, "the man warned me that if I do not stop engaging in politics in the near future I will be killed. I answered that I have nothing to talk to him about and continued homeward. I had not gone more than four meters when a heard a shot behind my back."

The bullet entered and exited Mr. Odarych's left thigh. He was taken to the Kyiv City hospital, where he underwent surgery.

"I believe that I had 'the honor' of conversing with a professional. I was spoken to very properly. The fact that I am alive is not an accident; they didn't want to kill me, just to frighten me. If this was a contract killing I would not be here," Mr. Odarych told *Den* correspondent Inna Zolotukhina.

When asked who might have ordered the hit, Mr. Odarych said, "My team and I personally have only one opponent: President Kuchma. We have no other enemies. Our paper regularly publishes articles in which we tell the truth about the president and those closest to him."

Mr. Odarych was listed in satisfactory condition, having sustained only soft-tissue damage to his thigh. The attack is being investigated.

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Verkhovna Rada...

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"We must give our entrepreneurs a chance to show how they can add to our quality of life, to employ our people and add money to government coffers," said Mr. Tkachenko.

He said Ukraine's energy and agro-industrial sector needs special attention. However, he set limits as to how far those areas of the economy can be separated from government control and referred to the energy sector as "an integral part of the ability of the state to assure its people's welfare."

The commercialization of land (that is the buying and selling of land), for which President Kuchma has strongly pushed, will not happen soon, according to Mr. Tkachenko, who is the leader of the Peasant Party and who was the Ukrainian SSR's last minister of agriculture. "If we make land a commodity, within five years it will no longer belong to us, and we will not be able to get it back," said Mr. Tkachenko. He did allow that after 10 to 20 years, the sale of land may be an option to consider.

The structuring of the Verkhovna Rada along political party and faction lines and the high degree of party allegiance currently evident in the Parliament will allow the next parliamentary session to work much more effectively, observed Mr. Tkachenko. However, he said he will look to make at least one major procedural change that he hopes will keep the legislature more focused on its agenda. "We need to raise the quality of the work in the committees," said Mr. Tkachenko. "Because bills and deputies were not

properly prepared, the work of the Verkhovna Rada suffered." Mr. Tkachenko said he would like the Verkhovna Rada's rules of procedure to be changed so that plenary sessions are held for two weeks every month, as opposed to the current three-week allocation. The extra week would be dedicated to work in committees.

Mr. Tkachenko – whose election as chairman was greeted cynically in the press, primarily because of a controversial \$75 million (U.S.) debt owed to the government by the Land and People Agro-Industrial Organization that he founded and whose debt was dismissed by the government the day before his election – stated repeatedly at the news conference that he would like the mass media to reassess the negative way in which it portrays him.

Some of Mr. Tkachenko's comments were greeted by snickering and laughter from the press. At one point he stated that he doesn't understand why the mass media tends to concentrate on the pursuit of trivial matters in the lives of Ukraine's politicians, such as where they will vacation. "We now have a democracy, and I don't think that the press needs to intrude in our private matters," he said.

The controversial Mr. Tkachenko, who has long been known for his sharp tongue and less than diplomatic demeanor, told the press that, given time, it will come to understand him and his way of working.

"If I am not a star, then I am a planet that people are trying to figure out to better predict the future of Ukraine's highest legislative body. The mass media will get used to my viewpoints in a month or two," said Mr. Tkachenko.

"Team Canada" trade mission heads for Ukraine in January

by Andrij Kudla Wynnyckyj
Toronto Press Bureau

TORONTO — Canadian Prime Minister Jean Chrétien announced on July 8 in Ottawa that the first "Team Canada" trade mission to Europe will take place on January 16 to 27, 1999, with Ukraine, Poland and Russia as its focus.

"By visiting Russia, Poland and Ukraine we are making sure that Canadian businesses can explore the opportunities offered by these growing economies," Mr. Chrétien said, adding that "the fact that thousands of Canadians have roots in the region offer natural advantages to expand trade and investment."

According to the Prime Minister's Office, the delegation, to consist of Mr. Chrétien, provincial premiers and business leaders, will take part in discussions with local politicians and entrepreneurs. The program of business seminars and meetings is intended to expand knowledge of markets in the target countries and encourage links with local firms.

"Two-way merchandise trade between Canada and these three countries totaled nearly \$1.4 billion in 1997, and the potential for more business is considerable as they continue their evolution into modern market economies," noted a press release from the PM's office.

Saskatchewan Premier Roy Romanow, a Ukrainian Canadian, is likely to participate, as Team Canada announcements have rarely been made without prior agreement that all 12 provincial and territorial leaders and are willing to go. An official at Mr. Romanow's office said an official announcement is likely to be issued in the coming weeks.

On the website of a government-assisted agency known as STEP (Saskatchewan Trade and Export Partnership), Ukraine is prominently displayed on a map of the world, with ongoing partnerships in the areas of energy, agricultural services, technologies and equipment. (The site address is <http://www.sasktrade.sk.ca>).

Two trade missions have already travelled to Ukraine this summer on trips that have included Poland, Iran and Turkey, and the Team Canada mission is already firmly ensconced on its calendar of events.

The executive director of the Saskatchewan Ukrainian Canadian Congress, Ostap Skrypnyk, told The Weekly on July 29 that, "because of its long association with creation of commercial ties with Ukraine, the UCC Saskatchewan Provincial Council will explore every possibility of joining the team."

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Canadian government...

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or to an international tribunal."

An appended backgrounder also mentions that the mandate of the Justice Department's war crimes unit "will be improved and expanded to include modern-day cases."

Rehabilitating the program

The public report concentrates on rehabilitating the Canadian war crimes effort, underscoring Minister McLellan's assertion that "Canada is not a safe haven for war criminals. The actions of this government over the past three years have made this very plain."

Much is made of the Ramirez case of 1992, in which the Federal Court of Appeals suggested that "a person can be held accountable for crimes against humanity by participating in the shared acts of the group, although not in a particular act."

In keeping with the new focus on modern-day crimes, the backgrounder mentions that thanks to the 1997 Musegara case, which involved the deportation of a Rwandan national accused of incitement to commit genocide, "Canada has ... become a world leader in the detection and deportation of perpetrators of modern-day war crimes and crimes against humanity."

Money for coordination

The joint press statement indicates that the increased funding will "allow the government to set up a formal coordination process to ensure that all partners, whether dealing with intelligence-gathering, prosecution or deportations, are working more closely together than has been possible in the past."

According to the joint report, Canada's war crimes program draws upon the work of three investigative agencies. The Department of Justice, Citizenship and Immigration Canada, and the Royal Canadian Mounted Police all have their own separate subdivisions that deal with war crimes; they have operated autonomously yet in loose cooperation.

The RCMP's War Crimes and Special Investigations Unit was "established in 1985 to assist the Dêschenes Commission of Inquiry and continues to conduct investigations of all suspected perpetrators of war crimes and crimes against humanity."

The DOJ's War Crimes and Crimes Against Humanity Section was established in 1987, while the CIC's War Crimes and Crimes Against Humanity Unit was formed in its Case Management Branch in April 1996.

As spelled out in the report, the mandate of the CIC's unit is "to serve in a coordinating, reporting and liaison role to ensure that cases are processed as efficiently as possible through the immigration and judicial systems to the point of removal from Canada or denial of visas."

The CIC is said to have had a more contemporary focus, but responsibilities concerning cases from all eras will be shared more evenly across the board.

World War II era cases

According to the press backgrounder, "the new appropriation ... will be used to support the nine cases now before the court, develop a significant number of additional World War II cases, and bring to court some 14 new World War II cases over the next three years."

In January 1995, then Justice Minister Allan Rock announced that the Liberal government intended to initiate denaturalization and deportation cases against 12 individuals suspected of being involved in war crimes; by December 1997 14 cases were under way.

The report mentions the decision in the Bogutin case, handed down in February, in which government prosecutors convinced Justice William McKeown of the Federal Court that the citizenship of a former member of a German auxiliary police force in eastern Ukraine should be revoked.

Two of the first 14 defendants are said to have chosen to leave Canada to avoid deportation, and a decision is expected in the Vitols case.

More numbers and lists

An enduring feature of the war crimes debate has been the question of the varying numbers of individuals suspected of war crimes who are said to be in Canada at any one time. In the introduction to its report the CIC is said to have identified 440 such persons "since the 1990s," and under the CIC's mandate section of the report the claim is made that "currently, there are close to 320 suspects in Canada identified for examination and enforcement action where warranted."

According to the DOJ portion of the report, "the [War Crimes] Section's current workload consists of approximately 90 active files. In addition, initial checks are being undertaken on approximately 126 files."

These are drawn from the section's "Inventory of Suspects," based on the Dêschenes Commission's three lists of suspects: "a master list of 774 names, an addendum of 38 names and a list of 71 German scientists and technicians."

"Justice Dêschenes also identified 29 files from the

master list as meriting special attention," the report reads, "of these investigations, eight have resulted in the commencement of proceedings. In the remaining 21, either the allegations could not be substantiated, or the subject died."

Most controversies skirted

Canada's war crimes effort has been under fire from the U.S. media (when CBS "60 Minutes" alleged that Canada was a haven for war criminals), the Jewish community in the U.S. and Canada, and the Ukrainian Canadian community, which continues to voice its difference in principle to the "denaturalization and deportation" approach to the issue.

No mention is made that former War Crimes Section Director William Kremer was cleared of charges of anti-Semitism by an independent inquiry this March after an 11-month investigation, or that the appointment of former U.S. Office of Special Investigations Director Near Sher as a special consultant was subject to review by the standing parliamentary Committee on Justice in April, or that the section's chief historian, Dr. Bettina Birn, was subjected to intense pressure from the Jewish community in U.S. and Canada after expressing her opinions in a scholarly review of Harvard Prof. Daniel Goldhagen's "Hitler's Willing Executioners" in late 1997.

Ukrainian community arguments rebutted

However, the report deals squarely with a contention, articulated by the Ukrainian Canadian Congress and the Ukrainian Canadian Civil Liberties Association, that the use of civil proceedings is highly inappropriate. On page 8, the report's framers state flatly that "the laws governing revocation of citizenship and deportation provide appropriate procedures and sanctions."

Further, they contend that "no principle of law or fairness requires the government to use criminal against an individual in situations where other laws, procedures and remedies could also be invoked."

The report mentions that in the Tobiass case in 1997 a Federal Court judge "rejected the respondent's argument that [civil denaturalization proceedings] are a disguised means of mounting a war crimes prosecution."

A copy of the report may be obtained by contacting either the Department of Justice by phoning (613) 957-4222, or Citizenship and Immigration Canada, (613) 954-9019; or by visiting either ministry's website. The address of the CIC website is <http://cicnet.ci.gc.ca>; the DOJ site's address is http://canada.justice.gc.ca/News/index_en.html.

Seminars focus on integrating Ukraine's Constitutional Court into civil society

by Victor Lychyk

WASHINGTON – The U.S.-Ukraine Foundation and the Pylyp Orlyk Institute for Democracy recently held three seminars in Ukraine as part of a program titled "Integrating the Constitutional Court into Ukraine's Civil Society." The program seeks to enhance public understanding of Ukraine's Constitution and the Constitutional Court by holding seminars with the participation of legal experts from Ukraine and the U.S.

The Constitutional Court

On May 22, a seminar was held in the town of Yaremche, Ivano-Frankivsk Oblast, that focused on the relationship between the Constitutional Court and other governmental institutions, national and local.

Constitutional Court Justice Volodymyr Shapoval spoke on general problems of establishing constitutional jurisdiction while Justice Mykola Korniyenko discussed how the interests of local government may be protected by the Constitutional Court.

Judge Bohdan Futey of the U.S. Court of Federal Claims contrasted the U.S. and Ukrainian judicial systems. He noted that the U.S. has a unified federal court system with the Supreme Court acting as the final arbiter of law including issues regarding the Constitution. In Ukraine, as in many other European countries, the judicial system is divided into courts of general jurisdiction and a Constitutional Court. In Ukraine, the Supreme Court is the highest court of general jurisdiction. Only the Constitutional Court, however, can rule on the constitutionality of laws or issue interpretations of the Constitution.

Attorney Stephen Nix discussed the relationship between the Supreme Court and the other branches of government in the United States by using the issue of executive privilege as a case study.

The teaching and study of Constitutional Law

A seminar on "Advancing Scholarly Research and Improving the Teaching of Constitutional Law" was held in Kharkiv on June 19 at Yaroslav the Wise National Law Academy of Ukraine.

Rector Vasyl Tatsiy noted that the academy has an enrollment of about 14,000 students. The topic of the seminar, he said, has great value since it addresses both teaching and research issues, and is taking place with the active participation of colleagues from the U.S.

Justice Shapoval noted that while the fields of civil and criminal law have been clearly defined, the field of constitutional law is still being debated.

Prof. Gordon Hylton of Marquette University Law School pointed to conflicting provisions in the Constitution regarding the question of who has ultimate authority within the executive branch. The Constitution declares that the president is the head of state, but makes no mention of him being the head of the executive branch. The supreme body of the executive branch is the Cabinet of Ministers. The Constitution also states that the Cabinet of Ministers is responsible to the president and that its activity is governed not only by the Constitution and laws of Ukraine, but also by presidential acts. Furthermore, Article 106 gives the president the right to annul acts of the Cabinet of Ministers.

Chief Judge Loren Smith of the U.S. Court of Federal Claims enumerated the qualities of good constitutional lawyers and explained that the ideology of the United States is embodied in the U.S. Constitution. Judge Smith also recalled what James Madison said about the courts being the "least dangerous branch" of government because they have neither the power of the sword nor the power of the purse. The power of the courts, Judge Smith said, stems from the public and its support, essential if the judiciary is to succeed.

Attorney Robert Liechty, director of the American Bar Association's Central and East European Law Initiative in Kyiv, pointed out that since only the Constitutional Court can rule on the constitutionality of laws, its decisions will form the basis of constitutional law in Ukraine. He also stated that the real audience for the Constitutional Court's decisions is the average Ukrainian, whom the court can reach through the media. The highest duty of the judges on the Constitutional Court, therefore, is using their decisions as a means of teaching the rule of law in Ukraine.

Other presentations focused on the constitutional bases of the election system and local self-government, approaches to the study of constitutional law and its relationship to other branches of law and the role of the Verkhovna Rada's human rights representative or ombudsman.



At a seminar in Yaremche (from left) are: Constitutional Court Judge Mykola Korniyenko, Judge Bohdan Futey, attorney Stephen Nix and Constitutional Court Judge Mykhailo Kostytskiy.

The Constitutional Court and human rights

The final seminar of the series, "The Role of the Constitutional Court in Protecting Human Rights in Ukraine," was held in Kyiv on June 26 in the Constitutional Court's Press Center.

Constitutional Court Judge Mykhailo Kostytskiy noted the salient role of human rights in Ukraine's Constitution and discussed how human rights cases are handled in Ukraine's court system today.

National Deputy Oleksander Barabash, the first Ukrainian citizen to petition the Constitutional Court for an interpretation described the procedure that he went through in order to bring a case before this judicial body.

Citing the court's ruling in favor of Mr. Barabash, National Deputy Viktor Shyshkin, who helped write the Law on the Constitutional Court, stated that the "Constitutional Court has become a staunch and independent defender of human rights."

Judge Futey examined the origins and development of the individual rights question in the U.S. He noted that the U.S. Constitution of 1787 did not contain specific guarantees of individual rights. In order to remedy this controversial omission, the first 10 amendments to the Constitution, or Bill of Rights, were adopted in 1791. Judge Futey compared the constitu-

tions of the U.S. and Ukraine in terms of the rights they contain.

Judge Charles Wolle, chief judge of the United States District Court for the Southern District of Iowa, spoke about the right to due process – that no person may "be deprived of life, liberty or property, without due process of law" – which is at the core of the American Constitution and the judicial process. He noted that while the meaning of due process has been debated, it is generally meant to ensure that everyone has the right to go to court to defend their rights, to receive a fair hearing and trial before a decision is made, and to receive a fair and just ruling from an impartial and independent court.

Judge Suzanne Conlon of the U.S. District Court for the Northern District of Illinois called the Bill of Rights a "contract for freedom." By discussing individual amendments, she illustrated how the interpretation of these rights has resulted in differences of opinion, public debate and substantial litigation.

The dean of the National University of Kyiv-Mohyla Academy Law School, Volodymyr Suschenko, discussed various aspects of this institution's program in legal education.

For more information contact the U.S.-Ukraine Foundation at: telephone, (202) 347-4264; fax, (202) 347-4267; or visit the USUF website at www.usukraine.org.

Ukrainian Free University holds annual opening ceremonies

MUNICH – The Ukrainian Free University (UFU) in Munich held its annual opening ceremonies on July 12 with Prof. Miroslav Labunka, rector, welcoming colleagues, students and guests, and emphasizing the achievements of the university in the last 77 years.

He noted an irony: "The difficulties and crises that the university encountered in the past were the result of the lack of statehood of the Ukrainian people. The present critical situation of the university results from the existence of an independent Ukrainian state."

"With the arrival of independence, foreign sources believe that they no longer have the duty to contribute toward the education and development of Ukrainian intelligentsia, and Ukraine on the other hand, does not seem to understand the cultural and scholarly significance of a Ukrainian Free University beyond its borders," he observed.

The keynote address of the evening was delivered by Prof. Anatol Kaminskyj, dean of the faculty of law and social-economic sciences. Leading with a quote from the 16th century English philosopher Francis Bacon, "knowledge is power," Prof. Kaminskyj ana-

lyzed the contemporary political and economic situation in Ukraine from that perspective.

Prof. Kaminskyj pointed to the lack of a coherent policy on the part of the Ukrainian government with regard to economics and education, and stated that the motto "economics first," which is frequently cited by various Ukrainian leaders, is at best misleading.

Even today, he said, there are no definitive, radical systemic and structural reforms and no concrete plans and projections, which are necessary to overcome the current economic crisis. The unchecked, chaotic development of the Ukrainian economy did not pave the way for the infrastructure needed for a modern market economy, but rather led to the formation of savage capitalism, mass corruption and criminal entities.

Sound policy is lacking in the area of education and this is leading to the disintegration of educational and intellectual life in Ukraine, as evidenced by the "brain drain" since independence. What Ukraine needs today is cadres of university-educated young

(Continued on page 15)

THE UKRAINIAN NATIONAL ASSOCIATION FORUM

UNA Seniors Association convenes 24th conference at Soyuzivka

by Anne Chopek

KERHONKSON, N.Y. – The 24th Conference of UNA Seniors was held at Soyuzivka on June 14-19 with all the programs proceeding as planned, despite torrential rains throughout the week.

A welcoming wine and cheese party was held along with registration in the lobby of the Main House. The Soyuzivka management transformed the lobby into a beautiful lounge; dancing, music and socializing made for a pleasant evening.

On Monday morning, members participated in a liturgy and panakhyda (requiem service) in memory of deceased UNA Seniors at Holy Trinity Ukrainian Catholic Church.

The conference was opened by President Anna Chopek. Attendees sang the American and Ukrainian anthems, led by Eugene Moroz, and "The Pledge of Allegiance" was recited. The business session of the UNA Seniors Conference was then called to order.

Dr. Chopek was elected conference chairman, Olga Liteplo as English-language secretary and Dr. Jurij Swyschuk as Ukrainian-language secretary. The following committees were appointed: Donations – Eugene Woloshyn, Irene Russnak and Mary Bobeczko; Nominating – Helen Trenkler, chairman; Controllers, Estelle Woloshyn, Olga Shatynsky and John Lopic; Verification – Olga Paproski.

A moment of silence was held in memory of deceased UNA seniors, including Mary Bednarczyk, a UNA branch secretary, a member of the Elections Committee at various conventions, and a longtime member of the UNA Seniors Association.

Minutes of the 1997 Seniors Conference, as read by Mrs. Liteplo and Dr. Swyschuk, were accepted.

Reports were given by Dr. Chopek, president; Ms. Paproski, treasurer; and Sam Liteplo, vice-president; Alice Orlan, vice-president, was not present to give a report; however, it was reported that she had been active in preparing the program.

Reports were also given by regional representatives: Connecticut – Mrs. Paproski; New Jersey – Maria Mandzij; Rochester, N.Y. – Mrs. Russnak; New York City – Mrs. Liteplo; Massachusetts – Anne Remick; Ohio – Mrs. Bobeczko; Kerhonkson, N.Y. – Dr. Stefania Baranowskyj; Pennsylvania – Mr. Lopic.

Controllers reported that the treasurer's books were in order and a vote of confidence was passed. The Verification committee reported on conference registration.

The Nominating Committee proposed re-electing the current slate of officers for 1998-1999. The officers were elected unanimously.

Honorary Past Presidents Stefan Kuropas and Mr. Woloshyn continue to be members of the executive board. Dr. Chopek was elected English publicity chairman, while Dr. Roman Baranowskyj Ukrainian publicity chairman.

The highlight of the week was a trip to the UNA Home Office in Parsippany, N.J. The seniors were cordially welcomed by President Ulana Diachuk, as well as by National Secretary Martha Lysko and Treasurer Stefan Kaczaraj. All had an opportunity to meet with Roma Hadzewycz, editor-in-chief of The Ukrainian Weekly, and her staff, with the staff of Svoboda and various employees of the UNA. Lunch, provided by Soyuzivka, was served in the large lunch room. All were impressed with the new building and with the dedication of all



Omelan Jurchynskyj

Participants of the 24th conference of UNA Seniors at Soyuzivka.

who work there. Arrangements for the bus trip were made by Anna Slobodian and UNA Advisor Stefania Hawryluk.

Back at Soyuzivka, the annual review of current events in Ukraine, as well as of the recent elections there, was given by Dr. Baranowskyj in Ukrainian, while Dr. Roman Procyk of the Harvard Ukrainian Research Institute, commented in English. The latter also provided an overview of current projects of the Ukrainian studies chairs at Harvard and noted how contributions can be made to specific projects.

Probate Court Judge Chopek gave a talk on ways available to dispose of property after death: wills, trusts, bank accounts (jointly owned and payable on death) and stocks (jointly owned and transferable on death). She also advised what records should be kept to help spouses, children, executors (now called personal representatives) and trustees in settling estates. She answered many questions from seniors, who found the talk to be instructive and helpful.

The conference participants took a closer look at the beautiful art works in the Veselka pavilion by the famous Ukrainian painter Edward Kozak. Mrs. Russnak spoke of the meaning of each painting as her audience looked at the young Hutsuls, the weaving, the sheep, the trembita, the fires and the escape to America depicted in the murals. Her talk gave the audience a new appreciation for this outstanding art work that has long adorned the Soyuzivka auditorium. Not only was Kozak a painter, but he was also a humorist. Dr. Baranowskyj read excerpts from his writings with great fervor. It was an enjoyable presentation.

Bingo night was well-attended and enjoyed by all. It was very efficiently conducted by Nicholas and Mary Bobeczko, Mr. Liteplo, and John and Helen Laba.

The weather cleared enough to make it possible to have square dancing on the Veselka deck. While the senior dancers may never win prizes for their dancing skills, they, as well as the non-dancers had an enjoyable evening.

There was time for seniors to indulge in a favorite activity: singing old Ukrainian folk songs, as Mrs. Liteplo and Mr. Moroz furnished the music and the words, and led the singing.

Over the last 24 years the UNA Seniors Association has raised a great deal of money for Ukrainian charities by holding auctions and raffles. For example, during the years 1995-1997, they raised a total of

\$3,900 – which was divided between the Children of Chernobyl Relief Fund and the Ukrainian National Women's League of America Babusia Fund. An additional \$595 was sent to the Chernobyl Memorial Forest program.

This year, as usual, Messrs. Woloshyn and Moroz auctioned off the articles brought by the seniors, and Nellie Yavarrow and Marie Prucknicki conducted a raffle of items contributed by individuals – all of which raised \$1,000. The donations committee recommended that this sum be sent to the UNA's foundation earmarked for Soyuzivka projects. After all, Soyuzivka is the seat of the UNA's fraternal and cultural activities; at present it is in need of financial help to carry out these activities.

A cocktail party and banquet, as only John A. Flis, Soyuzivka manager, and his staff can prepare, ended the UNA Seniors Conference. Seniors came dressed in traditional Ukrainian blouses and shirts, and pictures were taken by their own photographer, Omelan Jurchynskyj. The blessing of the food was given by the Rev. Szuter, pastor of Holy Trinity Ukrainian Catholic Church in Kerhonkson, N.Y.; members of St. Andrew's Ukrainian Orthodox Church in Boston, directed by Mr. Moroz, sang the "Otche Nash."

Taped music throughout the evening was provided by Yuri Trenkler.

The principal speaker at the banquet was Oksana Trytjak, special projects coordinator at the UNA Home Office. Sending teachers to Ukraine to teach English is one of her very successful projects. Teachers pay for their own transportation; the UNA makes arrangements with local officials to provide board and room; the UNA provides the necessary teaching materials. Her talk was punctuated by tales of the experiences of volunteer teachers, and it inspired some members to express a desire to become English teachers in Ukraine.

Mr. Woloshyn, honorary president of the UNA Seniors Association and chairman of the Committee on Donations, made a ceremonial presentation of a \$1,000 check payable to the Ukrainian National Foundation to President Ulana Diachuk. He expressed hope that other organizations will follow this example. President Diachuk thanked the seniors for their generous contribution and wished them well. Dancing followed the formal part of the banquet, which ended with a prayer.

On Friday morning, the sun was shining brightly as the seniors were leaving a rainy week at Soyuzivka. They said their good-byes, while looking forward to next year when the UNA Seniors Association will celebrate its 25th anniversary.



On behalf of the seniors, Gene Woloshyn presents a \$1,000 check payable to the Ukrainian National Foundation and earmarked for Soyuzivka to UNA President Ulana Diachuk.

THE UKRAINIAN WEEKLY

Gore in Ukraine

U.S. Vice-President Al Gore traveled to Ukraine on July 22-23 to reaffirm and expand strategic relations between the two countries. The vice-president spent the first day co-chairing the Kuchma-Gore Commission plenary session with Ukraine's President Leonid Kuchma. On the second day the ecologically minded vice-president flew to Chernobyl in a NATO helicopter to observe first-hand the situation at the site of the world's worst nuclear disaster.

Mr. Gore came to Ukraine to discuss numerous issues of concern to both the U.S. and Ukraine, but it seems that he came also to give himself a foreign policy face, one he needs to nurture if he wishes to seek the U.S. presidency in the year 2000.

His speech at the Chernobyl Museum in Kyiv after his on-site visit to the nuclear facility was labeled by U.S. Information Service representatives as a "major foreign policy address." It turned out to be more of a sermon sprinkled with biblical quotes on Mr. Gore's foreign policy vision of a world "connected" by high technology and interwoven economies. The speech held few, if any, new policy declarations either in terms of the world or Ukraine.

Nonetheless, it focused attention on the continuing diaster that is Chernobyl. And, it included a reference to the Great Famine of 1932-1933, which, he said, is an example of the "cruelty of communism."

President Kuchma, who is seeking re-election in late 1999, also used the Gore visit to pursue his own political interests, which are closely tied to the interests of Ukraine. Mr. Kuchma realizes that to get re-elected he needs to get the economy on its feet. Today Ukraine stands at the brink of economic and financial disaster, which can perhaps be averted, if only temporarily, by a multi-billion-dollar loan from the International Monetary Fund.

If Ukraine doesn't receive the Extended Fund Facility, as the loan is called, which it has been discussing with the international financial organization for several months now, inflation is sure to be re-ignited as Ukraine's financial structure collapses under the weight of outstanding international loans and Ukrainian treasury notes it will not be able to repay.

Thus, Mr. Kuchma used the Gore visit to put pressure on the IMF to approve the EFF by having the vice-president extol the positive steps that the Kuchma administration has taken in recent weeks to re-invigorate economic reform and put Ukraine's financial house in order.

So what are we to make of all this? Not much really. It is common practice for politicians to seek political support and political opportunity wherever they can find it. If Mr. Gore needed Ukraine as a stage on which to display his foreign policy acumen, so be it. If it takes a U.S. vice-president expressing support for the policies of a Ukrainian president to get Ukraine the financial aid that it cannot do without at this point in its history, that's OK, too. The EFF that Ukraine awaits will come with strict economic reform requirements to which the country will have to adhere. For Ukraine that is needed discipline.

Although discussion during the Kuchma-Gore Commission sessions also revolved around concrete issues such as economic cooperation in space, energy and agriculture, and resulted in the signing of three agreements, including one on textile trade, this all could have been done in committee meetings, without the presence of Vice-President Gore or President Kuchma. However, by chairing the plenary session, the two leaders achieved significant results. Mr. Gore's visit to Chernobyl and the resulting declaration by President Kuchma that there is agreement on a second donors' conference to raise more money for the rebuilding of the concrete sarcophagus that encases the damaged fourth reactor at Chernobyl – this time from private organizations and benefactors – will certainly help Ukraine.

What is most important, however, is that by virtue of their meeting the two leaders have drawn the U.S. and Ukraine closer in their "strategic relationship." The Gore trip shows that U.S.-Ukrainian relations are on track and continuing to expand.

Although some politicians in Ukraine, with their eyes still cast towards Moscow, may look askance at this, we as Ukrainian Americans ought to feel quite positive about Vice-President Gore's visit to Ukraine. For us, a strong relationship Ukraine and the United States cannot be a bad thing. In this case, politics makes good bedfellows.

DISCUSSION PAPER

The Ukrainian Canadian community on the eve of the new millennium

by John Boyd

CONCLUSION

The organization's objectives

What could the objectives of this new organization be? Four basic ones come to mind:

- To encourage the study of the Ukrainian language, literature and history.

Even though the language the members of such an organization will be using is English, an important – one could even say an essential – prerequisite for any fundamental study of Ukrainian culture and history is a knowledge of the Ukrainian language.

Without the ability to understand, speak and read Ukrainian how can one get to know the richness of the works of Taras Shevchenko, Ivan Franko and other Ukrainian writers? How can one get to know the extraordinary and unique beauty of the Ukrainian language, the content of thousands of Ukrainian songs, the countless Ukrainian folk tales and folk sayings?

Yes, one can get some idea of the content of these from translations, which regrettably are very limited in number, but even the best translations cannot convey the full beauty and impact of the originals, even as the best translations of Shakespeare's works in any language cannot convey their uniqueness.

What future is there for choirs singing Ukrainian songs in Canada if their members do not know how to pronounce the words or what they mean?

Actually, with the right approach, learning the language can be a challenge and fun. The organization could establish Ukrainian language classes, prepare correspondence courses, audio cassettes and CD-ROMs to help those who want to study the language, publish and promote textbooks on Ukrainian grammar and conversational Ukrainian, initiate special studies of Shevchenko and other poets, etc.

There always have been and will be young Canadians of Ukrainian origin who are interested in learning the Ukrainian language. With some it may be that they were inspired by their parents or grandparents or by some experience in their lives. Some, as they grow up and begin thinking of a career, may be interested in doing business with enterprises in Ukraine, or establishing ties with its scientific, technological, cultural or government institutions. Either would require at least some knowledge of the language.

- To study the cultural heritage of the Ukrainian people, especially their music,

John Boyd, formerly Boychuk, is a resident of Toronto. In his earlier years, he was a Communist and an active member in Ukrainian pro-Communist organizations – most of those years as an editor.

He left the Communist Party in 1968, immediately after the Soviet armed forces invaded Czechoslovakia, where he lived briefly at the time as a correspondent. A few years later, in the early 1970s, he became persona non grata with the leaders of left-wing Ukrainian organizations for critical remarks he made about them.

Now, at age 85, he is very concerned that young people of Ukrainian origin are losing touch with their cultural heritage. That prompted him to produce this paper, in the hope that it will stimulate discussion.

songs and folk dances.

In many localities, orchestras, choirs and folk dance groups already exist but the creation of more of them should be encouraged. Wherever possible, however, members of these groups, especially of choirs, should be encouraged to study Ukrainian, either within their own groups or by joining existing Ukrainian language study groups. A better knowledge of the Ukrainian language, culture and history would give more meaning to and greatly enhance the quality of their performances.

- To study the contribution the Ukrainian Canadian community has made to Canada, especially to Canadian culture during the more than 100 years since the first Ukrainian immigrants came to this country.

Ukrainians in Canada have a rich history. Their trials and sacrifices, their activities and achievements, both in their organizations and individually, should not be lost forever in the archives. Their story should be passed on fully and objectively to the coming generations. But this won't be done unless there is an organization that will undertake to do it.

- To maintain ties with Ukraine, especially its cultural institutions.

This is important because one cannot really preserve and nurture Ukrainian culture without being in constant touch with its source.

Relatively few Ukrainian Canadians today, are interested in what is going on in Ukraine, and even these are largely among the more recent immigrants. Regrettably, most of the younger people, especially those in their 20s and 30s, are interested only peripherally, if at all. For them, Ukraine is just another foreign country or, at best, a distant land from which their ancestors came. Those few young people who have learned the language, however, are more likely to be interested, to a greater or lesser degree, in what is happening in Ukraine.

Maintaining contact with Ukraine will depend a great deal also on what the government of Ukraine and its various institutions do to make this possible. To date, preoccupied as they are with establishing a stable economy and a viable new independent state, Ukraine's leaders have not been able to give as much attention to Ukrainians living abroad as they might. We can only hope this situation will improve.

In this respect, it would be interesting to know: What will be the policy of the Ukrainian government in the coming century towards those young Canadians whose parents, grandparents or great-grandparents came from Ukraine 30, 50 and 100 years ago? To what extent will it assist them in learning about and preserving their Ukrainian heritage; in publishing textbooks, dictionaries and other media that will enable them to study the Ukrainian language; in providing scholarships to those who want to study the language, literature and history of their ancestors; in enabling potential composers, musicians, choreographers or writers to study the culture of Ukraine; in encouraging student exchange programs? The answers to these questions will have much to do with how successful Ukrainians in Canada will be in their efforts to preserve their heritage for the future generations.

Whatever form such an organization

(Continued on page 18)

August
5
1899

Turning the pages back...

Borys Antonenko-Davydovych was born Borys Davydov on August 5, 1899, in Romen, a town in northeastern Ukraine halfway between Kyiv and Kharkiv, to the family of a railroad engineer, Dmytro Davydov.

His studies at Kharkiv University in the natural sciences were interrupted by the Russian Revolution, but he resumed them at the Kyiv Institute of People's Education (graduating in 1923), where he was taught philology by the great literary scholar and Neoclassicist writer Mykola Zerov.

The young Davydov joined the autonomist Ukrainian Communist Party and served as secretary of its Kyiv oblast executive committee, but soon gauged the repressive winds blowing from Moscow and quit its ranks to become a non-party journalist and writer.

In 1923 he joined the editorial board of Hlobus, a popular illustrated semimonthly supplement to the newspaper Bilshovyk and (from 1925) Proletarska Pravda. In this position, he nurtured the talent of one of the outstanding lights of the Fusilladed Renaissance (Rozstriliane Vidrodzhennia), Yuri Yanovskyi.

The following year, together with the greatest prose writer of the period, Valerian Pidmohylnyi, Antonenko-Davydovych (he'd adopted that pseudonym by then) founded the literary group Lanka (known as MARS from 1926), an ensemble united by a desire to

(Continued on page 16)

NEWS AND VIEWS

In defense of HURI

by Lubomyr Hajda

Dr. Myron Kuropas is a distinguished community leader and a tireless defender of Ukraine, Ukrainians and the Ukrainian American community against every slight or slander. His column in *The Ukrainian Weekly* often takes stands on controversial issues where others fear to tread. At times, however, his passions – and occasionally prejudices – carry him away, to the detriment of the very causes he seeks to defend. Such is the case with his piece “The ‘grunts’ will carry us” (July 12).

In this polemic, Dr. Kuropas directs gratuitous, unsubstantiated and unfair charges against the Ukrainian Research Institute at Harvard, its faculty and associates, and the programs it conducts. The effect is to sow confusion and disillusionment among many readers, who are entitled to know the whole truth about the institution their generosity helped create.

There are three main charges that Dr. Kuropas levels at the institute. Let us examine them one by one.

The first is that the academics at the HURI “live in their own little world” and engage in work “for the benefit of a handful of other academics.” In fact, the HURI conducts activities far beyond the publication of the “esoteric” articles Dr. Kuropas arbitrarily cites. Here are only a few recent examples. The institute has hosted several delegations of officials from the U.S. departments of State and Defense for briefings on current Ukrainian affairs. Most recently, the newly appointed U.S. ambassador to Ukraine, Steven Pifer, spent an entire day in consultations organized for him by the HURI scholars before assuming his post in Kyiv. Scholars from the HURI have been invited to Washington to testify at hearings or participate in policy debates at various government agencies. The institute has close working relations with the Embassy of Ukraine as well. These are matters not usually publicized, but they are not secret either. A simple telephone call to the HURI would have produced this information.

The institute has developed several programs not only for academics, but practitioners – government officials, businessmen and others. One such program has been an intensive, weeklong Summer Seminar on contemporary Ukraine that dozens of participants have attended. Another is a Mid-Career Training Program that has allowed professionals to spend several months or a year at the institute to deepen their knowledge of Ukraine. Participants have included journalists and officers of the U.S. Army; this year the institute will host a desk officer from the Department of State. Three members of HURI serve on the steering committee of the Harvard Kennedy School’s Ukrainian Security Program that has already brought 30 military officers and senior government officials from Ukraine to Harvard for executive training and will continue for some years. All these programs have been funded by participant fees or outside grants.

Not least in importance are the conferences organized by the HURI on contemporary themes. In 1994 the institute held a conference on “The Military Tradition in Ukrainian History” that was attended by officials and policy-makers from Washington and Kyiv. (The proceedings have been published, but apparently over-

looked by Dr. Kuropas in his search for more exotic material.) A spin-off from this event was the subsequent yearlong residence at Harvard of Ukraine’s first minister of defense, Gen. Kostiantyn Morozov, whose public presentations and private meetings in Cambridge and Washington were of great significance for Ukraine. (Gen. Morozov also worked on his soon-to-be-published memoirs, an extremely important source for the history of Ukrainian independence that will be of great interest to the general public.)

In April 1996 the HURI sponsored a symposium on the 10th anniversary of the Chernobyl disaster. Then, in connection with Ukraine’s fifth anniversary of independence, in December 1996, in cooperation with the Embassy of Ukraine, the HURI organized an international conference in Washington devoted to Ukrainian foreign relations and security. With ambassadors and other high-ranking diplomats from a dozen countries in attendance, and Dr. Zbigniew Brzezinski as keynote speaker, *The Ukrainian Weekly* termed the conference “perhaps the most high-powered cast assembled during the year” (December 29, 1996). The proceedings, with additional material, are to be published in the forthcoming volume of the much-maligned (by Dr. Kuropas) *Harvard Ukrainian Studies*, as well as separately. The HURI’s commemoration of Ukraine’s independence concluded with a three-day symposium on domestic issues in July 1997. Again, all these programs were funded through outside grants, including support from the U.S. government and private foundations. In short, this is hardly the record of an institution lost in the mists of esoterica that Dr. Kuropas unfortunately presents to *The Weekly’s* readers.

The second charge made by Dr. Kuropas is that Harvard academics live “blissfully oblivious to the rest of us” – that is, the Ukrainian American community. This is an especially unjust and hurtful accusation. The HURI has always felt its debt to, and therefore obligation to assist, the community that has so generously supported it. Dr. Kuropas may be forgiven, perhaps, if he is unaware of the hundreds of hours that institute staff, especially its librarian, spend in researching and answering inquiries from across the nation and abroad – from high school students writing term papers, through third-generation Americans seeking to discover their roots, to senior citizens anxious to learn what is transpiring in their native region. Or how frequently these “ivory-tower” academics are called upon by local communities to provide speakers for the Shevchenko “akademiya” and independence celebrations, or to address, for instance, the Massachusetts legislature at commemorations of the Ukrainian famine-genocide of 1932. Or how often the HURI makes its premises available for community organizations, from Plast to the Children of Chernobyl committee, or uses its auspices to obtain access to Harvard facilities for cultural programs, such as the Bandura Choir concert, saving the community thousands of dollars in rental fees.

However, Dr. Kuropas should know about the almost 30 years of the Harvard Ukrainian Summer Institute and the almost 2,000 students, most of them young members of the Ukrainian American community, who have benefited from its programs – often at greatly reduced tuition rates. Perhaps he may also remember the special two-part series “Five Years of Independent

PERSPECTIVES

BY ANDREW FEDYNSKY

**History's undercurrents: the famine**

The man-made Famine of 1932-1933 in Ukraine may be receding into the ever more distant past, but 65 years after, its legacy remains. It's one of those cataclysms that launched massive undercurrents with profound historical impact. Tragically, it's also an event of cosmic magnitude that barely registered on world consciousness when it occurred and is scarcely remembered today.

Here's what happened: In April 1929, Joseph Stalin ordered the first Five-Year Plan, in which he decreed that Soviet agriculture be collectivized by the end of 1933. For individual farmers that meant turning their land and livestock over to the state and becoming workers on giant collective farms. Not surprisingly, there was widespread resistance, particularly in Ukraine. The official press – in the Soviet Union there was no other kind – began denouncing reluctant landowners as “class enemies,” “rich kulaks exploiting the masses.” That set the stage for Stalin's decree at the end of December 1929 to “liquidate the kulaks as a class.” In Ukraine, primarily a peasant society, that was just about everybody. The Russian heartland, with its age-old tradition of the “mir” or commune, had few independent farmers and therefore few “kulaks,” as Stalin defined them.

As voluntary collectivization stalled, Stalin turned up the heat with arrests, evictions and confiscations until finally in 1932 he unleashed an army of Communist Party activists who laid siege to thousands of Ukrainian villages, raiding homes, taking every grain of wheat, every scrap of food they could find.

Like many Ukrainian Americans, I've always seemed to have known about the Famine. I'm Catholic, but from time to time I would go to Holy Trinity Ukrainian Orthodox Church in Cleveland, where I heard some memorable sermons delivered by the Rev. Kovalenko about what he had lived through as a boy in Poltava during the Famine. My hair would stand on end. I remember the passion and pain in the Rev. Kovalenko's face, his sermon ending with a warning about the consequences of Godless atheism.

I no longer recall the words themselves, so instead let me quote Lev Kopelev's anguished confession: “In the terrible spring of 1933, I saw people dying from hunger, I saw women and children with distended bellies, turning blue, still breathing but with vacant lifeless eyes. And corpses – corpses in ragged sheepskin coats and cheap felt boots; corpses in peasant huts, in the melting snow of the old Vologda, under the bridges of Kharkiv. ...” Kopelev was one of those, to quote his own words, who went “scouring the countryside, searching for hidden grain, testing the earth with an iron rod for loose spots that might lead to buried grain. With the others, I emptied out the old folks' storage chests, stopping my ears to the children's crying and the women's wails.”

Fred Beal, an American Communist whose idealism brought him to work at the Kharkiv Tractor Plant in 1933, was a witness, not a participant. “I watched on the sidelines,” he wrote, “ashamed of being a party to the system that was murdering these innocent people ... I had never dreamed that Communists could stoop so low as to round up hungry people, load them upon trucks or trains, and ship them to some wasteland in order that they might die there. Yet it was a regular practice. I was witnessing myself how human beings were

being tossed into the high trucks like sacks of wheat. Right there and then I was determined to make a complete break with the Stalin gang and return to the capitalist world.”

No one knows for sure how many people were murdered during that horrible year. As Nikita Khrushchev put it, “No one was keeping count.” Robert Conquest, the great historian of the Famine, estimates 7 million victims.

Astonishingly, the press, particularly in Britain and the United States, failed to report the story. No one was more remiss than Walter Duranty, *The New York Times* correspondent to the Soviet Union. In November 1932, when many people including those from the Ukrainian American community were spreading the alarm about the devastation in Ukraine, he assured his readers that “there is no famine or actual starvation, nor is there likely to be.” In August 1933, after millions had already died, he wrote that “any report of a famine in Russia is today an exaggeration or malignant propaganda.”

The closest Duranty came to acknowledging Stalin's genocidal policy was in a dispatch from March 30, 1933, when he wrote, “There is no actual starvation or deaths from starvation, but there is widespread mortality from diseases due to malnutrition.” As far as Duranty was concerned that was okay because, “To put it brutally – you can't make an omelet without breaking eggs.”

Walter Duranty won the Pulitzer Prize for his series of dispatches from Russia, “especially the working out of the Five-Year Plan.”

Did Duranty know better? He sure did. In “The Harvest of Sorrow,” Dr. Conquest cites a September 30, 1933, dispatch from the British chargé d'affaires to Moscow: “Mr. Duranty thinks it quite possible that as many as 10 million people may have died directly or indirectly from lack of food in the Soviet Union during the past year.” Others reported a similar disconnect between what Duranty knew and what he reported.

So why did he do it? His book from 1937, “I Write As I Please,” offers a clue: “Am I wrong in believing that Stalin is the greatest living statesman?” Mass murderers can't be statesmen, so Duranty decided there could be no Famine.

As far as I know, the Pulitzer Prize Committee has never moved to revoke Duranty's prize and *The New York Times* has never publicly repudiated it or offered to return it.

The Western press is not the only institution that denied the existence of the Famine. So did the Soviet Union – obviously. For more than half a century, any mention of the Famine was punished with a long prison sentence. Today in Ukraine, people know about the Famine, but it is largely a repressed memory. This affects the national psyche, permitting Communists to run for office without shame or remorse. Unfortunately, their influence on Ukraine's economy is enormous, since the Communist Party constitutes the core of a parliamentary coalition that blocks legislation to dismantle the state-run farms, the Famine's malignant legacy. These bloated, bureaucratic structures provide the apparatchiks who run them with political patronage and allow them to divert agricultural resources to their own purposes.

Lubomyr Hajda is associate director of the Ukrainian Research Institute and editor of *Harvard Ukrainian Studies*.

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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Professionals are grunts, too

Dear Editor:

In his July 12 column, Myron Kuropas divides the community into three tiers, or sub-groups: the academics, the business and professional people, and the so-called "grunts," or community activists. While this division is somewhat artificial, his point on greater interaction within the community is well taken. Indeed, conferences put on by professional groups, such as The Washington Group (TWG) Leadership conferences, have attempted to facilitate the kind of interaction he speaks to, and they are designed not just for members of professional groups, but for anyone interested in the substance of a particular conference, be it academics, "grunts," or whoever.

While Dr. Kuropas allows for occasional overlap among his three tiers, I think the overlap is considerably greater than he acknowledges. I can't speak definitively for the academics or for all professional groups (Ps and Bs), but a substantial number of members of The Washington Group (TWG), the largest of the Ukrainian American professional groups, easily fall into the category of "grunts." Many active members of TWG – and I believe this holds true with other Ps and Bs – are also active in other community organizations.

Professional groups are an integral part of the community, so it seems to me that those active solely in their professional groups also are "grunts," even if they aren't active anywhere else. What makes activists of professional groups any less "grunts" than someone, say, who is active in his or her parish, dance group, fraternal or credit union? Are professional groups somehow less "community" organizations than the others? Professional groups may not always have the membership or financial resources of some other community organizations, but they, too, contribute to the life of the community.

The Washington Group, to cite just one example, is virtually the only Ukrainian American organization in the Washington metropolitan area that stages high-caliber functions on a consistent basis and whose membership cuts across all the parishes and other community entities in the D.C. metro area. TWG provides a platform for U.S. or Ukrainian officials to inform and share their perspectives on Ukraine with TWG members and non-members, including many non-Ukrainians, providing them with an opportunity to interact with these officials. These functions often are reported on in The Ukrainian Weekly and other Ukrainian-American newspapers, the Voice of America, Radio Liberty, the BBC, thus reaching a broad audience beyond the TWG membership.

TWG funds internships at the Embassy of Ukraine, brings high quality Ukrainian cultural events to the nation's capital (which are also often attended by the wider American public), stages Ukrainian Independence Day picnics and social events, and engages in other activities, either by itself or in cooperation with other organizations, that serve to advance Ukrainian American life.

Furthermore, TWG has provided – and will continue to provide – a platform for other community organizations to inform TWG members about their respective organizations. TWG, like other professional organizations to varying degrees, not only contributes, it also increasingly fills gaps in a Ukrainian American community that is steadily diminishing.

I wholeheartedly agree with Dr. Kuropas that it is the "grunts" who carry the community, but those grunts include members of professional groups who volunteer their time, effort and often financial resources for the benefit of those groups.

Another point: A minority of members of professional groups are not involved in any other Ukrainian American community entity and, if it wasn't for their membership in a Ps and Bs group, probably wouldn't be involved anywhere. The same holds true, by the way, for many members of Ukrainian churches or fraternal organizations. Nevertheless, it's better to be involved with one community entity – and that includes professional groups which are integral components of the larger Ukrainian-American community – than not to be involved with any.

Finally, while I haven't read Volume XIX of Harvard Ukrainian Studies, which Dr. Kuropas criticizes for providing a forum for Russian studies, I do think that one has to look at the big picture. On balance, the Harvard Ukrainian Research Institute and the Ukrainian studies chairs have been a tremendous asset in furthering objective knowledge about Ukraine, hence, almost by definition, an asset to the Ukrainian American community.

Orest Deychakiwsky
Washington

The writer is president of The Washington Group.

HURI programs marked by vitality

Dear Editor:

Having recently returned from a visit to the Ukrainian Research Institute at Harvard and its summer program, I would like to offer my impressions of some of its activities. This was my second time lecturing at the Harvard Ukrainian Summer Institute, and I was again impressed by the vitality of this program. During my stay I had the opportunity to meet more than 50 students in this year's class; they represent the best and brightest from Ukraine and the Ukrainian American/Canadian communities.

Based on my dealings with the Ukrainian Research Institute, I consider it to be a most important link between Ukraine and the West. The institute hosts countless scholars from Ukraine, as well as visiting delegations, and helps these Ukrainian visitors establish ties with other American institutions.

In December 1996, the institute organized a conference on Ukrainian foreign policy that brought together scholars and policymakers from Ukraine, the United States and many other countries. Last December, the institute worked with the Kennedy School of Government to host a conference on civil-military relations in which more than 30 top Ukrainian military officers participated.

Finally, I would add that the institute's willingness to publish a book of my diplomatic addressees and lectures shows that it is interested in more than simply publishing for a small and specialized academic audience.

In closing, my experience with the Ukrainian Research Institute has shown it to be not isolated or inward-looking, but an active participant in the process of change in contemporary Ukraine.

Yuri Shcherbak
Washington

The writer is Ukraine's ambassador to the United States.

Kuropas column hits the mark

Dear Editor:

Dr. Myron Kuropas in his "Faces and Places" of July 12 hits the mark once again. Our communities must face reality and find solutions as to how we will exist in the 21st century.

The University of Illinois has done an outstanding job in providing critical information to the communities through the yearly conferences held in Urbana, Ill. Unlike Harvard, the University of Illinois focuses on today's realities of life in the U.S. and how it relates to Ukraine.

According to Dr. Kuropas, it is the "grunts" in the community who essentially move programs forward and maintain the communities so that our younger generations can benefit from our senior citizens.

If it were not for the current senior citizens, including teachers, the U.S. military would not have highly qualified Ukrainian interpreters. If it were not for these senior citizens and their persistence in teaching the "younger" generation the difference between democracy and communism, these interpreters would not be able to refute illogical questions from former Communists. These teachers include our parents who expected us to learn Ukrainian as well as English; for them, failure was not an option.

How do we maintain our vibrant communities in the 21st century? Good question. I firmly believe that they have to be all-inclusive. We cannot afford to ostracize anyone; we must accept the differences and build a strong foundation.

The Ukrainian Weekly will have a major role in this program, disseminating information as well as challenging the communities to become more fully engaged in the process. Let us begin today.

Roman G. Golash
Schaumburg, Ill.

More on U.S. policy regarding visas

Dear Editor,

I read with sympathy the article by Mary Walkiewicz (The Weekly, July 5) about her cousin's tribulation in trying to get a tourist visa at the American Embassy in Kyiv.

From my own experience I know that once the American Embassy in Kyiv makes a mistake you will have to move heaven and earth to get it corrected. It's as if the clerks have been instructed never to correct mistakes.

In 1994 a person I know very well, a 37-year-old Ukrainian teacher at an institute, went to apply for a tourist visa to the embassy. The clerk could only speak second-rate Russian and got the idea that my acquaintance was a student without a job; she was rejected. Letters, faxes and telephone calls from the United States could not get this error corrected.

I understand that the embassy tries to reduce the number of tourists who want to remain illegally in the United States – and that the applicants sometimes lie on their applications – but it's a shame that innocent people suffer.

It's also a shame that the United States welcomes so many Russian and Ukrainian crooks. If you have a large sum of money in a Swiss bank, and declare yourself to be a businessman who wants to invest in the United States,

getting a visa is a snap.

More troubling is a new practice started by some Caribbean countries to sell "economic citizenships." For \$25,000 to \$50,000, Dominica and St. Kitts will be happy to sell you their citizenship. Dominica is even kind enough to let you change your name on the Dominican passport they will issue to you.

As one IRS official said: "If you're a Russian crook, you get a condo in Miami, a bent bank in the Caribbean, and you're in heaven."

Bohdan Hodiak
Miami Beach, Fla.

Canadian Embassy no better with visas

Dear Editor:

I write in response to Mary L. Walkiewicz's article of July 5 recounting her cousin's "Saga of a visa experience in Kyiv." As it turns out, the Canadian Embassy is no easier to deal with than that of the United States.

In the spring of 1997, I wrote to Ukraine to invite a friend who is on the faculty of Lviv University to come to Canada for a couple of months in the summer. We intended to collaborate on some professional work. The visit was also to be an opportunity for her to meet Canadian scholars in Ukrainian and Russian studies.

Although my invitation was sent on official university letterhead, the members of the embassy would have none of it. She had to visit the Canadian Embassy in Kyiv three times before she was finally granted a visa. Each time she queued for hours and paid \$50 for the interview. As a final insult, the agent with whom she dealt claimed not to know the Ukrainian language; they spoke Russian.

The first time she was refused, it seems to have been on the grounds that what she really wanted to do was to visit her daughter in Toronto. The second time she was told that she did not have enough money to support herself. In addition to the initial invitation, I had to write another two letters, each one more detailed than the first.

It took her right back to the good old days of the USSR, of course. To both of us, the procedure was insulting.

Elizabeth V. Haigh
Halifax, Nova Scotia

The writer is professor of history at St. Mary's University in Halifax.

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VICE-PRESIDENT AL GORE IN KYIV – JULY 22-23

Vice-President Gore speaks on Chernobyl

Below is the full text of remarks by Vice-President Al Gore at the Chernobyl Museum in Kyiv on July 23.

It is a joy to be here again in Ukraine. America congratulates you on your progress. We promise to stand by you as you continue the noble task of nation-building. Ukraine is a pivotal country in the heart of the new Europe; and we believe that a free, prosperous and independent Ukraine is an important national security interest of the United States of America.

I have come back here to build our partnership by holding another meeting of the U.S.-Ukraine Binational Commission, in which our two countries work together closely on matters affecting our economies, trade and investment, the environment, foreign policy and national security. President Kuchma and I both believe we made important progress in our meetings yesterday, and we are poised to do still more in the future.

But before we can make the most of the future, we need to truly confront the past.

Today, for the first time, I saw Chernobyl. It looms as a menacing monument to mistakes of the century now slipping away from us – a hulking symbol of human decisions unworthy of our children.

I walked through the abandoned town of Prypiat. I saw an amusement park that looked like a haunted playground, with a large ferris wheel rusted over. A merry-go-round whose seats swayed slowly in the wind. Ten-story apartment buildings stood empty and abandoned. Four-lane highways led to nowhere. And I wondered: What has become of all the people who lived here? What has become of the children?

Perhaps I should have been better prepared for the emotional impact of seeing Chernobyl. Twelve years ago, just like everybody else, I heard the horrible news: Reactor No. 4 at the Vladimir Ilich Lenin Atomic Power Plant in Chernobyl had suffered a runaway chain reaction that destroyed the core of the reactor and blasted graphite and reactor fuel through the roof. The blast ignited more than 30 fires, releasing lethal radioactivity, and unleashing the worst nuclear power accident the world has ever seen.

As many as 135,000 people were evacuated. The full count of Chernobyl's dead can never be known, because radioactivity seeps silently into the human body, taking its time before taking its victims.

In the midst of remembering this sorrow, we can still see the lessons of courage that the human spirit can startle us into learning: Families were shielded from even greater fallout by the heroic action of so many who put their concern for others above their concern for themselves.

Vladimir Privak, commander of the fire crew in charge of the Chernobyl plant, arrived first on the scene. He knew his team was too small for the fire, and sent a message for back-ups throughout the whole Kyiv region. While his crew battled the fire in the machine hall, he joined another team battling the fire in the reactor. He fell in hours, while the reactor burned furiously for days.

One doctor, only in his 30s, had willingly gone to the disaster site to rescue others. For his selfless act, he suffered large black blisters, ulcerated skin and red weeping burns that put him in pain beyond the reach of morphine. He died 12 days after the explosion.

Liubov Kovalevska was the editor of the Prypiat newspaper. In March 1986 – one month before the explosion – she wrote a



Efrem Lukatsky

U.S. Vice-President Al Gore looks at the Chernobyl nuclear power plant and its sarcophagus from his helicopter.

major critique of the Chernobyl plant, warning of a coming disaster. Because of Communist suppression, her neighbors could neither debate her findings nor demand action. When the disaster which she had foreseen did come to pass, she joined teams to help clean up the radioactive contamination. Her neighbors now cherish the fruits of democracy that her brave writing heralded. Kovalevska herself now suffers from the thyroid cancer that free speech in her community might have prevented.

These heroes and heroines were not alone. More than 600,000 workers – like an army deployed in defense of the motherland – took on the dangerous task of cleaning up the radioactive waste, and suffered harsh physical and psychological consequences for their bravery.

When Reactor No. 4 blasted its radioactivity into the skies of Europe, the wind carried it around the world. Within days of the event, cattle, sheep and horses coming from Poland and Austria to Italy were toxic. In West Germany, children were told not to play in their sandboxes. Doctors and scientists began to frantically draw circles on the map of Europe with Chernobyl at the center.

And the circumference of the circles grew larger and larger each day and each night. Elevated levels of radiation were found in Poland, Austria, Italy, Norway, Sweden – and then in Japan, Canada and the U.S. Today, there are still thousands and thousands of acres of poisoned farmland and ghost towns across Ukraine, Russia and Belarus.

Even after the reactor fire went out, radioactivity continued to spill into the town's atmosphere. One month after the disaster, Chernobyl released every day more radioactivity than the next worst nuclear accident that has been documented had released in total. It took 7,000 tons of metal and 400,000 cubic meters of reinforced concrete to bury hundreds of tons of nuclear fuel and radioactive debris inside a sarcophagus.

And Soviet authorities put people at greater risk by concealing their mistakes. Even when the Ukrainian people were fighting heroically to contain the damage, their Communist Party leaders remained silent. It was only the sounding of radiation monitors at a nuclear power plant in

Sweden that finally broke the Soviet silence. Sweden demanded an answer, and the Soviet Union admitted a minor accident. But still they kept their own people in the dark. Five days after the disaster – when senior Communist Party officials in Kyiv who knew the gravity of the situation had sent or taken their children to Crimea or to their resorts in the Carpathian mountains – the same party leaders assured the people of Kyiv that they were not at risk, and children flooded the streets of Kyiv to take part in the annual May Day parade.

I later met one of those children, a young Ukrainian boy whose family had been denied access to the truth. So his mother trustingly took her 2-year old son to the May Day parade in Kyiv, even as radiation continued to spread through the skies of Ukraine and down the Dniiper [sic] River, and on that May Day, 1986, into the body of that child, causing cancer.

Years later, the children of Chernobyl have many times the average rate of cancer, and many times the average rate of psychiatric problems. Most terrible of all is the fear: fear of radiation, fear of sickness and fear that one's own children will be born neither healthy nor whole.

A few years after the disaster, my wife, Tipper, and I took our children to see an exhibition of photographs of Chernobyl. My family will never forget the power of those images: a child's doll abandoned on an unmade bed – next to a gas mask; photos of smiling children scattered hastily on the floor, left behind in an empty apartment with a parakeet dead in its cage.

What has become of the children – the faces in those photographs over here to my right – the children of Chernobyl? What has become of them? Their fates challenge us: Will this be the last nuclear disaster, or just one of the first?

I thought of those children when I saw the signs of deserted towns as I entered the museum this morning; on one side of the sign, the name of the town; on the other, a red slash through the name. Each sign symbolizes hundreds of boys and girls, mothers and fathers, torn from their homes. Like parents everywhere, I thought of my own children; I thought how fragile was their safety and shelter, and how dependent on adults' choices. I thought of the anguish that must have been felt by the families that had to leave their homes behind.

Unlike those who are evacuated for hurricanes, or floods, or earthquakes, the children of Chernobyl can never come home.

Chernobyl is not primarily about the cruelty of communism. If you want to know about that, go to the memorial a few blocks from here to the millions who died in Stalin's forced famine 65 years ago. He called it collectivization, but it was mass murder. And the weapon was communism itself. Nor is Chernobyl primarily a lesson about evil. If you want to know about that, go to Babyn Yar.

The lesson of Chernobyl is not an indictment of nuclear power as such. Nuclear power, designed well, regulated properly, cared for meticulously, has a place in the world's energy supply. And certainly the lesson of Chernobyl is not that we should retreat from new technology. Technology used for human reasons, in humane hands, holds the promise of improving the quality of our lives. Today, for example, Liubov Kovalevska's prophetic warning about Chernobyl would have been instantly spread on the Internet throughout Ukraine and the rest of the world. Wisely used for compassionate purposes, technology is part of the answer, and not itself the problem.

The heroes of Chernobyl did not die so that we would remain in ignorance. Their deaths must be turned into lessons of great beauty and hope. We must learn, as a world, the true lessons Chernobyl and its martyrs teach us about the possibilities of human kindness.

In fact, the real lesson of Chernobyl is the need for redemption. Certainly the need to learn from our mistakes is apparent in the place itself. There is not yet any sign of forgiveness there. As from Eden, we have been banished. Because of what we did and what we neglected to do.

But we can be redeemed. The truth, as we have been taught, will set us free. And the truth taught by Chernobyl is that we are all connected – forever. The truth is that a new time has come in which we have to make a choice.

We can choose to learn how to care for one another and the earth in a way that is worthy at last of our children's innocent trust in us, or we can choose once again, as we have so bitterly over the course of the last millennium, to persevere in our old habits of destruction and fail their trust.

VICE-PRESIDENT AL GORE IN KYIV – JULY 22-23

Suffering binds us together as human beings and has redemptive power to transform those who open their hearts to the new understandings that were concealed from view until the suffering – and empathy – made them accessible.

In that sense, what happened at Chernobyl is capable of transforming not only those who endured the tragedy itself, but all of us – if we learn the lesson that we are all connected.

We have the power to learn to be human in a better way now. Of course, we've tried to adapt to global conflicts and scarce resources technologically and materially. But the lesson of Chernobyl, as our children's faces alone can teach us, is that we have the great gift – the opportunity – to adapt now spiritually as well. We can evolve now not just with our tools and technologies, but with our hearts.

And we must. For one thing, fratricidal conflicts still tear at our world. And new weapons make the potential consequences much greater. Only in our hearts will we find the way to healing.

And what is the difference between the Bosnians and Serbs? Between Catholics and Protestants in Northern Ireland? Between Jews and Arabs in the Middle East? All, it's true, worship God in different ways. But it is the same God. And I'll wager, from the depth of my conviction, that from God's point of view, looking down on Chernobyl and the rest of the world, he sees one family.

One family – in Pakistan, in India. The world recently learned that a series of nuclear tests were conducted by India. Pakistan responded with tests of its own.

The United States joined most countries of the world – including Ukraine – in condemning the tests. The Indian and Pakistani tests jeopardize international efforts to stop the spread of nuclear weapons. And the back-to-back tests might well provoke another round of military competition between India and Pakistan – perhaps eventually triggering another war, this one with nuclear weapons.

One family – woven into a single garment of destiny. If the nuclear tests conducted by Pakistan on May 28 had not been a test underground, but an attack overhead on India, every country in the region would have come within the circle of the suffering. We are all connected.

If the nuclear test conducted by India on May 11, had not been a test underground, but an attack overhead on Pakistan – the prevailing winds that sweep over the sub-continent would have pulled that radioactive plume back into India. The forces of nature prove what our wisest teachers have long known about the force of spirit: We reap what we sow.

One family – Pakistani and Indian children playing, eating and laughing in those two countries while the adults threaten one another with the possibility of nuclear war. Shall we betray those children, or choose instead to safeguard their future? We appeal to the wisdom of the Indian and Pakistani peoples and their leaders to do what they rightly urged us to do during our dangerous, nuclear arms race with the Soviet Union: Come to the table. Sign the Comprehensive Test Ban Treaty. Accept meaningful constraints on the deployment of ballistic missiles. Help work toward a treaty to cut off

production of fissile material and adopt guidelines to limit exports of dangerous technology. Sit down together; negotiate; make peace. In the name of your children.

Join the peacemakers. The ranks are growing every day. There are fewer nuclear weapons deployed in the world today than there were 10 years ago. The United States has reduced its own nuclear arsenal. We have done that under SALT and START II. And we will reduce further under START III, once the Russian Duma ratifies START II. I am going to Moscow tonight, in part to urge them to do so. At the same time, the United States Congress should act now to ratify the Comprehensive Test Ban Treaty.

Ukraine has been a peacemaker. It has earned the thanks of a grateful world for renouncing and dismantling its nuclear weapons. "And they shall beat their swords into plowshares, and their spears into pruning hooks," says the Bible, and by shipping nuclear warheads to the Russian Federation and receiving reactor fuel back in exchange, Ukraine has shown us all how.

South Africa is a peacemaker. They had a nuclear weapons program and, as they made the move to democracy, chose to end it. Argentina and Brazil are peacemakers now. As their countries moved from military rule to civilian rule, from dictatorships to democracies, they agreed as neighbors to renounce the development and deployment of nuclear weapons. India and Pakistan can do the same.

Over 60 years ago, Mahatma Gandhi said: "I have the unquenchable faith that, of all the countries in the world, India is the one country which can learn the art of non-violence." Gandhi was speaking of both India and Pakistan, both Hindus and Muslims.

In India and Pakistan one finds some of the most ancient and deepest spiritual traditions on the planet. One finds hundreds and hundreds of millions of people who lead their entire lives in the bosom of their religious beliefs. They know in the depth of their souls that if we dedicate the human mind to overcome hatred, we can curb the evil impulse to use the new capacity of human technology to destroy. They know how to use the wisdom of Islam and Hinduism to illuminate our brotherhood and sisterhood. All the great religions teach that we must act as though we are parents of one another's children, with responsibility for their well-being. That truth will save us.

The challenge of Chernobyl is to recognize that the circumference of our responsibility has become the earth itself. Maybe, just maybe, the dangers of our newest technology will move us back to the safety of our oldest wisdom – the wisdom of kindness. Humankind has never fully practiced this wisdom before. But survival has not demanded it before, and it does now. This is, as historians say, an "open moment" – a tremendous moment of choice that every nation can seize, not merely to survive, but to grow and thrive.

We need the kind of courage demonstrated by the Ukrainian people in the aftermath of Chernobyl. We need the foresight that the newspaper editor, Liubov Kovalevska, demonstrated when she predicted the disaster. And above all, we need the political and economic freedom to choose the future. In the words of the Ukrainian poet Taras Shevchenko, "Then shall our day of hope arrive ... And break forth into ... splendor."

Then all nations who wish to seek a newer world can begin acting like a family that shares the same values, the same children, the same earth, the same future.

As I reflect on what I have seen today of the tragedy of Chernobyl, and the hope inspired as Ukraine's children grow up stronger and safer and freer than their parents, I call us to join hands and forces to turn the best wisdom of the world into new

laws and new treaties, heralding a new era of cooperation – so that we may not fall apart, but come together; so that we may not perish, but flourish.

It is an audacious hope, to give up the animosity and indifference that have made our world so perilous. But we can triumph. Courage, foresight and freedom can come together in a moment of choice to change our world. Let us seize this moment of extraordinary promise for human growth and choose wisely what we know our children deserve.

Thank you for your long fight for freedom. Thank you for your commitment to peace. God bless our children. And God bless the peacemakers.

Kuchma's opening remarks at Binational Commission

Below is a report by the Embassy of Ukraine to the U.S. on President Leonid Kuchma's opening remarks on July 22 at the plenary session of the U.S.-Ukraine Binational Commission.

Whereas during the initial stage of the relationship between Ukraine and the U.S., emphasis was primarily placed on declaring general principles, approaches and intentions, "now we are moving towards real actions," President Leonid Kuchma said as he opened the second plenary session of the Ukraine-U.S. Binational Commission.

The Ukrainian leader noted that regular top-level dialogue between Ukraine and the United States was a major accomplishment in the parties' cooperation in 1997-1998. The leaders of two nations have attained a very high level of mutual understanding and support with consultation mechanisms working smoothly and continuously in virtually every area of bilateral cooperation, the president said. According to the president the strategic axis "Washington-Kyiv" has become a significant factor of global peace and stability.

Mr. Kuchma also praised the NATO-Ukraine Charter on a Distinctive Partnership, noting that Ukraine views the U.S. as a key player in promoting this partnership. President Kuchma underscored the significance of making the Ukraine-U.S. military and political partnership more concrete, saying that much potential for cooperation remains untapped.

In the Ukrainian president's opinion, there has been significant progress in the economic component of the U.S.-Ukraine partnership with the creation of favorable conditions for American businesses in Ukraine. Regrettably, there have been problems as well, which the Ukrainian president said he hopes to overcome through joint efforts.

President Leonid Kuchma expressed his concern over the current trend in foreign trade between Ukraine and the U.S.; notwithstanding Ukraine's "most favored nation" trade status with the U.S., trade levels are dropping. As President Kuchma noted, MFN status has not been granted to Ukraine on a permanent and unconditional basis, contrary to what was agreed upon during the Binational Commission's first session. President Kuchma linked this downfall in trade turnover primarily to numerous anti-dumping investigations in the U.S. against Ukrainian exporters, which have drastically limited access for Ukrainian commodities to U.S. markets. President Kuchma expressed hope that the Binational Commission's committees on sustainable economic cooperation, trade and investments would take up this matter for thorough consideration with a view toward working out relevant recommendations.



Efrem Lukatsky

Vice-President Al Gore (center) talks to the Chernobyl plant's deputy director, Valentyn Kupnyi (right), near the sarcophagus.

VICE-PRESIDENT AL GORE IN KYIV – JULY 22-23

Gore's opening remarks at Binational Commission

Following is the text of Vice-President Al Gore's opening statement at the U.S.-Ukraine Binational Commission plenary session on July 22 in Kyiv.

Thank you very much, Mr. President. I am delighted to be here in Kyiv for the second meeting of U.S.-Ukraine Binational Commission. Almost two years ago, when we first announced our plans to establish this commission, we characterized the relationship between the United States and Ukraine as a strategic partnership. I'm happy to say that partnership is alive and well.

Last year, Mr. President, you and I met three times. Each time we have had intensive discussions, discussions that allowed us a chance to learn about each other and to push each of our governments to favor stronger collaboration between our countries. We have also worked together to address some of Ukraine's most urgent needs: We focused on raising funds for the reconstruction of the shelter at the Chornobyl nuclear power plant, we identified steps that could reduce the danger of organized crime, and we expressed our support for improvements in Ukrainian agriculture.

This year we meet against the backdrop of a global financial crisis that is challenging countries on all sides of the globe. At this time, no country can pretend that it lives apart from its neighbors. We are all part of a single global marketplace. I look forward to talking with you in depth about how this crisis is affecting Ukraine and what Ukraine and the United States can do to respond.

This year we are also meeting in a world more concerned than ever by the spread of weapons of mass destruction. This is an arena where you and Ukraine have exercised true global leadership. By removing Ukraine from the list of nuclear armed countries and by stopping the flow of technologies that can be used by those who wish to develop weapon systems, you have shown true leadership.

The members of our commission have been hard at work. I look forward to discussing their work with them this afternoon and so, with your permission, members, and Mr. President, I would propose getting down to work with the beginning of the first session of our commission.

Joint Statement of U.S. and Ukraine

The joint statement below was issued on July 22 following the second plenary session of the U.S.-Ukraine Binational Commission.

The vice-president of the United States, Al Gore, and the president of Ukraine, Leonid Kuchma, met July 22, 1998, in Kyiv, Ukraine, to review progress achieved by the United States-Ukraine Binational Commission in strengthening the strategic partnership between the United States and Ukraine. The leaders outlined further measures to advance the objectives of that partnership in the years ahead.

The talks were one more indication of the high level of bilateral cooperation and the strengthening of our strategic partnership, which furthers the interests of both sides and makes it possible to resolve issues that arise in their bilateral relations. The vice-president and president noted with satisfaction the effectiveness of the



Efrem Lukatsky

Vice-President Al Gore tastes traditional bread and salt presented to him by girls in national dress upon arrival in Ukraine for a two-day visit on July 22.

Binational Commission in addressing the broad and expanding range of the initiatives and activities the sides are pursuing together. They undertook to continue to refine and enhance the commission's ability to advance the bilateral relationship and promote progress in the areas of foreign policy, security, sustainable economic development, and trade and investment. The vice-president and president were briefed by the committee co-chairmen on their joint work, and took note of the official reports detailing their results.

Cooperation in international relations and security

The vice-president and president noted that the United States-Ukraine strategic partnership has a positive effect on strengthening overall security in Europe and international relations in general. The United States side reaffirmed its unwavering support for a democratic, independent Ukraine. The sides devoted attention to the matter of intensifying cooperation between Ukraine, the United States and the EU [European Union] in making use of all opportunities to achieve our shared policy of Ukraine's integration into European and Euro-Atlantic structures.

The vice-president and president noted with pleasure the signing in July 1997, of the NATO-Ukraine Charter on Distinctive Partnership, and the subsequent successful meetings of the NATO-Ukraine Commission. They undertook to invest additional effort into strengthening Ukraine/NATO relations, particularly in deepening Ukrainian participation in the Partnership for Peace, and in placing the agreed NATO liaison officer in Kyiv as soon as possible.

The vice-president and president noted that Ukraine plays an important role in ensuring peace and stability in Central and Eastern Europe, and on the continent in general, and contributes to regional security.

Vice-President Gore congratulated President Kuchma on Ukraine's efforts to improve relations with all its neighbors. He cited Ukraine's cooperation with Poland as particularly important. Both leaders welcomed the trilateral initiative; they have jointly begun to share expertise and experiences gained in Poland's and Ukraine's transitions to a market-based economy. They encouraged establishment of a mech-

anism for regular United States-Ukraine-Poland contacts and consultations. The vice-president and president also noted the effective efforts of Ukraine to encourage cooperation among the states bordering on the Black Sea.

The vice-president and president expressed particular satisfaction with the degree of bilateral cooperation in the area of non-proliferation. Ukraine's decision to become a member of the Missile Technology Control Regime signifies its commendable, responsible approach to non-proliferation. The sides noted their common position on the need to curb the spread of weapons of mass destruction. They expressed their deep concern over the nuclear tests by India and Pakistan.

Vice-President Gore and President Kuchma found that United States-Ukraine cooperation in the security field is continuing to grow. They emphasized that effective programs in this field, as well as military contacts, are an integral part of the United States-Ukraine strategic partnership. The sides stressed the importance of continuing support for the reform of Ukraine's armed forces. During the past year, cooperation has begun in a number of now important areas. Practical cooperation has started in the further development, with United States support, of the Yavoriv Training Area for training peacekeeping forces and holding joint exercises by the armed forces of Ukraine, NATO member-states and partner countries. The sides collaborate in promoting the NATO decision on setting up at Yavoriv a training center under the PFP program. This will make it possible to enhance the interoperability of the armed forces of Ukraine and NATO member-countries. The United States and Ukraine jointly undertake with NATO getting adequate financial support for Ukraine's participation in PFP [Partnership for Peace]. The sides strive to broaden their cooperation with respect to Ukraine's technical interoperability with NATO.

The sides noted with satisfaction the successful cooperation between the United States and Ukraine under the Cooperative Threat Reduction Program. The sides agree to complete promptly a final settlement of all matters relating to the elimination of strategic bombers, cruise missiles and the disposition of the fuel of SS-19 missiles.

Vice-President Gore and President Kuchma noted the successful implementa-

tion of a number of programs for scientific and technological cooperation between the United States and Ukraine. Scientific and technological programs are being carried out most actively in cooperation between the Ukrainian Science and Technology Center and the Ukrainian Ministry of Science and Technology.

Democratization and transition in Ukraine

Vice-President Gore noted that the multi-party parliamentary elections held in Ukraine indicated the consolidation of the principles of democracy and free expression of the people's will. The vice-president and president agreed that Ukraine is at a critical economic juncture. Urgent economic challenges and a difficult global financial environment place extreme importance on close cooperation through the mechanism of the Binational Commission. The sides noted the urgency of an intensive effort to accelerate the pace of reform in Ukraine and to consolidate the gains already made, such as macroeconomic stability, responsible and effective monetary policy, and progress in privatization and deregulation, and expansion of trade and investment.

President Kuchma reaffirmed Ukraine's commitment to the policy of economic reform and described the president's package of decrees aimed at financial and economic stabilization. The vice-president welcomed the president's firm intention to secure the remaining actions necessary for approval of an IMF Extended Fund Facility for Ukraine as quickly as possible. The vice-president affirmed ongoing U.S. support for Ukrainian reform.

The president of Ukraine noted that beginning in 1994, Ukraine had taken a number of significant steps aimed at reforming the energy sector. The president also expressed his support for the power sector financial recovery plan. The two sides agreed that further efforts to reform this sector should be directed toward continuing the process of demonopolization whose main elements are the full introduction of an energy market, including market principles of setting energy prices, encouraging energy efficiency and privatization of the state-owned property of energy companies.

Both sides noted that market-based development of the agricultural sector is vital for establishing the basis for meaning-

VICE-PRESIDENT AL GORE IN KYIV – JULY 22-23



The vice-president and the president chair the Binational Commission's session.

ful growth of commerce and investment in this strategic area. They stressed the need to fulfill last year's obligations with respect to reducing the government's role in purchasing agricultural products and making an increasing proportion of state purchases through commodity exchanges. They affirmed the importance of reducing the state's role in supplying credits and addressing debt issues of Ukrainian agriculture. Both sides stated that while some progress has been achieved in privatizing grain elevators, the need remains to accelerate that process. The United States side supports efforts by the government of Ukraine to reduce the tax burden on agricultural enterprises.

President Kuchma and Vice-President Gore reviewed the steps by the Ukrainian side to improve the investment and business climate, including the establishment of the Chamber of Independent Experts and the President's Consultative Council and making substantial progress toward resolving a large number of business disputes. Additional measures included promptly resolving outstanding business disputes, reducing the number of activities subject to licensing, simplifying the procedures for registration of enterprises, reforming the Customs Service (in particular, a draft Customs Code has been submitted to Verkhovna Rada), codifying the procedures for inspection of enterprises, simplifying the system for taxation and accounting of small business, lightening the tax burden of small and medium-sized private enterprises, and introducing a fixed agricultural tax. The sides agreed on the need for the most effective implementation of these steps.

The sides noted the need to accelerate Ukraine's efforts to gain accession to the World Trade Organization. The U.S. side agreed to continue providing Ukraine with appropriate political and technical support in that effort. The Ukrainian side expressed gratitude for extension to Ukraine of the Generalized Systems of Preferences, which expired on June 30, 1998. The United States expressed its support for continuing the GSP program for an additional longer

period. This Ukrainian side stressed the importance of granting Ukraine "most favored nation" status in trade with the United States on a permanent and non-conditional basis. The United States side reaffirmed that Ukraine is in compliance with the standards of the Jackson-Vanik Amendment.

Vice-President Gore and President Kuchma recognized the need for intensifying cooperation to promote investments in technologies developed by Ukrainian enterprises. The vice-president and the president regard the recent visit of a United States mission to Kharkiv as a first step in this direction. The vice-president and the president noted that the Ukrainian side is implementing its commitment regarding nuclear non-proliferation. The United States side reconfirmed its readiness to help develop investment and entrepreneurship in the Kharkiv region, including Turboatom. The two sides agreed to establish a working group chaired on the Ukrainian side by the head of the Kharkiv Oblast Administration and co-chaired on the United States side by the ambassador to Ukraine and the coordinator of United States assistance to the newly independent states. This group will develop mechanisms to design and implement specific programs and determine the sources of their financing.

The United States side also stated its intention to give priority attention to Kharkiv in United States assistance programs. The vice-president stated that, among other measures, the United States will organize a business development trip to the United States in the fall of 1998 for senior decision-makers from Kharkiv enterprises in the power sector, including Turboatom, to meet with United States government experts and potential partners from United States firms. The United States will also increase its support for small and medium-size enterprise development in Kharkiv and will deliver military medical equipment and supplies valued at over \$5 million to Kharkiv in 1999. Recognizing the Ukrainian side's actions to promote nuclear non-proliferation, the United States has also

begun a large-scale, multi-year program to assist Ukraine in qualifying alternative fuel suppliers for its nuclear reactors.

The vice-president and president were pleased to note the signature in May 1998 of an Agreement on Peaceful Nuclear Cooperation. They recognized that this agreement, once it comes into effect and is implemented, would permit increased, mutually beneficial commercial cooperation. The vice-president and president noted with pleasure the continuing progress in developing some elements of Ukraine's nuclear fuel cycle, in particular, on a project to qualify alternative sources of nuclear fuel supplies, opening the way for greater competition for Ukraine's valuable nuclear fuel market. They noted the allocation of an initial \$8 million for the first stage of this project. They also commanded the establishment of a Joint Experts Working Group on the long-term supply of nuclear fuel for Ukrainian reactors.

The vice-president and president were also pleased to announce the decision to hold a conference in Washington in November 9-10, 1998, to promote nuclear trade and commerce between our countries. This will help create and broaden commercial ties between the United States and Ukrainian nuclear sectors and help foster a wide range of related cooperation. Vice-President Gore and President Kuchma were pleased to note the extension of the Nuclear Safety Assistance Agreement.

The vice-president and president agreed to continue United States and Ukrainian efforts to implement the Memorandum of Understanding [MOU] between the G-7 countries, the European Commission, and Ukraine concerning the closing of Chornobyl. They noted that great progress has been made under the Chornobyl MOU, especially on the Chornobyl Shelter Implementation Plan, where urgent repairs are under way.

Vice-President Gore and President Kuchma discussed joint environmental initiatives, among them cooperation on climate change, emissions trading and a project for purifying drinking water, which could become an object of mutually beneficial cooperation of scientists and businessmen of the two countries. They announced completion of a new agreement concerning the International Radio-ecology Laboratory of the International Chornobyl Center.

Ukraine described for the vice-president its proposal for participation in a Eurasian oil transport corridor for transporting oil from the Caspian Sea through Ukraine to Europe. The vice-president expressed his appreciation of the importance of this issue for Ukraine and the region, and noted that the United States Trade Development Administration intends to consider funding for specific feasibility studies.

Vice President Gore and President Kuchma expressed their strong satisfaction with the progress made over the past years in increasing United States-Ukrainians civil space cooperation, and with the successful implementation of previous agreements in this field. The vice-president and president encouraged NASA [National Aeronautics and Space Administration] and the NSAU [National Space Agency of Ukraine] to develop plans for an expanded program of cooperation and further efforts to encourage joint space launch ventures with United States commercial firms and Ukrainian counterparts.

The leaders noted that in March 1998, a bilateral agreement on space technology safeguards was signed, which establishes conditions for launching United States satellites with Ukraine's launch vehicles. Subsequently, Ukraine joined the MTCR; the sides worked together on an agreement on missile technology safeguards and contacts between United States-Ukrainian enterprises intensified. The intense cooper-

ation between the United States and Ukraine, symbolized by the SeaLaunch project, promotes collaboration in telecommunications, information technologies, and science and technology in general. The sides welcomed the Ukrainian proposal for cooperation in relation to restructuring the space sector on Ukraine.

The Ukrainian side drew the vice-president's attention to the importance of developing the infrastructure of the Black Sea Economic Cooperation (BSEC) region, and described Ukraine's plans for attracting investment in projects related to that effort.

Cooperation in the legal and humanitarian areas

The sides have noted with satisfaction the commencement of cooperation of their law enforcement agencies in combating organized crime, corruption, drug trafficking, money laundering, automobile theft, and the trafficking of women and children, which are taking on alarming proportions throughout the world. In this connection, Vice-President Gore and President Kuchma declared their intention to combat these dangerous forms of criminal activity and committed themselves to take steps to this end.

The sides expressed satisfaction at the signing of the Agreement between the United States and Ukraine on Legal Aid in Criminal Cases, and attached great importance to the potential for cooperation in the aforesaid field. The two sides expressed their deep concern over the alarming trend of women and children being trafficked for illicit purposes. The United States noted with satisfaction the government of Ukraine's adoption of legislation regarding trafficking in human beings which was seen as a model for other countries to adopt.

The sides recognized that effective efforts are being made in Ukraine to combat drug trafficking and the use of Ukrainian territory to transit narcotics to other countries. The need for intensifying bilateral cooperation in this field was underscored.

Vice-President Gore and President Kuchma agreed that these joint actions are an important element in the collaboration of our two countries, law enforcement agencies and of the cooperation between the United States and Ukraine in the political sphere.

The vice-president and president reviewed the work regarding cultural heritage. They reaffirmed their mutual commitment to the preservation and protection of culturally significant sites in each country. They also reaffirmed their intent fully to implement the bilateral Agreement On the Protection and Preservation of Cultural Heritage. The sides agreed on the great importance of developing specific projects aimed at preserving the cultural heritage in Ukraine, which is of interest to the United States, and the cultural heritage in the United States, which is of interest to Ukraine, in particular the heritage of the Ukrainian community of the United States.

Vice-President Gore and President Kuchma underscored the importance of reinforcing the United States-Ukraine strategic partnership in all spheres. The sides expressed satisfaction at the work accomplished to date by the Binational Commission. They reflected on the progress Ukraine has made toward establishing a democratic and market-oriented state and underscored that this was a crucial time to redouble cooperative efforts to assure Ukraine's continued process of economic and political reform, to encourage its integration with Europe and the rest of the international community and to bring prosperity to the Ukrainian people. The sides agreed to hold the next session of the Binational Commission in 1999 in Washington.

SPORTSLINE

by Andrij Kudla Wynnyckyj

ATHLETICS

This year, the International Amateur Athletic Federation (IAAF) initiated a seven-meet contest called the Golden League. A total of \$1 million will be shared by any athletes who win their events in each of the seven meets.

The chances of anyone performing such a feat sound improbable, and Sergey Bubka, a man who has guaranteed himself a place in the pantheon of athletics by tackling the seemingly impossible, has already been knocked out of the running.

Prior to the first meet in the series, the Bislett Games in Oslo, Norway, on July 9, the six-time world pole vault champion had this to say:

"I have made the Golden League the focus of my season. I will definitely not compete in the European Championships in Budapest. Of course, it will be really difficult to win all seven events (including the final), especially in the pole vault, but this gives me a strong motivation.

"I've been in the sport 24 years and I need new things to excite me. I like this new Golden League. It is fantastic the way the sport has changed in the last 10 years — there are many more opportunities for athletes now, and this is the latest one. Personally, I am also glad that I have strong rivals. Already we have many people around 6 meters this year, and it is a challenge for me to see if I can beat them. I won't even think about retiring until after the year 2000. The fact that I have won only one Olympic gold in my career bothers me, and I have to do something about it in Sydney!"

Unfortunately, Mr. Bubka managed to clear only his opening height of 5.60 meters, then knocked down the bar once and was slapped with two time penalties. According to a recent rule change, each competitor has one minute and 30 seconds to complete each vault.

Mr. Bubka was one of two superstars who had done much to promote the series, and then go on to defeat. In the men's 400-meters Michael Johnson of the U.S. finished third despite a lane advantage.

In the women's 100-meter sprint, Ukraine's Zhanna Pintusevych again faced her nemesis, Marion Jones of the U.S. Ms. Jones finished just under a quarter of a sec-

ond ahead, a large margin for that distance, with a time of 10.82 seconds. Ms. Pintusevych clocked in at 11.06 seconds, shading Chrystie Gaines of the U.S. by two hundredths of a second.

Oleksander Bohach returned to the hunt for shot put glory, after his ignominious exit from the World Championships last year. At the Gugl GP in Linz Austria on July 5, he finished second behind U.S. putter John Godina. The Ukrainian's distance was 20.34 meters, the American's, 21.55.

At the Golden Gala meet in Rome, on July 14 Mr. Bohach again finished second, this time behind Kevin Tott of the U.S., with a toss of 20.38 meters, 25 centimeters short of the leader's distance.

At the same competition, Yuriy Bilonoh finished fifth with a distance of 19.69 meters while Roman Virastiuk took eighth with a throw of 19.44 meters.

Angela Balakhonova made it to the final of the high jump, but failed to clear a height at that stage.

Tetiana Tereschuk scored Ukraine's first victory of the season by besting the field in the 400-meter hurdles, with a time of 53.67 seconds, edging out Kim Batten of the U.S. at the tape by .03 second. Also on the women's side of things, Olena Buzhenko came sixth in the 800 meters, with a time of 2:03.82.

The Pintusevych/Jones battle had actually begun in Linz with the U.S. sprinter coming out on top, but by a slightly narrower margin — 10.84 to 11.02.

Earlier in the IAAF's Grand Prix season, at the Japan Grand Prix in Osaka on May 9, Oleksii Krykun somehow made the finals in the hammer throw, but could not manage higher than sixth with a distance of 59.62 meters, well short of the podium and more than 20 meters (over 60 feet) short of the top mark set by Balasz Kiss of Hungary.

Two days later, at the most recent meet, the Nikaia GP in Nice, France, Olena Hovorova took home some more hardware for Ukraine by taking third place in the triple jump, with a distance of 14.51 — 19 centimeters short of the silver effort posted by Romanian Rodica Mateescu, herself pipped by Czech Sarka Kasparkova by two centimeters.

At the same competition, Ms. Tereschuk finished fourth in the women's 400-meter hurdles, her time dropping to 55.13 seconds, about half a second off the podi-



Sergey Bubka

um pace. Andrii Skvaruk finished sixth in the hammer throw, just as Mr. Krykun had earlier, but he put Ukraine's numbers closer to the competition by hurling his apparatus 78.29 meters — at least within shouting distance of Mr. Kiss' astounding 82.13 meter effort. In the men's 3,000-meter run Sergei Lebed did well to finish within 10 seconds of the Moroccan winner's pace, placing 10 with a time of 7:48.41 seconds.

GOLF

Our readers have prompted us to end our ostensible golf boycott. It's hard to argue with success, but even harder to argue with the grandparents of a successful

(Continued on page 19)

Ukraine earns...

(Continued from page 1)

gold medal in synchronized platform diving. In the three-meter springboard on July 25 Ms. Zhupyna came in ninth.

In gymnastics, after making it through the first two qualifying rounds, the mixed pair of Olha Teslenko and Roman Zozulia displayed a potentially winning combination, finishing on top in the first rotation of the competition (with Ms. Teslenko performing on the uneven bars and Mr. Zozulia on rings) and fourth in the second rotation (Ms. Teslenko — beam; Mr. Zozulia — pommel horse). In first place were Chinese gymnasts Jie Ling and Xu Huang; in second and third, respectively, were two Russian pairs, Svetlana Khorkina/Aleksei Nemov and Anna Kovalyova/Aleksei Bondarenko.

On July 29, after the compulsory round of the ice dancing competition, which

counts for 20 percent of the final score, the pair of Olena Hrushyna and Ruslan Honcharov of Ukraine was in third. The field was led by two Russian pairs, Anjelika Krylova/Oleg Ovsiannikov and Irina Lobacheva/Ilya Averbukh. The competition continues with the original dance on July 30 and the free dance on July 31.

In men's figure skating, Ukraine is not faring as well, with Yevhenii Pliuta in eighth place after the short program on July 29. The top three in the event are Todd Eldredge of the U.S., and Alexei Urmanov and Yevgeny Plushenko, both of Russia. The long program is scheduled for July 31.

As of July 30, Ukraine, which had won nine medals, was tied for fifth place in the medals count, trailing the United States with 80; Russia, 61; China, 18; and Kenya, 13. Also in fifth place were Australia, Belarus, Jamaica and Romania.

The Goodwill Games continue through August 2.

"Team Canada"...

(Continued from page 3)

According to an official from the special task force established to administer the mission, participation in the Team Canada delegation is by invitation only, and these invitations will be mailed by September 14, with applications and fees to be submitted by December 15.

There have been four previous Team

Canada trade missions: the first traveled to China in 1994; the second to India, Pakistan, Indonesia and Malaysia in 1996; the third to South Korea, the Philippines and Thailand in 1997; and this year to Argentina, Brazil, Chile and Mexico.

For additional information, contact the Team Canada Task Force, Lester B. Pearson Building, 125 Sussex Drive, Ottawa, Ontario, K1A 0G2; telephone (613) 995-2194.

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In defense...

(Continued from page 7)

Ukraine" offered by HURI scholars to the readers of The Ukrainian Weekly (August 18 and 25, 1996), of which one reader wrote to the editor: "Congratulations on your best edition ever ... Judging from the content, all of you spent countless hours on research, interviews and editing" (October 6, 1996). And indeed we had, both as a service and a token of appreciation to the community that has supported us.

The third charge, based on a cursory perusal of Volume XIX of Harvard Ukrainian Studies, is that the institute unjustifiably "provid[es] a forum for Russian studies." Here a number of points need to be made. The uninitiated reader will not know that this volume was published as a special tribute to Prof. Edward Keenan. Prof. Keenan has for 30 years been among the strongest supporters of Ukrainian studies at Harvard, engaged in every aspect of the institute's activities: as a member of its executive committee, editorial board of the journal and other publication series, and in many other capacities. He also has been a revolutionary figure in reconceptualizing Russian and Slavic studies, including the vexing problem of Russian claims to Kyivan Rus'. His fundamental positions on these questions have always coincided with those of Ukrainian specialists. A tribute to him was not only appropriate, but required by our appreciation for his untiring support.

A collection of this sort traditionally contains contributions chiefly by the honoree's former students and colleagues. Some of them have indeed written on medieval Muscovite topics — that is their specialty. Tributes to Profs. Omeljan Pritsak and Ihor Sevcenko, published earlier, contained contributions by Turkologists and Byzantinologists, respectively. That is a reflection of the traditional nature of such publications. They also have the added benefit of drawing Ukrainian studies into the broader sphere of international scholarship.

But a further point is in order. It is in fact a great advantage to Ukrainian scholarship that the Ukrainian Institute participates in the evolution of Russian studies in the United States and internationally. It was, indeed, partly a reaction to the then existing state of Russian and Slavic studies, and dominance of Russian emigres in the field, that led the Ukrainian community to support the creation of Ukrainian chairs and a Research Institute at Harvard. It was never a mission of HURI to isolate Ukrainian studies within the confines of its own walls, but to participate in and influence the broader field of Slavistics. To have scholarly treatments of Russia based on objective, critical study, rather than a continuing reflection of the imperial Russian tradition, is certainly in the best interest of Ukrainian scholarship.

Finally, we need make no apology for engaging in what may be termed "pure scholarship." Yes, we offer lectures on the phonology of northeastern Ukrainian dialects, and we publish Ottoman sources on the slave trade in the 15th century, as well as articles on the Laodicean Epistle.

And yes, academics do conduct a scholarly dialogue with other academics, as physicians communicate with each other, and opera singers exchange experiences on performance styles. That is true of any profession. However, scholarly activities conducted at HURI, even if "arcane" in Dr. Kuropas' jaundiced view, produce long-term benefits not only in the realm of academe — their prime forum, after all — but for the Ukrainian American community more broadly, and even in Ukraine.

Through his columns, Dr. Kuropas has often made valuable contributions by enhancing knowledge and raising the consciousness of The Ukrainian Weekly's readers. He should continue to do so by concentrating on those issues of community development in which he has a unique expertise. He should not, however, provide a gross disservice to that same community by seeking non-existing enemies within such institutions as the Ukrainian Research Institute, whose faculty, associates and staff are no less dedicated to matters Ukrainian than he himself.

History's undercurrents...

(Continued from page 7)

As a result, Ukraine gets little benefit from her greatest potential asset: agriculture.

The International Monetary Fund and the World Bank are ready to help Ukraine, with the United States poised to provide political backing, but reforms must be approved first, including the privatization of land. Vice-President Al Gore delivered that message in Kyiv on July 22, and he was right to do so. There's no point in subsidizing the collective farm system or other wasteful, inefficient Ukrainian institutions.

As for the majority of Ukrainians, they undoubtedly favor land reform, but this is a country where Communists have a 75-year head start on political organization. What the CPU lacks is the vision for a positive program; they only have the means to block change. This cannot be sustained forever. Today, seven years after declaring independence, Ukraine's problem is spiritual as much as it is political and economic. The country has to confront its past and come to terms with it, the Famine above all. That process has hardly begun.

For such a huge historical event, such an enormous crime as the Famine, surprisingly little scholarly and literary work has been done. Dr. Conquest, obviously, stands out. So does Jim Mace, who directed the U.S. Commission on the Ukraine Famine, as well as Slavko Nowytski who produced the film "Harvest of Despair" and, of course, The Ukrainian Weekly. There's a scattering of other books and materials, but little of recent vintage or mass circulation.

The New York Times could help enormously by acknowledging and fixing Walter Duranty's mendacious work from 65 years ago. Nothing would help more, though, than having Verkhovna Rada approve the privatization of land. I can't think of a better monument to the victims of the Famine or a more fitting way of telling their descendants — the nation — we're sorry.

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Ukrainian Free...

Parma parish commemorates anniversary of Great Famine

(Continued from page 4)

leaders capable of turning things around, he said, adding that it is exactly in this area that the UFU can make an important contribution. The dissolution of the UFU would be a tragic loss for Ukrainian education in Ukraine, as well as in the diaspora, and would serve to undermine Kyiv's foreign policy initiatives and nation-building processes.

Prof. Leonid Rudnytzky, dean of the faculty of philosophy, welcomed the 60 assembled students and urged them to take advantage of all the opportunities offered not only by the Ukrainian Free University, but the state of Bavaria and the city of Munich as well.

After reading greetings sent by Prof. Petro Goy, president of the Ukrainian Free University Foundation in New York, Prof. Rudnytzky reminded all the scholarship recipients of their moral obligation towards the generous and devoted benefactors of the foundation. He spoke about Ukrainian Americans who have dedicated their time, energy and financial resources to enable young students to learn at the only Ukrainian university beyond the boundaries of Ukraine.

In his written statement Prof. Goy stressed the fact that in the past seven years alone the foundation, thanks to the generosity of its donors, has provided approximately \$900,000 for scholarships for deserving students. Prof. Goy further indicated that since Ukraine's independence, "The Ukrainian Free University opened its doors to our brothers and sisters from our native land and thus has become their window to Western culture and education."

The annual faculty meeting of the Ukrainian Free University – at which the future of the university will be decided – is scheduled for July 31-August 1.



Clergy and altar servers during memorial services for victims of the Great Famine held at St. Vladimir's Ukrainian Orthodox Cathedral in Parma, Ohio.

PARMA – St. Vladimir's Ukrainian Orthodox Cathedral on Sunday, June 28, solemnly commemorated the 65th anniversary of the man-made Famine in Ukraine. Following the 8:30 a.m. divine liturgy, and before the 10:15 liturgy, the faithful gathered outside the church, in front of the Famine Monument on the parish grounds.

A memorial service was served by the Rev. John Nakonachny, pastor, the Rev. Volodymyr Steliac, assistant pastor, the

Rev. Mykola Lavruk and the Rev. Deacon Ihor Mahlay. The parish choir, directed by Markian Komichak, sang the responses.

Following the service, a brief program was held. Larissa Burlyj, vice-president of the Junior Chapter of the Ukrainian Orthodox League, spoke about the tragic events of 1932-1933. This was followed by a reading by Susanna Turscak titled "Hanya's Story" – a diary compiled by Ms. Turscak based on actual survivors' accounts of the famine, which she had researched as

part of a Harvard University project.

The program concluded with the singing of "Bozhe Velykyi" and a wreath of blue and yellow flowers was placed at the base of the Famine Monument by Adam Kominko, on behalf of the parish youth.

The monument, which was erected on the parish grounds five years ago, honors the memory of the 7 million victims of the Great Famine. It is used throughout the school year to teach the youth the sad history of Ukraine during the 20th century.

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Saturday, August 22 UKRAINIAN INDEPENDENCE DAY CELEBRATIONS
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Newsbriefs

(Continued from page 2)

last year, is to consider the committee's complaint against Nasha Niva on August 12. (RFE/RL Newline)

Boeing VP visits PivdenMash factory

WASHINGTON – Boeing Vice-President Jim Albo visited the Dnipropetrovsk-based PivdenMash engineering plant on July 23. Mr. Albo inspected the factory's Zenit rocket launchers, which will be used in the Sea Launch project involving Pivdennyi, Boeing, Russia's Energiya, Norway's Kvaerner Maritime, and Ukraine's PivdenMash and KBU. Mr. Albo told journalists that 20 orders have been received for satellite launches under the Sea Launch project. He further disclosed that, during his talks with Pivdennyi officials, cooperation under the Sea Launch project as well as the possibility of using the Zenit rockets to launch satellites from the Baikonur aerospace complex were addressed. Boeing holds a 40 percent stake in the Sea Launch project. (Embassy of Ukraine)

Groups file challenge to religion law

MOSCOW – Representatives of several religious organizations have filed an appeal with the Constitutional Court of the Russian Federation challenging the law on freedom of conscience and religious organizations that took effect last September. Nezavisimaya Gazeta reported on July 16. Duma Deputies Valerii Borshev of the Yabloko faction and Galina Starovoitova have expressed support for the court appeal, which charges that the law contradicts both Russian and international legal norms. One of the most controversial aspects of the religion law requires groups to prove they have existed in Russia for at least 15 years in order to be registered with the authorities

as "religious organizations." The law restricts the activities of groups that do not meet that condition or other registration requirements. Article 14 of the Russian Constitution states that "religious associations are separate from the state and equal before the law." (RFE/RL Newline)

Poland, Ukraine to fight sex slave industry

KYIV – Poland and Ukraine agreed on July 16 to cooperate in fighting prostitution and sex slave trafficking to the West, Reuters reported. "The Mafia has become engaged in [the trafficking of women]. ... We must take preventive measures together," a Ukrainian Internal Affairs Ministry representative commented. According to the International Organization for Migration, more than 100,000 Ukrainian women are being forced to work as prostitutes in the West. (RFE/RL Newline)

President briefed on road construction

KYIV – Reconstruction of the Khreschatyk, Kyiv's main thoroughfare, will cost 30.9 million hrv and will be finished by August 15, in time for the Ukrainian Independence Day parade, Kyiv Administrator Oleksander Omelchenko told President Leonid Kuchma and Verkhovna Rada Chairman Oleksander Tkachenko during a briefing on the progress of the road work. (Eastern Economist)

Unemployment levels rising in 1998

KYIV – The June unemployment level in Ukraine was 2.9 percent, up from 2.77 percent in April. The highest unemployment level is in Lviv Oblast with 70,500 people officially out of work; Donetsk Oblast has 62,800 on its rolls and Dnipropetrovsk 46,900. Unemployment assistance was provided to 473,558 people and averaged 39.39 hrv. (Eastern Economist)

Turning the pages...

(Continued from page 6)

be independent of official literary politics.

His first work was a drama, "Lytsari Absurdu" (Knights of the Absurd, 1924), published by the journal Chervonyi Shliakh, followed soon after by collections of stories and novellas "Zaporosheni Syluety" (Dusty Silhouettes, 1925), "Tuk-tuk" (1926) and "Synia Voloshka" (The Blue Cornflower, 1927).

Already with "Silhouettes," Antonenko-Davydovych had begun to draw ideological fire from Soviet critics who detected "bourgeois nationalism" in the author's insistence on highlighting the collision between Ukrainian and Russian cultures, and who bristled at his derisive treatment of Communist Party functionaries and agit-prop campaigns.

Their hostility was assured by his novel, "Smert" (Death, 1928), which became very popular. Its first few sentences identify Russian communism as a foreign presence in Ukraine, and the book's central character is a Ukrainian intellectual who becomes an oppressor of his own people because of his adherence to ideology.

In 1929, he published another collection of stories, "Spravzhnyi Cholovik" (A Real Man), and in the following year, a book of wistful travel vignettes, "Zemleiu Ukrainskoiu" (Through the Ukrainian Land), which ranged over cities, towns and villages; over the countryside of the Dnipro's southern lowlands, the mines of the Donbas and borderlands of western Ukraine.

As the Stalinist terror was reaching its apogee, Antonenko-Davydovych avoided arrest by traveling between Kharkiv and Kyiv, somehow managing to get his novella "Kryla Artema Letiuchoho" (The Wings of Artem Letiuchyi, 1932) and collection of stories "Liudy i Vuhillia" (People and Coal, 1932) published. In 1933, he went into self-imposed exile in Kazakstan, but the NKVD caught up with him in Alma-Ata in 1935 and he was imprisoned in labor camps until the Khrushchev thaw in 1956.

Rehabilitated, he returned to Kyiv and resumed his literary work, publishing three collections of short stories and a novel by 1960, but it did not take long for the regime to turn on him. His novel "Za Shymoiu" (Behind the Screen, 1963) was harshly criticized for deviations from Socialist Realism. His literary criticism (anthologized in "Pro Shcho i Iak," On What and How, 1962; and "V Literaturi i Kolo Literatury," In and Around Literature, 1964) and essays on linguistics (collected in "Iak My Hovorymo," How We Speak, 1970) secured his strong influence on the literary generation of the 1960s, which became known as the Shestydesiatnyky.

This work and his protests against Russification and statements in defense of Ukrainian dissidents also provoked a series of repressive measures from the Brezhnevite machine, which subjected him to incarceration, house arrest and constant harassment of his family. From the early 1970s, publication of his works was suspended and his books were banned.

Borys Antonenko-Davydovych died on May 5, 1984, in Kyiv.

Sources: "Antonenko-Davydovych, Borys" *Encyclopedia of Ukraine, Vol. 1* (Toronto: University of Toronto Press, 1984); "Antonenko-Davydovych, Borys," *Ukrainska Literaturna Entsyklopedia, Vol. 1* (Kyiv: Ukrainska Radianska Entsyklopedia, 1988); Yuriy Lavrinenko, ed., "Rozstriliane Vidrodzhennia," (Paris: Kultura, 1959).

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COMMUNITY CHRONICLE

Syracuse Ukrainian school bids farewell to graduates

SYRACUSE, N.Y. - The Lesia Ukrainka School of Ukrainian Studies in Syracuse, N.Y., bid farewell to two of its graduates on June 6 of this year at the Ukrainian National Home.

The program began with a welcoming address by Deacon Dr. Myron Kotch, president of the local UCCA branch. The master of ceremonies was Hanna Hrycyk. The Rev. Stepan Kuklich, assistant pastor of St. John the Baptist Ukrainian Catholic Church, gave the benediction.

This year's graduates are Taras Senenko and Mykola Frushelo. Greetings were extended to them by Dr. Ivan Hvozda, school advisor, and Nicholas Duplak, class advisor. Both eloquently shared their thoughts with the graduates. They stressed the importance of continuing their education, actively participating in Ukrainian American organizations and

the importance of remembering their rich Ukrainian culture and heritage.

Mrs. Fencor, director of the school, spoke about Mr. Senenko's and Mr. Frushelo's accomplishments - not only in Ukrainian organizations, but American as well, and presented the graduates with their diplomas.

Both graduates thanked their parents, teachers and the school administration for their constant encouragement.

The Ukrainian National Association was represented by Walter Korchynsky, UNA advisor and chairman of the Syracuse UNA District. Mr. Korchynsky congratulated the graduates and presented them with gifts from the UNA.

Afterwards, the participants danced into the morning hours to the music of Vorona; Messrs. Senenko and Frushelo are musicians and vocalists with the band.



UNA Advisor Walter Korchynsky congratulates graduates Mykola Frushelo and Taras Senenko, as Director Fencor looks on.

Illinois secretary of state visits Chicago's Ukrainian Village



CHICAGO - Secretary of State George Ryan recently toured the Ukrainian Village area of Chicago. Pictured in front of Ss. Volodymyr and Olha Ukrainian Catholic Church are: (from left) State Sen. Walter Dudycz, Secretary of State Ryan and Bohdan Watral.

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The Ukrainian Canadian...

(Continued from page 6)

would eventually take, its creation will have to be the result of a consensus reached by the leaders of all the existing organizations.

This in turn, depends on how the leaders of the existing Ukrainian organizations in Canada (both left and right) see the future of their organizations. Will they hang on, keeping them as they are to the very end, even when there are only a few members left in each? One hopes they will be far-sighted, realistic and objective enough to recognize that changes – radical changes – have to be made, that the old forms, concepts and policies of their organizations are of little or no interest to today's younger generations.

It is important to emphasize that the young people themselves, those in their 20s and 30s, should be consulted and actively involved in this process, rather than leaving it solely to the present leaders, most of whom are in their 50s, 60s and 70s.

It is worth noting that those who founded the organizations back in the early decades of this century were nearly all in their 20s and 30s when they did so.

All objective and forward-looking members of existing Ukrainian organizations in Canada ought to give serious thought to this problem. It will be solved only if the leaders of all the present organizations work together selflessly to that end. And they should do so without much delay. If they do not, their organizations face the prospect of a continuing erosion of their membership to the point of their complete withering away and eventual demise.

Even the organizations that still have a substantial and viable number of more recent immigrants in their ranks have to ask themselves: What about their children and grandchildren? What are the prospects for getting them interested in preserving and nurturing their Ukrainian heritage? Who will provide these incentives? And

where and how will that be done?

It most certainly won't come about spontaneously. Part of the process of working toward one common organization might mean retaining the present organizations for their existing members (largely older immigrants and earlier generations of the Canadian-born), while at the same time helping to lay the basis for the young people to belong to one organization.

The assimilation of ethnic groups in Canada, as in most countries, is an objective historical process that will continue, very likely at an increased tempo, through the coming years. One cannot predict what effect this process, as well as future technological, social and political developments, will have on the grandchildren and great-grandchildren of Ukrainian Canadians 40, 50 or 100 years from now. What will the Ukrainian Canadian community be like in the years 2010 and 2020? Will there even be a Ukrainian Canadian community? We do not know just what the future holds for all Canadians. There is no reason, however, why young Canadians of different ethnic, national and racial origins should not be able to preserve and nurture their cultural heritage for the next few decades at least.

The thoughts, ideas and suggestions in this paper are entirely my own and have not been discussed beforehand with any organization or any group of individuals. Since I have not belonged to any Ukrainian organization for more than two decades, and mostly because I am now in my 85th year, I do not intend to become involved in any subsequent discussion or consideration of the ideas I have presented here. I firmly believe it should be the prerogative of the younger members of the community, particularly those in their 20s and 30s, to chart the path by which they can preserve their cultural heritage. My hope is that this paper will generate frank discussion and, subsequently, new ideas and solutions.

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U.S.-Ukrainian...

(Continued from page 2)

ingrained in the country.

If this is the state of Ukrainian politics, why should the West care? If Ukraine has successfully muddled through so far, why not let it continue down this road? Perhaps the West should simply let the Ukrainian leadership steer the country toward stagnation and obscurity on Europe's periphery. As tempting as such a conclusion is, Ukraine's choice between Europe and Europe's periphery matters to the continent as a whole.

A choice in favor of the status quo does not merely perpetuate today's Ukraine. It undermines the foundations that have made the current situation bearable inside the country and less dangerous for Ukraine's neighbors. It would certainly endanger the policies that have dramatically lowered inflation and brought Ukraine a stable currency. It would exacerbate economic deprivation in the country as a whole, particularly along crucial ethnic and regional fault lines. A peripheral Ukraine would increase the danger that European institutions like NATO and the European Union, which are now undergoing enlargement, would find themselves on a much more unpredictable and unstable frontier.

These strategic realities give visits like Vice-President Gore's additional importance. Senior U.S. and Western officials cannot force the Ukrainian leadership to act against its immediate political interests.

They cannot impose economic reforms on an unwilling country. Yet they must be a strong stimulus for these reforms by reminding Ukraine of the choice it faces and the consequences of failing to act. They must also sketch out - as they did so successfully to a Ukraine unsure of whether it should proceed with nuclear disarmament - the support Kyiv can count on if it recognizes the seriousness of the situation and makes the hard reform decisions needed for the country to move forward.

Sportsline

(Continued from page 13)

grandchild. As Maurice and Jay Kuchar wrote, "We think many Ukrainians would like to know we excel at sports other than hockey."

Matthew Gregory Kuchar, 20, a native of Winter Park, Fla., is enjoying a storybook year after winning the 1997 U.S. Amateur Championships and three collegiate titles, including this year's Puerto Rico Golf Classic.

The 6-foot-4-inch 195-pounder is a sophomore at Georgia Tech majoring in management. He took up golf when he was 12. In April, he was invited to play at the Masters in Augusta, Georgia.

As reported on the CNN/Sports Illustrated website, "The Kid with the Killer Smile" almost stole the spotlight from another young golfer he was partnering with - defending Masters champion Tiger Woods. He called Mr. Kuchar's

play "awesome" as the Ukrainian American battled howling winds to hold a share of the lead after 14 holes.

Caddied by his father, Peter, an insurance specialist, Mr. Kuchar led Mr. Woods by one stroke at that point, finishing the round with a 72. Mr. Woods shot 71.

In the end, he shot an even-par 288, placing 21st over all. This earned him the Masters' silver trophy as the "low amateur" and a return trip to next year's competition - the first amateur to "play his way back" to the Masters since Sam Randolph did it in 1985.

As his grandparents put it, "he captured the hearts of many Americans on nationwide TV with his cheery demeanor and never-ending smile." Mr. Kuchar told CNN, "I may be smiling a little bit out of embarrassment. I can't believe this many people are watching me play golf."

In June at the U.S. Open in San Francisco, Mr. Kuchar was even more successful, finishing 14th over all, and

his post-Masters resolve to stay an amateur was beginning to crumble. Pressed by an AP reporter, he finally offered a "maybe" to a suggestion that he turn pro after this year's U.S. Amateur championships at Oak Hill, in Rochester, N.Y.

July has been a tougher month, as first at Loch Lomond World Invitational in Scotland, and then the Royal Birkdale Club, at the British Open, Mr. Kuchar missed the cut.

As he prepares for a defense of his U.S. Amateur title, which will begin in August, he faces more pressure than ever from sponsors and even senior players who have told him he is ready to turn pro.

"Right now I am dead in the middle," the phenom told Reuters. "There are so many positives about going back to school and so many positives about turning pro, so I don't know what's going to happen. They're saying millions, I don't really know what a million is going to do for me."

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PREVIEW OF EVENTS

Friday-Sunday, August 7-9

KERHONKSON, N.Y.: A Single Ukrainian Weekenders three-day event will take place at Soyuzivka, starting with a party at the Trembita Lounge at 9 p.m. on Friday. A Hudson River Cruise is scheduled for Saturday at 2-4 p.m. All interested parties are to meet at the patio at 10:30 a.m. or at the Rip Van Winkle ship at Rondout Landing in Kingston at 11:30 a.m. A zabava will be held jointly with Club Suzy-Q at 10 p.m. on the Veselka patio. There will be a picnic on Sunday at noon to top off the weekend. For directions and accommodations please call Soyuzivka, (914) 626-5641.

Saturday-Sunday, August 8-9

HAINES FALLS, N.Y.: Taras Schumylovych will exhibit three tempera paintings, titled "Ukrainian Pysanka (Easter Egg) III," "Sunflowers II" and "Statue of Liberty at Night" at the 51st annual art exhibition sponsored by the Twilight Park Artists. The "Young Artists' Division" will feature the works of Xenia, Justin and Larissa Schumylovych. The exhibition will be held in the Twilight Park Clubhouse and will open with a wine reception on Saturday at 5-7:30 p.m. and continues through Sunday at 1-5 p.m., with an artists' demonstration planned at 3-4 p.m.

Saturday, August 15

KERHONKSON, N.Y.: All Single Ukrainian Weekenders and guests are invited to dance the night away at a zabava at Soyuzivka. For directions and accommodations please call Soyuzivka, (914) 626-5641, and for further information or to RSVP, please call (212) 358-

9615. To be added to the mailing list please write to: Weekenders/UHC, P.O. Box 1607, New York, NY 10009.

Saturday, August 22

EAST MEADOW, N.Y.: An evening of ethnic song and dance called "Ukrainian American Night" will take place at Eisenhower Park's Harry Chapin Lakeside Theater, as part of the International Nights Series presented by the Nassau County Department of Recreation and Parks. The concert will include the Voloshky dancers and the Luba-Mykola and Victor Trio, and starts at 8 p.m. Concert-goers should bring folding chairs. For further information please call the Public Information Office, (516) 572-0200, weekdays during business hours or "Concertline," a recorded message updated weekly, at (516) 572-0223.

Sunday, August 23

TORONTO: The Ukrainian Canadian Congress, Toronto Branch, will hold a celebration of the seventh anniversary of the Independence of Ukraine at St. Volodymyr Cultural Center, 1280 Dundas St. W. and Fourth Line in Oakville. This celebration will feature Hennadii Udovenko, national deputy of Ukraine's Verkhovna Rada and president of the 52nd Session of the U.N. General Assembly, as guest speaker. An ecumenical service will be held at 11 a.m. and a concert at 2:30 p.m. The festivities include a yarmarok (bazaar), children's corner, food and refreshments. There will be an adult dance at 6-8 p.m. and a student dance at 9 p.m.-midnight. Admission is \$10 for adults, children under 12 are free. For further information call (416) 762-9427.

At Soyuzivka: August 8-9

KERHONKSON, N.Y. - Hailing from the anthracite coal region of Northeastern Pennsylvania, the Kazka Ukrainian Folk Ensemble will headline the Saturday evening, August 8, concert program at Soyuzivka, the upstate New York resort of the Ukrainian National Association.

Members of Kazka include a vocal quartet - composed of Paula Duda, soprano, Sandra Duda, alto, Joseph Zucofski, tenor, and Michael Duda, baritone - and a 20-member dance ensemble. The quartet sings both contemporary and folk music, while the dance troupe performs numbers from various Ukrainian regions, including Poltavshyna, Hutsulschyna, Boikivschyna, Lemkivschyna and Transcarpathia.

Kazka has performed at diverse venues, such as the Bethlehem Musikfest,

Ellis Island National Park and the Pennsylvania State University Slavic Festival. It has received numerous state and local grants to assist with choreography, costuming and music. The group has released a recording featuring a selection of contemporary, traditional and humorous songs, and it plans to release two new recordings this year: a collection of Christmas carols and a compilation of folk songs.

After the concert, which begins at 8:30 p.m. in the Veselka auditorium, there will be a dance to music by the Luna band beginning at about 10 p.m.

For information about Soyuzivka accommodations, entertainment programs, art exhibits and other special features, call (914) 626-5641.



The Kazka Ukrainian Folk Ensemble's vocal quartet (from left): Michael Duda, Sandra Duda, Paula Duda and Joseph Zucofski.