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\$1/\$2 in Ukraine

Ukraine's negotiating team hails forced-slave labor settlement

by Roman Woronowycz

Kyiv Press Bureau

KYIV — The delegation that represented Ukraine in negotiations on compensation for forced and slave laborers expressed satisfaction with the results at a press conference on March 28, after their return from Berlin. But some of the members said they would work to have some adjustments made to the agreement before it is approved by Germany's Parliament.

"This is a significant accomplishment," said Oleksander Maidanyk, first vice minister of foreign affairs, who headed the

Ukrainian negotiating team.

After nearly a year and more than a dozen separate sessions held in the United States and Germany, the German government and various German corporations that utilized slave laborers from Eastern and Central Europe to fuel the Nazi war machine agreed on March 28 to extend a total of 10 billion Deutsche marks, or \$5 billion (U.S.) in compensation for suffering to those who worked in concentration camps and wartime ghettos, or worked in factories or on farms.

Ukrainians who can conclusively prove that they had been German slave laborers will share in a pool of \$862 million. Ukraine will receive the third largest amount after Poland and the Jewish Claims Conference, which will be allotted \$906 million each. Russia was awarded \$417.5 million to disseminate to its surviving German slave laborers, while Belarus and the Czech Republic received slightly lesser sums.

Another \$500 million will be used to cover insurance, capital and bank claims of survivors, with additional monies allocated for a reserve fund to be utilized to compensate any victims not identified in the current agreement.

It is estimated that more than 2 million Ukrainians were forced to leave their homes to work as ostarbeiters for the Nazis during World War II. Today it is estimated that about 610,000 are still alive: 14,488 of

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Constitutional Court rejects two questions of Ukraine's controversial national referendum

by Roman Woronowycz

Kyiv Press Bureau

KYIV — Ukraine's Constitutional Court on March 29 rejected as unconstitutional two of the six questions of the April 16 national referendum and decided that the national poll cannot be both consultative and determinative in nature.

While stating that the government could not claim that this national referendum was a consultation with the nation, the court said the decisions that will be made must be carried out by the branches of government.

"This is not and cannot be a consultative referendum," said Constitutional Court Judge Pavlo Yevhrahov at a press conference after the decision of the court was read by Chief Judge Viktor Skomorokha. "It has an imperative character. The Verkhovna Rada, the Cabinet of Ministers and the presidential administration must implement and adhere to the results."

Among the several issues that had been publicly debated in the last two months since the highly controversial referendum was scheduled was whether the questions to be asked would all be enforceable if approved by voters or whether, as the presidential administration had suggested, they might be merely consultative in character.

The decision, while pleasing opponents, did not draw criticism from President Leonid Kuchma, who has vigorously supported approval for the constitutional changes requested and signed the presidential decree that set the date for the poll.

The court's ruling came after two separate petitions to the Constitutional Court, filed by separate groups of 103 and 108 national deputies, challenged the decree signed by the president on January 14.

The president has said that, as the guarantor of the Constitution, he was compelled to order the national referendum after a popular initiative that began in the Zhytomyr region resulted in nearly 4,000 signatures supporting the effort. Many critics of the effort insist, however, that it was stage-managed by presidential supporters to broaden his political powers.

The Constitutional Court, the country's highest constitutional authority, ruled after public hearings and private deliberations that lasted a month that the two questions violate principles of the Constitution and, therefore, cannot be brought for a public vote.

The court decided in regard to the first

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Michael Starr, 89, Ukrainian Canadian political pioneer, dies

by Myron Momryk

Special to The Ukrainian Weekly

OTTAWA — Michael Starr, a political pioneer in Canadian history who was responsible for many firsts in the Ukrainian Canadian community — among them becoming the first Ukrainian Canadian to be elected mayor of a large Canadian city — died in Oshawa on March 16. He was 89.

Mr. Starr (Starchewsky) was born on November 14, 1910, in Copper Cliff, Ontario, the son of Ukrainian immigrant parents. His father worked in Montreal and Toronto before settling in Oshawa. The family was active in the Prosvita Society in Montreal and Oshawa.

After attending high school, Mr. Starr began to work in 1928 as a clerk in a local metal products factory. His employer suggested that Mike shorten his surname from Starchewsky to Starr for business purposes, and he made that change with his father's permission.

The Depression of the 1930s had a disastrous effect on the Canadian economy and profoundly affected the local Ukrainian community. There were many unemployed and a large percentage of families was on welfare. The young Mr. Starr was among the fortunate few who had steady employment. The desperate economic situation politically radicalized many young men, but Mr. Starr worked to improve local conditions through the existing political structures. During federal and provincial elections, he campaigned and translated for political candidates among the Ukrainian community.

His first venture into politics was an unsuccessful campaign for the position of alderman in 1937. He maintained his interest in municipal affairs, however, and was

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UNA Executive Committee examines yearend finances

by Martha Lysko

UNA National Secretary

PARSIPPANY, N.J. — The first meeting in the new millennium of the Executive Committee of the Ukrainian National Association was held on Saturday, March 18, here at the UNA Corporate Headquarters.

Present at the meeting were: Stefko Kuropas, first vice-president; Anya Dydyk-Petrenko, second vice-president; the Rev. Myron Stasiw, director for Canada; Martha Lysko, national secretary; and Stefan Kaczaraj, treasurer. President Ulana Diachuk presided over the regular quarterly meeting. Due to unforeseen circumstances, no one from the UNA Auditing Committee was in attendance.

The reports for the last quarter of 1999 were presented and approved by all present. The treasurer in his report outlined revenue and expenditures for 1999. Revenue from insurance operations: life,

universal life and annuity was down by \$574,000 due to slow sales of insurance during the last two quarters of 1999. Expenditures were decreased for office staff salaries, commissions and scholarships. Expenditures for insurance department fees were considerably higher due to the triennial examination required by the state of New Jersey, Y2K compliance requirements and filings of new products. Actuarial expenses were also increased due to compliance regulations and the updating of insurance products.

The UNA's three major fraternal benefits, including The Ukrainian Weekly, Soyuzivka and to a lesser degree Svoboda, are still generating large deficits, according to Mr. Kaczaraj, even through the deficit decreased by \$331,683 from the previous year. The treasurer stated that the UNA must curb these deficits even further.

The year ended with a decrease in sur-

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Ukraine reacts to Putin election

by Roman Woronowycz

Kyiv Press Bureau

KYIV — According to political leaders and analysts here, the election of Vladimir Putin as the new president of Russia will not radically change the way Russia looks at its southern neighbor, but it will force Ukraine to take a more measured and realistic stand in its dealings with Moscow and to view relations as it would with any other economic trading partner.

The way in which the two countries view each other has gradually changed as the fact of their permanent separation has sunk in, but Ukraine continued to hold special status in the halls of the Kremlin during the Yeltsin era. Although Russia has put up several blockades on trade, especially for Ukrainian sugar and alcohol, Kyiv has benefited from lenient terms for Russian oil and gas that have assured supplies but led to large debts. As a result of the election of Mr. Putin that may soon end.

The pragmatic-minded and results-oriented Mr. Putin will demand that Ukraine pay as it goes in trade, explained Mykhailo Pohrebynsky, director of the Kyiv Center of Political Research and Conflict Studies. "These will now be relations of full-fledged partners with no allowance for special status or Slavic friendship," said Mr. Pohrebynsky.

He said that what is most important for Ukraine is to complete its own inter-

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ANALYSIS

Putin victory not a mandate

by Paul Goble
RFE/RL Newsline

Vladimir Putin narrowly gained a first-round victory in the March 26 Russian presidential election, but his initial comments suggest that he recognizes he did not get the kind of mandate that might have led him to act without taking into account other political forces in the country.

If that proves to be the case, then this sobering result of the electoral process may prove to be the most important consequence of what has been anything but an ordinary democratic election.

Speaking at his campaign headquarters in Moscow late on March 26, Mr. Putin noted that the Communist Party and its leader, Gennadii Zyuganov, had done far better than expected, "even though – let us be direct and honest about this – they did not have many opportunities in the media, especially the electronic media."

And, he added, "there are many people in the country who are not satisfied with the state of things. People are tired, things are tough for them, and they expect better things from me. But, of course, miracles don't occur."

On the one hand, Mr. Putin's remarks highlight how the election to succeed Boris Yeltsin was substantively undemocratic – even though the actual voting appears to have been more or less procedurally correct. But on the other, Mr. Putin's open acknowledgment of the continuing strength of his opponents may lead to a new and different relationship between the executive

Paul Goble is the publisher of RFE/RL Newsline.

and legislative branches of the Russian government – one that may not generate more reform but could in the end contribute to the institutionalization of democracy in Russia.

Many people both in Russia and the West had expected the Russian presidential vote in 2000 to complete not only the demise of communism but also the institutionalization of democracy. It has done neither. The Communists remain the largest opposition party, entirely capable of playing a major role in the life of the Russian Federation well into the future. And democracy remains far from fully institutionalized.

Instead of proving to be the first genuinely democratic transfer of power in the history of Russia, the handover from President Yeltsin to Mr. Putin guaranteed that the 2000 vote would be anything but that. First, Mr. Yeltsin's timely resignation allowed Mr. Putin to exploit the powers of incumbency and the popularity of the campaign in Chechnya without his opponents being able to rally their forces against him.

Second, as Mr. Putin himself implicitly acknowledged late on election day, the government's ability to control the still largely state-owned electronic media, from which most Russians get their news and information, allowed him to define the terms on which the election would be contested.

And third, despite his occasional swipes at regional leaders, the oligarchs and other members of the party of power, Mr. Putin has been able to use the powers of incumbency in ways that have led most of those individuals to back him largely out of a sense on their part that they have no choice.

All of which suggests that there are still far too few competitively available political

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Russia, Ukraine wage war of words

by Askold Krushelnycky
RFE/RL Newsline

Russia and Ukraine are engaged in an increasingly heated war of words about language. The Russian government has criticized Ukrainian policy aimed at making the use of the Ukrainian language mandatory for all state officials and increasing its use in schools. Russian organizations in both Russia and Ukraine have joined in that criticism.

Last week, hundreds of people in the western Ukrainian city of Lviv demonstrated to demand the closure of all Russian-language publications. In Kyiv nationalists demanded that Russian be banned from official use and from television.

Meanwhile in Russia, protesters from Russian Orthodox organizations picketed the Embassy of Ukraine in Moscow. They demanded equal rights for the Ukrainian and Russian languages in Ukraine and what one of the organizations, the Christian Rebirth Union, called "equal rights for ethnic Russians on Ukrainian territory."

The upsurge in Russian concern follows Ukrainian proposals in the last three months to increase the use of Ukrainian in education and introduce Ukrainian-language tests for state employees and officials. Russian speakers are angry that they may not be eligible for some state jobs unless they learn Ukrainian. Some Russian community organizations in Ukraine have characterized the moves as an attack on Russian culture generally.

Last month, a Russian Foreign Affairs Ministry statement said the measures could

Askold Krushelnycky is an RFE/RL correspondent based in Prague.

infringe upon human rights and damage what it called "the cultural and linguistic environment." The statement added that such actions in so sensitive an area as language usually have "dire consequences."

Russian Human Rights Commissioner Oleg Mironov, for his part, said that Ukraine's language proposals grossly violate international norms, particularly the European Convention on Human Rights, to which Ukraine is a signatory. He called the scale of language discrimination in Ukraine "massive and unprecedented."

In reply to the Russian charges, Ukrainian Foreign Affairs Ministry spokesman Ihor Hrushko said that everyone in Ukraine has the right to choose his or her language of education. According to the Foreign Affairs Ministry, that is not true, however, in Russia, where the country's large Ukrainian community has received very little official support for Ukrainian-language publications or activities.

In any case, Mr. Hrushko commented, Kyiv is sure that its proposals are in accordance with human rights norms. "We have already informed the Russian side that if this practice of groundlessly twisting the facts – that is, the real situation concerning languages in Ukraine – continues, then the Ukrainian side reserves the right to turn the matter over for independent assessment by the Council of Europe, the OSCE's (Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe) human rights experts or other respected international bodies," he told RFE/RL. "We are absolutely convinced that we are in the right on this issue, and we are ready for any international adjudication."

The language issue is an extremely

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NEWSBRIEFS

PM: NBU discredited from within Ukraine

KYIV – Prime Minister Viktor Yushchenko told the newspaper Fakty (March 23 issue) that a series of publications in the Western media about the alleged misuse of International Monetary Fund loans by the National Bank of Ukraine was initiated and financed from Ukraine. "It seems to me that there are no greater masters than Ukrainians in creating problems for their own country. I think that after some time, the names of those who created this problem will become known. Their names are no big secret," Mr. Yushchenko noted, without mentioning any names. He said that during the period 1995-2000 Ukraine paid foreign creditors more than it had obtained from the IMF and the World Bank. Therefore, he argued, the NBU could not misuse IMF loans, which were intended for servicing the country's foreign debt. (RFE/RL Poland, Belarus and Ukraine Report)

Elections to fill vacant Rada seats

KYIV – The Central Election Commission announced on March 17 that parliamentary elections will be held in 10 constituencies on June 25. In nine of those constituencies, the elections are intended to fill seats left by deputies who have died or accepted government posts (Ukraine's legislation does not allow individuals to hold a government post and at the same time be a member of Parliament). Among those who gave up parliamentary seats are Ivan Kyrylenko (agrarian policy minister), Yuri Yekhanurov (first vice prime minister) and Yulia Tymoshenko (vice prime minister). Elections in constituency No. 221 in Kyiv will be held for the fourth consecutive time (the previous three ballots were declared invalid). There are currently 440 deputies in the 450-seat Verkhovna Rada. (RFE/RL Poland, Belarus and Ukraine Report)

Record foreign trade surplus noted

KYIV – According to the State Statistics Committee, Ukraine had a foreign trade surplus of \$2.34 billion in 1999 – the highest figure since the country gained independence in 1991. However, foreign trade turnover last year was only \$28 billion, down \$4.5 billion from the year of the Russian economic crisis, 1998. (RFE/RL Poland, Belarus and Ukraine Report)

U.S. greets Putin on his election

WASHINGTON – U.S. President Bill Clinton on March 27 congratulated Vladimir Putin on his election as president of Russia and at the same time urged him to advance economic reform, step up the fight against crime and corruption, and join the United States in a "broad common agenda of international security, including arms

control, non-proliferation, and regional peace and stability," Reuters reported. With regard to Chechnya, President Clinton stressed the need to launch "impartial and transparent investigations of reported human rights violations" and provide "prompt and full access for international organizations and the press." U.S. Vice-President Al Gore also welcomed Mr. Putin's election, saying "we look forward to working with him." Asked if he is concerned about reports that Mr. Putin plans to enlist former KGB agents to combat corruption, Mr. Gore replied, "No. I hope he succeeds." (RFE/RL Newsline)

Kuchma hails Putin's election

KYIV – President Leonid Kuchma of Ukraine on March 27 congratulated Vladimir Putin on his election as Russia's president, adding that he expects the "further strengthening and all-round development of strategic partnership relations" between Kyiv and Moscow. Interfax reported. Ukraine's former president, Leonid Kravchuk, said Russia under Mr. Putin is not expected to "fundamentally" change its relations with Ukraine, but he added that Mr. Putin may follow a "more tough and pragmatic line" with regard to Kyiv. (RFE/RL Newsline)

Putin popular among Russians abroad

MOSCOW – In casting their absentee ballots in the March 26 presidential election, Russian citizens living in Ukraine, Belarus, Tajikistan, Kazakstan, Kyrgyzstan and Turkmenistan voted to support Vladimir Putin at a higher rate than in many regions within Russia. For example, according to preliminary data, Mr. Putin won 86.3 percent of votes in Crimea, Ukraine, 69.5 percent of votes in Belarus, and 80 percent of votes of Russians living in Kyrgyzstan, Nezavisimaya Gazeta reported on March 28. (RFE/RL Newsline)

Coast guard fires on Turkish vessels

KYIV – Ukrainian coast guard on March 22 opened fire on four Turkish fishing boats, sinking one vessel, killing one fisherman and wounding another, Interfax reported. The agency said the Turkish fishermen were poaching in Ukraine's territorial waters. According to Interfax, fire was opened after the Turkish boats ignored warning shots and one vessel tried to ram a Ukrainian boat. The Ukrainian coast guard took aboard all the 18 people from the sunken boat and seized the other Turkish vessels. Pavlo Shysholyn, chief of the Ukrainian Border Guard, told Ukrainian Television that the Ukrainian side fired after "the Turkish ships ... maneuvered dangerously, threatening our border guard ships."

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13 months of negotiations yield 10 billion DM for Nazi-era laborers

by Myroslaw Smorodsky

BERLIN – After 13 months of intense negotiations in Washington, Bonn and Berlin, German industry and representatives of slave and forced laborers and other Nazi victims reached an agreement on March 23 on the distribution and allocation of the settlement amount that had been previously agreed to as the total amount of compensation to be paid to victims of the Nazi era.

On December 17, 1999, representatives of five Central and East European countries – Belarus, the Czech Republic, Poland, Russia and Ukraine – Israel, the Jewish Claims Conference, German industry and government, and the United States government had agreed that 10 billion Deutsche marks would be paid as the total compensation package to Holocaust victims.

However, after the December accord, extensive issues remained to be agreed upon, including the allocation of the settlement amount between forced and slave laborers, the amount to be allocated to property losses, insurance claims and other wrongs, and the amount that would be set aside for the "Future Fund."

The latter is a project that German industry and government insisted upon as a condition of settlement. Germany wished to set aside a very large part of the settlement,

Myroslaw Smorodsky of Rutherford, N.J., was an attorney for the Ukrainian class of forced and slave labor victims and for the Ukrainian delegation.

which would be held in perpetuity to fund future projects aimed at preventing a recurrence of the horrors of the Nazi Era.

The representatives of the victims argued that the emphasis should be placed on compensation to living victims rather than on humanitarian and educational projects, which, although laudatory, would not give direct benefit to surviving victims of the Holocaust.

The allocation issues were complicated even further by the fact that the settlement amount of 10 billion DM was in and of itself inadequate to even partially compensate for the suffering of the victims of World War II.

(Because of the fluctuating currency exchange rates, all sums referred to in this story are given in Deutsche marks [DM]. At present, the exchange ratio of a Deutsche mark to a U.S. dollar is approximately 2:1.)

The allocation that was agreed to is as follows:

- forced and slave labor, 8.1 billion Deutsche marks, augmented by a contribution from the Swiss Bank litigation case and earned interest for a total of 8.250 billion DM;
- other wrongs, 50 million DM;
- banking claims and other property claims, 200 million DM;
- banking humanitarian fund, 300 million DM for humanitarian projects.
- direct insurance claims, 150 million DM, of which 50 million DM is from earned interest.

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Ukraine's negotiating...

(Continued from page 1)

whom are former concentration camp and ghetto internees, 278,821 industrial laborers and 303,245 agricultural laborers.

The final figures on the amount of compensation were tallied after the sides agreed that each concentration camp inhabitant should receive \$7,500, while industrial laborers would get \$2,500. Agricultural laborers will be eligible for up to \$500, which will come out of national funds that are to be developed.

The German side had offered the most resistance to providing compensation for agricultural laborers, claiming that in most cases those who worked on farms had comfortable living arrangements and adequate food, which disqualified them from hardship compensation.

The Ukrainian delegation adamantly insisted on the right for farm workers to compensation, explained Danylo Kourdelchouk, the head lawyer for the Ukrainian delegation, because the largest portion of Ukrainian slave laborers was forced to work on farms. After extensive negotiations the German side backed down.

"We should be thankful that the agricultural category even exists, said Mr. Kourdelchouk.

Ukrainians who ended up living in foreign lands after the war are also eligible for compensation if they can prove that they belong to one of the categories affected.

Myroslaw Smorodsky, an attorney from New Jersey, will represent the interests of Ukrainians living abroad, said Mr. Kourdelchouk.

Members of the Ukrainian delegation, which included Messrs. Maidannyk, Kourdelchouk and Smorodsky, as well as National Deputy Ihor Sharov, who is the head of the Verkhovna Rada Committee on International Relations in Defense of Victims of Nazism, and Ihor Lushnykov, head of the Ukrainian National Fund on Mutual Understanding and Reconciliation,

said they believe some changes should still be made to the agreement, which is now a draft bill that must still be ratified by the German Parliament.

First, they believe the stipulation that in cases where slave laborers are deceased, only spouses and children of slave laborers who died after February 16, 1999, can receive compensation should be amended. Mr. Kourdelchouk said that the notion of allowing compensation only to children and spouses is discriminatory, although he did not explain why, and simply limits the financial burden of the German side.

Another problem is the way in which the payments will be distributed. Mr. Kourdelchouk said those who qualify should get their compensation in a single lump sum. "Many of the people are old and may not live to see the balance they will be owed," said the attorney.

The current agreement provides for a 50 percent disbursement of the total allotted to each concentration camp or ghetto inhabitant and 35 percent to industrial workers at the time the agreement comes into effect and the balance at a later, as yet unspecified date.

The compensation plan is expected to receive a first reading in the German Bundestag in the first half of April, followed by a second reading and final passage sometime in June. Members of the Ukrainian delegation said they hope the bill would become effective in early autumn.

To qualify for compensation, Ukrainians who spent time in the Nazi concentration camps or ghettos or worked as industrial or agricultural slave labor must show documentation proving their status. Those who do not should turn to Ukraine's Ministry of Foreign Affairs, which has extensive lists of those who returned to Ukraine after the war, to the International Red Cross, or to the local German cities and villages where the slave laborers worked, some of which have retained registration lists of wartime workers.

Ukraine remembers Chornovil at memorial gatherings, services



Nikolay Lazarenko/UNIAN

Vyacheslav's Chornovil's widow, Atena Pashko, places flowers on the grave of the national rights activist and political leader during a memorial service on March 25.

by Roman Woronowycz

Kyiv Press Bureau

KYIV – The National Rukh of Ukraine (NRU) received an unexpected morale booster as it prepared to commemorate the first anniversary of the untimely death of its longtime leader Vyacheslav Chornovil, when a renegade group from the splinter Rukh party turned over its headquarters in tribute to Mr. Chornovil's memory.

The party has struggled to maintain its national influence and its membership rosters since it took a double whammy a year ago – first with the party's split after an attempt to oust Mr. Chornovil as party leader, then his death several weeks later.

The surprise announcement came on March 20 during a telephone call between a former member of the splinter Ukrainian National Rukh Party (Ukrainskyi Narodnyi Rukh) Secretariat, Oleksander Sheremet, and National Rukh of Ukraine Party (Narodnyi Rukh Ukrainy) Press Secretary Dmytro Ponamarchuk.

Mr. Ponamarchuk said that Mr. Sheremet and some 40 other disgruntled members of the splinter party led by Yurii Kostenko had decided it was time to return to their roots, and that they were ready to take with them Mr. Kostenko's party headquarters.

The building, which was obtained before the split, was to have held the party's administrative offices, but ended up in the hands of the Kostenko political organization.

According to Mr. Ponamarchuk the action was led by Bohdan Boyko, a high-ranking official in the Kostenko party and one of the leaders of the revolt against the late Mr. Chornovil.

Both Mr. Sheremet and Mr. Boyko have applied for reinstatement into the National Rukh Party, and Mr. Boyko has re-joined their faction in the Verkhovna Rada, where he is a national deputy.

On March 21 Mr. Ponamarchuk and a small NRU delegation traveled to the building where they were greeted by Mr. Sheremet who provided them with the official NRU stamp, the lease contract for the facility, party papers and the 10-year-old archives of the Rukh party. The first official move they made was to change the plaque hanging on the building's facade to represent the new occupants.

A court now will decide the final fate of the building after Mr. Kostenko's Rukh filed a complaint on March 22. A few days later the Ukrainian government gave the Kostenko group another building in the city center of Kyiv.

Uncharacteristically, Mr. Kostenko's Rukh has not raised any serious protests to the extraordinary event. Officially, however, the building had remained in the name of the original Rukh and was obtained through the efforts of Mr. Chornovil's successor, Hennadii Udovenko.

The turn of events occurred as the

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U.S. aids "Odessa, Russia"

PARSIPPANY, N.J. – Unbeknownst to the world – perhaps even under cover of darkness – U.S. officials have turned the southern Ukrainian city of Odessa (sic) over to Russia.

Could this be an April Fool's joke?

Well, not exactly ... Odesa – the official spelling used by Ukraine – has been turned over to Russia only in press releases distributed by the Office of International Information Programs, U.S. Department of State. In reality, Odesa remains part of Ukraine.

Let's backtrack.

A March 17 press release was headlined "U.S. Awards Grant to Odessa, Russia, to Study Heating Renovations." A summary of the release noted: "The U.S. Trade and Development Agency (TDA) awarded a \$400,000 grant to the municipal council of Odessa, Russia, March 17 to develop plans for producing

and delivering heat to buildings throughout the city."

Thankfully, the press release itself made no mention of Russia. "The U.S. Trade and Development Agency has awarded a \$400,000 grant to the Odessa Municipal Council to develop plans for improving the city's district heating system. The grant was signed today in Odessa by the U.S. Ambassador to Ukraine, Steven K. Pifer, and the city's Mayor, Ruslan Bodelan," it reported.

For the record, there are at least six other Odessas: four in the United States, in Texas, Washington, Minnesota and New York; as well as two in Canada, in Ontario and Saskatchewan.

There is no Odessa or Odesa in Russia.

Perhaps the U.S. State Department could use some good maps?

SUSK holds 48th congress in Hamilton

by Roman W. Zakaluzny

HAMILTON, Ontario – The Ukrainian Canadian Students' Union (SUSK) held its 48th annual congress here over the weekend of February 24-27. Twenty-one delegates from across Canada and the United States converged on "Steeltown" for the three-day conference with sessions held at McMaster University.

"The congress was an interesting experience, as it is every year," said re-elected SUSK President Michael Ilnycky. "Even with the lower than expected turnout, it appeared that everyone had a good time and was able to take something and hopefully apply it to their work in the Ukrainian community," he added.

Students from Edmonton and Calgary, Alberta; London, Toronto and Windsor, Buffalo, N.Y., Cleveland and Detroit met up with Hamilton students and agreed on a number of resolutions for the upcoming year. Some of the resolutions included: for SUSK to be at more community events; to investigate the feasibility of a SUSK summer tour to Ukraine; to investigate questionable immigration policies of the Canadian government; and to actively seek out and promote internships for students in firms and non-governmental organizations in Ukraine.

The keynote speaker was Eugene Czolij, president of the Ukrainian Canadian Congress. Mr. Czolij spoke on the need for more cooperation between the two groups, and suggested ways this could be achieved. SUSK resolved to actively support and promote political positions taken by the UCC.

A SUSK executive was elected for the year. Commenting on his re-election as president, Mr. Ilnycky said he was looking forward to serving a second term. "Working with other members of the SUSK executive who have also maintained their positions will add a great deal of continuity, along with a wealth of experience."

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Michael Starr...

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appointed to the Welfare Board in 1939. He continued to campaign for alderman almost every year and was elected to the municipal council in 1944.

Oshawa, a center of automobile production, was heavily involved in war production. During the second world war Mr. Starr served on many community committees relating to the war effort. At the end of the war in 1945, the economy improved and Oshawa benefited from the post-war economic boom. During this period Oshawa received many Ukrainian immigrants from Europe who added youth and vigor to the local community. They also brought news of events in Ukraine during World War II.

In 1949 Mr. Starr was elected mayor of Oshawa. He continued his program of municipal development and was responsible for the construction of major municipal services. In 1951 he ran unsuccessfully as a Progressive Conservative Party candidate in the Ontario provincial elections. In April 1952 he ran in a federal by-election as a Progressive Conservative Party candidate for the Ontario Riding and won, receiving the highest support from south-end Oshawa, his old Ukrainian neighborhood.

In his first speech in Parliament, Mr. Starr emphasized that he was a representative of the "new Canadians." On July 1, 1952, Mr. Starr spoke on the opening broadcast of Radio Canada International to Ukraine. He spoke the prophetic words: "... But do not lose courage, brothers, for the free world has not forgotten you. The time will come when the spirit of freedom penetrates the Iron Curtain of oppression, the prison of nations crumbles and the reign of terror disintegrates under the blows of victorious forces of freedom and democracy."

As a member of Parliament, Mr. Starr was perceived by many Ukrainian community leaders as their spokesman in Ottawa on national and international issues. He spoke in the House of Commons and in public against the influence of communism in Canada and against the nationality policies of the Soviet Union.

In 1956 Mr. Starr actively supported John Diefenbaker in his campaign for the leadership of the Progressive Conservative Party. With Mr. Diefenbaker as national leader, the Progressive Conservatives won the federal election of 1957; Mr. Starr was appointed minister of labor – the first Canadian of Ukrainian origin to hold this position. That appointment began a new chapter in his political career.

Due to his national profile, Mr. Starr was

able to obtain the support of many Ukrainians across Canada for the Progressive Conservative Party. Traditionally, many Ukrainians had voted for the Liberal Party because it was during their administration that most Ukrainians immigrated to Canada in the years 1896-1911 and again in 1947-1952.

In 1957 Mr. Starr was honored in Detroit as Ukrainian of the Year for North America by the Ukrainian Professional Association.

He was re-elected in the 1958 federal elections and was faced with many national problems: seasonal unemployment, regional disparities, union negotiations, emerging militant Québécois nationalism. During his tenure as minister of labor, the Winter Works Program encouraged year-round employment and fundamentally changed Canadian seasonal working traditions. He was very conscious of the disastrous effects of unemployment on individual and family life, and devoted most of his time and efforts to create employment across Canada. Mr. Starr did not hesitate to use the resources of the federal government to stimulate the economy.

He was a practical politician and was not limited by ideological concerns. Although Mr. Starr was an anti-Communist, he did not oppose the sale of Canadian wheat to Communist China because he knew the history of Ukraine during the 1932-1933 Great Famine and did not want to use food as a weapon.

During his tours across Canada Mr. Starr made an effort to visit Ukrainian communities in towns and cities and spoke to his audiences in Ukrainian. He also visited Ukrainian communities in the United States and spoke at Ukrainian national and international conferences and congresses. He personally encouraged Ukrainian community leaders to run for political office at all levels.

On the local level, Mr. Starr was one of the founders of the Ukrainian Business and Professional Club in Oshawa, which attempted to provide a link between the Ukrainian community and the larger society.

After the defeat of the Conservative government in the 1963 elections, Mr. Starr became an active member of the opposition in Parliament. He remained loyal to Mr. Diefenbaker despite a growing movement to remove him as party leader. For his loyalty the party leader appointed Mr. Starr as House Leader.

When Mr. Diefenbaker's leadership was challenged within the Conservative Party and a leadership convention was called for September 1967, Mr. Starr felt he had the support of Mr. Diefenbaker in running for the leadership of the party. However Mr. Diefenbaker decided at the last minute to



Michael Starr

enter the leadership race himself and Mr. Starr lost most of his support. Mr. Starr remained House Leader under the new party leader Robert Stanfield. Mr. Starr later stated that his motive in running for the leadership of the Conservative Party was to encourage others from the Canadian ethnocultural groups to enter Canadian politics.

In the 1968 federal election Mr. Starr was defeated by a mere 15 votes by Ed Broadbent, who later became the national leader of the New Democratic Party. Mr. Starr was appointed Citizenship Court judge, serving in that post until 1972. During his tenure he encouraged Ukrainians, including members of the Ukrainian left-wing organizations, to acquire Canadian citizenship.

In 1972 Mr. Starr ran against Mr. Broadbent in the federal elections but was not successful. From 1973 until 1980, he was chairman of the Workmen's Compensation Board of Ontario. Mr. Starr also served on the Liquor License Board of Ontario. As he had developed a reputation for public service and fairness, in 1983 he was appointed co-chairman of a task force reviewing conflict of interest and post-employment guidelines for members of Parliament. The report was submitted in 1984.

Mr. Starr continued to live in Oshawa in the home he built with the aid of friends and family. He remained active in the local community and headed many fund-raising campaigns for Oshawa and the Durham Region. Throughout his career he appeared at many Ukrainian functions across Canada and the United States. For example, he spoke at the historic First World Congress of Free Ukrainians held in New York City in November 1967 and was active in the Ukrainian Canadian Centennial celebrations in 1991.

He felt that he was particularly fortunate to witness the collapse of the Soviet Union and the establishment of an independent Ukrainian state in 1991. During the last year of his life he was involved in a project to twin the Durham Region with the city of Dnipropetrovsk, Ukraine.

Mr. Starr was predeceased by his wife, Anne Zaritsky, whom he married in 1933, and his son, Dr. Robert Starr. He is survived by his daughter, Joan Nicol, and several grandchildren.

Mr. Starr opened the political doors for many other Ukrainian Canadians and also for those from other Canadian ethnocultural groups. His contributions to Canadian political life were recognized by many Canadians and he received many awards in acknowledgment of that fact. An Ontario provincial government office building in Oshawa was named in his honor. His life and career serve as a concrete example of the success of the Canadian policy of multiculturalism.

Myron Momryk is an archivist and historian living in Ottawa.

UNA Executive...

(Continued from page 1)

plus of \$1,099,783. The UNA has made strides in reducing the deficits in 1999, but it must try to eliminate them even further, Mr. Kaczaraj underscored.

National Secretary Lysko reported that the UNA closed the year with a total of 52,926 policies; of these 3,874 were in Canada. The UNA had 515 new policies issued in 1999 for the total face amount of \$5,726,568.

During the year 13 new secretaries took over branch duties, three secretaries died and 11 retired, Mrs. Lysko continued. Fifteen secretaries attended the Secretarial Courses held at Soyuzivka in August. The UNA's organizing efforts were hampered by a delay in introducing the new rate book and a lack of a professional sales force. The UNA met 41.20 percent of its organizing quota in 1999.

The UNA made significant changes at its Home Office, the national secretary reported. The organization successfully transferred its operations to a new life

administration system, which is fully operational and Y2K compliant. The new system made it possible to introduce direct billing to UNA branches, and by year's end 25 branches went on direct billing.

President Diachuk summarized the entire UNA operation. She noted that donations to the Ukrainian National Foundation from the sale of Christmas cards netted a profit of \$32,739, which was donated to Soyuzivka. The sale of the UNA Almanac brought in \$39,466. Donations to the Svoboda Press Fund totaled \$20,479, while donations to The Ukrainian Weekly Press Fund brought in \$11,396.

Soyuzivka's summer season started out strong, Mrs. Diachuk said, but it collapsed by midsummer. Overall room occupancy rate for the year was between 40 and 45 percent. In year 2000 the UNA will be looking to outside consultants for advice on marketing the resort and improving the financial status of Soyuzivka.

Second Vice-President Dydyk-Petrenko reported on her continuing efforts to set up an interesting entertainment program at Soyuzivka for the summer 2000 season.

She is also looking for someone to serve as master of ceremonies for the season. Ms. Dydyk-Petrenko commented that almost nine months of preparation are necessary for three months of performance.

The UNA's director for Canada, the Rev. Stasiw, reported on his efforts to increase membership in the Toronto area. He said he is also busy with looking for a new chairman for the UNA's Toronto District Committee because of the recent illness of the present chairman.

First Vice-President Kuropas, reported on the hotel search for the next convention. This is just the initial phase of preparations for the 2002 of convention. He also reported on his review of the investment management proposals submitted to the UNA by Summit Bank of New Jersey and Summit Strategies of St. Louis.

Other matters discussed at the Executive Committee meeting included: more varied fraternal benefits, sale of long-term care policies and supplemental insurance. The Executive Committee approved the reduction in the newsstand price for its two newspapers from \$1.25 to \$1.

THE UKRAINIAN NATIONAL ASSOCIATION FORUM

Young UNA member to be honored at congress for prize-winning essay

LUTHERVILLE, Md. – The Chesapeake State Fraternal Congress at its 93rd annual congress in Rehoboth Beach, Del., on March 25 honored Michael Iwashko, a seventh grade student at Ridgely Middle School, in Lutherville, Md., for winning first prize in its 1999 essay contest.

Michael, son of George and Marta Iwashko of Timonium, was tops among all essayists writing on the topic, "What Fraternalism Means to Me."

A bilingual student fluent in English and Ukrainian, Michael this year is adding Spanish to his studies. He is a gifted and talented student whose major field of interest is science.

Michael plays the piano and saxophone and is a member of the Ridgely honors band. He also participates in basketball, soccer and lacrosse, and is a member of the Plast Ukrainian Scouting Organization.

Michael's parents are members of Ukrainian National Association Branch 337.

The Chesapeake State Fraternal Congress comprises over 20 fraternal benefit societies from Maryland, Delaware and the District of Columbia.



Michael Iwashko

For years it was called the Maryland-D.C. Fraternal Congress but in 1995 Delaware was added and the name was changed. The congress endeavors to help preserve values central to the stability and strength of the American nation.

Only active members can be UNA leaders

by **Ulana Diachuk**
UNA President

In the UNA a member with an insurance policy for which he/she is paying a premium (dues) is defined as an "active member." All policyholders with paid-up policies are considered to be non-active members.

Only an active member can vote in branch meetings, be elected to a branch office, or be elected a delegate of his branch to a UNA convention and run for a position on the General Assembly, this organization's highest body between conventions.

Years ago the UNA was able to offer insurance coverage to members only up to the age of 60. Later the age limit was increased to 65. Many members with paid-up policies wanted to remain actively involved in the UNA. For them a new membership category, that of "social member," was created.

Social members must be 65 years old or older, owners of a paid-up policy and must pay fraternal dues which up to July 1998, amounted to \$1.80 and presently are at \$3 annually.

As we have been advertising on the pages of this newspaper, now the UNA is able to offer insurance coverage to members up to a very high age, namely: single premium policies to age 90, whole life policies to age 85, 20-year paid-up or universal life to age 80. At age 70 the UNA insures members for up to \$10,000 of insurance coverage without a medical examination.

The time has now come for all social members, as well as for the thousands of members with paid-up policies, to once again become active members by taking out another insurance policy with the UNA and at the same time benefitting from today's

much lower premiums.

It is a well-known fact that many UNA members have minimum life insurance coverage amounting to as little as \$500 or \$1,000. These members should certainly increase their coverage to much higher amounts in keeping with the needs and demands of current life styles. At the same time they can demonstrate their commitment to the UNA, their appreciation of the UNA's multi-faceted fraternal work for the benefit of its membership, the Ukrainian American community and Ukraine, and their wish to have those activities continue for the good of coming generations.

Speaking of succeeding generations, it should be noted that best way to bind our children and grandchildren to the Ukrainian American or Ukrainian Canadian community is by making them UNA members. This can be done very easily done by purchasing an insurance policy for them.

In addition, by entering subscriptions for our younger generations to our publications, The Ukrainian Weekly or Svoboda, you will introduce them to a great variety of Ukrainian organizations and their extensive activities. This information, in turn, will generate interest for them to join in these activities. Participation in the diverse youth camps at our resort, Soyuzivka, will give youths a chance to meet other young Ukrainian and will leave with them pleasant memories and lasting friendships for the rest of their lives.

Let us not forget that the future of all Ukrainian organizations – including the UNA's – is in our own hands. Organizations will exist only if all generations of Ukrainians support them.

In regard to the Ukrainian National Association, supporting it means actively working to increase its membership.

Young UNA'ers



Sarah Sophia Pishko, daughter of Theodore Pishko, was enrolled into UNA Branch 338 in Monessen, Pa., by his grandmother Olga Pishko.



Maria Solomia, daughter of Olya and Pavlo Bandriwsky, was enrolled by her parents into UNA Branch 360 in Buffalo, N.Y.



Proud parents Todd Andrew Lee and Christiane Wolfe Lee, with their first son, Markian Gregory Lee, are all new members of UNA Branch 13 in Watervliet, N.Y.

RECORDING DEPARTMENT MEMBERSHIP REPORT – JANUARY 2000

Martha Lysko, National Secretary

	Juvenile	Adult	ADD	Total
Total Active Members – 12/99	7,527	15,941	3,874	27,342
Total Inactive Members – 12/99	7,314	18,270	0	25,584
Total Members – 12/99	14,841	34,211	3,874	52,926

ACTIVE MEMBERSHIP

Gains in 1/2000				
New members	15	13	0	28
New members UL	0	2	0	2
Reinstated	1	5	0	6
Total Gains:	16	20	0	36

Losses in 1/2000				
Died	3	31	0	34
Cash surrender	10	8	0	18
Endowment matured	16	6	0	22
Fully paid-up	10	21	0	31
Reduced paid-up	0	0	0	0
Extended Insurance	0	15	0	15
Certificates lapsed (active)	1	8	14	23
Certificate terminated	1	1	2	4
Total Losses	41	90	16	147
Total Active Members - 1/2000	7,502	15,871	3,858	27,231

INACTIVE MEMBERSHIP

Gains in 1/2000				
Paid-up	10	21	0	31
Reduced paid up	0	0	0	0
Extended insurance	0	15	0	15
Total Gains	10	36	0	46

Losses in 1/2000				
* Died	1	41	0	42
* Cash surrender	10	11	0	21
Pure endowment matured	1	1	0	2
Reinstated to active	1	5	0	6
Certificates lapsed (inactive)	5	11	0	16
Total Losses	18	69	0	87
Total Inactive Members – 1/2000	7,306	18,237	0	25,543
TOTAL MEMBERSHIP - 1/2000	14,808	34,108	3,858	52,774

(* Paid up and reduced paid up policies)

THE UKRAINIAN WEEKLY

A haunting reminder

The recent tragedy at the Barakova coal mine in the Ukrainian city of Krasnodon – in which 81 miners were killed during a methane gas explosion – is a haunting reminder of the tragedy that filled the daily lives of Ukrainians who came to America more than 100 years ago. It was the grim reality of the coal mines of Pennsylvania that gave birth to the Ukrainian National Association.

In the 19th century, America's industrialization and dramatic economic development was fueled, literally, by coal. Coal fueled the expansion of the railroad into America's undeveloped western states, and in Pennsylvania it fueled the mighty American steel industry.

But extracting coal was dangerous work. Dr. Myron B. Kuropas, in his history of the UNA, "The Ukrainian-American Citadel" writes that being a coal miner in America in the 19th century "meant working in a black hell six days a week." Illness, injury and death were common. Several hundred coal miners a year died from methane gas explosions in the mines of the Pennsylvania anthracite region – the same type of explosion that recently killed the miners in Ukraine. Annually, tens of thousands of miners were maimed.

The first European immigrants to work the mines in Pennsylvania were of English, Scottish, German, Welsh and Irish descent. Rejecting the abominable working conditions, they began to unionize for better conditions and to strike in protest when the terms were not met. It was into this tense stand-off between wealthy coal barons who owned the mines and the miners who worked them that the first East European immigrants arrived in the latter half of the 19th century.

Agents for the coal companies traveled to the territories of the Austro-Hungarian empire, recruiting Hungarians, Poles, Slovaks, Czechs, Serbs, Slovenians and Ukrainians to come to Pennsylvania. The agents paid for transportation and promised a job in America – a job in the land of plenty. Young girls were promised jobs as maids and cooks, young men as miners. These young men, however, were unaware that they were actually being hired as cheap, exploitable labor, or worse, being recruited as unwitting strike-breakers.

From the adverse circumstances in which the new immigrants found themselves sprung the necessity to rely on one other. Particularly harsh was the situation in which the husband, a coal miner, was killed and left a widow and children penniless. Since coal mining was such a high-risk profession, traditional life insurance companies would not insure a miner. The government offered no relief, and the privately owned coal companies also provided no security.

Therefore, as writes Dr. Kuropas: "The fraternal benefit system in Pennsylvania grew out of a need to provide low-cost life insurance for workers either unable to obtain, or to afford coverage. ... Survivors, left with no source of income, suffered the most when miners were killed or disabled. Few families were left with much to live on after paying funeral expenses."

From this basic need, to make sure that a miner's family would not fall into destitution after his death, was born the UNA. And though the UNA has grown beyond its original purpose and has transformed itself several times over, there still are, nonetheless, among its more than 50,000 members, Ukrainian Americans only a generation or two removed from those difficult times, who can recall the immigrant stories of their parents and grandparents about the coal towns of Pennsylvania.

The tragic circumstances of a coal mining life were the practical impetus for the formation of this fraternal, but so was the emotional and very human desire to help. The Rev. Hryhory Hrushka, one of the UNA's founding members, wrote "One man cannot lift a heavy stone, but when three or four men put their strength to it, the stone will soon be lifted. It is just as difficult for one man to rid himself of want and poverty, but with the help of a few he can do it. One man cannot help all, but all can easily help one man."

Therefore, we encourage our UNA members to both remember the history of this fraternal and assist those suffering in the wake of the latest tragedy in Krasnodon by making a contribution to the UNA's fund to help the families of the deceased miners.

To donate to the UNA's fund, please make your check payable to: Ukrainian National Foundation Inc. (with the notation "Aid to Ukrainian Miners Fund"), and send your donation to: The Ukrainian National Association; 2200 Route 10, PO Box 280, Parsippany, NJ 07054. Donations are tax-deductible under IRS Code 501(c)(3).

April
4
1897

Turning the pages back...

The Rev. Nestor Dmytriw (1863-1925) was a pioneering Ukrainian Catholic priest who emigrated to the United States from Ukraine in 1895, becoming editor-in-chief of Svoboda in 1895-1897. In 1897 he was appointed by Canada's Department of

the Interior to serve as an immigration agent. The cleric arrived in Winnipeg on April 4, 1897. Simultaneously he was tapped by Cardinal Sylvester Sembratovych to serve the Rusyn (as Ukrainians were then known) faithful in Canada.

In the Winnipeg immigration building, according to immigration historian Dr. Myron B. Kuropas, the Rev. Dmytriw "heard confessions, distributed communion and baptized children. Later he traveled to Terebowla, now Valley River, where he celebrated the first Rusyn-Ukrainian divine liturgy on Canadian soil. ... [He] served as an immigration officer and interpreter for Canada's newly arrived Rusyns, all of whom were from Galicia and Bukovyna."

During his two years in Canada, the Rev. Dmytriw was the only Ukrainian Catholic priest in the country. He helped relocate immigrants to their homesteads, and provided spiritual guidance. He also organized parishes in Stuartburn, Terebowla, site of Canada's first Ukrainian Catholic chapel, and the Edna-Star area, where the first large Ukrainian church was built. Dr. Kuropas notes that in all the larger settlements visited by the Rev. Dmytriw "Crosses of Freedom" were erected in memory of the Ukrainians' arrival in Canada.

Source: "Ukrainian-American Citadel: The First One Hundred Years of the Ukrainian National Association" by Dr. Myron B. Kuropas. Boulder, Colo.: East European Monographs, 1996.

NEWS AND VIEWS

Ukraine and the 'Russian school'

by David R. Marples

Leonid Kuchma's second term as president of Ukraine, according to critics in Russia and some in the West, has erupted into a dangerous outburst of anti-Russian sentiment. The Ukrainian government has reportedly embarked on the course of "suicidal nationalism" of which former U.S. President George Bush warned in July 1991 during his infamous visit to Kyiv.

Several events have sparked the criticism. They include a decision taken late last year to promote the use of the Ukrainian language in education and provide compulsory Ukrainian language tests for all state employees. The movement toward a Ukrainian national culture has coincided with the end of Communist control – identified with a past of domination by Russia – in the Ukrainian Parliament for the first time since independence.

This month, a controversial referendum in Ukraine will decide, among other things, whether to provide the president with the authority to dissolve Parliament in matters of emergency. This decision, again directed against the Communist recalcitrance of the past that is identified with domination by Russia, has been condemned by the Council of Europe, which has threatened to end Ukraine's membership, ostensibly for developing a form of presidential dictatorship that could unhinge a fragile democracy. From the Ukrainian perspective the threat may seem especially harsh. After all, it was early this year that Ukraine abolished capital punishment, thereby resolving its previous impasse with the Council of Europe.

There are, undeniably, many problems in contemporary Ukraine: an economy reliant on Western credit but overloaded with debts; a leadership that has failed to curb state bureaucracy and rising corruption; obsolete and dangerous industries such as the coal mines of the Donbas.

At the same time the observer wonders why there are such outspoken objections to measures that would pass unnoticed in most countries, but which are really no more than attempts at self-identification or a rejection of the Communist past.

Last week, for example, protesters in Moscow picketed the Embassy of Ukraine to demand that Ukraine give equal rights to the Russian language and end alleged persecution of the 11-million strong Russian minority in Ukraine. Oleg Mironov, the human rights commissioner of the Russian Federation, maintains that Ukraine has violated the European Convention on Human Rights with policies of language discrimination. Such policies received attention in countries such as the Baltic states of Latvia and Estonia, which issued similar laws on languages, but they appear to be even less acceptable in Ukraine because of the widespread perception that Ukraine is not really distinct from Russia.

The Russian protesters have significant support from organizations and individuals in the West.

A case in point is the recent review/article on Ukrainian-Russian relations in The New York Review of Books by former U.S. Ambassador to the Soviet Union, Jack F. Matlock Jr., titled "The

Dr. David R. Marples is a professor of history and acting director of the Canadian Institute of Ukrainian Studies at the University of Alberta.

Nowhere Nation" (February 24). The article was dismissive of Ukraine's national aspirations. According to Ambassador Matlock, around 53 percent of residents of Ukraine are Russian speakers, and "Russia and Ukraine shared essentially the same fate under Communism." Hence, in his view, Ukrainians are wrong to equate Soviet rule with Russian influences.

Mr. Matlock was quick to praise a new book by the British author Anatol Lieven ("Ukraine and Russia: A Fraternal Rivalry"), which is curtly dismissive of Ukrainian cultural and national aspirations different from those of Russia.

According to Mr. Matlock, "[Lieven's book] is the place to start if you are confused about what is going on in today's Ukraine or are inclined to blame its problems on Russia." Mr. Lieven is "unquestionably right when he points out that the 70 years of communism (40-odd years in western Ukraine) created more similar features in Russia and Ukraine than legitimate reasons for hostility." Later in the same paragraph Mr. Matlock adds. "Neither Russia nor Ukraine can properly be considered the exclusive heir of medieval Kievan Rus. Religion has normally been a unifying force, since both countries are predominantly Orthodox."

Regarding the "identical" experience of Russia and Ukraine under Communism, just a few examples prove otherwise: Russia experienced no Famine in the 1930s; the purges in the non-Russian republics affected a far greater portion of society, particularly intellectuals and party leaders; and the German-Soviet war was fought mainly on the territories of Ukraine and Belarus. The Ukrainian Orthodox Church was persecuted along with its Ukrainian Catholic counterpart after the second world war. Even today, apparently unknown to Mr. Matlock, conflict continues between the Russian and Ukrainian versions of Orthodoxy. One could continue ad nauseam, but one is talking to deaf ears.

The observer wonders why Mr. Lieven, a novice to Ukrainian studies, should be considered more reliable than the authors of the other books encompassed by Ambassador Matlock's review: Bohdan Nahaylo, Taras Kuzio, Robert S. Kravchuk, and Paul D'Anieri. Mr. Nahaylo's book, dismissed in a few cursory sentences by Mr. Matlock, represents more than 20 years of accumulated research and documentation. Or for that matter, why should the confused outsider read Mr. Lieven, a neophyte journalist, rather than Prof. Roman Szporluk of Harvard University, author of a new book on Ukrainian-Russian relations, or Dr. Roman Solchanyk, who has spent a good part of his career analyzing this same question?

According to Ambassador Matlock, the answer is first – implicitly – that authors of Ukrainian ancestry writing about Ukraine are not to be trusted: "The assumption held by nationalists from western Ukraine that the current Russian Federation is essentially the same as the Soviet Union and the Russian Empire that preceded it is no longer a strong current of thinking in Ukraine, but it lives on in foreign scholarship and journalism."

For foreign scholarship and journalism, one can substitute the names of Messrs. Nahaylo and Kuzio, and others, whose works are subjected to critical review by the ambassador.

(Continued on page 20)

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

More information on Galicia Division

Dear Editor:

Regarding the article by Inger Kuzych "Focus on Philately" (March 5), I would like to share some views.

To begin with, I found the article interesting because I also possess in my collection some envelopes and stamps pertaining to the Galicia Division. On occasion, I wondered if they were actually stamps, labels or what. And I had no knowledge of the value of these items. Therefore, I thank the writer for his article.

However, as I read the article, I noted some mistakes. And that is the reason I am responding.

To begin with, the 14th Waffen SS "Galicia" Division, known in the concluding weeks of the war as the 1st Ukrainian Division of the Ukrainian National Army, had various name titles. But the division was never titled or referred to as a "Sharpshooter Division." As for plans to establish five independent regiments, in actuality only four were created. They were numbered 4 through 7. As for these regiments, they never "served as a reserve for the division." In fact, all of its personnel were eventually incorporated into the Division.

It is true that in the beginning stages of the Galicia Division the formation was largely a German officered division. However, the claim that "the Galicia Division command and the technical corps consisted entirely of German officers" is not correct. In fact, by mid-1944, the division eventually attained many of its own native officers. At the time of its deployment, about 150 Ukrainian officers were deployed with the division. In addition, the division never had a technical corps.

The division did not see its first action in "mid-June." Actually, its first echelons began to deploy on June 28, 1944. On July 15, the division's 30th Infantry Regiment engaged the attacking Soviet forces. On July 16 the entire division was committed into combat.

Unfortunately, among many Ukrainians and some Western writers, there still exists the false myth that the division was "not yet fully trained and [was] inadequately supported." It is true that in the concluding months of the war in 1945 the men who entered the division were not properly trained because German training areas were now being overrun by the advancing Allied armies and there was a lack of resources and munitions. But this was not the case with those who entered the division in 1943 and early 1944.

In fact, the division which deployed to the eastern front in late June/early July of 1944 was exceptionally well-trained, armed and equipped. Among its Ukrainian officers and non-commissioned officers, a number had combat experience. Some were former members of the Ukrainian Insurgent Army (UPA) and had fought the Nazis, others were veterans of the Polish Army of 1939, and others had served in the French Army in 1940. A number were also veterans of the pre-1939 Czechoslovakian army. Others had served in other armies. As for weaponry and equipment, the division possessed the newest models. Among its inventory was a battery of 88mm artillery – a weapons system most German divisions did not even possess.

In combat, the Galicia Division was not "virtually wiped out." Approximately 10,500 soldiers (and not 14,000) deployed. From this strength, in the aftermath of the Battle of Brody, about 3,000 ex-Brody fighters were assembled by late September

1944. However, in the upcoming weeks and months, many others drifted back into the division. By April 1945, some 2,300 additional Galicia Division soldiers had returned for a total of 5,300. These men returned from various places. The UPA, various German units that finally released them and some via the Soviet Army.

Although about 5,300 returned, many others remained within the UPA. Others continued to hide out among the civilian population in western Ukraine while others ended up in the Soviet army. And a small number (as instructors) remained within the German service.

As for casualties, almost 2,700 division soldiers were killed or seriously wounded. About 900 others, some wounded, were captured. Of course, these are heavy casualties. However, had it not been for the superb training received by the division, the casualty rate would have been significantly higher. After all, the Galicia Division had encountered massive Soviet forces south of Brody and a massive amount of firepower was directed against the division.

It is important to note that in the aftermath of the collapse of the Soviet Union many ex-Brody combatants suddenly re-emerged. Previously, it had been believed that these individuals had been killed. Among these were those who had remained in the UPA but in the Khrushchev era had returned home. Others, such as those who hailed from Galicia, returned home following the division's successful break-out from encirclement. Discarding their uniforms, they simply remained in their home regions and succeeded in finding a way of life.

Others, upon returning home, were not so lucky. Drafted into the Soviet army after July 1944 and unable to escape back to the division, they remained in the Soviet service until the end of the war. Discharged in 1945, they were sent back home. And, of course, a number of the prisoners of war also survived. In due time, they also returned home.

As for Adolf Hitler, he actually did authorize some tactical withdrawals in the vicinity of Brody. Noting the German withdrawal (which, incidentally, was poorly conducted), the Soviets sensed a moment of opportunity and attacked sooner than the date their planners had initially established.

The division was not "in January of 1945 transferred to Austria to fill gaps in the front." Rather, on January 31, 1945, the division was ordered into the region of southeastern Austria/northwestern Yugoslavia. (Currently the Republic of Slovenia). By February 28, the division was in place. It remained there until the end of March. On April 1 it marched to the northeast. The division was ordered to assist in repulsing a major Soviet offensive. Its mission was not to fill gaps but rather, to halt a major thrust. This the Galicia Division accomplished with distinction.

Gen. Pavlo Shandruk never "joined the division in April 1945." Rather, he conducted an inspection tour of the division. His plan was to incorporate the division into the newly forming Ukrainian army.

I am the author of a book on the Galicia Division. Within its pages, many of the myths and inaccuracies pertaining to the division are examined. And I hope that some day, the true story will be known by all. Thank You.

Michael O. Logusz
Sterling, N.Y.

The writer is a major in the U.S. Army Reserve. His book is titled "Galicia Division: The Waffen-SS 14th Grenadier Division, 1943-1945."

Faces and Places

by Myron B. Kuropas



Five lives, five countries

Eugenia Sakevich Dallas is a survivor. Few people, let alone Americans, can match her journey, a trek that encompasses five lifetimes in five different countries.

Her first life began in Ukraine, in the village of Kamiana Balka in 1925; she was the youngest of six Sakevich children. In her memoir, "One Woman, Five Lives, Five Countries," Eugenia recalls her earliest years as joyful. Her father owned some land and built the family house from the ground up. There were celebrations after each harvest, and the winter was spent indoors reading and playing with friends and family. One of Eugenia's most enduring memories is of riding in a sleigh over the soft, white snow cuddled warmly in her mother's huge coat and fur blanket.

By 1928, one sister, Natalia, married, and three brothers left home, Gabriel to a military academy, Grisha to Kyiv to study art, and Jasha to a mine in the Urals. Remaining were Eugenia, her brother Mykola, and her parents.

Eugenia's first life was savagely destroyed by Stalin's collectivization campaign. Mr. Sakevich, a successful farmer, refused to turn over his property to the Bolsheviks. Predictably, he was labeled "an enemy of the people," a "bourgeois landowner," a "kurlul." He was arrested during the winter of 1929-1930.

"The party people who appeared in Kamiana Balka were from distant places," writes Eugenia. "They didn't know farmers or farming. Party members from Russia, Georgia, Armenia or Belarus were sent to Ukraine ... That system meant great numbers of people didn't know what was happening in their home countries, and also that the Bolshevik functionaries and party militia had no attachment to the people they policed."

Her father returned after a few months, but was no longer the same man. He was re-arrested in 1931, never to be seen again, and the Sakeviches were kicked out of their house. Grisha was able to get Mykola into an orphanage, while Eugenia and her mother fled to another village. Since he was the son of a "kurkul," Grisha was forced out of the military academy.

Although, the harvest of 1931 was good, the Bolsheviks expropriated everything. "Stalin's militiamen guarded grain silos and stuffed their faces while peasants began starving," she writes. Soon after scavenging in a field for leftover potatoes, Eugenia's mother was arrested, charged with stealing from the state, and sentenced to three years of hard labor in the Baikal region of Siberia. Eugenia, then 5 years old, went to live with her married sister Natalia.

In 1933 brother Grisha was involved in a student protest at the university. He and the other students were arrested and sentenced to three years of hard labor building a canal north of Leningrad. He eventually returned, but in the interim Natalia and Gabriel had died. "Within six years," Eugenia recalls, "I lost my parents, a sister and a brother." With no one to care for her, Eugenia was sent to an orphanage near Kryvyi Rih. Grisha, her beloved brother and one-time guardian, later died of malnutrition.

Eugenia's second life began in 1942 when she was loaded onto a box car and shipped to Austria to work as a slave laborer in a Nazi munitions factory. For the first time she was in the West, where the other workers, especially the French, seemed "kinder, softer, more civilized." At the time, however, it really didn't matter. Seven-day work weeks and constant bomb attacks left

her "too numb to feel fear or excitement or anything else that might be expected. I simply didn't care where I was," she recalls.

Eugenia escaped the Soviet "liberation army" and, following a set of fortuitous events, found herself in Italy when the war ended. Although still fearful of being forcibly repatriated to Soviet Ukraine, her third life was relatively stable for the first time in years. She obtained false papers that identified her as Irma Simolo, a Iranian woman from Tehran.

Eugenia quickly learned to speak Italian (she already spoke German) and her life began to change for the better. Soon she was employed, first as a house maid, then a chorus girl and finally as a highly successful model in Milan, where she spent the next six years.

As good as life was, however, Eugenia was determined to come to the United States, an unrequited dream of her brother Grisha. She approached the International Refugee Organization (IRO) in Rome, and in August 1954, she boarded a ship for New York. America was the setting for Eugenia's fourth life. "The day I set foot in the U.S.A. was a true 'birth of freedom' for me," she believes. Thanks to friends in Italy she was able to explore professional contacts in the United States, and in time she was modeling again. Later, upon the recommendation of a friend, she vacationed in Los Angeles and developed more contacts. On the way back to New York she was asked to stop in Dallas to visit the Nieman Marcus store. Her good fortune continued and soon she was working as a model in Texas. There she met Charlie, whom she later married.

Charlie and Eugenia became the parents of a son, Gene. Unfortunately, Charlie turned out to be an alcoholic, and the marriage didn't last. Eugenia's divorce was the first of a number of setbacks. Gene became a drug addict in high school and Eugenia had her first heart attack.

Desperately trying to save her son, she enrolled him in a school in Switzerland, where his habit only worsened. Wanting to be near her boy, she moved to Geneva, where she resumed her modeling career. Later she met Stewart Dallas, a Scotsman from Glasgow.

Life number five for Eugenia began in Scotland. I could tell you what happened next, but I won't. Buy her book and discover the rest of the story for yourself. Hint: She returned to Ukraine, found her remaining siblings and is presently helping her homeland rise from the abyss. Gene, meanwhile, kicked his drug habit and became a successful businessman.

Her signed memoir can be purchased from Eugenia Dallas, 6702 Hillpark Drive, Hollywood, CA 90068 (\$16.95 plus \$2.25 shipping and handling). Once you read her book you'll agree with me that Eugenia's life has all the makings of a great Hollywood film. Think of it, Eugenia Sakevich Dallas survived the Great Famine, the Nazi occupation, forced repatriation and America's drug culture, while living in five different countries and managing a highly successful career.

Ukraine in modern times is an epic that has yet to be told. It consists of millions of individual life stories, most of which, unfortunately, are lost forever. It is for this reason that we need to support people who are filling in the gaps with amazingly heroic narratives of terror, peril and triumph.

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

DATELINE NEW YORK: Creative forces stirring on many fronts

by Helen Smindak

I know that spring has arrived when the mailman delivers The Ukrainian Museum's Easter workshops calendar, announcing dates and times for its popular and well-established classes in decorating pysanky, baking traditional Easter breads and learning embroidery techniques and styles indigenous to various regions of Ukraine. That breath of spring is heightened when my e-mail imparts another springtime blessing – the Metropolitan Opera's announcement of its 2000-2001 season repertoire, revealing news that Paul Plishka, Sergei Koptchak, Maria Guleghina and Elena Zarembo will grace the Met stage in next season's productions.

Veteran bass Mr. Plishka, cited by Anthony Tommasini of The New York Times for the "commanding sound, great style and vitality" he displayed last month in the role of Dr. Bartolo in the "Barber of Seville," will return to the Met next fall in "Il Trovatore," "Manon" and "Turandot." Ms. Guleghina will appear in "Nabucco," Mr. Koptchak in "Don Giovanni" and Elena Zarembo in "Un Ballo in Maschera."

Easter-season doings

This year The Ukrainian Museum will not display its remarkable collection of pysanky from various regions of Ukraine, an exhibit that has always received a warm reception from public and press alike. Taking a different approach, it is showing the work of six well-known Ukrainian artisans from the United States and Canada: Yaroslava

Bachynska of Montreal, Zenon Elyjiw of Rochester, N.Y., Luba Perchyshyn of Minneapolis, Tania Osadca of Parma, Ohio, Ihor Slabitsky of Rhode Island and Sophia Zielyk of New York. Opening on April 2 and running through the end of June, the display carries some 25 to 30 examples of each decorator's creativity along with photos of the six artisans.

Demonstrations of pysanka-decorating, conducted by batik-method experts Emily Robbins and Yaryna Ferencevych, are scheduled for April 22. For adults and children who wish to create their own pysanky, decorating workshops have been scheduled for April 8, 9, 15 and 16. Continuous showings of Slavko Nowytski's beautiful film "Pysanka" will run during museum hours Wednesday through Sunday, 1 to 5 p.m.

Museum publicity rep Marta Baczynsky says that arrangements have been made once again for "a large contingent" of art students from the Parsons School of Design to attend decorating workshops at the museum this month. She also noted that the eight-week embroidery class (April 8 to June 10), which has grown over the years, includes many women from outside the Ukrainian community who are fascinated by the intricacies of Ukrainian stitchery taught by Lubow Wolynetz and the historical and cultural lore she weaves in with her instructions.

The bread-baking class scheduled for April 15 also benefits from Ms. Wolynetz's baking expertise and knowledge of Ukrainian Easter traditions. The three-session course in making gerdany, the colorful

bead-strung necklaces worn with folk costumes in many regions of Ukraine, will be conducted by Ms. Ferencevych. For further information, call the museum at (212) 228-0110.

A promising career

Mezzo-soprano Kalyna Cholhan-Boychuk, who created a singular impression when she appeared as Carmen in the Castillo Theater's 1995 production of "Carmen's Community," a tale of two contrasting Carmens – one the tough girl Carmencita who lives behind Lincoln Center, the other the title character of the opera who lives only on stage at the Met – has continued to advance her professional career.

Appearing with the New York-based Touring Concert Opera Company in the company's production of Bizet's "Carmen," Ms. Cholhan-Boychuk has been performing the role of Mercedes (one of Carmen's gypsy companions). She will move up to the title role in the fall.

Working with such companies as the Sarasota Opera, Aspen Opera Theater Center, Empire State Opera and Cape Cod's College Light Opera Company, Ms. Cholhan-Boychuk has performed leading roles in "Le Nozze di Figaro," "Cosi Fan Tutte," "A Midsummer Night's Dream" and "Il Barbiere di Siviglia." She has also appeared with New York's Gilbert and Sullivan Players.

On the concert stage, the young mezzo-soprano has been showcased as a soloist in Bach's "Christmas Oratorio" and Cantata No. 147, Britten's "Rejoice in the Lamb" and the Aspen Music Festival premier of a work titled "In the Sparkling Whorls." She participated as an apprentice artist with Sarasota Opera and as a resident artist with the Natchez Opera Festival.

Ms. Cholhan-Boychuk has been proud to participate in several concerts for the Ukrainian community in New York and Philadelphia, including a gala occasion held in honor of visiting President Leonid Kuchma.

A graduate of the Manhattan School of Music with a bachelor's degree in art history from Columbia University, Ms. Cholhan-Boychuk is a regional winner in the McAllister Awards Competition and a scholarship recipient of the Aspen School of Music in both the vocal concert program and the Aspen Opera Theater Center.

Artists from Lviv

The Ukrainian Institute of America, constantly bustling with musical events, pre-school music classes and theatrical presentations, has become a veritable art gallery for artists from Ukraine, undoubtedly reflecting the explosion of self-exploration in the realm of visual art in the first decade of Ukrainian independence.

Shown for a week in early March were recent paintings by Serhiy Hai and Ivan Tverdun of Lviv, both in their early 40s and graduates of the Lviv Academy of Fine Art, whose work was previously exhibited at the Alla Rogers Gallery in Washington. Following the New York exhibit, the artists returned to Washington so their work could be set up at the Embassy of Ukraine for a gala welcome to the newly appointed Ukrainian ambassador to the United States, Kostyantyn Gryshchenko.

Another week at the institute, which concluded on March 26, was devoted to an exhibit of watercolors, gouaches and oils by Lviv-born Orest Polisczuk, a



Kalyna Cholhan-Boychuk

longtime resident of Maryland who teaches sculpture at Montgomery College in Rockville, Md. As this "Dateline" column was being prepared, a fourth exhibit – that of Volodymyr Kovalchuk, a native of Volodymyr-Volynsk in Ukraine now living in Toronto, was about to open.

Mr. Hai, who has an impressive exhibition history (solo exhibitions in Lviv, Kyiv and Germany; group exhibitions in Ukraine, Poland, Germany, Switzerland and the United States, and several jury prizes), showed a series of highly attractive oils. His three-quarter to life-scale canvasses, focusing on the nude female figure, put one in mind of such great figure painters of the 20th century as Matisse, Modigliani and DeKooning. Yet many of his paintings are marked with color accents similar to those favored by icon painters of Kyivan Rus' in the ninth to 13th centuries.

Mr. Hai's art, says Alla Rogers, can be boiled down to sensuous S-curves and bold expressionistic gesture painting in the context of beautiful color balance. "The paintings vibrate with intense emotions and spontaneity that gesture-wise translate into bold swipes of paint, and drips, and scrapes, and complex mergings of color and shape," she points out.

Mr. Tverdun, fascinated since his student days by the unpretentious and yet forceful execution of petroglyphs – prehistoric rock carvings and paintings – showed a series of oils on canvas that concentrated on geometric whirlwinds of color. Imbued with the energy of nature, his medium-size triptychs and individual paintings showed influences of symbolism, surrealism and other art trends. Since 1990 the artist's work has been included in exhibitions in Lviv and Kyiv, and in France, Germany, Norway and Poland.

Mr. Polisczuk, who has exhibited extensively in the United States and Canada in both group and one-man shows for the past 29 years, concentrates on folksy, country themes such as sunflowers, poppies and ducks, and bold portraits of women in Ukrainian regional dress. Delighting viewers, many of his large-scale canvasses centered on flowers typical of the Ukrainian landscape – huge red poppies in full bloom, bright yellow sunflowers in a dark blue vase, stately hollyhocks – and on idyllic village scenes, e.g., "Hutsul Wedding" and "Day at the River," showing women washing clothes at the edge of a stream. Equally fascinating were his large portraits of women in colorful regional costumes, like "Lvivianka," depicting an

(Continued on page 14)

A Ukrainian Summer

Appears May 7 in The Ukrainian Weekly

*Go to summer camp...
Relax at Soyuzivka...
Study bandura...*

*How will you enjoy your Ukrainian summer?
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THE UKRAINIAN WEEKLY

In honor of
Mother's Day

the Ukrainian National Association invites our younger children to greet their mothers in both our weekly newspapers, Svoboda and The Ukrainian Weekly.

We encourage children age 12 and younger to participate in the UNA's special tribute to all mothers in our two publications by sending in art or poetry. The UNA will publish all their good wishes on the pages of Svoboda and The Ukrainian Weekly. In order to give children an opportunity to greet their mothers on this special day, we request that the following guidelines be followed:

Rules:

1. Artwork or poetry must be original. Black/white or colored art is acceptable. Artwork must be submitted on 8 1/2 by 11 paper, which will be reproduced at approximately one-third that size. Poems should be no longer than 20 lines.
2. Entries must have a theme appropriate for mothers.
3. Each entry must have the following on the reverse side:
 - date;
 - name, address and telephone number of the entrant - typed or printed;
 - age of participant and name of school or pre-school he/she attends.
4. Entries will be returned if requested.
5. Entries may be exhibited by the UNA.
6. All entries must be postmarked no later than April 19, 2000, and mailed to:

UNA Corporate Headquarters, Att'n: Oksana Trytjak
2200 Route 10, P.O. Box 280, Parsippany, NJ 07054

For information please call Oksana Trytjak, UNA Special Projects Coordinator, at 973-292-9800 (ext. 3071).

To The Weekly Contributors:

We greatly appreciate the materials - feature articles, news stories, press clippings, letters to the editor, and the like - we receive from our readers. In order to facilitate preparation of The Ukrainian Weekly, we ask that the guidelines listed below be followed.

- ✦ News stories should be sent in **not later than 10 days** after the occurrence of a given event.
- ✦ All materials must be typed (or legibly hand-printed) and double-spaced.
- ✦ Photographs (originals only, no photocopies or computer printouts) submitted for publication must be accompanied by captions. Photos will be returned only when so requested and accompanied by a stamped, addressed envelope.
- ✦ Full names (i.e., no initials) and their correct English spellings must be provided.
- ✦ Newspaper and magazine clippings must be accompanied by the name of the publication and the date of the edition.
- ✦ Information about upcoming events must be received one week before the date of The Weekly edition in which the information is to be published.
- ✦ Persons who submit any materials must provide a daytime phone number where they may be reached if any additional information is required.
- ✦ Unsolicited materials submitted for publication will be returned only when so requested and accompanied by a stamped, addressed envelope.



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SOYUZIVKA AWAITS !!
WE ARE NOW ACCEPTING EMPLOYMENT APPLICATIONS
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Positions available based upon qualifications:

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We are looking for young hardworking students to become part of a unique team and to experience the wonderful atmosphere that SOYUZIVKA has to offer while also enjoying a fun-filled summer.

UNA membership is required. Preference will be given to those who are able to come early in June and stay through Labor Day.

Please submit your application by April 15th 2000

For applications - please call or fax SOYUZIVKA at the numbers listed above.

Los Angeles center focuses on pysanky

LOS ANGELES - The Ukrainian Art Center will host a series of Easter events.

A pysanka-Ukrainian Easter egg workshop will be held at the center, 4315 Melrose Ave., at 11 a.m.- 3 p.m. on Saturday and Sunday, April 8-9. Each participant can make two pysanky for \$25.

The center will hold its Ukrainian Pysanka Festival and Easter Open House on Palm Sunday, April 16, from 11 a.m. to

4 p.m. Ukrainian Easter goods, ranging from crafts to foods, will be available. As well, there will be an exhibit of traditional Ukrainian Easter baskets. A special attraction will be a performance by the Zaporozhian Kozaks Ukrainian dance troupe of Toronto. Admission is \$7; free for children under age 5.

For additional information contact Daria Chaikovsky, (323) 668-0172.

Pysanky part of spring celebration in N.J.

PISCATAWAY, N.J. - Middlesex County Cultural and Heritage Commission presents a "Spring Celebration" at East Jersey Olde Towne Village, featuring two workshops on the traditional art of the pysanka to be conducted by Olga Kobryn on April 2. An exhibit of Ukrainian pysanky will run through April 30.

The two pysanka workshops, suitable for adults, will be held at 10 a.m. and 2:30 p.m. on April 2. Each workshop is limited to 15 persons; there is a \$5 registration fee for

materials, payable at the door.

There will also be egg decorating for children age 4-10, to be held at noon and 1 p.m. Children will also learn the history of this art. An egg hunt for children age 4-6 will take place at 2 p.m.; children will be provided with baskets to collect "eggs."

Registration for the workshops and egg hunt is required. For additional information, or to register, call (732) 745-3030. East Jersey Olde Towne Village is located in Johnson Park at 1050 River Road.

Constitutional Court...

(Continued from page 1)

question, which asks whether the public supports a vote of no confidence in the Verkhovna Rada, the Constitution does not foresee a national vote of no confidence as an instrument by which the Parliament can be dismissed. It rejected the notion that the president could retain the authority to dismiss the Parliament in such a situation as a moot point, given that the first part of the question is illegitimate.

The court also decided that the referendum's sixth question, on the right of the people to approve a constitution through a national referendum, also is unconstitutional because it circumvents the process for constitutional change. It explained that the procedure, which is described in detail in the current Constitution, must also include "a determination of the popular will for the necessity to approve a new Constitution," which the court decided is not evident in the language of the ballot. Without such a grounding, a threat could arise that Constitutional rule could be weakened and human rights and freedoms reduced, ruled the Constitutional Court.

The rendering leaves four Constitutional questions for the Ukrainian electorate to decide on April 16, which, in the order they will be presented on the ballot, address: increasing presidential authority, enabling the president to dismiss the Verkhovna Rada if it should fail to form a working parliamentary majority within a month or fail to pass a budget within three months; limiting national deputies' immunity from criminal prosecution; reducing the number of national deputies from the current 450 to 300; and establishing a bicameral parliament in Ukraine.

Opponents of the national referendum immediately applauded the court's decision. Serhii Holovaty, a national deputy and a leading critic of President Kuchma and the national referendum, called the ruling a "failure of the efforts of dictators, oligarchs and opportunists outside the law." The remarks were in reference to the businessmen and political leaders close to President Kuchma whom Mr. Holovaty has accused of trying to build an autocratic regime in Ukraine to protect their self-interests.

Mr. Holovaty emphasized that the court's rejection of the sixth question was most important because it ruled that a new Constitution could not be ratified by a popular referendum.

"Beginning today, Ukraine is protected and its Parliament is protected. Ukraine

will never go the Belarusian path," said Mr. Holovaty.

He did not concede, however, that the Constitutional Court had dealt properly with the questions that were allowed to remain. The only reason all six questions were not rejected, according to Mr. Holovaty, was because the court had felt intense political pressure to save the executive branch complete embarrassment in pushing a referendum with constitutionally dubious questions.

Another major critic of the national referendum, the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe, which has threatened to suspend Ukraine's membership should the referendum be held, released a statement supporting the Constitutional Court's rendering.

"It is a reasoned decision of democratic institution which shows the maturity of a democratic society," said Lord Russell Johnston, the head of the Council of Europe, in a statement released from Strasbourg, France, according to Interfax-Ukraine.

President Kuchma had no immediate comment on the Constitutional Court ruling. His spokesman, Oleksander Martynenko, said in a terse statement made during a weekly press briefing that the president "took the decision in stride."

The president's legal advisor, Leonid Pidpalov, who along with Minister of Justice Suzanna Stanik is believed to have authored the presidential decree that Mr. Kuchma signed, was defensive in answering reporters' questions in what is ostensibly a setback for the Kuchma administration. He said he was not disturbed by the court's rejection of two of the referendum's points, while emphasizing that President Kuchma has said all along that the questions were not perfect. He also took pains to underscore that the presidential administration did not write the questions.

"Remember that the questions were formulated by the initiators of the referendum," said Mr. Pidpalov.

Mr. Pidpalov said he hopes that the Council of Europe's Venetian Council, which has been holding an independent review on the constitutionality of the questions posed in the Ukrainian referendum and was expected to make its own ruling on March 31, would take into account the decision rendered by Ukraine's highest constitutional authority in making its determination.

By the evening of March 29 President Kuchma had signed a new decree eliminating the two questions ruled unconstitutional and bringing the referendum decree into line with the Constitutional Court's ruling.

Ukraine reacts...

(Continued from page 1)

national governmental and administrative restructuring and to stop looking for favors from Moscow.

"If this works out, I believe Ukraine will find that Mr. Putin is a worthy partner. If this fails and Ukraine continues not to pay for oil and gas, and does not pursue the necessary structural reforms, it will be left in a very, very difficult position," said Mr. Pohrebynskyi.

Many in the West are concerned about just what type of leader Mr. Putin will be: whether he will guide the country through the conclusion of the reform process that was begun but never completed by his predecessor, Boris Yeltsin, or swerve to the right and make himself a strong man in the long tradition of Russian leaders.

The ex-KGB official has said in public statements that he wants a strong Russia and the authority to do what is needed to get to that result. At the same time, however, he has emphasized that he will stay the course of democratic and economic reforms.

Historically, because a strong Russia has meant a weak or non-existent Ukraine, many here are worried that Mr. Putin's election and any attempt by him to return Russia to its historic legacy could mean the beginning of subtle attempts to affect Ukraine's sovereignty and independence.

A former Ukrainian president, however, said that Ukraine should not fear Mr. Putin and that Ukraine-Russia relations "will not radically change."

Leonid Kravchuk, elected president several months after an unsuccessful putsch in Moscow led to the disintegration of the Soviet Union, said that relations between the two countries are sufficiently deep, so that any major shake-ups

would threaten not only the strategic interests of Ukraine, but of Russia as well. That, he explained, would be counterproductive for Mr. Putin.

Mr. Kravchuk also said he believes that the ties between Moscow and Kyiv had reached such dimensions that Mr. Putin alone could not alter them dramatically. "The personality of one man is simply unable to radically change something in this situation," explained Mr. Kravchuk.

He said, he expected that Mr. Putin would pursue a tougher, more pragmatic policy vis-à-vis Ukraine, and that some Ukrainians may view new policies as chilling relations, but that in the long run this would be good for Ukraine.

"The time has come for Ukraine to stop being a beggar," explained Mr. Kravchuk. "It should base the development of relations with other countries, first and foremost with Russia, its nearest and largest neighbor and partner, on a foundation of real trade and mutually beneficial economic relations."

The Ukrainian government has maintained, since Mr. Putin rose to the presidency with the resignation of Mr. Yeltsin on the last day of 1999, that it will be able to work with the new Russian president and that it sees no threat from his leadership.

The day after his formal election, President Leonid Kuchma sent a telegram to the Kremlin congratulating Mr. Putin and expressing hope for the "further strengthening and development of relations of the strategic partnership between our countries, the effective realization of bilateral documents signed recently and the resolution of the accumulated problems in our cooperation."

Interfax-Ukraine reported that in a telephone conversation on March 28 President Kuchma extended an invitation to President-elect Putin to visit Kyiv.

Ukraine remembers...

(Continued from page 3)

National Rukh Party made final preparations for a string of commemorations in honor of Mr. Chornovil on the first anniversary of his tragic death in a car accident just outside Kyiv.

Mr. Chornovil was returning from political appearances in Kirovohrad just after midnight on March 26, 1999, with his personal press secretary, Mr. Ponamarchuk, when the car in which they were traveling collided head on with the side of a tractor-trailer truck that was making a u-turn on the dark two-lane road. Mr. Chornovil and his driver were killed instantly, while Mr. Ponamarchuk survived with serious injuries, chiefly because he was asleep in the back seat at the time of impact.

Ukraine's Ministry of Internal Affairs caused an uproar from among Mr. Chornovil's many supporters and followers when it announced, before all the facts surrounding the shocking incident were known, that the matter would be handled as an accident and not as a possible political assassination. The case was officially closed in December 1999 after the ministry determined that the driver was to blame but decided not to press charges against him, citing no prior record and a stable family history as their reasons.

Mr. Chornovil was buried at the Baikove Cemetery in Kyiv on March 29 in what many observers said was the largest funeral the city had ever seen. More than 50,000 people lined the funeral procession in an outpouring of grief and respect for the Rukh leader, a man who was adored by millions, but also disliked by many who saw him as a main culprit in the destruction of the Soviet system.

Far fewer people were on hand for the several commemorations that occurred this year on March 23-25, but at least several thousand paid tribute to Mr. Chornovil's

memory at the Ivan Franko Theater, where the official ceremony took place. Among those attending were Prime Minister Viktor Yushchenko, First Vice Prime Minister Mykola Zhulynskyi, Minister of Culture Bohdan Stupka, Minister of Foreign Affairs Borys Tarasyuk and President Leonid Kuchma's cultural advisor, Yurii Bohutskyi.

Mr. Yushchenko told a packed house of at least 3,000 people that the name of Vyacheslav Chornovil and the notion of Ukrainian independence cannot be separated.

"The primary association that occurs when the name of Vyacheslav Chornovil is mentioned is independence and Chornovil. Let the third idea that stands in that row be the taste of victory. The taste of victory and independence – the creed and spiritual testament of Vyacheslav Chornovil," said Mr. Yushchenko.

The prior day, friends and acquaintances of Mr. Chornovil gathered at the Teacher's Building, the historic home of the Central Rada of the first Ukrainian republic, which existed only briefly in 1918-1920. It was also the building that thousands of distraught Ukrainians jammed last year to file past the coffin of Mr. Chornovil before burial at the Baikove Cemetery.

On March 23 National Deputy Les Taniuk, Mr. Chornovil's close friend and political ally, and a former stage director, led a group of poets, politicians and literati in a night of remembrances. The event, which was to have been an intimate and modest affair, became something quite different after the unexpectedly large turnout forced people to sit in the aisles and pack the halls and doorways of the building.

Commemorative events continued into the weekend and included a moleben at the gravesite of the political leader and public meetings at the site of the accident, as well as on Kyiv's central Independence Square, which were attended by hundreds more.



Ділимося сумною вісткою, що в неділю, 26 березня 2000 р. відійшов у вічність наш найдорожчий МУЖ, БАТЬКО і ДІДО

бл. п.

д-р медицини

ЮРІЙ ДИЦЬО

ПАНАХИДИ відбулися у вівторок, 28 березня 2000 р. в Farley Funeral Home в North Port, Fl. і в п'ятницю, 31 березня 2000 р. в Gowen Funeral Home, Somerset St., New Brunswick, NJ.

ПОХОРОННІ ВІДПРАВИ відбудуться в суботу, 1 квітня 2000 р., о год. 9:30 ранку в церкві св. Марії в Нью-Бранзвик, Н. Дж., а відтак на українському православному цвинтарі св. Андрія Первозваного в С. Бавнд Бруку, Н. Дж.

У глибокому смутку залишилися:

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сини – ЮРІЙ-МИРОН з дружиною ШЕРИЛ і донькою ЛЯРИСОЮ
– МАРКО-РОМАН
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FOCUS ON PHILATELY

by Inbert Kuzych and Val Zabijaka

“Historic Ukrainian Churches” series: reconstructing a stamp production process

Artist Yuriy H. Lohvyn, one of the most prominent artists in Ukraine today, is also a prolific stamp designer. Since 1991, when Ukraine once again became an independent postage-issuing state, more stamps have entered circulation bearing Mr. Lohvyn’s imprint than that of any other artist. Ukrainian collectors have twice awarded him the Heorhiy Narbut Prize for “best Ukrainian stamp design” and his definitive series “Ethnographic Scenes” continues to be the workhorse of the Ukrainian mail system. In all, by the end of 1999, Mr. Lohvyn was responsible for 30 of Ukraine’s stamp issues.

Although not a prizewinner, it is his 1996 designs of “Historic Ukrainian Churches” that have garnered the most critical acclaim from Ukraine collectors worldwide. The vivid colors used and the dynamic cloud patterns make for an appealing and eye-catching postal commemorative set.

On December 25, 1996, Ukraine Post released the set of four stamps in what has remained its most elaborate emission to date. Five different types of sheets depicted these stamps: one containing nine blocks of all four stamps (Figure 1) and four sheets each carrying 18 stamps of one of the four churches alternating with 18 descriptive labels, arranged in a checkerboard pattern (Figure 2).

The authors of this article have been able to obtain items representing three distinct stages of the production process for these stamps: preliminary drawings (signed by the artist), final essays (also signed) and proof printings (authorized by various authorities). Together these materials portray the evolution of this postal issue and provide a fascinating glimpse into some of the steps pursued by the artist in his dealings with Ukraine Post. Before presenting our detective work, however, a bit of descriptive background on the stamps of this issue is necessary.

The images

The four stamps of the “Historic Ukrainian Churches” release depict places of worship that have been desig-

nated as architectural monuments by the Ukrainian government; each church is shown during a different season of the year. The first stamp is of Ukraine’s most famous church, St. Sophia Cathedral in Kyiv, which has now been designated a United Nations World Heritage Site. Built during the 11th century and transformed during the baroque era, it is shown in a springtime setting. The darker (reddish-brown) areas of the cathedral facade reveal some of the original medieval brickwork underneath the white, 17th and 18th century overlay of stucco and whitewash. The sepulcher of Grand Prince Yaroslav the Wise is housed in this structure.

The next stamp shows St. Eliah Church in Subotiv, Cherkasy Oblast, during the summer. This 17th century building is the architectural prototype for the Kozak Baroque style; it serves as the final resting place of Hetman Bohdan Khmelnytsky.

The third stamp presents St. George Church in Drohobych, Lviv Oblast, surrounded by orange-yellow autumn foliage. Although the exact age of this wooden structure is unknown, it has stood for at least 500 years. No other Ukrainian wooden church displays such a high degree of artistic construction.

The final stamp depicts the Trinity Cathedral of Novomoskovsk, Dnipropetrovsk Oblast, in winter. Completed in the late 18th century, it represents the apex of Ukrainian wooden church construction.

Step 1: preliminary sketches

The design work for the four-stamp release apparently began in 1995 since the preliminary drawings all carry that year. The artist decided to make his initial compositions using colored pencils: he elected to show the churches during various seasons, with the name of the region in bold lettering (both in Cyrillic and Latin) along a side of each design. The two left-sided-text designs (St. Sophia and St. George) and two right-

(Continued on page 13)



Figure 1. A block of the four “Historic Ukrainian Churches” stamps.

The story behind the artwork

How does one acquire the artwork used in the stamp planning or production process? Sometimes it’s just a matter of being in the right place at the right time, and also being willing to speak up!

I obtained the essays for “Historic Ukrainian Churches” at one of the *zustrich-meets* sponsored by the Mid-Atlantic Chapter of the Ukrainian Philatelic and Numismatic Society (UPNS) every spring at an East Coast locale. Get-togethers like this are always a good place to pick up interesting and unusual materials. A UPNS member, who is also a good friend of the artist Mr. Lohvyn, brought to the meeting a number of different sketches and essays that the designer had made for various past Ukrainian stamp issues. The member-collector sold these materials for the artist. He also showed me the set of four “Historic Ukrainian Churches” essays that Mr. Lohvyn had especially mounted and presented to him as a thank-you for various parcels of goods that this member had sent to him in the past.

Since I collect wooden Ukrainian churches in philately as a topic, I was immediately attracted to the artwork and asked the owner if he was willing to sell. Although initially reluctant, by the time we began taking down tables at the close of the “*zustrich*,” this collector had had second thoughts and asked me if I was still interested in buying the draw-

ings. We soon agreed upon a price.

The story doesn’t end here however. The rather heavy paper stock upon which Mr. Lohvyn had mounted the four essays had photocopies on the back with two of his sketches for another stamp, that honoring the famous Slavic ethnographer Pavel Shafaryk issued in late 1995. The sketches show the subject facing left. They differ from each other in various details and from the final design (shown enlarged for comparison), which has Shafaryk facing right (Figure 5).

So, what’s the moral of the story? I’d say it’s: Be willing to attend and participate in philatelic gatherings, you never know what treasures you may uncover!

This year’s “*zustrich*” will take place the weekend of May 6-7 at the Ukrainian Homestead Resort in Lehighton, Pa. Why not check it out?

— Inbert Kuzych



Figure 5. The final Shafaryk stamp design.



Figure 2. The stamps were also printed with attached descriptive labels.

“Historic Ukrainian...”

(Continued from page 12)

sided-text designs (St. Eliah and the Trinity Cathedral) help give a frame impression when the images are viewed together as a block of four.

The preliminary artworks – each drawing measures an average of 186 mm by 129 mm – do not display any value designations. Rather, they were used to present the overall design concept and color scheme. The descriptions of the churches were indicated using the same Cyrillic font style as the region’s name, but in a smaller size (Figure 3).

Step 2: essays

By the latter part of 1995 Mr. Lohvyn’s basic designs had been approved by Ukraine Post, but decisions were still needed on what values would be assigned to these stamps and which font style would be used for the church descriptions. The essays, prepared with vibrant watercolors, are slightly more than half the size (140 mm by 97 mm) of the preliminary paintings; they also show more structural details in each of the buildings.

While one essay still displays a 1995 date, the others carry 1996, but it is possible to see that the “6” had previously been a “5.” Additionally, the 50,000-karbovanets value first assigned to each of the stamps was changed to 20,000 for three of the designs. A final ruling on what font style to use to describe the churches had still not been made. Three of the illustrations display a block-type print, while the fourth uses an italic style (Figure 4).

Step 3: approved designs

By about the middle of 1996, the final approved designs – which did not differ greatly from the essays – were ready to be converted into stamps. Figure 5 shows part of a proof sheet of the St. Sophia

Cathedral issue: a block with three stamps, a corner label and production notations.

Immediately to the right of the illustrations is the statement “For the II [second] Proof” and two signatures, both dated August 9, 1996. Below are two alteration statements by the artist and his signature all in black ink. The instructions are: “shadows on the building require more ultramarine,” and “green color on roof and cupolas needs to be more intense.” The third change, added later in blue ink, instructs “change values to 20 [kopiiky].” This was done to accommodate an impending currency adjustment.¹

Final printing

Additional changes made before the final printing included using the simpler block-style print for the descriptive text, which was deemed more appropriate than the italicized version. A decision was also made to print these stamps in different formats: sheets with blocks of all four stamp designs and sheets of each design with descriptive labels.

Apparently, the original intention (as seen on the proof) was to use only labels in each corner of a six-by-six format. Subsequently, someone at Ukraine Post decided to be different and create a new pattern, alternating 18 stamps with 18 labels on every sheet. Eventually 100,000 copies of each stamp were printed by “Derzhznak” in Kyiv: 200,000 on sheets with blocks of four and 200,000 on sheets with labels (50,000 of each stamp-label combination).

Ingerit Kuzych may be contacted at P.O. Box 3, Springfield VA 22150 or by e-mail at: ingertjk@gateway.net.

1. On September 2, 1996, Ukraine introduced the hryvnia as its new main currency unit; it is composed of 100 kopiiky. By decree, 100,000 of the old karbovanetsi equaled one new hryvnia.



Figure 3. The original watercolor sketch of St. Sophia Cathedral. The artist’s signature may be seen in the lower right. Illustration courtesy of Karen Lemiski.



Figure 4. The entire set of “Historic Ukrainian Churches” essays. The handwritten inscriptions on the left indicate that these are stamp essays.

BOOK NOTE: Authoritative volume focuses on independent Ukraine’s provisional stamps

SPRINGFIELD, Va. – When the USSR dissolved at the end of 1991, Ukrainian postal authorities – left only with Soviet stamps and postal forms – were forced to create a new, independent postal system almost overnight. However, it took a number of years to eliminate all vestiges of the former system, to prepare new Ukrainian stamps and postal materials, and to distribute them in sufficient quantities to the thousands of post offices throughout the country.

In the meantime, the local postal districts were left to fend for themselves when it came to creating postage: they were able to come up with numerous ingenious methods to indicate that postage had been paid.

Perhaps the most interesting, and certainly the most collectible, were temporary provisional postage stamps that were used for only short periods of time (after Soviet stamp supplies had run out and until new Ukrainian issues arrived). Not surprisingly, it has been very difficult to document all of these locally produced postal issues, some of which were in use for only a few days. Thanks to the heroic efforts of one man, however, this mission has been accomplished.

The philatelic publishing house Ukrainian Philatelic Resources has announced that the English translation of Hryhorii Lobko’s “The Provisional Postage Stamps of Ukraine 1992-1995” is now complete. This authoritative volume, translated by Andrew O. Martyniuk, is the second edition of Mr. Lobko’s groundbreaking study, first published in 1996 in Ukrainian. Totally revised and expanded, it contains many new provisional stamps discovered over the past few years.

Listed in this comprehensive volume, printed in a 8 1/2-inch-by-11 format of 272 pages, accompanied by over 920 detailed illustrations, are all of those provisionals that had indisputable postal use during the three and a half years these stamps were used in different parts of Ukraine.

Prices, both mint and used, are listed for most of these items in U.S. dollars. Also included are cash register tapes and post office forms that at various times and in various locales served as provisional postage. In addition, the author

lists “TP” (taxe perque – charge collected) imprints on pieces of paper. These, too, functioned as provisional stamps. Rounding out the catalogue are extensive tables of postal rates covering the entire period and detailed information on how to distinguish forgeries from genuine issues.

Mr. Lobko meticulously researched the provisionals listed in his catalogue by traveling to numerous local post offices throughout Ukraine and interviewing the postal employees who manned the post offices during this turbulent transition in Ukrainian history. Scrutinizing actual mail bearing provisional stamps buttressed this effort and also allowed him to distinguish among those provisionals actually used on mail in Ukraine and those sold primarily to collectors – so-called philatelic issues. Trial issues, both approved and not approved for further printing, are also detailed in a separate section of this catalogue.

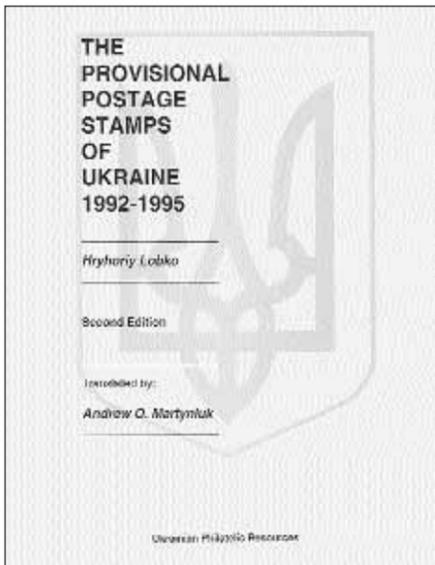
Although the first edition has been available in limited quantities to collectors outside Ukraine, the fact that it was available only in the Ukrainian language limited its usefulness to non-Ukrainian-speaking collectors. Much of the information on forgeries, printing

techniques, etc., was simply inaccessible. The English edition addresses this issue.

Additionally, stamps of the former Soviet Union that were overprinted for provisional use in Ukraine are now identified by their Scott Postage Stamp Catalogue numbers, further increasing the utility of this authoritative and encyclopedic work to North American collectors.

The proliferation of fantasies and forgeries of provisional stamps, many described in philatelic publications, has enabled these “issues” to acquire a certain amount of legitimacy. Unfortunately, private speculators and entrepreneurs have profited from this misrepresentation to the detriment of philatelists. This catalogue edition, which will only appear in English, will serve as the definitive reference work for distinguishing legitimate provisionals from forgeries and other fantasies.

“The Provisional Postage Stamps of Ukraine 1992-1995” is available for \$32 (postage included) for delivery in the United States; \$35 for Canada and abroad. Orders may be sent to: Ukrainian Philatelic Resources, P.O. Box 3, Springfield, VA 22150.



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(Continued from page 3)

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The programs for humanitarian projects will be established by a foundation, to be established under German law, consisting of representatives from each of the victims' groups and participating countries, as well as German industry and government.

Based upon information received from the victims' representative groups and the Central and East European delegations, it is estimated that there are approximately 242,000 living slave laborers. In addition, there are approximately 82,000 slaves who were incarcerated in camps other than concentration camps. Known statistics indicate that approximately 575,000 individuals who worked as forced laborers for German industry are still alive. In addition, 666,000 farm laborers who were compelled to work on German farms are also survivors.

Slave laborers will receive up to 15,000 DM each. Forced laborers in industrial establishments and other camps will receive up to 5,000 DM each, and farm workers will receive up to 1,000 DM each.

Victims who reside in the Central and East European countries will receive the

proceeds of the settlement from existing Reconciliation Foundations that presently exist in each country. Jewish victims who reside in the West will be paid through the Jewish Material Claims Conference.

The distribution among the various representative groups is as follows: Belarus, 0.694 billion DM; Czech Republic, 0.423 billion DM; Poland, 1.812 billion DM; Russia, 0.835 billion DM; Ukraine, 1.724 billion DM; and the Jewish Claims Conference, 1.812 billion DM.

After the war, many forced laborers, especially from Poland and Ukraine, remained in the West and emigrated to the United States, Canada and other parts of the free world, settling in major metropolitan areas such as New York and New Jersey. Presently, the number of such survivors is not known. As a result, a reserve of 8 million DM has been set aside for these forced and slave labor victims.

However, before payments to victims can begin, the German Parliament must adopt the appropriate legislation to fund the settlement. In addition, a procedure for registration and verification of claims, especially in the West, must be developed and implemented.

It is anticipated that there will be an official worldwide notification and registration process during which forced and slave victims must register their claims. Optimistically, payments can begin late this year or in early 2001.

Creative forces...

(Continued from page 8)

intense dark-eyed beauty in Lviv-style ceremonial attire.

A graduate of the University of Maryland, where he received his B.A. and a master's degree in fine arts (specializing in sculpture), Mr. Polisczuk is a professor of art at Montgomery College and is co-coordinator of the college's sculpture program. He holds several sculpture awards as well as recognition for teaching excellence (the Montgomery College Alumni Association named him "Teacher of the Year" in 1999), and is listed in such prominent publications as "Who's Who in American Art."

Canadian-born actress Tannis Kowalchuk, co-director of the La Mama resident company North American Cultural Laboratory (NaCl) with husband Brad Krumholz participated in the third annual New York State Theater Education Association's student conference, held at the Nevele Hotel in the Catskills. Ms. Kowalchuk, who recently appeared in the original NaCl production "Asphyxia and Other Promises" at The Piano Store in Soho, taught songs to 400 students at the conference. Ms. Kowalchuk's company is working on a new performance, "Before There Was Rock," based on the theme of evolution, devolution and revolution, and will premiere the show during "The First Ever Catskills Experimental Theatre Festival" at the NaCl work center and theater in Highland Lake, N.Y., in August.

"Est-Ouest" (East-West) and its Ukrainian coterie made it to the Oscars last Sunday but lost out in the Best Foreign Film category to the Spanish nominee "All About My Mother." The French entry, starring Catherine Deneuve, about the ill-conceived decision of a Russian émigré and his French wife to move to the Soviet Union after World War II, included Ukrainian actor Bohdan Stupka in a supporting role and featured members of the Ukrainian Armed Forces Song and Dance Ensemble and the Ukrainian National Swim Team. Most of the film is set in Kyiv.

Oscars 2000, telecast by ABC, paid tribute to the late Hollywood director Edward Dmytryk, including him among

those honored in the "In Memoriam" segment of the four-hour star-studded show.

The latest buzz on art is selling works on the Internet, according to WNYC Radio. Alexander Motyl, a Chelsea artist who teaches political science at Rutgers University, can vouch for that. Prof. Motyl, a painter of neo-expressionist cityscapes with 30-plus paintings displayed at PaintingsDirect.com, sold three paintings in his first month on the site. Enthusies Prof. Motyl: "I'm thrilled. The wonderful thing about PaintingsDirect.com is that this hasn't cost me a penny - if I sell something, we share the profits; if I sell nothing, there's no overhead as far as they're concerned either."

A host of actors with Ukrainian derivation appeared on New York area TV screens in March. Winnipeg-born actress Mimi Kuzyk, who played Detective Patricia Mayo in the NBC television series "Hill Street Blues," appeared with Timothy Hutton and Maury Chaykin in "The Golden Spiders: A Nero Wolfe Mystery," shown on A&E on March 5 and re-aired March 11. (Usually cast as an attractive intellectual type, Ms. Kuzyk played a feminist congresswoman in the 1992 ABC movie "Stormy Weathers" and as the first lady in last summer's Wonderful World of Disney movie "My Date with the President's Daughter," also shown on ABC.) Among actors spotted last month in movies which aired on cable channels were George Dzunda ("Impulse"), Elizabeth Shue ("Palmetto"), Jack Palance ("Twilight Zone: Rod Serling's Lost Classics") and Milla Jovovich ("He Got Game").

In its March 13 concert at Alice Tully Hall, the New York Chamber Symphony included the premiere of a mischievously titled quasi-concerto for saxophone and orchestra by composer Igor Korneitchouk, who is of part-Ukrainian ancestry (his grandfather was Ukrainian). Mr. Korneitchouk, who says that the idea for "The Disqualification of Harry Semantix as Trial Juror for East County" germinated from his being disqualified as a potential juror for answering honestly during jury selection, explored the concepts of truth and lie musically in his composition. Born in Madrid, the composer lives in Encinitas, Calif.

Kyiv Dynamo defeats Munich 2-0, but fails to advance to quarterfinals



Efrem Lukatsky

Dynamo Kyiv's Georgi Demetradze (foreground) celebrates his goal against FC Bayern Munich during the Group C Champions League soccer match at the Olympic stadium in Kyiv on March 22. Kyiv won the match 2-0 but failed to reach the Champions League quarterfinals. Reuters reported that Dynamo failed to progress from group C after Real Madrid defeated Rosenborg Trondheim to reach the last eight on the strength of a better head-to-head record against Kyiv. In the match against Munich, Dynamo's Georgians Kakha Kaladze and Demetradze scored the goals in what proved to be a meaningless victory. Kaladze put Dynamo ahead in the 34th minute by chesting the ball home from a corner. Demetradze sealed the win for the Ukrainians by beating Bayern reserve keeper Stefan Wessels with a cleverly taken overhead kick in the 72nd minute. "We did what we could against Bayern, but unfortunately it wasn't enough," Dynamo Assistant Coach Oleksii Mykhailychenko told Reuters. "We have been playing real well lately, taking 10 points from four matches after the winter break, but those points we lost last autumn will haunt us now." The Real victory appeared to be devastating for long-serving Dynamo coach Valerii Lobanovskyi, 61, who, according to Mr. Mykhailychenko, fell ill after the game.

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Ukrainian Free University awards honorary Ph.D. to parliamentarian

MUNICH – The Ukrainian Free University on March 1 awarded an honorary doctorate to Prof. Hans Gerhart Stockinger, member of the Bavarian Parliament. The text of the nomination, read in Latin by the sponsor of the recipient, Prof. Richard Brunner, stressed Dr. Stockinger's numerous scholarly and political achievements and his service to the Ukrainian Free University.

In his acceptance speech, Prof. Stockinger graciously praised the recent reforms of the university, expressed great satisfaction about its work and offered concrete advice regarding its

future activities.

He discussed the role of the UFU as a mediator between German and Ukrainian universities and as a significant factor in the continued integration process of the Ukrainian republic into the European community.

In his concluding remarks Prof. Leonid Rudnytsky, rector of the UFU, thanked the honoree for his past efforts on behalf of the UFU and voiced his satisfaction regarding the confidence expressed by the Bavarian authorities in its work. A reception in honor of Dr. Stockinger followed the official program.



O. Roshka

Prof. Hans Gerhart Stockinger (second from right) with Profs. Richard Brunner, Leonid Rudnytsky and Ivo Polulach.

North Dakota institutions sponsor essay contest on environmental issues impacting Ukraine

DICKINSON, N.D. – To stimulate interest in Ukraine's environmental issues among college students around the world, Dickinson State University and the Ukrainian Studies Foundation have announced an International Environmental Essay Contest. Undergraduate students from Ukraine, the United States and other students who attend institutions equivalent to American undergraduate colleges are eligible to enter the essay contest.

Aware of the critical environmental issues in Ukraine, the Ukrainian Studies Committee and chairman of the essay contest, Dr. Russell R. Veeder, professor of history, defined the subject theme as follows: "Describe a critical environmental issue impacting Ukraine and its effects on Ukraine and the world community." The deadline for submission of essays is May 30.

The announcement of the Essay Contest has been posted on the Internet and submissions may be e-mailed to russel - veeder@eagle.nodak.edu or to uci@etel.com.

Mailing addresses are Dr. Russell R. Veeder, Dickinson State University, 291 Campus Drive, Dickinson, ND 58601; or Ukrainian Cultural Institute, Att'n: Agnes Palanuk, P.O. Box 6, Dickinson, ND 58602.

Cash awards will be made to the top three entries. The first place award is \$500 and publication, second place is \$300 and publication and third place is \$200 and publication.

By entering the essay contest, contestants grant permission for Dickinson State University and the Ukrainian Cultural

Institute permission to publish all or part of the submitted essays without royalty or other consideration.

The essays must be written in English, be composed of no less than 1,500 and no more than 2,000 words, and must not have been previously published. The essay must be typewritten, double-spaced and properly documented. Student's name, address, phone number, student's school name and student's country must be submitted on a separate sheet of paper.

For further information about the contest, contact Dr. Veeder or Ms. Palanuk at the addresses listed above.

Dickinson State University, part of the state university system, is located in Dickinson, N.D. Its location in the upper Midwest attracts students from the Canadian provinces as well as the neighboring states.

The Ukrainian Studies Foundation at Dickinson State University was established in 1997 by the descendants of the first immigrants to this area for the purposes of scholarship and sponsorship of classes related to Ukraine.

During the fall semester of 1999, the foundation sponsored the class "Introduction to Ukrainian History." In January 2000 the foundation and the university presented a workshop in Ukrainian liturgy.

Research continues into 19th and 20th century Ukrainian composers to be published with Marie Halun Bloch's manuscript on Mykola Leontovych and his composition of "Schedryk," known to American audience as "Carol of the Bells."

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Putin victory...

(Continued from page 2)

resources in the Russian political system for it to be called an institutionalized democracy, even though this vote, like others since 1991, could come to represent a step in that direction.

The reason for such relative optimism in the end is also contained in Mr. Putin's remarks, in his acceptance of the fact that there are other political forces in Russia that to which he must attend and with whom he must work.

Because he referred in the first instance to the Communists, Mr. Putin's words may simply presage a further rapprochement between him and the Communists. Mr. Putin has already shown himself prepared to move in that direction, for example, when he backed the election in January of a Communist as State Duma speaker. And at least one defeated presidential candidate, Grigori Yavlinsky, suggested that there is no significant difference between Mr. Putin

and Communist Chairman Zyuganov.

Such an alliance almost certainly would presage a backing away from some aspects of economic reform. But it would not necessarily mean a retreat from democracy, given that almost 80 percent of the electorate voted for either Mr. Putin or Mr. Zyuganov. Indeed, it might become the basis for a new and more cooperative relationship between the legislative and executive branches, albeit one that few of those committed to reforms would find attractive.

At the same time, however, Mr. Putin's newly found recognition of the power of those who oppose him – nearly 50 percent of the total electorate – could lead him to try to build the kind of coalitions that are the very essence of the process of democratic government, rather than ignoring and isolating those who oppose him, as his predecessor, President Yeltsin, often did.

If either of these developments does take place, then the Russian presidential election of 2000 may yet prove to be a breakthrough.

Russia, Ukraine...

(Continued from page 2)

emotional one throughout the former Soviet Union. Non-Russians in most former Soviet republics point out that they were forced to use Russian in central and local government administration, at the workplace and in educational establishments. (Notable exceptions were the three Transcaucasus republics, whose respective republican constitutions proclaimed that the mother tongue of the titular nationality was the state language.) The use of a non-Russian native language was often portrayed by Soviet authorities as evidence of nationalism, and thousands were executed or sent to labor camps for trying to defend their mother tongue.

Many Ukrainians, in particular, believe that during the Soviet era Russian was used as a weapon against the national identity of non-Russian peoples. Under Soviet rule Ukrainians found it much safer to use the Russian language. Besides, Russian was not only the language of opportunity in education and at the workplace, but also the predominant language of literature and entertainment, including television and films.

Within Ukraine there is a pronounced east-west divide in the use of language. Western Ukraine, which was not incorporated into the Soviet Union until after World War II, is predominantly Ukrainian-speaking. Eastern Ukraine was heavily Russified during both tsarist and Soviet times. The east also contains many of Ukraine's ethnic Russians, who make up about one-fifth of the country's 50 million inhabitants.

After Ukraine attained independence, Ukrainian became the state language and was introduced into more schools and institutes as the language of instruction. But one-third of the country's schools continue to use Russian, and much official business is still conducted in that language. Moreover, Russian-language publications and television programs abound.

Many Ukrainians say their language needs to be promoted as an essential ingredient of national identity. They feel little sympathy for Russians who are reluctant to learn the language of the country where they live.

SUSK holds...

(Continued from page 4)

The executive also includes: Pavlo Horbal, vice-president, internal; Daria Bindas, secretary; Jeannette Mandrusiak, treasurer; Roman Zakaluzny, vice-president, external; Myron Genyk, vice-president, external, Ukrainian organizations; Kathy Dmytrisin, projects director; Marta Stangret and Ivan Horich, directors of communications and publications; Lubko Belej, alumni and archives; Christina Duzyj, U.S. representative; Michael Wesolowsky, vice-president, Great Lakes Region; and Myroslava Hirna, vice-president, Mountain Region.

The regional positions of vice-president for the Laurentians and the prairies remain vacant.

As to the congress itself, most delegates who attended agreed it was well worth it. "I'm going to fail my midterm, and I've fallen irreparably behind in my other work, but I'm still glad I went," said Mr. Horbal of Windsor.

Mr. Horbal and other delegates praised the congress organizing committee from Hamilton, and its chair, Michael (Mishko) Wesolowsky. "I know that the organizers of next year's congress are going to have a lot of work if [they] want to top this year," said Edmonton delegate Christina Gaborak.

Plans for the upcoming year include more active participation from all members of the SUSK executive and the development of an effective system of communications between SUSK and its member-clubs, said Mr. Ilnycky. "This includes providing them with the tools to help address their concerns and challenges," he added.

It was resolved that the 49th congress will be held in Edmonton next year. For more information, please consult the organization's website at www.susk.ca.

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Ukraine and...

(Continued from page 6)

Second, Mr. Lieven adheres to the simplistic but pervasive view that the problems of Ukraine are self-induced, while the influence of Russia, especially in the Soviet period, has been exaggerated. Russia and Ukraine, we learn, are not enemies, but fraternal rivals.

This sounds like something Stalin might have said. It presumes, for example, that Ukrainian national aspirations in 1918-1919 were insignificant, and that the formation of an army to fight the incoming Red Army in the latter stages of the German-Soviet war did not reflect a desire for an independent, non-Soviet Ukrainian state.

This negates the dissident movement of the 1970s that was always more pervasive in Ukraine than elsewhere. It also fails to explain why, even in the period of glasnost, Mikhail Gorbachev preferred to maintain hardliner Volodymyr Shcherbytsky, an appointee of Leonid Brezhnev in his prime (1972), as party boss of Ukraine when reformers on all sides were crying out for change.

The "Russia School" – it seems appropriate to call it such – has many supporters in Western academic circles. It argues that the Ukrainian state is an unwieldy conglomeration of disparate and different regions: the Ukrainian-speaking West; the Russian-speaking East; the southern Crimean peninsula, which remains an enclave with a Russian majority; areas with different histories and traditions that can never form a composite and satisfactory whole. In short, it is a "Nowhere Nation."

In dismissing Ukrainian national aspirations, the Russia School neglects three fundamental points.

First, similar comments could be made about any modern European nation. Spain, for example, not only has distinctive groups such as the Basques and Catalans, but there are significant historical and cultural differences also among its various regions. These differences have enhanced rather than inhibited what is termed "Spanish culture."

Second, Ukraine may have failed in many areas since independence, but there is general consensus that it has a model record in its treatment of and respect for minorities. In this sphere, the contrast with Russia or even Latvia is remarkable. Russians in Ukraine have hardly represented a Fifth Column in Ukrainian society. Even in Crimea, it was leaders from the Russian Federation, who including Moscow Mayor Yuriy Luzhkov, induced much of the agitation that occurred in the

early 1990s on the peninsula.

Third, the position of the Russia School is both facile and ignorant. The Russification of Ukraine began in tsarist times, but was accelerated in the Soviet period. Not only was the Russian language and culture promoted in Ukraine, but also it became essential for Ukrainians to know and speak Russian in order to secure career advancement. In Ukraine today, residents are still subjected to Russian television, newspapers, books and journals. One wonders if there is another capital city in Europe (Minsk excepted) in which the language heard in the street is not the native one. This is the case in Kyiv, or should one say "Kiev"?

Russian chauvinism evidently is not dead. It has permeated even the Western academic establishment, wherein the history of new nations of the former Soviet Union is still seen through a Russian prism. In turn, Russia takes heart from such perspectives. When Mr. Putin claims that he cannot deal with the Chechens because they represent terrorism, Western spokespersons may raise their eyebrows, but by and large they do not question the assertion.

The truth is more likely that Russian imperialism still wins votes in elections, whether that imperialism is active – the military invasion of Chechnya – or passive, such as Russia's policies toward Ukraine or Belarus. One would not expect a Vladimir Zhirinovskiy to accept the existence of an independent Ukraine, but only the most naive optimist would anticipate such an acknowledgment from Grigoriy Yavlinsky or Anatolii Chubais either.

One can be critical of a new Ukrainian state that has descended into a petty authoritarianism in government and has seemed reluctant to embark on a program of radical economic reforms, but why would one object to the national and cultural development of an emergent nation of 50 million people?

Ambassador Matlock's response is that Ukrainians never voted to be independent from Russia: "That independence [December 1991], however, was from the Soviet Union, not from Russia. Ukrainian citizens in the Crimea and the border regions with Russia were never asked whether they wanted to be part of an independent Russia or an independent Ukraine."

Do the answers to Ukraine's problems then lie in a new union with Russia? It is time to place such conceptions where they really belong: on the garbage heap of history. If Ukraine is to survive in the 21st century, it must find its own path, based on historical antecedents and current circumstances.

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Newsbriefs

(Continued from page 2)

Reuters quoted a Turkish Foreign Affairs Ministry spokesman as saying on March 23 that Ankara is seeking information about the incident. On March 27 Ukraine's Vice Minister for Foreign Affairs Oleksander Maidannyk said that Turkish fishermen are threatening "to occupy Ukraine's territorial waters with 500 ships or go fishing under Panama's flag" in response to the incident. Mr. Maidannyk added that Kyiv has received such a report from Ankara but he did not name the source. He said Ukraine could set fishing quotas for Turkish fishermen in order to resolve the problem of what Kyiv sees as widespread poaching by Turkish fishermen in Ukraine's territorial waters. According to the minister, Kyiv could earn \$3 million to \$4 million annually from such a deal. (RFE/RL Newsline)

Legislators accused of corruption

KYIV – The Security Service of Ukraine (SBU) has submitted to the Parliament materials allegedly showing that six national deputies have been involved in corruption, Interfax reported on March 24. Three deputies are from the Green Party, one from the Hromada Party, and two are independent. SBU Chairman Leonid Derkach did not give details of the case against the legislators but said that under current law they would be held only administratively, not criminally responsible. (RFE/RL Newsline)

Naftohaz head resigns citing blackmail

KYIV – Ihor Bakai, head of the Naftohaz state-run company, resigned on March 24, citing "purely political" reasons for his step. Mr. Bakai said he stepped down due to "groundless and impertinent political blackmail" from both Ukraine and the West, but he declined to say which Western countries wanted his ouster. He added that Naftohaz has been made a scapegoat for the shortage of gas in the country and has been forced by the government to conclude a gas supply contract with Gazprom, which increased Ukraine's gas debt to Russia by \$500 million this year. (RFE/RL Newsline)

Workers protest government policies

KYIV – Some 2,000 people picketed the government building in Kyiv on March 24 in a protest organized by the All-Ukrainian Union of Workers, Interfax reported. The protesters demanded that the government lower the prices for bread, cancel the recent hikes in tariffs for public transportation and utilities, and ensure the timely payment of wages and pensions. They also demanded that the government cancel the April 16 constitutional referendum, revoke its agreements with the International Monetary Fund and sever Ukraine's relations with NATO. At the rally Communist Party leader Petro Symonenko called for a boycott of the referendum. (RFE/RL Newsline)

PM to consider coalition government?

KYIV – Minister of the Economy Serhii Tyhytko said on March 21 that Prime Minister Viktor Yushchenko has not rejected proposals to create a coalition Cabinet of Ministers that would include representatives of the parliamentary majority, Interfax reported. Such a proposal was voiced at a meeting between the majority coordination council and Ministers Yushchenko and Tyhytko the previous day. Mr. Tyhytko added that parliamentary caucuses have made no specific proposals about candidates for Cabinet posts. (RFE/RL Newsline)

Ukraine, Russia sign documents on fleet

KYIV – Russian Admiral Vladimir Kuroedov and Oleksander Belov, vice-chairman of the Ukrainian National Security and Defense Council, signed seven agreements on the Russian Black Sea Fleet, based in Sevastopol, the Associated Press reported on March 16. The documents regu-

late issues connected with the fleet's debt for port facilities, schooling for Russian sailors' families and housing for retired officers. They also provide for Ukraine's monitoring of the fleet's military activities. The fleet owes Ukraine some 40 million hryv (\$7.24 million) for various facilities and repair work. One of the documents provides for writing off this debt with Russian gas supplies to Ukraine. (RFE/RL Newsline)

Tkachenko holds out for name change

KYIV – Former Verkhovna Rada Chairman Oleksander Tkachenko said he will not join the deputies group Solidarnist. However, he added that he would join if it was renamed the Peasants-Workers or Workers-Peasants group. He says he does approve of Solidarnist's activity, but cannot agree with its name. (Eastern Economist)

Slovakia imposes visa restrictions

BRATISLAVA – The Slovak government decided on March 15 to impose visa restrictions on Ukraine, Belarus, Russia and Cuba, the TASR news agency reported. Prime Minister Mikulas Dzurinda said the move is aimed both at protecting Slovakia's labor market and decreasing the number of illegal migrants in the country. Ukraine announced that it will take reciprocal action. (RFE/RL Newsline)

Tripartite environmental pact signed

DEBRECEN, Hungary – Representatives from Hungary, Romania and Ukraine gathered in the eastern Hungarian city of Debrecen to sign an agreement to prevent environmental pollution. Under the protocol, each country will list potential sources of risk to the environment. The three countries are also to cooperate with the International Danube Commission and a special European Union task force set up after a cyanide spill from a Romanian gold mine in January spread through several European rivers. The representatives also discussed a second spill in Romania, which released heavy metals pollution into the Tisza River last weekend. The Romanian representative said that a new wave of heavy metals pollution reported by Ukraine on March 14 did not result from yet another spill but rather from the leak reported earlier. (RFE/RL Newsline)

NATO, Russia renew ties

MOSCOW – For the first time since NATO's bombing campaign in Yugoslavia last year, NATO and Russia met at the ambassadorial level in Brussels on March 15. According to a NATO communiqué, the 19 NATO ambassadors and their Russian counterpart, Sergei Kisliak, "reiterated their determination to cooperate closely in all areas, including the protection of Kosovo's minorities." Among the topics discussed were arms control issues, including the nuclear non-proliferation treaty, and the Comprehensive Test Ban Treaty. The next such meeting is scheduled for April 12. (RFE/RL Newsline)

Ukraine has uncompetitive image

KYIV – Ukraine has a negative image in the international arena, concluded experts of the Ukrainian Center for Economic and Political Studies. Ukraine placed 58 in a ratings of competitiveness, followed by Russia, which was in last place. In the rating of 161 open economies, Ukraine placed 124th, behind Georgia, Armenia, Russia, Moldova and the Baltic states. Ukraine was 21st in corruption. (Eastern Economist)

Lease canceled on Lazarenko home

KYIV – The Ukrainian government canceled the lifelong lease on ex-Prime Minister Pavlo Lazarenko's prestigious home in Puscha-Vodytsia near Kyiv. The lease was signed in October 1997 by Prime Minister Valerii Pustovoitenko on orders from President Leonid Kuchma. (Eastern Economist)



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УПРАВА ФУНДАЦІЇ УВУ в Нью-Йорку

THE ANNUAL MEETING OF UNA BRANCH 27

will be held on Sunday, April 9, 2000, at 11 a.m.
after the Liturgy at St. John the Baptist Ukrainian Catholic Church,
719 Sandford Ave., Newark, N.J. All members are asked to attend.



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PREVIEW OF EVENTS

(Continued from page 24)

annual Easter Bazaar, to be held at Plast headquarters, 144 Second Ave., at 11 a.m.-3:30 p.m. Traditional Ukrainian Easter delicacies may be ordered in advance by calling Motria, (917) 841-0962, or by e-mail, motriam@earthlink.net.

Saturday-Sunday, April 15-16

WASHINGTON: Ukrainian National Women's League of America Branch 78 invites the public to the exhibit "Ikons by Daria Hulak-Kulchytyskyj," to be held at the Ukrainian Catholic National Shrine of the Holy Family, 4250 Harewood Road NE. The exhibit opening and reception, with introductory remarks by the artist, will be held Saturday, April 15, at 6:30-9 p.m. The exhibit will be on view on Sunday, April 16, at noon-3 p.m. Admission: \$5. For more information call (703) 521-3048.

Sunday, April 16

PASSAIC, N.J.: Ukrainian National Women's League of America Branch 18 is planning an Easter Yarmarok (bazaar) to be held at St. Nicholas Ukrainian Catholic Church Hall, 106 President St. Among the featured artists will be Christina Holowchak Debarry, Laryssa Martyniuk, and Slava Gerulak, as well as new artists from Ukraine. As always, pysanky and traditional Ukrainian crafts will be available, along with Ukrainian CDs and videotapes. Prospective vendors may contact the chairperson of the event, Sonya Capar, (973) 473-8755.

LOS ANGELES: The Ukrainian Art Center announces its Pysanky Festival and Easter Open House to be held at 4315 Melrose Ave., at 11 a.m. - 4 p.m. Highlighted on this day will be traditional Ukrainian Easter Eggs, folk-art artists displaying and offering for sale their pysanky, as well as the sale of Ukrainian ritual Easter breads, ceramics, embroideries, and personal creations at individual tables. There will be a hands-on table for children to make Easter crafts and an exhibit of traditional Ukrainian Easter baskets prepared by the local churches, school, and youth organizations. Traditional foods will be available for sale throughout the afternoon. Admission: \$7, (includes one door prize ticket); children age 5 and under, free. For more information contact Daria Chaikovsky at the center, (323) 668-0172.

Wednesday, April 19

FLAGSTAFF, Ariz.: New York City Opera soprano Oksana Krovytska will perform, together with Emile Fath, baritone, in Brahms' "Ein Deutches Requiem" (texts from Luther's translation of the Bible), with the Flagstaff Symphony Orchestra. The performance will be held on the campus of Northern Arizona University in Ardrey Auditorium at 7:30 p.m. For tickets and information call toll free, (888) 520-7214; locally, (520) 523-5661.

Saturday-Sunday, May 20-21

PARMA, Ohio: St. Vladimir's Ukrainian Orthodox Cathedral and St. Josaphat's Ukrainian Catholic Cathedral are hosting the program "United in Christ" to celebrate the birth of Jesus Christ. There will be vespers at 5 p.m. on Saturday, May 20, at St. Vladimir's with the participation of Metropolitan Constantine and Bishop Robert. A banquet and concert will be held at noon, Sunday, May 21, at St. Josaphat's Astrodome Hall. Two Ukrainian choirs, one adult and one youth, will sing liturgical music. Sunday event tickets are \$35, adults; \$20, children age 15 and under. Sales end May 7. For ticket information call Cornel Osadsa, (440) 526-5580.

ADVANCE NOTICE

May 2 - June 15; July 4 - August 11

WINNIPEG, Man.: The Center for Ukrainian Canadian Studies at the University of Manitoba will offer two summer evening courses May 2-June 15 and a six-week Summer Institute in Ukrainian Language and Culture July 4-August 11. The courses to be offered are: "The Ukrainian Arts in Canada," instructor, Dr. Alexandra Pawlowsky; "The Ukrainians in Canada," instructor, Dr. Serge Cipko; "Conversational Ukrainian," Dr. Pawlowsky; "Eastern Christianity in North America," Dr. Roman Yereniuk; and "Ukrainian Canadian Folklore," Dr. Natalia Aponiuk. The courses can be taken either as credit, audited or non-degree courses. For additional information call toll free: Manitoba, 1-800-432-1960, ext. 8906; Canada, 1-888-216-7011, ext. 8906. Visit the center's website at www.umanitoba.ca/centres/ukrainian_canadian/

Omission and correction

• In The Weekly of March 12, the date for the televised concert featuring cellist Natalia Khoma and pianist Volodymyr Vynnytsky in Steinway Hall was inadvertently omitted. The concert, to be broadcast in Japan as part of the country's "Classical Hour" television program, was filmed on March 22 in New York.

• In the March 12 and 19 issues of The Weekly, the "Preview of Events" listing regarding the concert by the Moscow Soloists, led by Yuri Bashmet, at the Community Theatre in Morristown, N.J. on March 24, noted that Mr. Bashmet was Lviv-born. It turns out that Mr. Bashmet was born in Rostov-on-Don in Russia and spent his childhood in Lviv.

TO ALL MEMBERS OF UNA BRANCH 466

As of April 1, 2000, the secretary's duties of Branch 466 were assumed by Mrs. Anna Krutyholowa.

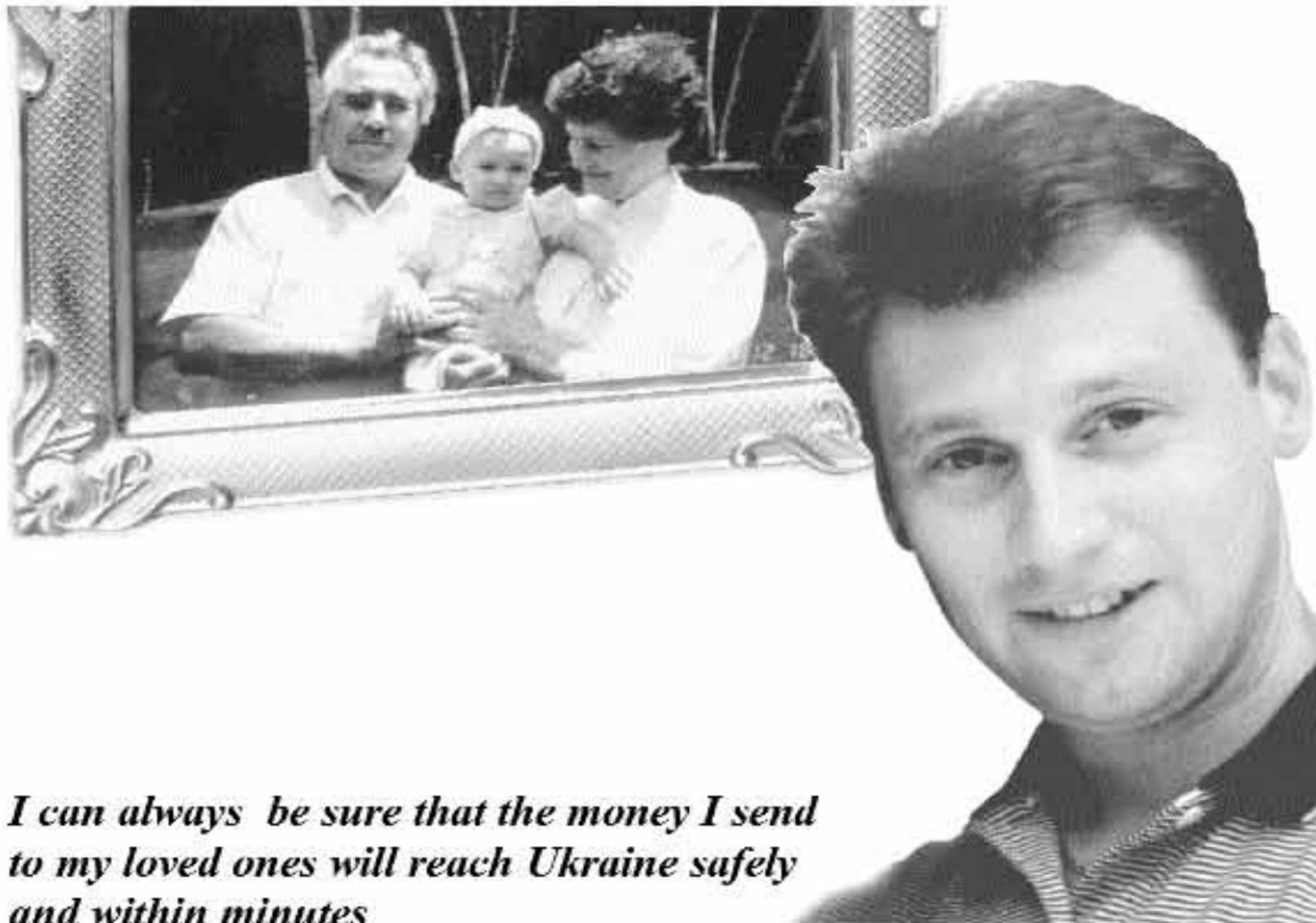
We ask all members of this Branch to direct all correspondence regarding membership and insurance, as well as their membership premiums to the address listed below:

Mrs. Anna Krutyholowa, 21 Alice St., Brantford, ON N3R 1Y1 (519) 756-5825

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Toronto	Rev. Myron Stasiw, (416) 531-9945	4/2/00	Protection of The Mother of God, 18 Leeds St., Toronto, ON M6G-1N7	1:00
Albany	Mykola Fil, (518) 785-7596	4/8/00	Soyuzivka, Kerhonkson, NY	1:00
Woonsocket	Leon Hardink, (401) 658-1957	4/8/00	Soyuzivka, Kerhonkson, NY	1:00
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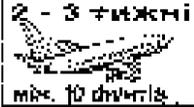


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PREVIEW OF EVENTS

Tuesday, April 4

NEW BRUNSWICK, N.J.: Rutgers University Ukrainian Students Club is organizing a benefit concert for the Children of Chernobyl Relief Fund. The concert will begin at 6 p.m. and will be held at the Student Center Multi-Purpose Room on the College Avenue Campus. The following bands will be performing: Ben Trovato, The Copasetic, Faux Monks, Shiloh and Lloyd's Limit.

Thursday, April 6

SOUTHPORT, Conn.: A one-man show by Zenowij Onyshkewych featuring plain-air paintings of France, Switzerland, Italy, the Florida Keys, Hudson River and local Connecticut scenes is being presented by the Southport Harbor Gallery. The artist, a resident of Ridgefield, Conn., is known for his works done on location in the United States, as well as during his extended stays abroad. His work is included in prestigious national and international collections. The exhibit opens April 6 and will run through April 30, with the artist's reception to be held Sunday, April 9, at 3-5 p.m. The gallery is located in a historic building directly across from the yacht club in Southport at 656 Harbor Road. Gallery hours: Tuesday-Friday, 11 a.m.-3 p.m.; Saturday, 11 a.m.-5 p.m.; or by appointment. For additional information call (203) 259-2592.

Friday, April 7

NEW YORK: The Ukrainian Art and Literary Club and the Ukrainian Historical Association (UHA) invite the public to an evening titled "In the Service of Clio: Past, Present and Future," celebrating the 35th anniversary of the UHA. The event will include a lecture by Dr. Lubomyr Wynar, UHA president, and an exhibition of UHA publications. Donation: \$5. The evening will be held at the Mayana Gallery, 136 Second Ave., fourth floor, at 7 p.m. For more information call (212) 260-4490 or (212) 777-8144. Website: <http://www.brama.com/mayana>.

PHILADELPHIA: Ukrainian National Women's League of America Branch 67 invites the community to attend the opening of an exhibit of works by Bohdan Borzemyk at 7:30 p.m. in the gallery of the Ukrainian Educational and Cultural Center, 700 Cedar Road, Jenkintown, Pa.

CHICAGO: The Ukrainian Committee is holding a fund-raiser titled "Have a Heart - Save a Heart," to help bring critically ill children from Ukraine for life-saving heart surgery in Chicago area hospitals. This "Gift of Life" program is sponsored by Chicago's Rotary District 6450 Foundation. The fund-raiser will be held at the Ukrainian Institute of Modern Art, 2320 W. Chicago Ave., at 7-10 p.m.; there will be cocktails and entertainment. For reservations and additional information call Marta Ozga, (634) 983-8693.

Sunday, April 9

MENDHAM, N.J.: New York City Opera soprano Oksana Krovytka, together with soloists Misa Iwama, mezzo-soprano; Francisco Casanova, tenor; and Gary Simpson, baritone; and the New York Concert Opera and Chamber Orchestra will perform at the Mallinckrodt Convent of the Sisters of Christian Charity at 2 p.m. The concert, under the artistic direction of Ulrich Hartung, will consist of various Easter selections from oratorios, as well as operatic scenes from Puccini's "Madama Butterfly" and Gounod's "Faust." The convent is located at 350 Bernardsville Road. Tickets: \$35 in advance; \$40 at the door; patron tickets, reserved seats, \$75. For additional information call (973) 543-6528. The concert is presented by New York Concert Opera; proceeds to benefit the Sisters of Christian Charity and their charitable works.

MANVILLE, N.J.: The New Jersey Regional Council of the Ukrainian National Women's League of America is celebrating the 75th anniversary of the UNWLA with a program (with a slide presentation) that will focus on the participation of Ukrainian school children in the U.S. and Ukraine in a UNWLA-sponsored contest titled "Nature and We." The program will be presented by Olha Trytiak, honorary president of New Jersey Regional Council of the UNWLA and honorary member of the UNWLA. It will be held in the church hall of the Ukrainian Catholic Church of St. Michael the Archangel, 1700 Brooks Blvd., at 3 p.m. Admission: donations.

Monday, April 10

CAMBRIDGE, Mass.: The Harvard Ukrainian Research Institute Seminar Series presents "Ukraine and Theories of Empire" with Mark Beissinger, professor of political science, University of Wisconsin, and visiting scholar, Davis Center for Russian Studies. The lecture will be held in the HURI Seminar Room, 1583 Massachusetts Ave., at 4-6 p.m. and will be followed by an open discussion. For further information contact Dr. Lubomyr Hajda, (617) 495-4053.

Saturday, April 15

NEW YORK: "Music at the Institute" presents a concert of chamber music featuring pianists Norma Fisher and Mykola Suk, and the Vanguard Chamber Players in a program of works by Beethoven, Ibert, Mozart and Poulenc. The concert will be held at the Ukrainian Institute of America, 2 E. 79th St., at 8 p.m. For additional information call (212) 288-8660.

NEW YORK: The Plast sorority "Ti, Shcho Hrebli Rvut" invites the public to its

(Continued on page 22)

PLEASE NOTE REQUIREMENTS:

Preview of Events is a listing of Ukrainian community events open to the public. It is a service provided at minimal cost (\$10 per submission) by The Ukrainian Weekly to the Ukrainian community. Payment must be received prior to publication.

To have an event listed in Preview of Events please send information, in English, written in Preview format, i.e., in a brief paragraph that includes the date, place, type of event, sponsor, admission, full names of persons and/or organizations involved, and a phone number to be published for readers who may require additional information. Items should be no more than 100 words long; all submissions are subject to editing. Items not written in Preview format or submitted without all required information will not be published.

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