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THE UKRAINIAN WEEKLY

Published by the Ukrainian National Association Inc., a fraternal non-profit association

Vol. LXXXII

No. 25

THE UKRAINIAN WEEKLY

SUNDAY, JUNE 22, 2014

\$2.00

UKRAINE'S CRISIS Poroshenko's first lesson



Official website of Ukraine's president

President Petro Poroshenko at the June 16 meeting of the National Security and Defense Council.

by Oleksandr Gavrylyuk
Eurasia Daily Monitor

On May 27, Ukrainian First Deputy Prime Minister Vitaliy Yarema promised journalists that the Anti-Terrorist Operation (ATO) being conducted in the country's eastern Donetsk and Luhansk regions (Donbas) would be greatly intensified shortly following Petro Poroshenko's inauguration (Interfax-Ukraine, May 27).

However, during his inauguration speech on June 7, Mr. Poroshenko, the fifth president of Ukraine, revealed a peace plan to resolve the situation in the Donbas region. The plan proposes the disarmament of everyone who took up a weapon against the central government, an amnesty for all fighters willing to give up their arms, the arrangement of a corridor for the withdrawal of Russian mercenaries, broad peaceful dialogue and early local elections in the Donbas, and a package of economic reforms for eastern Ukraine (president.gov.ua, June 7).

The ATO, which was launched in mid-April of this year, from the very beginning lacked everything, from funding and ammunition to preparation time and forward planning. According to Mykhailo Koval, Ukraine's acting defense minister, the national armed forces had suffered from extreme degeneration under former President Viktor Yanukovich's regime (5.ua, June 1).

But – perhaps even more importantly – Ukrainian troops and law enforcement personnel were not prepared psychologically to fight against their countrymen or even Russian mercenaries. There remained, according to National Security and Defense Council (NSDC) Secretary Andriy Parubiy, a lot of people in both the army and the police, who were sure that Russia was not Ukraine's enemy and therefore would never attack it (radiosvoboda.org, May 30). However, a series of particularly bloody assaults by the secessionists (for example the May 21 attack in which 17 soldiers were shot dead in an ambush in Volnovakha, Donetsk Oblast, then the deadliest day for Ukraine's military), hardened many Ukrainians into a more resolute fighting stance.

Having modified their tactics toward greater use of air support, the ATO forces struck back heavily against

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Truman-Reagan Medal of Freedom awarded to Dzhemilev, Marynovych

by Yaro Bihun

WASHINGTON – Two prominent Ukrainian civil and human rights activists – Mustafa Dzhemilev and Myroslav Marynovych – were the recipients of the 2014 Truman-Reagan Medal of Freedom awarded by the Victims of Communism Memorial Foundation.

As noted at the presentation ceremony on June 11 in front of the Victims of Communism Memorial in Washington, Mr. Dzhemilev is a "heroic example of bravery throughout his life," having spent decades defending the political rights of Crimean Tatars from Soviet aggression. And now, as a member of the Ukrainian Parliament, he is leading an offensive against Russian President Vladimir Putin's aggression and annexation of Crimea.

Mr. Dzhemilev, who came to Washington back in March to discuss the Russian threat to that territory of Ukraine with U.S. officials, was unable to come to Washington this time and received his Medal of Freedom in absentia.

Mr. Marynovych has also been defending his countrymen's human and civil rights for decades. In the 1970s, he was arrested as an agitator



Embassy of Ukraine

Ukrainian human rights activist Myroslav Marynovych describes the effects of the aggression of Russian President Vladimir Putin's regime on Ukraine and other post-Soviet countries after receiving this year's Truman-Reagan Medal of Freedom in front of the Victims of Communism Memorial in Washington.

and spent seven years in a Soviet hard-labor camp and five years in exile. He helped organize the Ukrainian Helsinki Group, which monitored the Soviet government's compliance with those 1975 human rights accords, and in 1991 he founded and chaired the

Ukrainian chapter of Amnesty International.

Now the vice rector of the Ukrainian Catholic University in Lviv, where he has worked since 2000, Myroslav

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Kolomoisky emerges as key leader in defending Ukraine

by Zenon Zawada

KYIV – Never having planned for a Russian invasion and with its coffers empty, the interim Ukrainian government froze in its tracks when the first unidentified "green men" with automatic rifles cropped up in the Donetsk Oblast in mid-April.

Among the first leaders to combat them was Igor Kolomoisky, 51, who had been appointed to lead the Dnipropetrovsk Oblast.

First he helped form the Dnipro battalion, even reportedly consulting with nationalist paramilitary leader Dmytro Yarosh.

Being a banker, his next approach came naturally. He declared a \$10,000 reward for each captured Russian fighter, \$2,000 per grenade launcher and \$1,500 per machine gun. Within two days, on April 19, a \$40,000 payment was made to a group of soldiers.

And thus Mr. Kolomoisky transformed his image as a gangster-style

oligarch who spent most of his time abroad into a fighter for Ukraine.

"Kolomoisky oriented himself quickly. He understood that it wasn't worth waiting for help from the state and began to form his own army," said Andriy Zolotariov, an expert on politics in Dnipropetrovsk.

"He drew the right conclusions from 2005 and, instead of hiding in Switzerland, he demonstrated initiative. He took under control a key region and is actively implementing his policies not only there, but all over the country."

Mr. Kolomoisky had a lackluster image for most of his career as a billionaire oligarch. Criminal charges were filed against him in 2005 for his alleged role in the attempted murder of a Dnipropetrovsk lawyer. The charges were dropped within three weeks while he took refuge in Switzerland.

Mr. Kolomoisky is also suspected by political experts, but was never charged, in playing a possible role in the 2007 killing of a Russian business-

man, with whom he clashed for control of a Dnipropetrovsk market.

He even admitted to Ukrayinska Pravda reporter Serhii Leshchenko in 2008 that he spent much of his time in Switzerland, despite being Ukraine's third richest citizen at the time, owning an enormous asset portfolio. He admitted to having Israeli citizenship, despite Ukraine's laws forbidding dual citizenship.

Yet Mr. Kolomoisky has performed a radical image makeover in the last few months. Mr. Zolotariov described him as "a more influential figure than the top presidential contenders."

Experts have cited the critical role of Western sanctions and Ukrainian law enforcement and army in preventing a Crimea-style Russian invasion and election sabotage in May. Yet few leaders have earned as much praise as Mr. Kolomoisky, who took over as the state oblast administration chair, or

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ANALYSIS

Russian ultra-nationalists involved in Donbas conflict

by Richard Arnold
Eurasia Daily Monitor

Several cities in the Donbas, the eastern portion of Ukraine comprising the regions of Donetsk and Luhansk, have been embroiled in Russian-sponsored secessionist violence against Ukrainian authorities since early April. And while Russia has no officially identified uniformed troops in the region, there are claims that it has been involved in the fighting through the deployment of irregulars, like the Chechen Vostok battalion (see Eurasia Daily Monitor, May 30). Other irregular forces have also been involved, such as hardline Russian nationalists.

Now it appears there are connections to the most extreme nationalists, Russia's neo-Nazi movement. Posting on Facebook, Alexander Belov, the leader of the banned Movement Against Illegal Immigration (known by its Russian acronym DPNI), announced the death in Donetsk of Sergei Vorotsev. Mr. Vorotsev was a former organizer for the DPNI in the Moscow region town of Korolev (Official Facebook page of DPNI, June 4). According to the same posting, Mr. Vorotsev was killed in the battle for the Donetsk airport.

The presence of a former member of the DPNI in eastern Ukraine is not entirely surprising, but it does suggest a merging of the goals of such movements and of the Russian regime.

Similarly, other neo-Nazi groups have also tried to become involved in the Ukrainian crisis, with the group Sputnik and Pogrom organizing humanitarian aid for those ethnic Russians affected by the fighting in the region. A banner bearing the slogan "Donbas says thank you" was posted on their site to thank all those who had donated financial aid (sputnikpogrom.com).

On another neo-Nazi website (officially banned in Russia but purportedly hosted on servers in the United States to prevent closure by the Kremlin), that of the skinhead gang Slaviansky Soyuz (Slavic Union), there is a call for Russia to start arming the separatists or even to provide more substantial aid due to the disproportionate array of forces deployed against them by the government in Kyiv (<http://www.demushkin.com/content/news/222/8964.html>).

Finally, an individual from the Russkiye ethno-political movement, which grew out of the 2011 protests against United Russia and the re-election of President Vladimir Putin (and whose membership overlaps with many other neo-Nazi gangs), expressed condolences on May 18 to the families of those killed in the fighting in Donbas, saying that "we must prepare ourselves for new victims" (<http://www.dpni.org/articles/vazhnoe/39003/>).

It also seems that the extreme nationalists have renounced their position in the Russian political opposition movement. Illustratively, the calls by some nationalists for a "new Manezh" (street protest) against President Putin on May 18 were dismissed by most far right leaders as a provocation (<http://www.sova-center.ru/racism-xenophobia/publications/2014/06/d29635/>). This evidence strongly suggests, therefore, that the Kremlin has now co-opted the neo-Nazi movement.

Nevertheless, the Russian far right's involvement in the Donbas has consequences for the unity of other irregular forces who are supporting the separatists in eastern Ukraine. Specifically, not all the Russian neo-Nazis were happy with the

prospect of working with other elements – especially the Chechens – in the fight for eastern Ukraine. On DPNI leader Mr. Belov's Facebook page, for instance, there were comments, presumably from other neo-Nazis, deriding the involvement of the Chechens. Indeed, Mr. Belov himself posted commentary on the DPNI website complaining that Chechens were in Donbas "with [Chechen leader Ramzan] Kadyrov's blessing and for money" and not out of reasons of patriotism or ethnic belonging (<http://www.dpni.org/articles/novostnaya/39200/>). This was despite the denials from Mr. Kadyrov, the Chechen president and a Kremlin appointee, that he had directed any Chechens to go to Donbas.

Ethnic-Russian nationalists question the commitment of the Chechens and other North Caucasians to the cause of "Novorossiya" ("New Russia," a vision declared by Vladimir Putin on April 17 calling for bringing southeastern Ukraine under some form of Russian control – see EDM, May 1). Rather, many ethnic Russians perceive people from the Caucasus as foreign at best and all too often as hostile aliens. Indeed, there has been a spate of race riots against people from the Caucasus in Russia in recent times (see EDM, March 5), which presumably was something the organizers of the May 18 rally were trying to provoke.

It is tempting to conclude that the irregular Russian juggernaut now fighting in eastern Ukraine is held together by its common goals, but it will have to keep winning future victories or it will dissolve in internal squabbling.

The evidence that the Kremlin is working with neo-Nazi or ultranationalist forces in the Donbas is highly ironic but not surprising. The regime's allies in the Russian far right make the Kremlin's warnings of a "neo-Nazi" takeover in Kyiv seem even more incredulous. Ostensibly, it was concerns over the role of the Ukrainian "neo-Nazi" group Right Sector and its leader Dmitri Yarosh in the new government that served as justification for the Russian government to annex Crimea. Kremlin propaganda from the time told of mass shootings carried out by Right Sector and even broadcast what it alleged to be photographs of corpses lying in freshly dug mass graves (http://antimaydan.info/2014/03/lider_neonacistov_gruppirovki_pravyj_sektor_dmitrij_yarosh_zayavil_37446.html).

While Right Sector has indeed been involved in a number of violent actions in Ukraine such as an April attack on a court and judge in the country (http://novorossy.ru/news/news_post/pravyj-sektor-zahvatil-verhovnyy-sud-ukrainy-a-nakazhut-yugo), the fact that the Kremlin is working with its own domestic neo-Nazi movement makes its claims seem all the more disingenuous.

The Russian far right's involvement in the Ukraine crisis and its growing ties to the Kremlin also provide a warning of how volatile the current situation is inside Russia itself. If such trends continue, the next Kremlin occupant could very well be openly sympathetic to the Russian neo-Nazi movement, and such an outcome would truly be a dire situation for the country, Eurasia and the world (see EDM, February 13, 2012).

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NEWSBRIEFS

Ukraine observes day of mourning

KYIV – June 15 was a day of mourning in Ukraine for the 49 soldiers killed when pro-Russian separatists shot down a military transport plane. President Petro Poroshenko declared the day of mourning and has vowed a firm response against those who shot down the aircraft early on June 14 as it approached the airport in Luhansk. "Ukraine is in sorrow, but we strongly continue the struggle for peace," Mr. Poroshenko said. In Washington, the White House condemned the shooting down of the plane, saying that it is a "fact" that pro-Russian separatists in eastern Ukraine have received heavy weapons from Russia, including tanks and rocket launchers. Meanwhile, NATO has released satellite imagery that gives added weight to claims by Kyiv that the separatists in eastern Ukraine are using tanks supplied by Russia in recent days. The imagery shows three Russian tanks loaded onto transporters in a military convoy close to the Ukrainian border on June 11 in the Russian region of Rostov. NATO officials say they have no doubt it is the same military convoy that crossed the border into Ukraine later on June 11. A senior NATO official has told the BBC that the satellite images "raise significant questions concerning Russia's role in facilitating instability in eastern Ukraine." (RFE/RL, with reporting by Reuters, the Associated Press, BBC and ITAR-TASS)

Protest at Russian Embassy in Kyiv

KYIV – Shortly after President Petro Poroshenko's speech on June 14 in which he declared a day of mourning in the aftermath of the downing of a military transport plane in Luhansk, a crowd of several hundred people in Kyiv smashed windows in the Russian Embassy and overturned luxury cars belonging to Embassy staff before pulling down the Russian flag. Russia's Foreign Affairs Ministry on June 15 sent a protest note to Kyiv demanding that those responsible for the attack be caught and punished. Russia condemned the failure of Kyiv's police to stop the angry crowd, calling it "a grave violation of Ukraine's international obligations." A Molotov cocktail also was thrown against a wall of the Russian Embassy but the fire was quickly extin-

guished. A sign carried by protesters in the crowd declared "Russia is a killer." (RFE/RL, with reporting by Reuters and ITAR-TASS)

Poroshenko promises unilateral ceasefire

KYIV – President Petro Poroshenko has announced plans for a unilateral ceasefire in eastern Ukraine, where government forces are fighting pro-Russian separatists. Mr. Poroshenko told reporters in Kyiv on June 18 that he would soon order a "very brief" unilateral ceasefire as part of a broader plan to end the 10-week-long separatist insurgency. The Kremlin earlier said that President Poroshenko and Russian President Vladimir Putin had discussed a possible ceasefire in eastern Ukraine in a telephone conversation on June 17. According to the Kremlin, Messrs. Poroshenko and Putin also discussed the deaths announced earlier in the day of two Russian state television journalists. According to Russian media, sound engineer Anton Voloshin and correspondent Igor Kornelyuk were killed after they came under fire while covering fighting near the eastern city of Luhansk. The Russian Foreign Affairs Ministry said the deaths demonstrated the "criminal nature" of Ukraine's military operation against pro-Russian rebels and urged authorities in Kyiv to investigate. (RFE/RL, with reporting by Agence France-Presse, Reuters and ITAR-TASS)

Kerry calls Yatsenyuk, Lavrov

WASHINGTON – During a phone call with Ukrainian Prime Minister Arseniy Yatsenyuk on the morning of June 14, U.S. Secretary of State John Kerry expressed condolences for the loss of life when a Ukrainian transport plane was shot down by Russian-supported separatists overnight. According to a readout of the call provided by the State Department: "He expressed strong concern about the ongoing flow of heavy weaponry and militants across the border from Russia and the contribution to increasing violence in eastern Ukraine. He also reiterated the support of the United States for Ukraine's commitment to defending its border and for President [Petro] Poroshenko's peace plan. He underscored the commitment of the

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THE UKRAINIAN WEEKLY

FOUNDED 1933

An English-language newspaper published by the Ukrainian National Association Inc., a non-profit association, at 2200 Route 10, P.O. Box 280, Parsippany, NJ 07054.
Yearly subscription rate: \$90; for UNA members — \$80.

Periodicals postage paid at Caldwell, NJ 07006 and additional mailing offices.
(ISSN — 0273-9348)

The Weekly:
Tel: (973) 292-9800; Fax: (973) 644-9510

UNA:
Tel: (973) 292-9800; Fax: (973) 292-0900

Postmaster, send address changes to:
The Ukrainian Weekly
2200 Route 10
P.O. Box 280
Parsippany, NJ 07054

Editor-in-chief: Roma Hadzewycz
Editor: Matthew Dubas

e-mail: staff@ukrweekly.com

The Ukrainian Weekly Archive: www.ukrweekly.com

The Ukrainian Weekly, June 22, 2014, No. 25, Vol. LXXXII
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NEWS ANALYSIS

Putin comes to a decision point on Ukraine, and falters

by Pavel K. Baev
Eurasia Daily Monitor
June 16

For the last month, important engagements have filled Russian President Vladimir Putin's schedule: the official visit to China, the signing of the treaty on the Eurasian Economic Union with Belarus and Kazakhstan, the trip to Normandy for the celebration of the 70th anniversary of D-Day. Each of them required restraint in managing the dangerous Russian-Ukrainian crisis, and Mr. Putin has been backing off from his aggressive stance, even acknowledging the legitimacy of the newly elected Ukrainian President Petro Poroshenko.

Now the deals are done and the photo-ops taken, so there is no more delaying the decision on exploiting or putting an end to the smoldering civil war in eastern Ukraine, but Mr. Putin remains incapable of making it.

Hardly any doubt remains that the violent unrest in Ukraine's Donetsk and Luhansk regions is being fueled by an influx of "volunteers" and weapons from Russia, and the arrival of three Russian tanks on June 12 was merely the brashest recent manifestation of this interference (RIA Novosti, June 12). A few days later, the rebels positioned anti-aircraft guns around the Luhansk airport and on the night of June 14 downed a landing Ukrainian military Il-76 transport aircraft, resulting in a loss of 49 lives (Newsru.com, June 14).

Meanwhile, the Ukrainian forces cannot give the rebels respite to consolidate their positions. The country's military continues to shell Sloviansk, which has become the focal point of the uprising, and the army is policing the recaptured Mariupol on the Azov Sea (Moskovsky Komsomolets, June 13).

In this military deadlock, terse phone conversations between Presidents

Poroshenko and Putin produce no détente: the former demands a cessation to Russia's military support for the rebels, and the latter insists on the termination of Ukraine's "anti-terrorist operation" (RIA Novosti, June 12).

Mr. Putin has apparently abandoned plans for a military intervention in eastern Ukraine as too risky, but he likely fears that washing his hands entirely of the separatists will damage his credibility in the eyes of the hyper-excited "patriotic" electorate and pull down his stellar approval ratings (Moscow Echo, June 13). At the same time, he probably understands that declarations on "disowning" the evolving civil war depart too far from the reality on the ground. The Kremlin pins its hopes on the strategic partnership with China, but Beijing prefers to focus on the economic matters of bilateral relations and has not uttered a word of support for the Russian course in Ukraine.

The warnings from the United States and key European states are coming in various forms every day, clearly holding Mr. Putin responsible for the violent clashes in the two Ukrainian regions (Vedomosti, June 11). U.S. President Barack Obama and German Chancellor Angela Merkel have essentially given up trying to have a meaningful dialogue with Mr. Putin, who told them too many blatant lies during the lengthy telephone conversations in the early phase of the crisis.

Meanwhile, Russian Foreign Affairs Minister Sergei Lavrov, who is travelling non-stop around Europe, finds too few exploitable divisions among the usually disagreeable European Union members (Kommersant, June 11). At the same time, Russia's military exercises in the Kaliningrad region only add urgency to the North Atlantic Treaty Organization's (NATO) plans for bolstering containment (Nezavisimaya Gazeta, June 11).

The outgoing president of the European Commission, Jose Manuel Barroso, called Mr. Putin on June 13 in order to confirm that Georgia, Moldova and Ukraine will be signing Association Agreements with the European Union later this month and to reiterate that "counter-measures" from Russia would be highly inappropriate (Gazeta.ru, June 14).

The Kremlin has long prepared instruments for punishing the three attempted escapees from its imaginary Eurasia to Europe; but it will have to be extra cautious with applying those because the Russian political class is far more concerned about possible new sanctions than the country's defiantly anti-Western public opinion (Levada.ru, June 11).

Although the stock exchange has recovered to the pre-Crimea level on the expectations that no new sanctions would be imposed, Russia's economy shows no signs of vitality (RBC, June 11). Until now, concerns about reinforcing the worrisome drive for diversification in the EU energy policy have dictated Russia's uncharacteristic caution in using the "gas weapon" against Ukraine (Kommersant, June 13). This cautious approach may finally have ended, however, with the June 16 declaration by Gazprom that it would be turning off the gas to Ukraine for failure to pay for previous deliveries (Kyiv Post, June 16).

One new development during the hard first week of Mr. Poroshenko's presidency was the severe deterioration of the security situation in Iraq, which might implicitly help Moscow, even if only by distracting the U.S. There is plenty of gloating in the Russian media in tune with Mr. Lavrov's statement on the "illustration of the failure of adventure launched by the U.S." But, in fact, Russia's own interests are also in grave peril (RIA Novosti, June 12).

The Islamic State of Iraq and Syria (ISIS) terrorists that routed Iraqi forces in Mosul have deep networks in the Russian North Caucasus, where a low-intensity civil war is raging (Moscow Echo, June 12). Iraqi Kurdistan can use the opportunity for gaining real independence and bankroll it by increasing the export of oil and gas to Turkey (Nezavisimaya Gazeta, June 11). Iran is set to exploit its capacity for preventing state failure in Iraq by possibly gaining more concessions in the six-party talks on its nuclear program and freeing itself from the sanctions regime (Newsru.com, June 14). The ISIS offensive could turn out to be a unique case when an escalation of instability in the Middle East leads to an increase of oil supply and a corresponding fall in prices – and this would deliver a cruel blow to Russia's petro-economy.

Moscow likes to pretend it plays a major role in the Arab world, but it finds itself completely marginalized in the Syrian corner, while potentially having a lot to lose from the interplay of forces it has few connections with. It also cannot hope that the threat from Islamic extremists will make the separatists in eastern Ukraine look like freedom fighters, because their aims go no further than spreading violent chaos.

The dilemma for the European politicians who are committed to resolving the Ukrainian crisis is that it cannot be done without Russia – but Mr. Putin cannot be a part of the solution. He has caught himself in the trap of Crimean annexation and can neither let Ukraine proceed with its European choice nor execute his own choice of adding new bastions to "Fortress Russia."

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Moscow's dilemma: Finlandization of Ukraine or occupation?

by Pavel Felgenhauer
Eurasia Daily Monitor
June 12

Russia seems at a crossroads in the Ukrainian crisis, unsure how to proceed: to seek some negotiated compromise with Kyiv, or intensify its support for pro-Russian separatists in southeastern Ukraine? During Russian Foreign Affairs Minister Sergei Lavrov's visit to Finland on June 9-10, a possibility was discussed that Ukraine might follow Cold War-era Finland in what was then known as "Finlandization" – that is, building a neutral democratic nation with a market economy, but politically under Moscow's thumb.

According to Mr. Lavrov, "We have many times proposed that all of us – Europeans and Ukrainians – come together and find a way to avoid forcing Ukraine to tear itself apart between right and left." Since last year, Moscow was been pressing Brussels to start tri-party talks to decide Ukraine's future status. The idea was flatly rejected by the European Union and by the Ukrainian leaders that emerged after the fall of former President Viktor Yanukovich (RIA Novosti, June 10).

After the annexation of Crimea in March and the de facto secession of parts of the Donetsk and Luhansk regions that have proclaimed "independent people's republics" last month, the Kremlin wants a deci-

sive say in the future of rump Ukraine. Today, Moscow is acting as it did in other post-Soviet conflicts – in Transdniestria in Moldova, in Abkhazia and South Ossetia in Georgia, and in Karabakh in Azerbaijan. Specifically, Russia is trying to covertly fan internal separatist armed conflicts and later act as a possible intermediary or peacekeeper. Such "frozen conflicts" tend to stay unsettled for decades, giving Moscow excellent leverage to control both the separatist self-proclaimed republics and the internationally recognized rump nations from which they seceded.

On June 12, Mr. Lavrov told journalists: "The stage has not been reached yet for us to consider sending in peacekeeping forces, since there is hope President [Petro] Poroshenko [elected on May 25] will make good on his promise to stop armed violence, and talks will begin." Mr. Lavrov added, "We know the volunteer self-defense forces in the southeast are ready for a ceasefire, but the authorities in Kyiv must make the first step after the [June 7] inauguration of Poroshenko" (Interfax, June 12).

Mr. Lavrov had previously acknowledged that Russia was sending the armed separatists "humanitarian aid" directly over the Russian-Ukrainian border, large spans of which in the Donetsk and Luhansk regions have been abandoned by Ukrainian

Russia's unmarked tanks in Ukraine: Putin is probing the West's resolve

Atlantic Council

On June 12, unmarked tanks and another armored vehicle – bearing no unit markings or other identification, beyond a Russian flag – drove from Russia into southeastern Ukraine, according to the Ukrainian government and independent news reports. John Herbst, the director of the Atlantic Council's Eurasia Center and a former U.S. ambassador to Ukraine, says Russian President Vladimir Putin's next steps will be shaped largely by the response of the U.S. and its allies. His analysis follows.

By sending three T-72 tanks into Donetsk accompanied by an armored vehicle flying the Russian flag, Mr. Putin is trying to secure full control of this key Ukrainian city and to test the resolve of Western powers. As Ukraine ramped up its counter-insurgency campaign in the past week, the Russian-supported insurgents suffered major casualties, with the remains of over 30 Russian fighters returned to their homeland for burial. Sending in the tanks is Moscow's way of saying that it can increase its military presence in the region to offset any Ukrainian gain.

This move comes despite the position taken June 5 by the Group of Seven industrialized nations that it would levy sanctions against whole sectors of the Russian economy if the Kremlin's efforts

to destabilize eastern Ukraine did not cease within 30 days. Mr. Putin understands that he now has 23 days to stop supporting/expanding the insurgency in eastern Ukraine, therefore he will carefully watch the Western reaction.

He recalls that in early May, President [Barack] Obama, Chancellor [Angela] Merkel and President [François] Hollande had all promised sectoral sanctions if Russia disrupted the Ukrainian presidential elections May 25. While Russian surrogates prevented 75 percent of the residents of Luhansk and Donetsk from voting, the Western powers were satisfied by the Kremlin's lukewarm statements about the elections and levied no penalty on Moscow.

If Mr. Obama and his European counterparts do not react strongly and quickly to the presence of Russian tanks and additional fighters in Donetsk, those forces will remain and receive reinforcements. They may even try a minor offensive action or two, again to gauge the Western reaction. Mr. Putin knows that a lobster is cooked gradually. If, however, there is a sharp Western reaction, he knows that he has until July 5 to reduce his latest escalation and to thereby avoid sectoral sanctions. He can do a great deal of damage in that time. This is a cynical, but effective tactic enabled by European faint-heartedness.

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SUAFCU Marketing/PR Department
President/CEO Bohdan Watral presents the credit union financial report for 2013. Seated (from left) are: Victor Wojtychiw, Antoni Kit, Bohdan Wruskyj and John Pawlyk.



Hromovytsia Dance Ensemble's director, Roxana Dykyj-Pylpaczak (second from left), presents a photo of the group, as a thank you for the credit union's support. With her (from left) are: Michael R. Kos, Oresta Fedyniak and Bohdan Watral.

CHICAGO – The 63rd annual meeting of the membership of Selfreliance Ukrainian American Federal Credit Union (SUAFCU) took place Sunday, May 4, at the credit union's home office. The meeting was simulcast in New Jersey, at the Ukrainian American Cultural Center of New Jersey in Whippany.

In New Jersey, the meeting was called to order by SUAFCU Vice-President Yaroslav Zaviysky. He introduced the Rev. Mitred Archpriest Roman Mirchuk, pastor of St. John the Baptist Ukrainian Catholic Church in Whippany, for the blessing. Andres Durbak, member of the Supervisory Committee attending the meeting in New Jersey, greeted the assembly on behalf of the members residing in Chicago.

This was followed by greetings to the assembly from community organizations, including representatives of Ukrainian National Federal Credit Union in New York, Ukrainian National Home in Jersey City, Ukrainian Congress Committee of America, Ukrainian National Association, Selfreliance Association, various youth organization and sports association representatives, dance ensembles, cultural organizations and parishes.

Once the cameras were turned on in both locations for the simulcast, the chairman of the board of directors, Michael R. Kos, called the combined meeting to order. The colors were posted by the Ukrainian American Veterans, and renditions of the national anthems of the United States and Ukraine followed. Bishop Richard Seminack of St. Nicholas Ukrainian Catholic Eparchy read the invocation.

The annual meeting participants were visited by State of Illinois Comptroller Judy Barr Topinka, a long-time friend of Selfreliance and a supporter of Chicago's Ukrainian community. The comptroller gave a speech praising the credit union, which she said is "as honest as the day is long," and the Ukrainian people fighting for their freedom in Ukraine and those who support them here in the U.S.

After an introduction of board and committee members, the assembly heard reports from the credit union's elected leaders.

Mr. Kos reported as SUAFCU chairman of the board. He spoke of the challenges the credit union faced in 2013, and stated that Selfreliance was able to end the year on a

positive note.

President/CEO Bohdan Watral described the credit union's 2013 achievements, confirming that the financial statements for 2013 validate its viability and consistent growth. In 2013, net income surpassed \$3.3 million, and equity now exceeds a record \$85 million. SUAFCU is proud to be included among the most stable financial institutions in the United States. With sound fiscal management, the credit union succeeded at a time when other institutions stumbled by maintaining its commitment to provide the highest caliber financial services in a professional, caring environment, Mr. Watral said.

With equity now exceeding 19.5 percent of assets, SUAFCU has turned its attention to the future, he continued. The environment in which the credit union operates is ever changing, creating new hazards and greater demands on resources. New non-traditional Internet competitors, demanding new regulations and the continued assimilation of the member base are but a few of the hurdles SUAFCU needs to address and overcome.

SUAFCU Vice-President Zaviysky, reporting from New Jersey, thanked the credit union members in the Jersey City, Newark and Whippany branch offices for their support, which is crucial in ensuring the future success of the credit union.

Antony Kit, Credit Committee chairman, detailed the work of the committee in

reviewing loan applications. Bohdan Wruskyj, Supervisory Committee chairman, stated that this year's review focused on the credit union's lending activity, specifically compliance and adherence to policies and procedures.

Andriy Kolomayets reported for the Nominating Committee, whose members represent the three primary Ukrainian youth organizations: committee chair Irene Wruskyj (Ukrainian American Youth Association), Taras Konowal (Ukrainian Democratic Youth Association) and Andriy Kolomayets (Plast Ukrainian Scouting Organization). The Nominating Committee presented a slate of three individuals to serve as directors: Oleh Karawan, Christina Kozij and Victor Wojtychiw; all three were re-elected unanimously.

Mr. Watral then presented the budget for 2014, which was approved as read. As there were no further questions or comments from the floor, Mr. Kos ended the simulcast, saying farewell to the credit union's members in New Jersey.

Community greetings followed in Chicago. Pastors and representatives of various churches approached the microphone to thank SUAFCU for its support and comment on the benefits of the ongoing partnership between the credit union and the community.

The Rev. Volodymyr Kushnir of St. Joseph Ukrainian Catholic Church – on whose premises the most active of

SUAFCU's branches, the Northwest Office, is located – cited the common concern of both entities to increase membership for continued growth. He emphasized that it is the responsibility of current members to promote the benefits of membership in both the parish and the credit union. He stated that the credit union provides not only financial, but also moral support.

Orysia Burdiak, president of the Ukrainian National Credit Union Association, greeted Selfreliance on behalf of the other Ukrainian American credit unions in the United States. Greetings were also extended by representatives of Ukrainian cultural institutions, schools, youth groups and community organizations.

The board of directors of Selfreliance Ukrainian American Federal Credit Union for 2014 comprises: Mr. Kos, chairman of the board; Mr. Watral, President/CEO; Mr. Wojtychiw, first vice-chair and secretary; Ihor Laszok, second vice-chair; Oresta Fedyniak, third vice-chair; Mr. Karawan, fourth vice-chair; Ms. Kozij, John Oharenko, and Roman Yatskovskyy, members; John Pawlyk, honorary member.

Photos of the 63rd annual meeting of Selfreliance Ukrainian American Federal Credit Union are available on its website, www.selfreliance.com. Also there are links to the SUAFCU annual report and credit union history. For current information, readers may follow SUAFCU on Facebook.



The SUAFCU New Jersey Advisory Committee at the annual meeting (from left): Yaroslav Zaviysky, Ihor Laszok, Andres Durbak, Michael Koziupa, Daria Twardowsky-Vincent, Walter Kovbasniuk, Orest Ciapka, Michael Dziman, Dr. Andrew Hrechak and Michael Szyhulsky.

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THE UKRAINIAN WEEKLY

A Shevchenko anniversary 50 years ago

Those of us of certain generations who were around in 1964 no doubt remember a historic day in the life of our Ukrainian American community – indeed, of the Ukrainian people worldwide. Fifty years ago, on June 27, 1964, a monument to Taras Shevchenko, the bard of Ukraine hailed worldwide as a fighter for freedom and the rights of the oppressed, was unveiled in Washington with more than 100,000 people in attendance. Among them, we are sure, were many of our dear readers.

"Shevchenko Monument – A 'New Statue Of Liberty' – Unveiled in Washington by General Eisenhower in Solemn Ceremonies" read the banner headline on The Weekly's front page. (Readers who are interested in reading the reports about the ceremonies are directed to our online archives at www.ukrweekly.com. See our issue dated July 3, 1964.)

The idea of a monument to Shevchenko was proposed back in 1956 on the pages of our sister publication, Svoboda, in an article by Ivan Dubrovsky. It was discussed in numerous articles in that newspaper, then a daily, and the initiative to transform this idea into reality was taken up by the Ukrainian National Association. The UNA succeeded in having Sen. Jacob Javits of New York introduce a Senate resolution on erecting a Shevchenko statue on public land in the District of Columbia; Rep. Alvin Bentley of Michigan later introduced a similar resolution in the House. President Dwight D. Eisenhower signed the bill into law in 1960. Immediately afterwards, the Shevchenko Memorial Committee was established; it declared 1961 Shevchenko Year to mark the 100th anniversary of great bard's passing and began an intensive fund-raising campaign, whose results were widely and dutifully reported in the Ukrainian press.

There were many hurdles along the way, including the opposition of such entities as The Washington Post, which called Shevchenko an "idol of Communists" and charged that he was an anti-Semite (!), and the disinformation campaign mounted by Soviet authorities who said Ukrainian Americans were using Shevchenko for their own purposes and distorting his works. But it was the Soviets who for decades had distorted Shevchenko's message of freedom and national independence.

Ultimately, Eisenhower unveiled the Shevchenko monument – "Dedicated to the liberation, freedom and independence of all Captive Nations," as the inscription on its base says – during the 150th anniversary year of the poet's birth. The Weekly reported: "June 27, 1964, will ever remain a day of great national and cultural triumph of the Ukrainian people no matter where they may live. For on that day a great dream came true: the statue in honor of Ukraine's poet laureate and national hero, Taras Shevchenko, had been unveiled by one of America's greatest living heroes and statesmen – former President Dwight D. Eisenhower."

AN ANNIVERSARY COMMEMORATION: As this editorial was being written, an e-mail message dated June 18 arrived from the Ukrainian National Information Service announcing that on June 28 there will be a commemoration of the 50th anniversary of the Shevchenko monument's unveiling. The event will take place at the monument, located on the corner of 22nd and P streets NW, at 4 p.m. and will include a wreath-laying ceremony, religious service, greetings by dignitaries, a reading by Peter Fedynsky from his English-translation of the "Kobzar" and a performance by the Prometheus Men's Chorus. As noted in the UNIS release, the commemoration is sponsored by the National Shevchenko Commemoration Committee and the Embassy of Ukraine. For more information, readers are advised to contact UNIS at 202-547-0018 or unis@ucca.org.

June
27
1964

Turning the pages back...

Fifty years ago, on June 27, 1964, former President Dwight D. Eisenhower officially unveiled the Taras Shevchenko monument in Washington as some 100,000 Americans and Canadians of Ukrainian descent, and many Ukrainians from other parts of the world cheered and applauded. It was Gen. Eisenhower who, as president, on September 13, 1960, signed the law authorizing the erection of the Shevchenko monument.

Prior to the unveiling ceremony, more than 40,000 Ukrainians paraded from the Washington Monument to the Shevchenko monument; among them were representatives of the Ukrainian Congress Committee of America (UCCA) and the Shevchenko Memorial Committee of America, the Shevchenko Anniversary Honorary Committee, the Shevchenko Monument Honorary Sponsoring Committee, as well as Ukrainian organizations from Western Europe and South America.

The official ceremony was opened by Dr. Lev Dobriansky, president of the UCCA, followed by the singing of the U.S. national anthem, an invocation by Archbishop-Metropolitan Ambrose Senyshyn of the Ukrainian Catholic Church, and a statement by Prof. Roman Smal-Stocki of the Shevchenko Scientific Society.

Gen. Eisenhower, who spoke for 12 minutes, noted that the erection of the Shevchenko monument in Washington would help to "rekindle a new world movement in the hearts, minds, words and actions of men; a never-ending movement dedicated to the independence and freedom of peoples of all captive nations of the entire world."

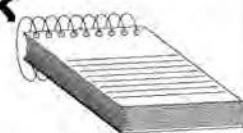
"Within the past few decades, the concepts of liberty and human dignity have been scorned and rejected by powerful men who control great areas of our planet. ... When [Shevchenko] spoke out for Ukrainian independence from Russian colonial rule, he endangered his own liberty. When he joined a society whose aim was to establish a republican form of government in countries of Eastern Europe, he was jailed – even denied the right to use pencil and paper to record his thoughts about freedom."

Gen. Eisenhower continued: "Of all who inhabit the globe, only a relative few in each of the captive nations – only a handful in Russia itself – form the evil conspiracies that dominate their fellow men by force or by fraud. ... But lest us not forget this truth, 'This too shall pass,' and until it does, we can be sure that this nation will with its allies sustain the strength – spiritual, economic and military – to foil any ill-advised attempt of dictators to

(Continued on page 18)

REPORTER'S NOTEBOOK

BY ZENON ZAWADA



Kolomoisky's 'Zhydobandera' alliance

Igor Kolomoisky has shown that being a devoted Jew doesn't prevent you from being a Ukrainian patriot. He has emerged as the leader of a Jewish-Ukrainian front, the "Zhydobandera" alliance, if you will, to quote a T-shirt he wore with a tryzub styled as a menorah.

Just how tight is the "Zhydobandera" alliance?

The Investigation Committee of the Russian Federation announced in early June it created a specialized administration to investigate crimes committed on Ukraine's territory.

The current president of the European Council of Jewish Communities is listed as a target for investigation alongside Ukraine's top nationalist leaders (Dmytro Yarosh, Oleh Tiahnybok, Ihor Mazur-Topolia).

And he's been targeted with criminal charges before any of them, for allegedly ordering the kidnapping and planning the murder of Russian journalists in Donbas.

Though Mr. Kolomoisky has demonstrated decisive leadership – which Ukraine so desperately needs – since taking over the Dnipropetrovsk Oblast in early March, what earned my particular sympathy was his proposal announced on June 13 to build a steel wall, lined with barbed wire, between Ukraine and Russia. It would be fortified by ditches wide and deep enough to prevent military vehicles from crossing the border.

That's the best idea I've heard since the Russian invasion began. And it's not just fantasy: an architectural draft and cost analysis has already been submitted to the Presidential Administration, reported the Dnipropetrovsk Oblast Administration. The estimated cost for the 1,193-mile wall is \$203 million.

"The Mannerheim Line rescued peaceful Finland from Stalin," Mr. Kolomoisky said, also pointing out that "the wall on Israel's border enables the effective repulsion of terrorist attacks."

We can already thank Mr. Kolomoisky for returning direct flights between Kyiv and New York, which had disappeared during a conflict in which Viktor Yanukovich allegedly wanted to take Mr. Kolomoisky's airline business.

Of course, many are cynical of Mr. Kolomoisky's newfound patriotism, pointing out that Mr. Kolomoisky is a partner in Ukraine's largest commercial bank, Privat Bank. So he's practically protecting his assets (his debtors especially) in defending Ukraine.

They also point out that Mr. Kolomoisky's \$3.5 billion financial empire (which swells to \$7.7 billion if one is to include Privat Group partners Gennadiy Bogolyubov and Aleksey Martynov) includes a monopoly over Ukraine's extraction of manganese ore.

Such control enabled the Privat partners, in partnership with billionaire Victor Pinchuk, to gain monopoly control of Ukraine's ferroalloys production. [Ferroalloys are key ingredients in producing cast iron and steel products.] These factories even continue to enjoy state subsidies on electricity consumption.

Mr. Kolomoisky also has the largest private stake in Ukraine's largest oil company,

Ukrnafta. So he stands to lose all his profit from Ukraine's natural resources (and more) should the Russians take over the land that he wants to protect with a steel wall.

Such scepticism is legitimate. Certainly, it's disturbing when average Ukrainians are being asked to sacrifice their own meager resources to support the Ukrainian army, particularly when the wealthy don't seem to be making any sacrifices for their personal fortunes (at least they're not publicizing them).

I hope the day comes that Ukraine's immense natural resources will be used to benefit the Ukrainian people, not just a small circle of oligarchs. But the battle against Ukraine's oligarchs is not the fight to be picking now.

Just as Ukraine's pro-Western liberals understood during the Euro-Maidan that they needed to unite with their enemies (the nationalists) against the bigger, common enemy (Vladimir Putin), Ukrainians need to embrace the "patriot oligarchs" in their fight against Putinist Russia.

Once the Putinist threat is eliminated, then we can start bugging Messrs. Kolomoisky and Pinchuk about raping Ukraine's natural resources.

But there are also signs that Mr. Kolomoisky is giving more back. I was informed by Prof. Roman Cybriwsky of Temple University that a Holodomor exhibit would be launched at the Holocaust museum in Dnipropetrovsk, where all the exhibits are in the Ukrainian language.

And Mr. Kolomoisky is making an effort to learn Ukrainian. He even revealed his respect for western Ukrainians during his March 3 press conference.

"I think there will be another people, another feeling, another society, a society that will be civil, generally speaking, with a character like Poland, the Czech Republic, Slovakia and western Ukraine," he said. "Nonetheless, they were under the Soviet Union less and we feel that and see their position and ours. Here [in Ukraine's east], the genes of resistance were destroyed by the Holodomors and civil wars."

And the genes of patriotism as well. If only Donetsk tycoon Rinat Akhmetov had thrown his support firmly behind the Ukrainian cause as Mr. Kolomoisky had.

Had he acted as decisively, the Donbas could have avoided all the misery and violence that plagues it currently. Now Mr. Akhmetov is hiding out in a Koncha Zaspas mansion, unable to return to his native Donetsk, while Mr. Kolomoisky commands the respect of his oblast and beyond.

Indeed the chickens have come home to roost for Mr. Akhmetov and the other Party of Regions fools, who spent all their years in power promoting Russian chauvinism instead of Ukrainian patriotism.

Meanwhile, Russian national television has spent the last few weeks smearing Petro Poroshenko: his Roshen candies are full of carcinogens, that his father was a

(Continued on page 20)

OUR NEXT ISSUE

Next week's issue of The Ukrainian Weekly will be a double issue (Nos. 26 and 27) dated June 29-July 6. A single issue will be printed for those weeks due to the Independence Day holiday in the United States.

OPEN LETTER

To Secretary of Defense Chuck Hagel

Dear Secretary Hagel:

Several friends of mine who are American veterans of Ukrainian ethnic background have suggested that I write to you about tangible non-lethal U.S. military assistance to Ukraine. As you know Ukraine had been decimated militarily, initially because of economic woes, corruption and neglect, and more deliberately since 2010 through the joint efforts of the Kremlin and the Kremlin's lackey, Ukraine's former President Viktor Yanukovich. The latest efforts were part of a conspiracy to make Ukraine weak and thus susceptible to Russian psychological pressure, intimidation and even physical force.

At this point, Ukraine would appreciate greatly any military support. The United States has been forthcoming somewhat in this regard with what is considered non-lethal aid. However, the definition of non-lethal is very much subject to interpretation. My understanding is that Ukraine has requested excess property from the U.S. currently located in Europe and this has stalled because of Department of State bureaucratic misinterpretation. There should be no ambiguity regarding equipment used to protect from harm rather than inflict same. Most recently, during the presidential inauguration events in Ukraine, Vice-President Joe Biden announced almost \$50 million in new aid to Ukraine for constitutional reform, strengthening unity and effective border control.

The situation in southeastern Ukraine remains in turmoil in several cities and towns and, particularly, on the Ukraine-Russia border. In fact several border crossing points controlled by the Russian armed terrorists have enabled several Russian tanks and armored vehicles to enter Ukrainian territory. This has occurred in the last few days under the watchful supervision of Russian aircraft. Russia's President Vladimir Putin, as he has done many times in the past, has denied Russian complicity, but the evidence against Russia is overwhelming. It should be clear by now that Russia has imperialistic designs at the very least on Ukraine and, perhaps, even on our eastern NATO allies, and that its public pronouncements and international commitments are meaningless.

Imminently, Ukraine is very much in need of assistance/protection for its border guards, as well as internal security person-

nel. In particular, Ukraine needs humanitarian assistance and logistical transport support to be able to move personnel with some degree of alacrity, protect them with helmets and shields, and provide emergency medical care. Current deficiencies affect not only conditions in the southeast, but throughout Ukraine, since economic and constitutional reforms are delayed until Ukraine is able to secure and strengthen its unity.

A new and inexpensive opportunity to help Ukraine will open up shortly for the Department of Defense (DOD). Naturally, I am referring to non-lethal excess supplies which are not weapons, ammunition or material that is designated to inflict serious bodily injury or death and comply with Title 10 of the U.S. Code falling within the jurisdiction of the secretary of defense. Since they are excess supplies, they would indeed cost us next to nothing. At the same time, they would help Ukraine significantly in the area of strengthening Ukraine's unity and border control as stressed by Vice-President Biden in Ukraine.

I am assuming that with the reduction of major U.S. engagement in Afghanistan, the U.S. military will find itself with thousands of vehicles and other equipment such as helmets, vests, etc. in Afghanistan in excess to U.S. military needs. A gradual reduction process in Afghanistan may start even now since major disengagement is scheduled for December 2014. The timing coincides with the immediacy of Ukraine's needs for such humanitarian non-lethal support. With their cargo planes the Ukrainians would be in position to pick up these items for transport to Ukraine.

Just prior to our entry into World War II, we provided (gave away) to the United Kingdom under the Lend-Lease program a number of U.S. Navy destroyer ships to defend the U.K. from German U-boat submarines, knowing full well that the "loan" would not be repaid. Similarly, we can lend to Ukraine a number of these vehicles, such as Humvees, medium trucks and MRAPS (Mine Resistant/Ambush Protected) vehicles under similar lend-lease arrangements. With their large-capacity cargo planes, the Ukrainians would be in position to pick up these items for transport to Ukraine.

Ukraine's newly elected President Petro Poroshenko mentioned the U.S. lend-lease

(Continued on page 20)

Quotable notes

...Russian President Vladimir Putin has not lessened the pressure on Russia's weaker neighbor. The West, which applied modest sanctions in April that seemed to affect Mr. Putin's calculations for a time, must prepare clear and certain consequences if Russia's provocations continue.

Over the weekend, NATO released satellite images indicating that Russian tanks have entered Ukraine in recent days, backing up reports that Russia has been sending heavy weaponry and vehicles into Ukraine's east. On the same day, Russian-backed separatist rebels downed a Ukrainian military airplane, killing 49 people. On Monday, Gazprom, the Russian energy giant, suspended gas flows into Ukraine, after Russia rejected a reasonable offer brokered by the European Union. "This is not about gas," Arseniy Yatsenyuk, Ukraine's prime minister, said. "This is a general plan for the destruction of Ukraine."

...Mr. Putin may prefer that Ukraine remain divided, backward and dependent on Russian largess, too unstable to be an attractive partner for Western Europe. He is occupying Ukrainian territory, namely Crimea, and provoking civil conflict in a region that had lived peaceably inside Ukraine since the country gained its independence 23 years ago. If [Ukrainian President Petro] Poroshenko's generous peace effort does not elicit a fair response, the United States and its European allies must be ready with a strategy and a timetable to respond decisively."

— Editorial by The Washington Post, "Ukraine's president could use Western help against Russian provocations," June 17.



Science and Technology Notes

by Eugene Z. Stakhiv



Lost science assets in Crimea

Ukraine's scientific establishment took a big body blow to its prestige with the loss of many important scientific centers in Crimea. Foremost among them were the astrophysical observatories and oceanographic institutes that have been involved in world-class research for decades. Yet, in a rather surrealistic annual report to the National Academy of Sciences of Ukraine (NASU) on April 3, the 95-year-old president of the academy, Boris Paton, mentioned their loss only in passing, and lauded the academy's numerous other achievements. His only direct remark was that "we have to somehow continue our connections with them."

Dr. Paton's excitement that day, understandably, was mostly about his Ukrainian scientists' association with the discovery of the Higgs boson particle. Clearly, this was an important discovery, for this was the mythical "God particle" that all physicists have been searching for since it was theoretically postulated in 1964. Ukrainian scientists attached to CERN (Organisation Européenne pour la Recherche Nucléaire), located near Geneva, played a big role in that discovery.

But, oddly, Dr. Paton did not mention that several months earlier, on October 17, 2013, his astronomers at the Crimean Astrophysical Observatory (CrAO) had discovered a 400-meter asteroid that may hit the Earth in 2032. The force of such a possible collision could be the equivalent of setting off about 2,500 megatons of TNT, or roughly 125,000 times the power of the atomic bomb dropped on Hiroshima. Not only has Ukraine lost substantial scientific assets in Crimea, but the NASU has lost its voice. There's no discernible outrage from the Ukrainian scientific community.

Earlier in the year, on February 15, 2013, the Chelyabinsk meteor, which was completely undetected by astronomers, entered Earth's atmosphere over Siberia, where it mostly vaporized. It had the force of approximately 50 Hiroshima atomic bombs, though it measured only about 20 meters across. The CrAO was one of a handful of observatories that was part of a worldwide network for tracking asteroids that threaten the Earth. No doubt they will continue this work, but now serving Russia's science establishment.

It's a surreal time for many scientists in Ukraine and Crimea. It recalls Salvador Dali's painting of limpid pocket watches in a barren landscape, denoting that time itself is fluid and not deterministic, and life is not what it appears to be. One day they're working for Dr. Paton, president of NASU, and the next day their boss is Vladimir Fortov, president of the Russian Academy of Sciences.

Surrealism pervades Crimea's history. In September 2013, there was a big celebratory event in Yalta, hosted by one of Ukraine's oligarchs, Victor Pinchuk, for 200 of his closest friends, including Hillary and Bill Clinton, Tony Blair, Shimon Peres, Larry Summers, David Petraeus and Italy's Mario Monti. It was held in the Livadia Palace, where Roosevelt, Stalin and Churchill ended World War II, and immediately started the Cold War. The Russian Black Sea Fleet never left Sevastopol after Ukraine's independence and has been a major contributor to political destabilization on the peninsula throughout the past 23 years of independence.

Six months later, on April 7 of this year, the president of the Russian Academy of Sciences (RAS) visited the NASU Marine

Hydrophysical Institute (MHI) in Sevastopol to hold discussions with his newly acquired staff. The MHI was Ukraine's premier oceanographic research institute. The main questions from the staff, according to witnesses, was whether the RAS would automatically grant the scientists of NASU the same professional status that they hold under the NASU, including automatic membership in the RAS. No promises were made by Dr. Fortov, other than to note that membership in the RAS had to be considered individually.

Just as Alla Rostopchina, the director of the CrAO happily switched over to the Russian side immediately after Crimea's annexation by Russia, so too did Vitaliy Ivanov, the director of the MHI. This was done without consulting the staff, though Dr. Ivanov assumed, from informal conversations, that most of the staff was with him, according to a colleague of mine on the staff of MHI. Yaroslav Yatskiv, director of the Main Astronomical Observatory of NASU in Kyiv, pointed out that it "might be hard for the [Russian] academy to receive the institutes since it is itself in the midst of reform." This scientific annexation may well be a Pyrrhic victory for Russia, though it is undoubtedly a huge loss for Ukraine.

Crimean scientists may soon regret their surreal situation. Crimea has routinely experienced Dali-esque time warps and inversions throughout its turbulent history. Crimea has been invaded and has changed hands countless times. Crimea was settled first by the Cimmerians, around 1200 BC, and later by the Scythians, who were named the Tauris by the Greeks. The Greeks settled in Chersonesus in the 6th century BC. The entire Crimean peninsula was called Taurica by the ancient Greeks. Darius the Great invaded the Scythian steppes of Ukraine and Taurica in 508 BC, and subjugated those Greek colonies 20 years before his ambitions were thwarted at the crucial battle at Marathon in 490 BC.

After the Greeks, came the Celts, Thracians, Sarmatians, Bosporans, Romans, Goths, Huns, Khazars, Mongols, Kalmyks, Tatars, Genoans and Russians. Each of those civilizations had their astrologers who searched the stars, foretelling omens for their princely patrons. And there were countless ominous events throughout the peninsula's history, for astronomical observations in ancient Crimea began during the ice ages of the Paleolithic era. Crimean astronomy began in a cave near Symferopol, about 30,000 BC. A large mammoth shoulder bone was found there, among many other artifacts. On it was inscribed what archeologists believe to be the first Paleolithic map of the heavens – 102 stars and 17 constellations.

Formal astronomy in Crimea began only in 1900, when a rich amateur astronomer, Nikolai Maltsov, established his private observatory on Mount Koshka, near the town of Simiez. Later, in 1908 Maltsov turned over his observatory to the Pulkovo Observatory in St. Petersburg, Russia. From there, the USSR expanded observatories in Crimea as part of their space missions in the late 1950s. Near Simiez-Katsively is now an observatory with satellite laser ranging telescopes that are part of an international space geodynamics and geodesy network. Some of the equipment was supplied by NASA and is used to study minute move-

(Continued on page 8)



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UUARC is a registered 501(c)3 corporation established in 1944 that has been
providing humanitarian aid to Ukrainians around the world.

Lost science...

(Continued from page 7)

ments of the Earth's crust, called continental drift, by bouncing signals off a fixed network of distant stars.

The USSR built a large, top-secret radio observatory near Yevpatoria, with one of the world's largest radio telescopes, to track their sputniks, as well as Western satellites. The 70-meter diameter Yevpatoria RT-70 radio telescope is one of only a few in the world that are able to detect radio signals and communicate with deep space missions. The Yevpatoria site was carefully guarded by the USSR.

Sir Bernard Lovell's diaries showed how British intelligence services feared he was poisoned to "remove memories" of his trip there in 1963. Lovell, who founded the Jodrell Bank Observatory in England, "became mysteriously ill" after the trip, which British agents said was due to radiation exposure. Lovell wrote in a later commentary about his trip that when his wife had come to meet him in Moscow shortly after his return from Crimea, "she scarcely recognized me as the person she had seen in England a week earlier."

Two prominent Ukrainian American astrophysicists who work for NASA, Dr. Theodor Kostiuk and Dr. Michael Mishchenko, have both worked closely with scientists at the CrAO and the Yevpatoria site over the past two decades. In fact, Dr. Mishchenko was born in Symferopol and worked for a while at the Astrophysical Observatory as part of his graduate student training. Both are pessimistic about future prospects for collaborating with their former Ukrainian colleagues.

Dr. Mishchenko, as project scientist for NASA's Glory Satellite Mission and project manager for the NASA Global Aerosol Climatology Project, has had many noteworthy projects under way in collaboration

with Ukrainian scientists and Dr. Yatskiv. Dr. Kostiuk, as head of NASA's High Resolution Infrared Spectrometry Group, interacted routinely with many of Ukraine's leading astrophysicists. NASA has now limited all scientific collaboration with Russian scientists, except for the space shuttle program to service the International Space Station and ongoing space missions. And Russian and Crimean scientists will no longer receive visas to travel to the U.S.

What are the implications for Ukrainian science? Today, Crimea's numerous scientific establishments – numbering over 25 institutes, including archeological, geophysical, oceanographic, astrophysical, geologic and biological institutes – are lost to Ukraine. Even before the loss of Crimea, Ukraine's scientific establishment had been shrinking dramatically during the past two decades. The Astrophysical Observatory and the Marine Hydrophysical Institute were the crown jewels of an ever-shrinking scientific realm. These institutes produced a large percentage of Ukraine's published and highly regarded international literature. Through their collaborative work, they received many European research grants, which sustained their work.

The researchers studied and published papers on the formation and evolution of galaxies and the global characteristics of the Sun and Sun-like stars. They provided ground-based support of space missions, delved into observational and theoretical cosmology, and explored the physics and kinematics of solar system bodies and solar-planetary interactions. The institutes provided some degree of hope for the thousands of bright young doctoral candidates in Ukraine who wanted to undertake research at these respected centers. Thousands of potential jobs and research opportunities are now lost to them. With the annexation of Crimea, Ukrainian science has suffered a huge loss that will take years, if not decades, to overcome.

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Soyuzivka's Ukrainian Cultural Festival to honor the spirit of Maidan

KERHONKSON, N.Y. – Pop star/activist Ruslana, who has been called “The Voice of the Maidan,” will be the special guest at the Ukrainian Cultural Festival at the Soyuzivka Heritage Center, which this year honors Ukraine’s struggle for democracy and Kyiv’s Euro-Maidan.

She and her troupe will wow the crowds at the biggest Ukrainian festival in the United States, which takes place Friday through Sunday, July 11-13.

Ruslana is the recipient of the 2014 Women of the World Award, which was presented by First Lady Michelle Obama in recognition of her humanitarian efforts in Ukraine’s struggle for democracy.

Rock sensation and National Artist of Ukraine Oleh Skrypka and violin virtuoso Vasyl Popadiuk with his world-renowned Papa Duke band are headliners at the eighth annual Ukrainian Cultural Festival sponsored by the Ukrainian National Foundation, the charitable arm of the Ukrainian National Association, and held under the patronage of the Embassy of Ukraine in the United States.

The opening night of the festival will feature a star-studded charity gala fund-raiser and reception at 8 p.m. in support of Ukraine’s heroes and families of the fallen and injured victims of terrorist aggression. Donations through the United Ukrainian American Relief Committee (UUARC), a 501(c)3 organization that has provided humanitarian aid to Ukrainians around the world since 1944, will be tax deductible to the extent the law allows. Tickets for the charity gala are \$200 per person and will include a “meet and greet” with Ruslana, Mr. Skrypka and Mr. Popadiuk. Guests can also expect a lively private show showcasing festival performers.

The gala event is hosted jointly by UUARC and the Ukrainian National Foundation. That evening, Ruslana will be honored as “the voice of Ukraine’s struggle for dignity and freedom.”

In addition to the special guest stars, the weekend festival will feature performers and dancers from around the globe. The all-star line-up will include the six-member Papa Duke band from Toronto, starring Mr. Popadiuk, with its unique style, “world gypsy jazz fusion”; Sofiya Fedyna, folk vocalist and the voice of Lviv’s Euro-Maidan; world-renowned bandurists Victor Mishalow from Australia with Bogdan Shutka; and the celebrated Ukrainian Chorus Dumka of New York.

The festival will include performances on all three days of music, song and dance with other acts to be added.

The vibrant dancers of the Roma Pryma-Bohachevsky Ukrainian Dance Workshop



Top performers of the Ukrainian Cultural Festival.

and a guest dance troupe from Winnipeg, Manitoba, the Rusalka Ukrainian Dance Ensemble, will enliven the stage program.

As in the past, the festival will showcase many folk art and souvenir vendors, as well as delicious traditional foods. There will be many activities for guests, including an all-day film festival dedicated to the Euro-Maidan, feature films about the celebrated singer Kvitka Cisyk and the world-renowned opera star Solomiya Krushelnyska, and exhibits of art, as well as a varenyky-eating contest. In addition, many community organizations will be on hand to provide information and background materials on Ukraine.

The purpose of this festival at the Soyuzivka Heritage Center is to unite Ukrainians around the world in support of their ancestral homeland’s struggle for democracy in the spirit of the Maidan and to increase public awareness of Ukraine.

For information about the Ukrainian Cultural Festival and Soyuzivka, readers may log on to www.soyuzivka.com.


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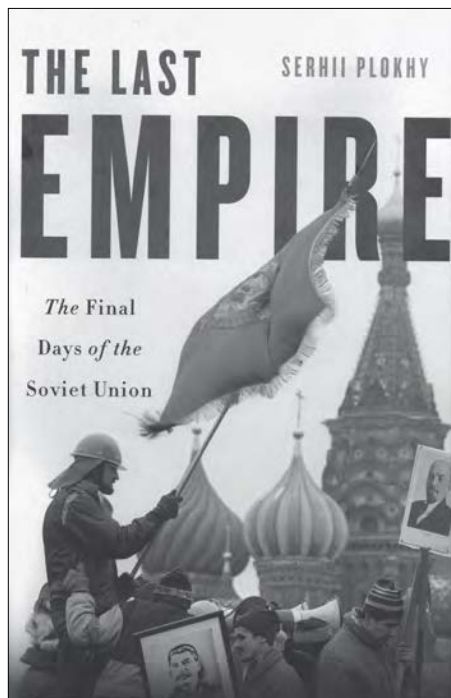
Serhii Ploky's "Last Empire" examines the Soviet Union's collapse

"The Last Empire: The Final Days of the Soviet Union," by Serhii Ploky, New York: Basic Books, 2014, 490 pp. ISBN: 978-0-465-05696-5. \$32.

Serhii Ploky's newest book, "The Last Empire: The Final Days of the Soviet Union," examines the events surrounding the collapse of the Soviet Union in 1991.

Based on recently declassified documents and original interviews with key participants, Dr. Ploky presents a new interpretation of the Soviet Union's final months, arguing that the key to the collapse was not, as President George H. W. Bush proclaimed, a triumph of Western democracy, but the inability of the two largest Soviet republics, Russia and Ukraine, to agree on the continuing existence of a unified state.

Dr. Ploky argues that the U.S. misjudged its influence in the Soviet collapse, attributing the collapse to U.S. policies and brashly claiming the mantle as the sole world superpower. From this stance, Dr. Ploky suggests that, despite what American policymakers or Mikhail Gorbachev's advisers might have believed at the time, the end of the Soviet Union occurred as much by chance as by design.



This inaccurate assessment by the U.S., Dr. Ploky adds, has led to U.S. global adventurism and foreign policy missteps in the decades since.

"In many ways, the road to the Iraq War had begun in 1991," Dr. Ploky writes. "It

was not only the desire to finish the Gulf War of 1990-1991 by toppling Saddam Hussein's regime, but also a deep-seated belief in the power of the United States as the country that won the Cold War by wiping its main adversary off the world map that informed the decisions of those who ordered American forces into Iraq."

As the last empire, the Soviet Union lost the arms race, experienced economic decline, saw democratic resurgence, and realized the bankruptcy of communist ideals. However, Dr. Ploky notes that other underlying factors, such as the Soviet Union's imperial foundations, multi-ethnic composition and pseudo-feudal structure were the root causes of its ultimate disintegration.

Dr. Ploky presents the transition of power from Mr. Gorbachev to Boris Yeltsin, the loosening of Soviet policies that fostered the weakening of Soviet Communist Party institutions and strengthening the authority of the Russian Federation. Ukraine's pivotal calls for independence by popular referendum under President Leonid Kravchuk and the infighting between Messrs. Gorbachev and Yeltsin, Dr. Ploky continues, left the other Soviet republics no choice but to abandon the

sinking ship of the Soviet empire.

Dr. Ploky explains the Bush administration's role in the Soviet collapse as working behind the scenes to keep the USSR afloat for as long as possible. This was due to President Bush's personal attachment to Mr. Gorbachev, but also the U.S. intention to extract the maximum concessions from the dying Soviet empire in the areas of arms control and international relations. The U.S. was working to avoid the bloodshed that followed the dissolution of Yugoslavia, and Dr. Ploky credits Mr. Yeltsin's policies for the ultimate peaceful nature of the Soviet dissolution.

Dr. Ploky is the Mykhailo Hrushevskiy Professor of Ukrainian History and director of the Ukrainian Research Institute at Harvard University. He is among the leading scholars on the Soviet Union and the post-Soviet space. Raised in Russia and educated in Ukraine, Dr. Ploky immigrated to North America in August 1991.

Readers may order copies of the book (\$32 U.S./ \$37 CDN) at major booksellers and online retailers, or by contacting the publisher: Basic Books, 250 W. 57th St., 15th Floor, New York, NY 10107; via telephone, 212-340-8100; or online at www.basicbooks.com.

Poroshenko's...

(Continued from page 1)

the insurgents and recaptured the Donetsk international airport on May 26 (uatoday.info, May 26).

Another growing trend has been the formation of mobile volunteer detachments. The Donbas Battalion, for example, which was eventually merged into the Ukrainian National Guard, was instrumental in freeing four districts in the western Donetsk region from the insurgents, and it has become a model of informal support to the state by patriotic citizens (see Eurasia Daily Monitor, May 15).

Finally, Ukraine's troops have enjoyed ardent support (including food supplies and monetary donations) from many compatriots, as sincere patriotism has surged all over the country (society.lb.ua, June 16).

Thus, the ATO seemed to have finally gathered momentum. And closing the extremely porous Russia-Ukraine border in order to cut off the continuous infiltration of armed men and weaponry into the rebel regions appeared to be at the top of the agenda. The Ukrainian military was simply awaiting their new commander-in-chief's order to tighten the ring round the enemy and finally crack down.

Instead, President Poroshenko instructed Ukraine's Ministry of Foreign Affairs (MFA) to hand his newly announced peace plan to

the Russian MFA. Most likely, Mr. Poroshenko believes his proposal is the best possible solution considering Moscow's pressure on Kyiv "to listen to the Donbas" as well as the threat of a Crimea scenario being repeated in Ukraine's eastern regions.

Moreover, his decision seemed to be encouraged by the Kremlin. Russia's Foreign Affairs Minister Sergei Lavrov stated that his country was not going to bring its "peacekeeping contingent" into Ukraine's east, as long as "there is a hope... to stop the violence and start talks." He added, "We know that the militia in the southeast are ready to cease fire, but it is the Kyiv authorities, who should, by all the rules, take the first step following the inauguration of Petro Poroshenko" (Interfax, June 12).

Although the Ukrainian president stressed he would accept only legitimate partners for dialogue and would not talk to bandits, his stance attracted criticism domestically. Alyona Hetmanchuk, the director of the Kyiv-based Institute of World Policy, warned that any possible talks between the Ukrainian government and secessionists would entail the transformation of the Donbas into a second Transdnister.

"As soon as Kyiv enters into negotiations with separatists, it will mean its acceptance of Russia's view - that this is an [internal] Ukrainian crisis and that Russia is... not a conflicting party in it," she wrote in her blog on Ukrayinska Pravda on June 12.

"Furthermore, in case of such a scenario, Russia will claim the role of mediator in the negotiating process, the political settlement's guarantor and peacemaker, legitimizing its peacekeeping troops under this or that pretext" (pravda.com.ua, June 12).

But as Kyiv was waiting for Moscow's response to its peace initiative, and as the Ukrainian Border Guard was preparing to seal the border, at least three Russian tanks and two trucks laden with weapons crossed into Ukraine from Russia (novosti.dn.ua, June 12). Furthermore, on the night of June 13-14, a Ukrainian IL-76 military transport plane approaching Luhansk airport was shot down by rebels (mil.gov.ua, June 14), plunging all of Ukraine into national mourning for the 49 killed paratroopers (Kyiv Post, June 14).

More recently, Moscow has apparently resumed concentrating its military along the Ukrainian border, despite repeated promises to withdraw its troops. "There are now 16,000 Russian soldiers near Ukraine's eastern frontier, 22,000 in Crimea and 3,500 in the Transdnister," NSDC Secretary Parubiy stated on June 16 (rnbo.gov.ua, June 16).

Nonetheless, President Poroshenko reiterated his peace initiatives during the June 16 meeting of the National Security and Defense Council, proposing a ceasefire as the beginning to a peace process (president.gov.ua, June 16).

Meanwhile, many Ukrainian politicians

and ordinary citizens object to halting the ATO. Instead, they argue, the government has to impose martial law in the eastern regions, finally close the border and eliminate the terrorists. Furthermore, Ukraine's defense, law enforcement and all other government agencies need to be radically reformed.

"Ukraine's state machine has become obsolete and cannot withstand foreign aggression anymore. It needs to be rebuilt by resetting all its agencies. And this is the only precondition for a final win. Until then, there will be many months of marking time, victims and blood," believes Donbas Battalion commander Semyon Semchenko (pravda.com.ua, May 30).

"We will not defeat the enemy in the Donbas, without having cleared the Kyiv ruling establishment of [its influence]," agrees Ukrainian National Deputy Oleg Lyashko, who came in third in the May 25 presidential election and has recently been heading a volunteer detachment fighting secessionists in Mariupol (rpl.kiev.ua, June 15).

Both, these field commanders, as well as much of the public, believe that the process must start with early parliamentary elections. But this will open up a whole new set of challenges in the country as long as the Donbas remains unpacified.

The article above is reprinted from Eurasia Daily Monitor with permission from its publisher, the Jamestown Foundation, www.jamestown.org.

Truman-Reagan...

(Continued from page 1)

Marynovych is the recipient of many academic and human rights awards, among them the Ukrainian Order of Liberty, an honor granted by the Ukrainian Parliament to recognize the extraordinary efforts of citizens of Ukraine to strengthen the sovereignty and independence of Ukraine, to develop democracy and constitutional rights.

Accepting the Truman-Reagan Medal of Freedom, he addressed the gathering in

front of the Victims of Communism Memorial, focusing on the challenges that Ukraine and other neighboring countries face from the Putin government in Russia.

"Our country is enduring challenges no one had expected for the 21st century," he said. Expecting nothing but the best developments after the break-up of the Soviet Union "was a costly utopian dream," he added. "It was equivalent to leaving seeds of weeds in the field and hoping that they would never germinate."

"The aggression of Putin's regime against Ukraine and its threats to other

post-Soviet countries show very clearly now that we have reaped the fruits of our own blindness," Mr. Marynovych said. And to overcome this "dangerous Soviet Communist heritage that is blossoming in the form of Putinism requires nothing less than the solidarity of the whole world."

He also stressed the point that the Ukrainian Maidan movement was anti-Putin, not anti-Russian, and added: "To overcome the present menace to our values, we need to change our perspective and to develop a stand of solidarity for values and principles which constitute the demo-

cratic system that we cannot sacrifice."

Mr. Marynovych remained in Washington for a week, discussing these issues at a handful of gatherings organized by such groups as the U.S.-Ukraine Foundation, the Ukrainian Catholic University and the U.S.-Ukraine Business Council.

He also stopped by the Ukrainian Embassy during a meeting Ambassador Oleksander Motsyk organized with leaders of Ukrainian American organizations on how they can help Ukraine receive more U.S. assistance in building a truly democratic and economically viable future.

CONCERT REVIEW

Canadian Bandurist Capella reaches new musical heights

by Olena Wawryshyn

TORONTO – On May 24, on the eve of the historic presidential Ukrainian election, the Canadian Bandurist Capella presented a concert that was undoubtedly the ensemble's finest to date. It was a benefit, with a special guest appearance by the Zoloti Struny ensemble, for the Ukrainian heroes who suffered on the Maidan – Kyiv's Independence Square – from November 2013 through February of this year.

The concert was being recorded, and despite the request to refrain from applauding until the conclusion, the appreciative audience could not hold itself back. After almost every number, there were gasps and audible cries of "wow" or "bravo."

In the minds of the musicians, no doubt, was the critical event that was to take place in Ukraine the next day, and the heightened mood seemed to help concentrate the ensemble's focus. Their precision was sustained throughout the entire program.

Andriy Dmytrovych, the capella's conductor and artistic director, can be credited in large part for the outstanding performance. He demonstrated a very strong control over the ensemble.

Mr. Dmytrovych had been the choirmaster of the capella for some time, having moved to Canada in 2003. He studied at the Drohobych Musical College in Ukraine, and trained as a conductor in Moldova, where he gained a master's degree in music and conducted the State Orchestra of the National TV and Radio Network and



Sonia Shubeliak

The Canadian Bandurist Capella and Zoloti Struny together on stage.

later was the Kishenev Symphony Orchestra and Chamber Choir's artistic director. Among his accolades are scholarships from Germany's Musica Mundi Foundation and the Fulbright Program, which enabled him to train with the Dallas Symphony Orchestra.

In June 2013, Mr. Dmytrovych was appointed artistic director of the Canadian Bandurist Capella and, since then, has been working intensively with the all-male ensemble. Evidence of this was heard in the robustness and sonority of musical

numbers such as "Medley of Ukrainian Songs," featuring Mr. Dmytrovych's musical arrangement (one of several of his on the program). A program highlight was "In Memory of Those Who Died on the Maidan," set to the words of a poem by the same name.

Other notable numbers showcasing the talents of individual musicians and soloists included the "Chaika Medley" arranged for the capella by its assistant conductor, Yuriy Petlura, with music adapted by Ron Cahute of Burya.

Oleh Zmyivsky was a featured soloist in a few numbers, all of them sung superbly. Particularly memorable was "The River Flows into the Blue Sea" sung with his niece Vera Zmyiwska.

Both the instrumental numbers, performed by the bandurists alone, and those with the choir were performed exceptionally well.

For the first time, the Vira Zelinska Ukrainian Youth Bandura Capella, Zoloti

(Continued on page 18)

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Ukraine leads Dance Parade

NEW YORK – The eighth annual Dance Parade and DanceFest stepped off at 21st Street and Broadway on Saturday, May 17. Comprising nearly 10,000 dancers in 142 dance groups showcasing 77 different styles of dance, the parade's mission is to celebrate the diversity of the many forms of dance and promote dance as a unifying art form.

In light of the current situation in Ukraine, parade organizers wanted to honor that country by having a Ukrainian group lead the parade. The Iskra Ukrainian Dance Ensemble, under the artistic direction of Andriy Cybyk and based in Whippany N.J., was happy to accept the invitation. Dressed in colorful costumes from the Bukovyna, Hutsulshchyna, Poltava and Zakarpattia regions, dancers performed almost the entire 1.3 mile length of the parade route, showcasing dance combinations from the represented regions and several times breaking into an impromptu kolomyika.

Dancers from the senior group of Iskra Ukrainian Dance Academy joined Iskra Ensemble dancers for the parade, which finished in Tompkins Square Park. From there, the Iskra Academy dancers had a short walk to St. George Ukrainian Catholic Church in time to perform at the concurrent festival; Iskra Ensemble performed its "Pryvit" on the stage in Tompkins Square Park as part of the afternoon program there.



Christine Syzonenko



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Stefan Slutsky



St. George's celebrates 38th annual festival

NEW YORK – St. George Ukrainian Catholic Church celebrated its 38th annual Ukrainian Festival May 16-18. Held on Seventh Street between Second and Third Avenues, the festival featured over 100 dancers, singers and musicians, along with numerous vendors selling traditional Ukrainian food, folk arts and a variety of Ukraine-themed merchandise. Although Friday evening's stage show was moved inside due to rain, bright and sunny weather for the remainder of the weekend brought thousands of visitors to the festival.

Shown on this page are dance schools under the direction of Andriy Cybyk, Natalia Lemeshko and Hryhoriy Momot, along with mistress of ceremonies Olha Zhurakivska. Among other performers featured at the festival were Syzokryli Ukrainian Dance Ensemble, the Oros Sisters, Kristina Shafranski, Iryna Lonchyna and the St. George Academy Girls Choir.





Ukrainian pro hockey update

by Ihor Stelmach

Boychuk blossoming on Bruins' Blueline

When he lines up a puck and smacks it with all of his 6-foot-2, 225-pounds of power and torque, Boston Bruins television play-by-play man Jack Edwards calls it a "Boychuk blast." If the ferocious slap shot finds the twine, Edwards will accentuate the goal as a "Johnny Rocket."

In the 2013 playoffs, defenseman **Johnny Boychuk** saw six of his "Boychuk bombs" explode into the opposition's net, tying him with the Kings' Slava Voynov for most goals by a defenseman in the post season. This after only one measly goal scored in the 48-game regular campaign. Was this a case of surprising offensive production from a pseudo-journeyman defender or a late-developing prospect that finally got the opportunity to play in the show?

Back to last season's playoffs. During the Bruins' run to the Stanley Cup finals, much was made of the team's young defensemen that made significant contributions to the team's success. Rookies Dougie Hamilton, Matt Bartkowski and Torey Krug all earned accolades for stepping up in times of need. Of course, Bruins captain Zdeno Chara always logs major minutes and is expected to carry the load in the post season. Yet arguably the biggest contribution (especially offensively) from the Bruins' defense corps in the playoffs came from the Ukrainian Boychuk.

His playoff goal production proved he owns one of the hardest slap shots in the league, one comparable to Chara's, reaching

110 mph. Chara has won the hardest shot competition at the All-Star Game the past few years, but Boychuk has never had the opportunity to compete. His shot is heavy.

During the regular season, Boychuk did not utilize his shooting skills much. At the start of the playoffs, coach Claude Julien instructed him to shoot more often and more on target. He has a great shot and puts a lot behind it, shooting to score instead of just blasting away. A couple of his goals were quick wrist shots from the point that found their way through traffic in front of the net and past opposition goalies.

Boychuk has developed into a very reliable defenseman since joining Boston's blue line full-time in the 2009-2010 campaign. Having improved his hockey sense, he's now playing like a veteran student of the game. There is no doubt he has learned from his experience - Boychuk paid his dues in the minor leagues, gained tons of confidence and has gotten lots of ice time.

His growth as a two-way defenseman continues - he was solid defensively in 2011 when the Bruins won the Cup, but in 2012-2013 he gained extra confidence, contributing more with his shot and his decision-making in the offensive zone.

His presence was huge in the first game of the Rangers series when the club was without defensemen Dennis Seidenberg, Wade Redden and Andrew Ference. Boychuk played well at both ends of the ice and had the bumps and bruises to show for

it. He took a physical beating in the game, but didn't miss any time and continued blasting slappers while also blocking shots.

Confidence influences decision making, and Boychuk is no longer afraid to jump in on the rush or pinch at the line when he has the chance. Since he's been so reliable, the Bruins forwards have made it a point to get him the puck on the blue line. When the forwards see him setting up for a wrist shot, they go to the front of the net. When they see him teeing up for a slap shot, they have a tendency to step aside, not wanting to get bruised. It's all about being on the same page.

Boychuk also took on the role of mentor for youngsters Krug, Hamilton and Bartkowski, showing them the sacrifices defensemen need to make at this level, especially during the playoffs.

Perhaps Torey Krug said it best: "He's an outstanding player and he's one of the guys who never stops talking out there," Krug said in a June interview with ESPN.com. "He's always going to be talking to you so you know your options, some of the things you can and can't get away with. He's great."

Physicality is solid

Fast forward almost a full year and Boychuk continued to step up for the Bruins. One of the league leaders in plus-minus (+30, almost unheard of for a defenseman) is not scoring as many goals (3) or registering many assists (17), but is getting his share of hits and blocks.

The new dad had his sleep and nap schedules shortened by the arrival of twin girls last January. The frustration of his shortened sleep therapy was often inflicted on Bruins opponents, the black-and-blue wreckage in Boychuk's wake evident in almost all Boston match-ups. He's particu-

larly renowned for his solid hip checks.

"Especially in this building [Boston's TD Garden], any time our team comes up with a big, clean hit, it really gets the crowd into the game," coach Julien said in describing a Boychuk hit on Vancouver's David Booth in an early February 2014 interview with The Boston Globe. "It really picks up your team. That's for anybody. That's the way we play the game. We like to play a heavy game. To me, Johnny was at his best."

Marching into the 2013-2014 post-season, Boychuk was a critical piece of a defense corps once again missing a critical contributor, Dennis Seidenberg. Most times he was the right-side strongman on the second defense pairing. Boychuk lends the second duo experience, toughness and a shutdown presence. The club prefers not to pair top defenseman Chara with Boychuk in the post-season. This would create a top-heavy defense with too much of a drop off into the second and third pairs.

The Bruins did, however, utilize Chara with Boychuk when absolutely needed, such as late with the game on the line. The opposing coach throws out his top forward unit only to have coach Julien neutralize the effort with a defense pairing of Chara and Boychuk. Based on Boston's tremendous record in the regular season, the strategy was quite successful.

Yes, Johnny Boychuk's game has come a long way.

Ukrainian Utterings: **Jordin Tootoo** should have stayed in Nashville. His second season in Detroit got so bad he was shuttled out to Grand Rapids (AHL) after 11 games in Motown. His grinding enforcer style never meshed with the Red Wings'

(Continued on page 15)

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SOCCKER: Konoplyanka and Liverpool, Tottenham, Manchester United and others

by Mark Temnycky

Who is more athletic: a football (soccer) player or someone who has a black belt in karate? What if he is both? Since the age of 7, Ukrainian winger Yevhen Konoplyanka has been active in karate, quickly rising to the rank of blackbelt. He is also referred to as the "Ukrainian Lionel Messi" or the "Ukrainian Arjen Robben." Here's why.

Konoplyanka is a skilled footballer who has superior passing and dribbling skills. He is also fast and makes creative plays.

His skills certainly have not gone unnoticed. Throughout Ukraine's qualification campaign for the 2014 World Cup, scouts from Western European clubs traveled to watch the young Ukrainian. Unfortunately, Ukraine failed to qualify for the 2014 World Cup after losing to France 3-2 on aggregate in the second round of qualifications. However, this has not prevented top clubs from pursuing Konoplyanka.

He currently plays at Ukrainian club Dnipro Dnipropetrovsk, which finished second in the Ukrainian Premier League 2013-2014 season. Dnipro also qualified for its first ever Champions League, beating out rivals Metalist Kharkiv and Dynamo Kyiv.

Konoplyanka's achievements have been brought to the attention of major Western European Clubs, and with his expired contract with Dnipro, many of these clubs wish to purchase him during the Summer Transfer Window (June 1-September 1).

Clubs interested

Liverpool FC: In January, Konoplyanka missed out on a last-minute deal with Liverpool. English Club Liverpool reportedly made a £16 million bid to purchase the player, but the deal fell through. Western media reports that Dnipro President Ihor Kolomoisky refused to sign off on the deal, while eastern media reports that

Liverpool's funds did not arrive on time. Regardless of the reasoning, Konoplyanka remained at Dnipro.

In April, Ukrainian News Network 2+2 interviewed Konoplyanka, and he revealed that he was still in talks with the Liverpool Club. Liverpool qualified for the Champions League following its superb second-place finish in the Barclays Premier League 2013-2014 season. With the Champions League nearing, it is possible that Liverpool will try to make another bid for the player.

Tottenham Hotspurs FC: Unlike Liverpool, Tottenham will be competing in the Europa League next season. During the 2013-2014 Europa League campaign, Dnipro and Tottenham were drawn against one another, and the club instantly fell in love with Konoplyanka. Tottenham finished sixth in the Barclays Premier League 2013-2014 season, and will be looking to improve its selection of players for the upcoming year. Though Tottenham will not be competing in the Champions League, the London Club does have a certain edge over the Liverpool Club: there is a large Ukrainian community in London. Should Konoplyanka choose to move to London, he could engage with this population, making the transition from Dnipropetrovsk to London much smoother.

Manchester United FC: For the first time in nearly two decades, Manchester United will not be competing in a European competition. But this could be all the better reason for Konoplyanka to join the club. Although he would miss out on both the Champions League and the Europa League, Konoplyanka could certainly make an impact for the club, which could be a serious title contender for the Barclays Premier League 2014-2015 season. With a new management and staff in place,

Konoplyanka would not be the only new player who would arrive to the club.

Dnipro Dnipropetrovsk: Should a club fail to bid for the player during the summer, Konoplyanka will be more than happy to sign a new contract with his club. Konoplyanka has been with Dnipro since 2007; with its first-ever Champions League qualification, it is all the more reason for the player to stay. With the club under new management, there is a high possibility that Konoplyanka will stay.

Paris Saint-Germain FC, Schalke 04 and Bayer Leverkusen: There have also been rumors that other clubs in Europe are interested in Konoplyanka. Parisian club PSG has stated an interest, and so have German clubs Schalke 04 and Bayer Leverkusen. PSG and Schalke have already assured Champions League places while Leverkusen, like Dnipro, still have to go through the Champions League qualifications.

The verdict

Throughout numerous interviews and twitter posts by both Konoplyanka and his agent, Konoplyanka has stated that he is in contact with Liverpool and interested in new talks. Konoplyanka would also be happy to remain at Dnipro because it will be under new management and the club has qualified for the Champions League.

One thing is for certain. Though Konoplyanka can express interest in any club he likes, he is currently a free agent, meaning anyone can buy him. Therefore, according to Mr. Kolomoisky, if a club chooses to bid for the player at £15 million or higher, there is nothing he can do to prevent the deal. With the transfer window still in its early stages, it will be interesting to see where Konoplyanka will end up by the end of the window.

Ukraine may not be in World Cup, but look for its club players

Although Ukraine did not qualify for the 2014 World Cup in Brazil, some of the players participating in this year's tournament come from Ukraine's soccer clubs.

From Dynamo Kyiv's team: Jermain Lens is a forward for the Netherlands; defender Domagoj Vida and midfielder Ognjen Vukojevic both play for Croatia; and Miguel Veloso, a midfielder for Portugal.

Shakhtar Donetsk has three players in the tournament: Darijo Srna, a defender, and Eduardo Alves da Silva, a forward, both playing for Croatia; and Bernard, a forward for Brazil.

FC Zorya Luhansk is represented by Toni Sunjic, a defender who plays for Bosnia and Herzegovina.

FC Volyn Lutsk's Michael Babatunde is a forward for Nigeria.

The World Cup tournament is held across Brazil on June 12 through July 13, with venues in Manaus, Fortaleza, Cuiaba, Brasilia, Sao Paulo, Rio de Janeiro, Recife, Salvador, Natal, Belo Horizonte and Porto Alegre, as well as in Curitiba, which has a large Ukrainian population.

— Matthew Dubas

Pro Hockey...

(Continued from page 14)

puck possession, flow game...Youngster **Mark Pysyk** started the year a regular on Buffalo's blue line, only to end up in Rochester (AHL) when the club decided the team's losing ways could negatively affect a prospect's development...**Tyler Bozak** is living up to his rich new five-year contract with the Leafs, turning in a solid campaign as Toronto's top center...Goalie

Devan Dubnyk is saving his cardboard boxes. He went from Edmonton's starting net-minder to Nashville when **Pekka Rinne** got hurt to Montreal at the trade deadline. These days he's with the Hamilton Bulldogs (AHL), third on the Canadiens' depth chart...Free-agent-to-be **Lee Stempniak** was acquired by the Penguins at the trade deadline in a move to add offense. Good move, with Stempniak scoring at a point-per-game pace for his new mates...

Ihor Stelmach may be reached at iman@sfgsports.com

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COMMUNITY CHRONICLE

UCCA Boston donates to fund for Crimean Tatar refugees



Seen with Crimean Tatar leader Mustafa Dzhemilev during his visit to Boston (from left) are: Aslan Omer Kirimli, vice-chairman, Crimean Mejlis; Vsevolod Petriv, president, UCCA Boston; the Very Rev. Roman Tarnavsky, pastor, St. Andrew Ukrainian Orthodox Church; Vasyl Matveychuk, treasurer, UCCA Boston; Dr. Lubomyr Hajda, associate director, Harvard Ukrainian Research Institute; Mr. Dzhemilev; Andrew Grigorenko, president of the Gen. Petro Grigorenko Fund; Prof. Serhii Plokyh, director of the Harvard Ukrainian Research Institute and Mykhailo Hrushevskyy Professor of Ukrainian History; Huseyin Oylupinar, University of Alberta doctoral candidate; Ostap Nalysnyk, social media coordinator, UCCA Boston; and the Very Rev. Dr. Yaroslav Nalysnyk, pastor, Christ the King Ukrainian Catholic Church and Dean of the Boston Deanery.

by Peter T. Woloschuk

BOSTON – On the occasion of the visit to Boston of Mustafa Dzhemilev, leader of the Crimean Tatars of Ukraine and national deputy of the Verkhovna Rada, along with members of his staff, the greater Boston Ukrainian American community presented a check for \$500 to aid Crimean Tatar refugees who have been forced to flee to mainland Ukraine in the aftermath of Russia's annexation of Crimea.

The donation was presented on May 20 at the Harvard Faculty Club by Vsevolod Petriv, president, and Vasyl Matveychuk, treasurer, of the Boston branch of the Ukrainian Congress Committee of America.

As the check was presented, Mr. Dzhemilev was also thanked by the pastors of Boston's Ukrainian Catholic and Orthodox churches for the fact that Crimean Tatar mosques are playing host to both Ukrainian Catholic and Ukrainian Orthodox parishes that are not recognized in the Russian Federation and which have had their churches and parish property seized.

The Crimean Tatar community is allowing both confessions to hold their liturgies in various mosques in Crimea on Sundays.

Veterans remember war heroes

CLIFTON, N.J. – Ukrainian American Veterans Post 17 remembered its war heroes and deceased members on Sunday, June 1, during the yearly commemoration services here at Cedar Lawn cemetery.

Father Yaroslav Yarish from St. Mary the Protectress Ukrainian Orthodox Church led the veterans and their guests in prayer, and a panakhyda service was offered for all Ukrainian American veterans.

Post commander James Fedorko led the post with its colors to the post monument, where the members formed in two columns on both sides of the monument for the services. Commander Fedorko spoke few well-chosen words, underscoring the meaning of defending freedom and democracy. Post adjutant Zenko Halkowycz read the names of the post's deceased members.

After the services, post members and guests gathered at the Portuguese Tavern for lunch. All present spent an enjoyable two hours in an informal setting. Post member Lt. Col. Michael Hrycak shared some of his experiences from Iraq and his observation of the Ukrainian military contingent serving in Iraq. He noted that they are well-trained and dedicated, and he felt proud that these young Ukrainian soldiers are professionals.



Members of Ukrainian American Veterans Post 17 during their annual commemoration of war heroes and deceased members.

Parma parish remembers Holodomor



Youth and parish clergy of St. Vladimir Ukrainian Orthodox Cathedral in Parma, Ohio, following the annual Holodomor commemoration.

PARMA, Ohio – Started over 20 years ago with the construction of the Famine monument here on the grounds of St. Vladimir Ukrainian Orthodox Cathedral, the annual commemoration of the victims of the Holodomor this year was held on Sunday, May 25.

The commemoration began with a memorial service in front of the monument for those who perished in the man-made Famine of 1932-1933. This was followed with a brief

program presented by the youth from the Sunday School, Taras Shevchenko School of Ukrainian Studies and Junior Ukrainian Orthodox League chapter describing, in both English and Ukrainian, the horrific events that led to the deaths by starvation of 7 million to 10 million Ukrainians.

The program concluded with the children placing flowers at the base of the Monument and the singing of the religious hymn "Bozhe Velykyi" by the parish choir.

Children receive First Holy Communion



NEW HAVEN, Conn. – Children of St. Michael's Ukrainian Catholic Church, New Haven, Conn., received their First Holy Communion on Sunday, May 25. Seen above are: (front row, from left) Jacob Ushchak, Melania Korenovsky, Mischa Stacy, Pavlo Melnyk, Matthew Iwaniv, (back row) catechist/teacher Halia Lodynsky, Stefan Yukash, the Rev. Stepan Yanovskiy, Charlie Ushchak, Serhiy Sokhan, Vadim Sokhan, Aedan Lodynsky and the Rev. Iura Godenciuc.

– Halia Jurczak-Lodynsky

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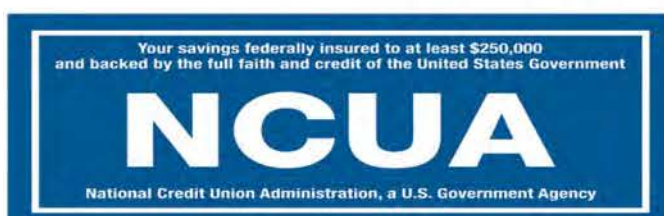
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NEWSBRIEFS

(Continued from page 2)

United States and G-7 partners to raise the costs for Russia if it does not end the flow of weapons across the border and break with separatists. Prime Minister Yatsenyuk also provided an update on the ongoing negotiations over gas prices." The State Department reported that Secretary Kerry also spoke with Russian Foreign Affairs Minister Sergey Lavrov and said Mr. Kerry "expressed strong concern about events over the last few days including the transport of heavy weaponry and militants across the border and the shooting down of a Ukrainian transport flight overnight." As well, "he pressed Foreign Minister Lavrov to make clear Russia's commitment to de-escalation and peace by ending the flow of weapons and support to separatists, and actively working with Ukraine for a cease-fire, amnesty and political dialogue. He also urged a fair and equitable settlement of the gas dispute." (U.S. Embassy Kyiv)

OSCE worried about escalation of tension

BERN – Swiss Foreign Affairs Minister and Chairperson-in-Office of the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE), Didier Burkhalter, expressed his deep concern about the escalation of tension in Ukraine and called on all those who may have an influence on the situation in the country to act with utmost restraint. Speaking on June 14, Mr. Burkhalter condemned the downing of the Ukrainian military transport plane, killing several dozen people. He offered his sincere condolences to President Petro Poroshenko and to the people of Ukraine who are confronted with a spiraling of violence resulting in a growing loss of life. The OSCE leaders emphasized that the ongoing talks of the tripartite contact group which includes representatives of Ukraine, the Russian Federation and the Swiss OSCE Chairmanship, have shown encouraging progress in recent days and demonstrate the possibility of a political settlement of the crisis. He urged all sides to focus on resolving their differences through dialogue rather than force and called for courageous steps to collectively advance towards a peaceful solution. Mr. Burkhalter

also expressed concern about that day's attack on the Embassy of the Russian Federation in Kyiv and called on the Ukrainian authorities to take all necessary measures to provide adequate security for all diplomatic missions. (OSCE)

Biden twice phones Poroshenko

WASHINGTON – According to the White House, Office of the Vice-President, Joe Biden spoke on June 10 and 11 with Ukrainian President Petro Poroshenko "regarding the security situation in eastern Ukraine, where militants coming from Russian territory have taken control of parts of the Russian-Ukrainian border." A readout of the phone calls also said: "The vice-president applauded President Poroshenko's commitment to implementing the peace plan he presented in his inaugural address on June 7, and underscored that de-escalation depends on Russia's recognizing President Poroshenko as the legitimate leader of Ukraine, ceasing support for separatists in eastern Ukraine, and stopping the provision of arms and materiel across the border. President Poroshenko confirmed his offer that if the separatists disarmed and vacated the buildings they presently occupy, the Ukrainian government was prepared to grant amnesty within Ukraine or safe passage back to Russia. Finally, the vice-president expressed his strong support for the trilateral discussions between Ukraine, Russia and OSCE Special Representative Heidi Tagliavini." (White House)

Poroshenko dismisses Putin's comments

KYIV – Ukrainian President Petro Poroshenko has said that he does not care what Russian President Vladimir Putin thinks of Ukraine. "To be honest, I'm not very interested in what Citizen Putin thinks of my state," Mr. Poroshenko said in an interview with Time magazine. He said that if the Russian leader doubts Ukraine's right to exist within its current borders, the best way to convince him otherwise is to build a powerful army and a thriving economy. "No one would allow himself to doubt the existence of small countries like Singapore, because when a country is strong, effective, comfortable, monolithic, such doubts would never enter anyone's minds," Mr. Poroshenko commented, according to June

10 news reports. (Ukrinform)

Russia restricts gas supply to Ukraine

MOSCOW – Russia said on June 16 that it has restricted gas supplies to Ukraine after a payment deadline passed, but that supplies to Europe should not be affected. Sergei Kupriyanov, a spokesman for the state-controlled Russian energy giant Gazprom, said that – since Ukraine had paid nothing toward its overdue gas bill within a set deadline on June 16 (9 a.m. Kyiv time) – Moscow had no legal obligation to supply gas to Kyiv. Mr. Kupriyanov said the talks in Kyiv, brokered by the European Union, failed just hours before Moscow's deadline. Mr. Kupriyanov also said that Ukraine now has a duty to ensure that gas intended for European customers flows unimpeded. Ukrainian Energy Minister Yuriy Prodan said on June 16 that Ukraine would both "guarantee the gas needs of Ukrainian consumers and ensure reliable gas transits to European countries." Gazprom also said it has filed a lawsuit against Ukraine in a Stockholm arbitration court to recover \$4.5 billion in debt. Andriy Kobolev, the head of Ukraine's state company Naftohaz, confirmed that Russia has stopped delivering gas to Ukraine. But Mr. Kobolev said Ukraine has enough reserves until December. A statement from the European Commission says a plan envisioned by European Union Energy Commissioner Gunther Oettinger had Kyiv prepared to pay \$1 billion on June 16, with the remainder paid in installments by the end of 2014, but Russia rejected the offer. The EU plan also would have seen Kyiv paying a "winter" price of \$385 per 1,000 cubic meters for gas and a "summer" price of around \$300. Mr. Putin said \$385 was his final offer. (RFE/RL, with reporting by Reuters, AP, and AFP)

Klitschko officially becomes Kyiv mayor

KYIV – Vitali Klitschko has taken the oath of office as mayor of Kyiv. The chairman of Kyiv Territorial Election Commission, Mykhailo Tereshchenko, announced at a meeting of the first session of the City Council on June 5 that Mr. Klitschko had officially become the mayor. He won the Kyiv mayoral elections with the overwhelming majority of Kyivans' votes – 56.7 percent, or 765,020 votes. Also on June 5, Mr. Klitschko relinquished his mandate as a national deputy of the Verkhovna Rada. (Ukrinform)

Poroshenko makes first appointments

KYIV – President Petro Poroshenko has appointed Borys Lozhkin as head of the Presidential Administration, according to a June 10 decree posted on the website of the head of state. Mr. Lozhkin was previously engaged in the media business and served as president of the Ukrainian Media Holding. In 2013, Focus magazine evaluated his fortune at \$126.4 million (101st in the ranking of the 200 richest Ukrainians). Also on June 10, Channel 5 journalist Sviatoslav Tseholko was tapped as press secretary of President Poroshenko. In addition, the pres-

ident appointed Yuriy Onishchenko, who had served as ambassador to Norway, as his first assistant. (Ukrinform)

Poland on terrorists in Ukraine

KYIV – "If Russia wants to prove that it supports the de-escalation of the situation in Ukraine, the best way to do this is to stop the influx of separatists and weapons across the Russian-Ukrainian border," Polish Foreign Affairs Minister Radoslaw Sikorski said in St. Petersburg, Russia, on June 10 after a trilateral meeting with the foreign affairs ministers of Russia and Germany. Mr. Sikorski also denied Russian media reports that Poland allegedly trained fighters for the Maidan and sent mercenaries to eastern Ukraine. "Anticipating questions from the media, I want to deny reports of the training of Maidan fighters in Poland, and the sending by our country of mercenaries to eastern Ukraine. According to Polish law, the participation of our citizens in foreign armed units without the consent of the Polish state is punishable by law," he said. (Ukrinform)

Over 200 civilians killed in ATO area

KYIV – More than 200 civilians were killed in the area of anti-terrorist operations in eastern Ukraine in the period from April 15 to June 11, according to Vice-Minister of Health Ruslan Saliutin. Speaking at a briefing at the Health Ministry on June 11, he said, "According to updated operational information, unfortunately, during the implementation of the anti-terrorist operation in eastern Ukraine, more than 200 civilians were killed. Out of these – 15 women and two children." He added that one of the dead boys, was 4 years old, the other, whose body is being identified, is about 14. When asked by reporters how many civilians and how many terrorists were among the dead, Mr. Saliutin noted that medical workers do not have such information. "For us, there is no difference whom to help. The judiciary will decide this," he said. (Ukrinform)

Russia 'nationalizes' Crimean residents

KYIV – The Federal Migration Service (FMS) of Russia accepted more than 900,000 documents in Crimea to be used for issuing passports of Russian citizens, and almost 800,000 have already been made. FMS head Konstantin Romodanovsky told the State Duma May 21: "Since the beginning of the issuance of passports, more than 900,000 documents were accepted for registration, almost 800,000 were made." (Ukrinform)

Putin reacts to Clinton's statement

PRAGUE – Russian President Vladimir Putin has responded to former Secretary of State Hillary Clinton's comparison of his actions in Crimea to Hitler's actions in Nazi Germany. "It's better not to argue with women," Mr. Putin told French radio station

(Continued on page 19)

Canadian Bandurist...

(Continued from page 11)

Struny, an ensemble consisting of young male and female singers and bandura players under the musical direction of Oksana Zelinska-Shevchuk, joined the Canadian Bandurist Capella on stage as special

guests. They were impressive, and brought very interesting and pleasant harmonies to traditional songs. It was good to see the collaboration between these two fine ensembles, which joined forces to conclude the official program with the powerful "Testament," with words by Taras Shevchenko and music by Hnat Khotkevych.



Sonia Shubeliak

Acknowledging the audience's applause (from left) are: Oksana Zelinska-Shevchuk, artistic director of Zoloti Struny; Andriy Dmytrovych, artistic director of the Canadian Bandurist Capella; and soloist Vera Zmiyivska.

Turning...

(Continued from page 6)

seize any area where the love of freedom lives and blazes."

"...It is not merely for today, but for all time to come that we today present to the world this statue of Taras Shevchenko, Bard of Ukraine and Freedom Fighter, to perpetuate man's faith in the ultimate victory of freedom."

After the unveiling, the throng sang Taras Shevchenko's "Testament," led by the Ukrainian Choral Societies of America. Other statements were made by congressmen and senators, as well as other government representatives, Archbishop-Metropolitan John (Theodorovich) of the

Ukrainian Orthodox Church in the U.S.A. gave the benediction, and the participants sang the Ukrainian national anthem to close the ceremony.

Also in attendance were noted Ukrainian actors Jack Palance and Mike Mazurki, Michele Metrisko (Miss U.S.A. 1964), diplomatic representatives from Argentina, as well as Dr. Stepan Wytwitsky, president of the Ukrainian National Republic in Exile.

The 24-foot tall bronze-granite monument was sculpted by Leo Mol, and the monument's architect was Radoslaw Zuk. It weighs an estimated 45 tons and can be found west of Washington's Dupont Circle.

Source: "Shevchenko Monument – a 'New Statue of Liberty' Unveiled in Washington by General Eisenhower in Solemn Ceremonies," *The Ukrainian Weekly*, July 3, 1964.

NEWSBRIEFS

(Continued from page 18)

Europe 1 on June 4. "But Ms. Clinton has never been too subtle in her statements." He added that the two had "cordial conversations" when meeting. "When people push boundaries too far, it's not because they are strong but because they are weak," Mr. Putin added. "But maybe weakness is not the worst quality for a woman." Ms. Clinton is the Democrats' leading potential candidate for president in 2016, though she has not made a decision. She made the Putin-Hitler comparison while speaking at a private event in California on March 4. (Carl Schreck, RFE/RL)

Experts to Poroshenko: sell Channel 5

KYIV – International experts at a round-table held on June 6 at Ukrinform's offices said that Petro Poroshenko should relinquish his ownership of Channel 5. "We know that the current president, president-elect is the owner of some of the mass media, and this needs to be reflected on," the director of the National Democratic Institute office in Ukraine, Catherine Cecil, noted delicately. The head of the European Network of Election Monitoring Organizations Mission to Ukraine, Peter Novotny, also sees a problem there. "In the media situation there is a problem – media ownership. For example, in countries such as Slovakia, where people simultaneously hold any elected office and have their own media, it causes difficulties. Therefore, the issues of media monopolization, issues of media ownership should be clarified legislatively," Mr. Novotny said. On election day, May 25, Mr. Poroshenko said that if he won the presidency he would sell his business, but he later he said that he wants to retain ownership of Channel 5. He was inaugurated on June 7. (Ukrinform)

Russian flights to annexed Crimea

MOSCOW – A low-cost Russian airline has made its inaugural flight to Crimea as authorities seek to boost travel to the Ukrainian peninsula, which was annexed by Russia in March. Dobrolet (Nice Flight), the budget airline of Russia's flagship carrier Aeroflot, will make four flights daily from Moscow to the main Crimean city of Symferopol. Prime Minister Dmitry Medvedev attended a ceremony at Moscow's Sheremetyevo Airport on June 10 to mark the airline's maiden flight to Symferopol. One-way tickets in July were available for around 3,400 rubles (\$98) on the company's website. "Our budget carrier Dobrolet is a project of strategic importance not only for the Aeroflot group but for the whole country," Aeroflot Chief Executive Vitaly Savelyev said in a statement. In March, Russia annexed Ukraine's Black Sea peninsula of Crimea. (RFE/RL, with reporting by Agence France-Presse)

Switzerland freezes Yanukovich assets

KYIV – Swiss authorities have blocked the Ukrainian assets linked to former President Viktor Yanukovich and his entourage, amounting to \$187 million (U.S.), Agence France-Presse reported on June 5. The Swiss foreign policy office said of these funds \$75 million had been frozen by government order. In addition, based on the results of seven investigations into money laundering, the Swiss prosecutor's office has blocked \$112 million. Swiss banks have begun treating Ukrainian funds with extreme vigilance. The Foreign Affairs Ministry also noted that the government of Switzerland, which has extensive experience in freezing dictators' asset and their return, is moving rapidly in the Ukrainian case with unprecedented international cooperation. (Ukrinform)



On June 9, 2014, in Baltimore, Md.
passed into eternity

Waldymir "Walter" Teluk

born Sept. 8, 1938 in Ukraine

In deep sorrow:

wife: Lydia Sushko-Teluk
sons: Peter with wife Nataliya
John
grandchildren: Keegan, Adriana, Stepan and Solomiya Teluk
brother: George

Walter was predeceased by his first wife, Ivanna Teluk.

May his memory be eternal!



With great sadness and sorrow
we inform our friends and family,
that on Sunday, May 25, 2014, our
father, grandfather and great grandfather

MYKOLA KUNCIO

born on April 25, 1919, in Boryslav, Ukraine,
passed into eternal rest.



In deep sorrow:

Children - Lubomyra with husband Stephen
- Stephen with wife Cecilia
- Lesia with husband Ted

Grandchildren - Daniel with spouse Maria
- Taissa with husband Jit
- Michael

great grandchild - Damien

Panakhya was held on Sunday, June 1, 2014, at T.M. Quinn Funeral Home in Astoria, NY.

Funeral services were held on June 2, 2014 at Holy Cross Ukrainian Catholic Church in Astoria, followed by interment at Holy Spirit Ukrainian Catholic Cemetery, Campbell Hall, N.Y.

May His memory be eternal!



With deep sorry we announce to our family,
friends, and acquaintances that on May 29th,
2014, in the 86th year of his life, our beloved
husband, father and grandfather

Roman George Swystun

entered into God's kingdom.



Born on September 17, 1928 in Kopychyntsi, Ukraine, he attended gymnasium in Kholm and during the war when the Germans came to the gymnasium to take young boys into the army, he joined the Ukrainian youth, working with the anti-aircraft artillery unit. After the war, he continued his gymnasium studies in the DP camp in Karlsfeld. He immigrated to the United States, where he worked as the head mechanical engineer at Skinner Engine Company where he had the opportunity to travel the world. He was active in the Ukrainian community: singing in the choir, active in Plast, the Ukrainian school, as well as sports. After he moved to North Port, Florida, he became an active member of St. Andrew's Ukrainian Religious and Cultural Center and the catholic church. He sang in both the community and church choirs.

Funeral services took place on June 2, 2014

Presentation of the Most Holy Mother of God Ukrainian Catholic Church
in North Port, Florida.

He is survived by:

wife: Orysia
daughter: Lydia
daughter: Chrystyna Krynytzky with husband Alexander and
daughters Johanna DeShazo, Stepha, and Marta.
son: Andrey with wife Judy, son Nathan and daughter Julie
son: Orest with wife Teresa
nephew: Dr. Petro Rives with wife Kris and daughters Amy, Emily,
Lauren and Carolyn;
family Ostopowich; Fr. Josef Ostopowich
godchildren: Roman Batorfalvy with wife Lesia and
George Batorfalvy with daughter Christina
And close and distant family in America, Canada and Ukraine.

May His memory be eternal



It is with great sadness that we inform our
family and friends, that, on May 26, 2014, our
father, grandfather, and great-grandfather

Joseph Kujbida

born on August 22, 1916 in Bukacziwci, Ukraine,
passed into eternal rest.

In deep sorrow:

daughters: Oksana Stanko with her husband George
Natalia Lynch with her husband Ronald
grandchildren: Stefan Stanko with his wife Meghan and their
children Ryan and Farrah
Adrian Stanko
Patrick, Timmy and Emily Lynch
brother-in-Law: Alex Iwanyszyn with his wife Mary and their family
daughter's Mother-in-Law: Susan Lynch

Family in Ukraine

Panakhya was served on Friday, May 30, 2014, at the Union Funeral Home, Union NJ.

The Funeral Rite was celebrated on Saturday, May 31, 2014, at St. John the Baptist Ukrainian Catholic Church in Newark, NJ, followed by interment at Holy Spirit Cemetery, Hamptonburg NY.

May his memory be eternal!

Donations in memory of Joseph Kujbida can be made to:

St. Basil Seminary
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Workshop participants use the pin-head stylus for the Lemko "drop-pull" technique of creating pysanky.



Instructor Basia Barna Andrusko (left) with volunteer assistants Maria Schmotolocha (center) and Lesia Kozicky.

Lemko pysanka workshop attracts full house of participants



Workshop participants Taras Szcurek and Ivanna Iannelli-Roque with their finished pysanky.

YONKERS, N.Y. – On a recent Sunday, the downstairs hall of St. Michael Ukrainian Catholic Church here was filled with the pleasant scent of burning candles and heated beeswax, as over 30 workshop participants diligently practiced their Lemko "pysanka" (Easter egg) decorating skills.

The sold-out class on April 12 was organized for the first time by Branch 2 of the Organization for the Defense of Lemkivshchyna (OOL) and was taught by new member Basia Barna Andrusko. Ms. Andrusko now resides in Yardley, Pa., but grew up in Yonkers, where she mastered and earned herself a local reputation in the art of pysanka writing.

In this class, she demonstrated the distinctive Lemko "drop pull" technique, whereby a pin-head is used to place a drop of wax on the egg and quickly pull the wax to the side, creating a tail shape. The numerous dots with tails are then arranged into various designs.

The workshop participants came from as far away as Passaic, N.J., and Monroe, Conn., and were a diverse group – young/old, Ukrainian/non-Ukrainian, male/female, pysanka veterans/novices. And, in just a few short hours, everyone had gotten the hang of the technique and was creating wonderful Easter eggs. In fact, most participants left the workshop with pysanka-making kits, including beeswax, a wax



Workshop participant Ania Pregner shows off her finished Lemko-style Easter egg.

warmer and a pin-head stylus, so they could make more pysanky at home.

Special acknowledgement was given to Father Kiril Angelov, who made the church hall available; volunteers Lesia Kozicky and Marika Shmatolocha, who assisted Ms. Andrusko; Andriy Khomyk, who designed the informational flyer; and OOL officers Mark Howansky, Steven Kapitula, and Teresa Kapitula, who helped organize the event and donated the coffee and pastries.

For more information on upcoming Lemko cultural events, readers may visit www.lemko-ool.com.

Kolomoisky's...

(Continued from page 6)

convicted criminal, and he's a ruthless corporate raider; TV reports claimed.

Resembling the fascists that they claim to abhor, the Russians also have been spreading claims that Mr. Poroshenko is in fact Jewish, but that to hide his ethnicity his father adopted the Ukrainian surname of his wife.

Mr. Poroshenko is a devoted follower of the large liberal wing of the Ukrainian Orthodox

Church – Moscow Patriarchate (UOC-MP).

But even if he wasn't Christian and even if his father's surname was Valtsman (as Russia's NTV television network alleged), ethnic Armenian Serhii Nihoyan, Crimean Tatar Mustafa Dzhemilev and "Zhydobanderite" Ihor Kolomoisky have demonstrated it really doesn't matter.

Being a Ukrainian patriot is measured by your actions and sacrifice, not your inheritance. Take notes, KGB collaborator Hanna Herman (nee Stetsiv), Communist Petro Symonenko and Crimean separatist Vadym Kolesnichenko.

To Secretary...

(Continued from page 7)

program recently and he, most certainly, is well aware of this opportunity for excess supplies in Afghanistan. The logistical issues could be worked out between our Department of State and its Ukrainian counterpart, if you, Mr. Secretary, and DOD are willing to proceed.

Thank you for your kind consideration of this request. Your expeditious action would enhance Ukraine's security appreciably and enable the new Ukrainian presi-

dent to strengthen Ukraine's unity, which would enable him to begin the process of carrying out much-needed constitutional and economic reforms. The people in Ukraine, as well as Ukrainian Americans – among them many U.S. veterans, would be most grateful.

Respectfully,

Askold S. Lozynskyj

a concerned Ukrainian American

cc: The Honorable Joe Biden
The Honorable John Kerry
The Honorable Petro Poroshenko

The letter above was sent on June 13.

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Kolomoisky emerges...

(Continued from page 1)

governor, on March 2. (The state oblast administration is the Presidential Administration's regional representative office).

During the months of the Russian invasion, Mr. Kolomoisky succeeded in preventing any separatist or terrorist activity from gaining a foothold in his hometown of Dnipropetrovsk, Ukraine's fourth largest city, which has a significant Russian-oriented population.

"Dnipropetrovshchyna was the gates. If Dnipropetrovsk was penetrated, the cancer would have spread further throughout Ukraine," said Dr. Oleh Soskin, director of the Institute of Society Transformation in Kyiv. "Kolomoisky and [Kharkiv City Council Chair, or Mayor, Hennadii] Kernes played a key role in stopping Putin's aggression. Jews are rescuing Ukrainian statehood. It's hard to find a country in the world where that has happened."

The current crisis marks the first time Mr. Kolomoisky got directly involved in Ukrainian politics. He acknowledged supporting the Our Ukraine party, and he's widely believed to have financed the Ukrainian Democratic Alliance for Reform (UDAR) and even the Svoboda nationalist party.

Through Svoboda, Mr. Kolomoisky, the current president of the European Council of Jewish Communities and the European Jewish Union, is believed by political players to have wanted to gain political influence in the Halychyna region, where he owns numerous assets such as the Drohobych Oil Refinery Plant and the Lviv Food Oil Processing Plant.

Yet Mr. Kolomoisky has demonstrated that he's just as effective in the front lines of politics as when he's behind the scenes.

He threw down the gauntlet in his first public appearance as oblast administration chair, criticizing the plans of Russian President Vladimir Putin to conquer Ukraine's southeast and dismissing him as a "schizophrenic not very tall in height" who is "entirely disturbed, who went entirely crazy."

"His Messianism, renewing the Russian empire of 1913 or the Soviet Union of 1991, can bring the world to catastrophe," Mr. Kolomoisky said at the March 3 press conference.

Within days of the insult, the Russian Central Bank took over Mr. Kolomoisky's Russian bank, Moskompryvatbank, as prosecutors began an investigation of its alleged financing of "the radical Ukrainian nationalists from the Right Sector." [The Right Sector is an umbrella organization of nationalist and paramilitary organizations that played a key role in the Euro-Maidan protest.]

Mr. Kolomoisky then decided to put the bank up for sale, business media reported, marking his exit from the Russian market.

When Russian saboteurs began cropping up throughout the Russian-speaking oblasts in late April, Mr. Kolomoisky took the reins again, calling for the creation of a council of governors of southeast Ukraine to ensure their coordinated and effective work.

He suggested the governors submit proposals to decentralize the government and grant more authority to local



Ihor Kolomoisky at a press conference in March after he was appointed governor of the Dnipropetrovsk Oblast.

governing bodies.

He also called for creating a Dnipropetrovsk headquarters of the territorial defense of the southeastern oblasts that will act in coordination with the Security Service of Ukraine and the Internal Affairs Ministry.

The council never was formed, possibly because Ukrainian authorities want to outright reject Mr. Putin's designation of a distinct southeastern Ukraine region, or "Novorossiya," experts said.

Instead of the governors' council, Mr. Kolomoisky launched the National Defense Headquarters, making Dnipropetrovsk a stronghold for Ukrainian forces.

And in response to the Donetsk and Luhansk independence referenda on May 11, Mr. Kolomoisky organized a separate referendum in certain regions of the Donetsk Oblast asking its residents whether they want to remain in Ukraine and merge their districts with the Dnipropetrovsk Oblast.

As tribute to his leadership, Ukraine's interim president, Oleksandr Turchynov, named Ihor Palytsia, Mr. Kolomoisky's political ally, as chair of the Odesa State Oblast Administration on May 6, four days after the inferno that killed 46 in the city of Odesa.

"Kolomoisky is successfully selling his current 'patriotic' position, which promotes a high level of public support for his activity," Mr. Zolotariov said. "As a result, the 'Novorossiya' project is truly being fulfilled, only not in Russia's interests, but in the interests of Kolomoisky."

That patriotic image is bolstered by his unique initiatives. When the soldiers of a Dnipropetrovsk brigade in mid-April surrendered to the enemy the locks and firing pins from their rifles (preventing them from shooting), the

governor ordered their barracks confiscated and transferred to National Guard soldiers.

In late May, Mr. Kolomoisky boosted the award for captured arms: \$5,000 for an automatic rifle (up from the earlier \$1,000), \$6,000 for a machine gun (from \$1,500), and \$7,000 for a grenade launcher (from \$2,000).

Then he declared a \$500,000 bounty for the capture and return of Oleg Tsariov, the national deputy from Dnipropetrovsk being pursued by law enforcement for openly calling for the creation of an independent Novorossiya and vowing to sabotage the May 25 elections.

"The head of the European Jewish Union has done more for Ukraine than all the Ukrainian nationalists, intelligentsia and fighters put together," Dr. Soskin said.

He's also promoting the Ukrainian language in Russian-speaking Dnipropetrovsk. He instructed those oblast administration employees capable of speaking Ukrainian to do so in their jobs, and "particularly with him."

"He has focused on his own vocabulary and often asks about the correct pronunciation and meaning of words," one of his deputies, Sviatoslav Oliinyk, wrote on his Facebook page.

Needless to say, Mr. Kolomoisky has become a top enemy for Mr. Putin, who struck back by joking at an April 17 press conference that Crimean residents holding car loans from Mr. Kolomoisky's Privat Bank need not repay them.

"Ride without worries," Mr. Putin said smilingly, then making an apparent anti-Jewish remark. "Messrs. Kolomoisky and Finkelstein don't want to receive money from you. That's their matter."

He even promised depositors who lost money in the annexation up to \$20,000 in compensation, claiming to have a database of Privat Bank clients. Yet Mr. Putin demonstrated he wasn't joking as the Russian central bank began confiscating all the Crimean branches of Privat Bank within days of his comments.

In mid-May, terrorists shot up the transformers at the Luhansk Oblast-based Stakhanovskiy Ferroalloys Plant, which is owned by Mr. Kolomoisky, cutting electrical power. They also set fire to two Privat Bank ATM machines in Mykolayiv.

Communist Party leader Petro Symonenko, whom many consider a Russian agent in Ukraine, called for Mr. Kolomoisky's criminal prosecution, claiming his Dnipro battalion is his own private "death squad" responsible for murders in the Donbas.

Such accusations have been ignored by a public largely supportive of Mr. Kolomoisky. Upon leaving the Presidential Administration after a meeting in late April, he was asked by a reporter why the Kyiv government has failed to take the same security measures that he succeeded in implementing.

"Everyone is trying to do something, but you understand that we've run into this for the first time," he said. "And what's easily resolved within the bounds of a single Dnipropetrovsk Oblast is a complicated matter in the framework of an entire country, even more so when politics sometimes interferes with this matter. So I'd give more trust and opportunity for people to work."

"Trust me that there aren't any traitors or those who sold out Ukraine over there," he said, referring to the administration building behind him.

Moscow's dilemma...

(Continued from page 3)

officials and border guards (ITAR-TASS, June 11). Kyiv has strongly protested Russian actions that apparently violate a 1994 border agreement under which Russia must close border crossings on its side of the border after Ukrainian border guards close their posts – which Russia has not done.

Moscow acknowledges it allows refugees to flee the fighting in Donetsk and Luhansk, while allowing "humanitarian aid" to be delivered to rebels that have come across the border. Kyiv alleges volunteer fighters are being moved into Ukraine together with weapons, munitions and money to keep the insurgency on track. After a short face-to-face meeting with Mr. Poroshenko in France during the D-Day commemoration celebrations on June 6, Vladimir Putin reportedly ordered the Federal Security Service (FSB) "to reinforce security on the Russian-Ukrainian border to prevent unauthorized crossings." The next week, the Ukrainian Foreign Affairs Ministry accused Mr. Putin of doing nothing to back up this declaration with concrete action (rus.newsru.ua, June 11).

The pattern of Russian actions closely follows similar activities in Abkhazia and South Ossetia from 1991 to 2008, when men and weapons were constantly covertly moved through border crossings jointly controlled by pro-Russian separatists and Russian border guards. Denis Pushilin – the chairman of the self-proclaimed "Supreme Soviet of the Donetsk People's Republic" (Donetskaya Narodnaya Respublika, or DNR) – arrived in Moscow last

week, apparently using one of the corridors across the Russian-Ukrainian border controlled by the separatists.

Mr. Pushilin met Russian State Duma deputies, spoke at an officially approved pro-separatist rally in central Moscow and told reporters: "The DNR is ready to speak with Kyiv only with Moscow acting as an intermediary." According to Mr. Pushilin, the rebels want to exchange prisoners of war; "discuss the withdrawal of illegal [Ukrainian government] forces from the region," and establish a "humanitarian corridor" to Russia. A united Ukraine "is now a dream," Mr. Pushilin said, but he acknowledged the separatists "are barely holding their ground" and begged for the deployment of Russian peacekeepers (RIA Novosti, June 11).

The transition from Russia's direct military intervention in and later annexation of Crimea to Moscow's covert support of the armed rebellions in Donetsk and Luhansk has been interpreted by former Kremlin insider Gleb Pavlovsky (ng.ru, June 7) and former Prime Minister Mikhail Kasyanov (news.liga.net, June 7) as a genuine de-escalation by Mr. Putin, who was thwarted by Western threats and sanction. According to Messrs. Pavlovsky and Kasyanov, the Russian president is, at present, trying to save face by different propaganda means and they argue, Mr. Putin's grand idea of carving out a Novorossiya, or New Russia, out of Russian-speaking Ukrainian regions from Kharkiv in the northeast to Odesa in the south has been, in essence, abandoned.

This is clearly not so: On June 12, apparently several tanks and other armored vehicles appeared in the Ukrainian town of Snezhnoye in the Luhansk region. According to Ukrainian Internal Affairs Minister Arsen

Avakov, these tanks came over the border from Russia to support the rebels (news.liga.net, June 12).

This week in Moscow, President Putin's economic advisor in charge of the Ukrainian situation, Sergei Glazyev, told journalists: "Time is on the side of the Nazis [referring to the authorities in Kyiv, including Poroshenko]." The "Kyiv Nazis," according to Mr. Glazyev, armed, financed and directed by Washington, are swiftly building up a formidable war machine: "In February, they had 20,000 armed men, by September they may have 200,000."

Mr. Glazyev argued that armed action must be taken before the pro-Russian separatists are defeated and Moscow is facing a hostile army ready to invade and "liberate" Crimea. Mr. Glazyev advocated an imposition of a no-fly zone over Ukraine, while the Russian air force may knock out Ukrainian armor "like the Americans [did] in Libya" (pravda.ru, June 10).

Mr. Glazyev may have been expressing his personal opinion, but his assertions are clearly part of the present Kremlin-insider discourse – notably, he was not publicly reprimanded for his remarks, or ousted as an advisor. The Kremlin does not seem ready to allow the collapse of the armed separatist rebellion in Donetsk and Luhansk no matter what it takes: If increased covert support, including with tanks and armed volunteers, fails to press Kyiv into allowing the conflict to transform into a "frozen" institutionalized secession, more drastic moves are possible.

The article above is reprinted from Eurasia Daily Monitor with permission from its publisher, the Jamestown Foundation, www.jamestown.org.

OUT & ABOUT

- | | | | |
|----------------------------------|---|------------------------------|---|
| June 27
Washington | Presentation by Mark Lawrence Schrad, "Vodka Politics: Alcohol, Autocracy, and the Secret History of the Russian State," Kennan Institute, Woodrow Wilson Center, Ronald Reagan Building and International Trade Center, www.wilsoncenter.org | July 5
Lehigh, PA | Camp performance and dance, Ukrainian Folk Dance Workshop, Ukrainian Homestead, 570-708-1992 |
| June 27-
August 25
Chicago | Exhibit, "Ukraine through the eyes of the National Geographic Society," Ukrainian National Museum, 312-721-8020 | July 5
Jewett, NY | Benefit concert, featuring Spanish guitarist Virginia Luque, Grazhda Concert Hall, www.grazhdamusicandart.org |
| June 28-29
Ellenville, NY | Lemko Vatra festival, Organization for the Defense of Lemkivshchyna, Ukrainian American Youth Association resort, 845-647-7230 or lemko-ool.com | July 5
Caledon, ON | Golf tournament, Ukrainian Golf Association of Canada, Osprey Valley Resorts Golf Club, 519-927-9034 or www.ugolf.ca |
| June 28-29
Kerhonkson, NY | Tennis tournament, USCAK-East 2014, Ukrainian Sports Federation of the U.S.A. and Canada, Soyuzivka Heritage Center, 215-576-7989 or 215-266-3943 | July 5
New York | Concert, "Musical Kaleidoscope," featuring the Ukrainian Dnipro Ensemble, Ukrainian Institute of America, 212-288-8660 or www.dniprochoir.com |
| June 29
Edmonton, AB | 60th anniversary concert, Ukrainian Dnipro Ensemble of Edmonton, Shoctor Theater/Citadel, info@dniprochoir.com | July 6
Ellenville, NY | Concert, "Musical Kaleidoscope," featuring the Ukrainian Dnipro Ensemble, Ukrainian American Youth Association resort, www.dniprochoir.com or www.cym.org/us-ellenville |
| July 1-2
Lehigh, PA | Gerdany beading workshop, Ukrainian Homestead, www.ukrhomestead.com or 215-657-1758 | July 11
Acheson, AB | Golf tournament, Ukrainian Cheremosh Society, The Ranch Golf Course, 780-470-4700 |
| July 1
Ottawa | Canada Day Concert, "Musical Kaleidoscope," Ukrainian Dnipro Choir of Edmonton, First Baptist Church, 780-430-6407 or info@dniprochoir.com | July 11-13
Kerhonkson, NY | Ukrainian Cultural Festival, Soyuzivka Heritage Center, www.soyuzivka.com |
| July 1
Washington | Panel discussion, "Russia, Ukraine and Energy Security," Kennan Institute, Woodrow Wilson Center, Ronald Reagan Building and International Trade Center, www.wilsoncenter.org | July 12
Jewett, NY | Concert, featuring cellist Wanda Glowacka and pianist Larysa Krupa-Slobodyanik, Grazhda Concert Hall, www.grazhdamusicandart.org |
| July 4-6
Ellenville, NY | Nadiya Yel Festival, featuring Motor'rolla from Ukraine, Ukrainian American Youth Association resort, 845-647-7230 or www.cym.org/us-ellenville | July 12
Parma, OH | Ukrainian Festival, St. Vladimir Ukrainian Orthodox Cathedral, www.stvladimirs.org |
| July 4-6
Alberta | Vegreville Ukrainian Pysanka Festival, www.pysankafestival.com or 780-975-8577 | July 16-20
Dickinson, ND | Ukrainian Festival, Ukrainian Cultural Institute, Dickinson State College, www.ucitoday.com or 701-486-1486 |

Entries in "Out and About" are listed free of charge. Priority is given to events advertised in The Ukrainian Weekly. However, we also welcome submissions from all our readers. Items will be published at the discretion of the editors and as space allows. Please send e-mail to mdubas@ukrweekly.com.



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PREVIEW OF EVENTS

Saturday, July 5

NEW YORK: The Ukrainian Dnipro Ensemble of Edmonton, Alberta, is celebrating six decades of choral music excellence with "Musical Kaleidoscope," its 60th anniversary concert, to be presented at 3 p.m. at the Ukrainian Institute of America, 2 E. 79th St. at Fifth Avenue. Dnipro is proud to present this all-Canadian program featuring the music and works of Ukrainian Canadian composers and arrangers: Serhiy Eremenko, Yuri Fiala, Roman Hurko, Oleksander Koshets, Larysa Kuzmenko, Zenoby Lawryshyn, Denise Lucyshyn, Joanna Estelle-Storoschuk and Willi Zwozdesky. For more information visit Dnipro's website at <http://www.dniprochoir.com/>.

Sunday, July 6

ELLENVILLE, N.Y. The Ukrainian Dnipro Ensemble of Edmonton, Alberta, is celebrating six decades of choral music excellence with "Musical Kaleidoscope," its 60th anniversary concert, to be presented at the Ukrainian American Youth Association's (UAYA) Nadiya Ye! festival. Dnipro is proud to present this all-Canadian program featuring the music and works of Ukrainian Canadian composers and arrangers: Serhiy Eremenko, Yuri Fiala, Roman Hurko, Oleksander Koshets, Larysa Kuzmenko, Zenoby Lawryshyn, Denise Lucyshyn, Joanna Estelle-Storoschuk and Willi Zwozdesky. For more information visit the website <http://www.dniprochoir.com/>. The UAYA resort is located at 8853 Route 209, Ellenville, NY 12428.

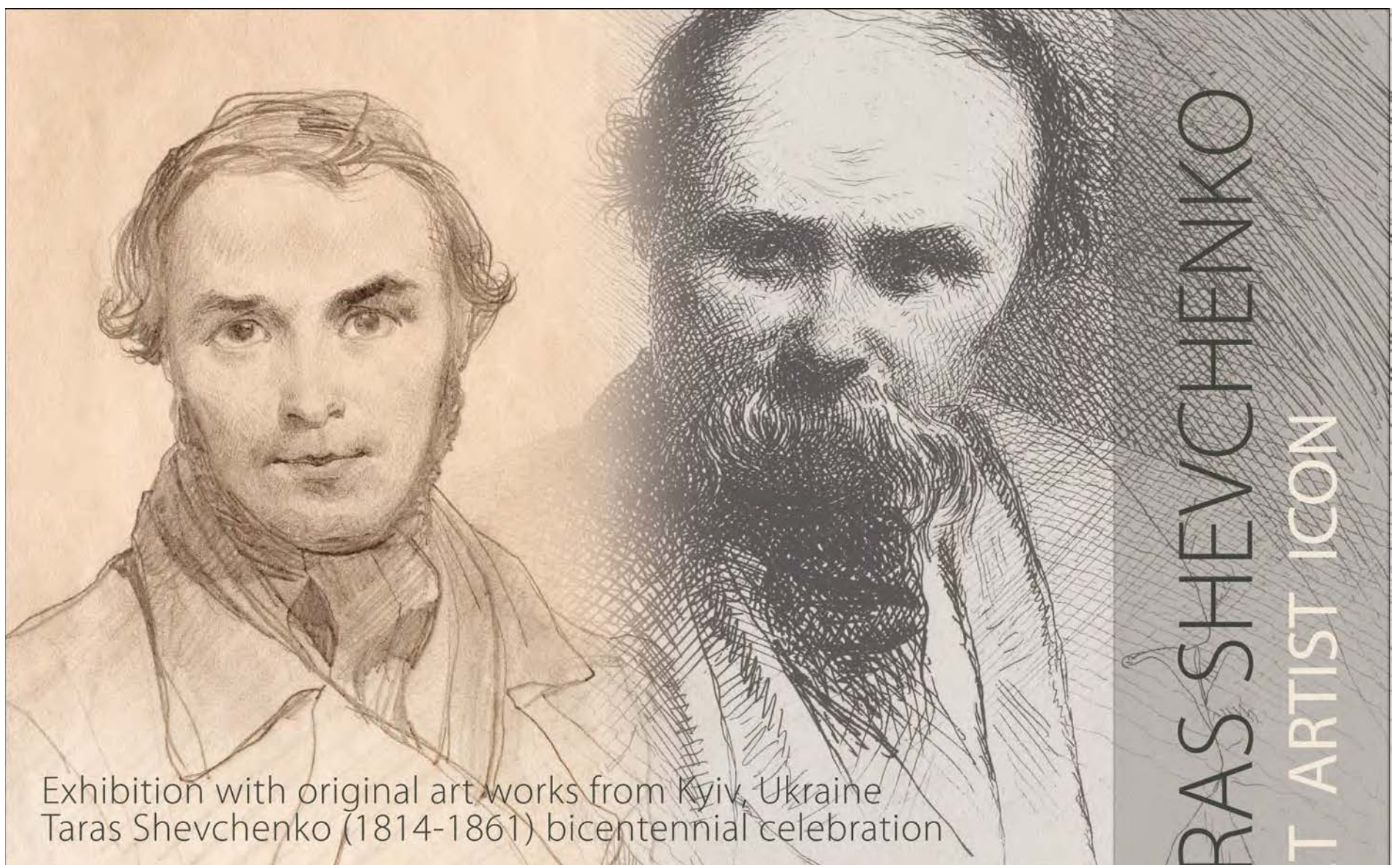
PREVIEW OF EVENTS GUIDELINES

Preview of Events is a listing of community events open to the public. It is a service provided at minimal cost (\$20 per listing) by The Ukrainian Weekly to the Ukrainian community.

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**; longer submissions are subject to editing. Items not written in Preview format or submitted without all required information will not be published.

Preview items must be received no later than one week before the desired date of publication. No information will be taken over the phone. Items will be published only once, unless otherwise indicated. Please include payment for each time the item is to appear and indicate date(s) of issue(s) in which the item is to be published. Also, senders are asked to include the phone number of a person who may be contacted by The Weekly during daytime hours, as well as their complete mailing address.

Information should be sent to: preview@ukrweekly.com; payment should be sent to Preview of Events, The Ukrainian Weekly, 2200 Route 10, P.O. Box 280, Parsippany, NJ 07054. **NB: If e-mailing, please do not send items as attachments; simply type the text into the body of the e-mail message.**



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