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\$1/\$2 in Ukraine

Crimean Tatars gather in Symferopol to recall Stalin's mass deportations



A view of a portion of the crowd of 30,000 Crimean Tatars gathered on Lenin Square in Symferopol to mark the 60th anniversary of their nation's deportation from Crimea on the orders of Soviet dictator Joseph Stalin.

by Roman Woronowycz

Kyiv Press Bureau

SYMFEROPOL, Ukraine — Speaking to journalists just before he was to address a crowd of nearly 30,000 Crimean Tatars who had gathered in Symferopol's central square to mark the 60th anniversary of the Stalin-ordered mass deportation of Tatars, Mustafa Jemilev, a national deputy in the Ukrainian Parliament and leader of the nearly 300,000 strong Crimean Tatar ethnic community in Ukraine, said that another injustice had just taken place.

"We have just determined who stands where and how some interests view our problems," explained Mr. Jemilev in response to news that Ukraine's Verkhovna Rada had again found itself unable to agree upon a law guaranteeing Crimean Tatars certain specific rights.

The draft bill fell a mere eight votes short of the 226-vote majority needed for passage. It was the fifth time over the last 10 years that the Verkhovna Rada had rejected draft legislation that would codify Crimean Tatar minority rights.

The latest setback was to a piece of legislation that had no politically controversial riders attached to it, as earlier ones had. That fact had led many lawmakers to believe they would be able to finally enumerate a special status for Crimean Tatars a dozen years after they had begun to return home to the Crimean Peninsula after an extended time in exile.

Nearly 200,000 of them — mostly women, children and the elderly — were shipped in 76 freight trains out of Crimea to Uzbekistan and Kazakstan by force over a three-day period beginning at 4

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Brzezinski's advice in Kyiv: make the EU want Ukraine as a partner

by Roman Woronowycz

Kyiv Press Bureau

KYIV — Zbigniew Brzezinski, former national security adviser to President Jimmy Carter, visited Kyiv on May 13-17 to speak with government and political leaders and to give a lecture on "Ukraine and the World" at the National University of Kyiv Mohyla Academy. The message he brought during his four-day stay in Kyiv: Ukraine should not wait for an invitation to enter the European Union; it must make the EU want Ukraine as a partner.

The Johns Hopkins University professor, who is also an advisor at the Center for Strategic and International Studies in Washington, repeated his message several times — during his speech at the renowned Ukrainian university and during separate meetings with Ukraine's President Leonid Kuchma, Prime Minister Viktor Yanukovich and National Deputy Viktor Yushchenko. The latter two individuals are currently the favorites to succeed Mr. Kuchma in elections scheduled for October of this year.

Dr. Brzezinski's visit came after the previous week's comments by European Commission President Romano Prodi that Ukraine had no prospects for joining the EU, which were echoed by Gunther Verheugen, EU commissioner for enlargement, on May 12 during an interview on Germany's Deutsche Welle public radio.

Mr. Verheugen said that while Bulgaria and Romania could expect to enter the EU in 2007 and Turkey, Serbia and Croatia might gain entry some time later, Ukraine, Moldova and Russia had no chance, "even in the distant future." The best they could expect would be "very close economic ties."

Dr. Brzezinski, addressing students at the NUKMA, during his meetings with top leaders, as well as during a Sunday evening

news show broadcast on Ukrainian television, stated that Ukraine had to take the initiative and not wait for an invitation from Europe to become a member of the European Union.

"That which Romano Prodi said regarding Ukraine is very typical for a European bureaucrat," explained Dr. Brzezinski during a press conference after his meeting with Prime Minister Yanukovich.

At the National University of Kyiv Mohyla Academy, Dr. Brzezinski told students: "You must not wait for an invitation. You must create the conditions to make Europe want you."

The former U.S. national security adviser used the case of the Baltic states several times to explain the degree to which remarks by politicians and bureaucrats should be taken with a grain of salt.

"A few years ago the same was said of the Baltic countries, but today they are part of the EU," explained Dr. Brzezinski to a nationwide television audience on Sunday night.

The visit by Dr. Brzezinski came as Ukrainian leaders were creating some distance of their own between Ukraine and Europe. A week prior to Mr. Prodi's remarks, President Kuchma said that he had lost patience with the EU because of its failure to take the simple step of recognizing Ukraine as a free market economy, even after five years of sustained economic growth by Ukraine.

Since the president's remarks came just after ratification by the Verkhovna Rada of the Single Economic Space treaty between Ukraine, Russia, Kazakstan and Belarus, political pundits in Kyiv have begun to believe the current administration has lost all interest in any tangible further moves toward Europe. The loss of prospects was further

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Dr. Zbigniew Brzezinski at the Bykivnia Forest outside of Kyiv, one of the sites of mass graves of victims of the Stalin terror of 1937-1938.

ANALYSIS

European Union unveils details of 'European Neighborhood Policy'

by Ahto Lobjakas
RFE/RL Newline

The European Commission on May 12 made public a strategy document outlining ways of building closer ties between the European Union and its "new neighbors" to the east and south. The paper – which must still be formally approved at the EU's summit in June – says the bloc is ready to proceed quickly with Ukraine, Moldova and a number of Mediterranean countries. It also sees no hope of a closer relationship for Belarus as long as its present government stays in power.

The commission paper builds on a concept first unveiled nearly a year ago. Although it has undergone some changes, the premise of the strategy remains that those neighbors willing to share EU values and respect its vital interests will be offered closer links.

Presenting the paper on May 12, EU Enlargement Commissioner Guenter Verheugen promised political dialogue, economic cooperation and possible eventual integration, as well as wide-ranging aid for infrastructure projects research, environmental projects, and the like

Ahto Lobjakas is an RFE/RL correspondent based in Brussels.

under the so-called European Neighborhood Policy.

Mr. Verheugen summed up the EU's goals as follows: "The final objective is very clear. As [Commission President] Romano Prodi has put it earlier, we want to create a 'ring of friends.' We want to create a neighborhood in which we can develop the same level of political and economic stability that we have already achieved in the enlarged European Union. This is strategically in our interest, and we believe it is also in the interest of all our neighbors."

The paper envisages "action plans" for the quick development of ties with seven front-runners: Ukraine, Moldova, Israel, the Palestinian Authority, Jordan, Morocco and Tunisia.

The European Commission says the seven were picked because they already have in place functioning partnership agreements with the EU.

The action plans will be made public in early July, presumably after the EU's June summit gives the commission strategy its formal approval. Officials say no changes are expected from the current wording.

One country conspicuous in its

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Yushchenko hazy on future policies

by Jan Maksymiuk
RFE/RL Belarus and Ukraine Report

Some critics of Ukrainian opposition leader Viktor Yushchenko, who are sympathetically concerned about his chances to win the October 31 presidential election, have begun to complain that Mr. Yushchenko is too passive – or even inexcusably late – in promoting his presidential bid in general and presenting his vision of Ukraine after a possible victory in particular.

This deficiency is particularly worrisome, they argue, considering the fact that Mr. Yushchenko, in contrast to his anticipated main rival – Prime Minister Viktor Yanukovich – cannot count on a full-fledged and objective promotional campaign on the country's television channels and radio stations, which are mostly controlled by the government or pro-government oligarchs.

An extended interview with Mr. Yushchenko posted on the Ukrainska Pravda website on May 5 was seemingly intended to quell some of the aforementioned worries. However, the interview may disappoint readers looking for clear-cut answers about how Ukraine under a President Yushchenko might differ from that under President Leonid Kuchma. At worst, Mr. Yushchenko was vague, ambiguous and nebulous in the interview, and at best his pronouncements were reserved and non-committal.

Asked whether he still hopes that Our Ukraine can field a joint presidential candidate with the Socialist Party headed by Oleksander Moroz, Mr. Yushchenko said this is possible but added immediately that Mr. Moroz – under the influence of "intrigues" – has begun to drift away from the opposition and the accords that were concluded by Our Ukraine, the Yulia Tymoshenko

Jan Maksymiuk is the Belarus and Ukraine specialist on the staff of RFE/RL Newline.

Bloc, the Socialists and the Communists nearly a year ago.

"It is natural to a certain extent that our accords were abandoned by the Communists," Mr. Yushchenko said. "There are differences between us and the Communists in regard to answering the question: 'What will happen after the change of authorities?'"

"Undoubtedly, Oleksander Moroz seems to be a sympathetic political partner," Mr. Yushchenko continued. "But his behavior in recent months has allowed ... those in the top echelons of power to begin serious manipulations regarding the use of the Socialist Party during the election."

Mr. Yushchenko rejected the notion that for the opposition "it will be very difficult or even impossible" to win the presidential election without a coalition with Mr. Moroz.

Asked whether he is ready to offer the post of prime minister to Ms. Tymoshenko in exchange for her bloc's backing of his presidential bid, Mr. Yushchenko said "everything is possible," but remained noncommittal.

"I will say openly – bargaining for posts does not harmonize relations [between politicians], while principles do," he noted. "If I took out a paper from my drawer and publicized prepared initiatives, and if these initiatives became my position or the position of my bloc, we would become witnesses to some unhealthy things."

Asked whether he will launch a process of "re-privatization" – redistribution of property in Ukraine because of many allegedly unlawful privatizations in the past – after his possible presidential victory, Mr. Yushchenko replied that he does not like words such as "nationalization" or "re-privatization."

"I am convinced that the election will

(Continued on page 17)

NEWSBRIEFS

Prodi reiterates comments re Ukraine

BRUSSELS – European Commission President Romano Prodi on May 18 reiterated his opinion that Ukraine has no prospects of joining the European Union, Interfax reported. Mr. Prodi was speaking at a joint news conference with Ukrainian Prime Minister Viktor Yanukovich in Brussels. "We cannot now continue with EU enlargement, but there is a prospect that Ukraine can share everything with us, apart from the participation in EU institutions," Mr. Prodi said. "I consider this to be a colossal step in the right direction," he added. Mr. Yanukovich reportedly expressed the hope that the EU will at last decide on granting Ukraine market-economy status during its summit in The Hague in July. Mr. Prodi responded by saying the obstacles to Ukraine obtaining this status include "firstly, the [country's] pricing policy and, secondly, law on bankruptcy." (RFE/RL Newline)

PM wants to abandon 'Euromanticism'

KYIV – Prime Minister Viktor Yanukovich on May 17 said Ukraine should give up "Euromanticism" in its relations with the European Union, Interfax reported. Mr. Yanukovich was commenting on his scheduled visit to Brussels on May 18-19, where he was to lead a Ukrainian delegation attending a meeting of the Ukraine-EU Cooperation Council. "Ukraine has been saying it strives for integration in the EU, but I wish we had found an answer to the question of what this means," Mr. Yanukovich said. "Europe does not need Ukraine with its problems, and we should clearly realize this ... and move away from Euromanticism." (RFE/RL Newline)

Tatars mark anniversary of deportation

SYMPFEROPOL – More than 20,000 people took part in a march in Symferopol on May 18 to commemorate the 60th anniversary of the forced deportation of Tatars from Crimea to Central Asia, Ukrainian and international news agencies reported. The deportation, ordered by Soviet leader Joseph Stalin, who accused Crimean Tatars of collaboration with the Nazis, began on May 18, 1944, and affected some 200,000 people. Crimean Tatars were officially rehabilitated by the Kremlin in 1967, but allowed to return to Crimea only in 1989. Some 250,000 Tatars have returned to Crimea since the collapse of the Soviet Union. Participants in the commemorative march demanded that the Tatar language be made an official one in Crimea

and that Tatar returnees be given land plots for settlement. (RFE/RL Newline)

Ukrainian wins Eurovision song contest

ISTANBUL – Ukrainian singer Ruslana (Lyzhychko) won the Eurovision Song Contest held in Istanbul, Turkey, on May 15, with a frenetic performance of her song "Wild Dances," which she sang partly in English and partly in Ukrainian, international news agencies reported. Ruslana's victory means that Ukraine will host the 50th Eurovision Song Contest in May 2005. (RFE/RL Newline)

Ruslana named "people's artist"

KYIV – President Leonid Kuchma on May 18 bestowed the title of a people's artist of Ukraine upon Ruslana Luzhychko, who won last week's Eurovision Song Contest 2004 in Istanbul, Interfax reported. "This is not an achievement of one performer, this is an achievement of the entire country," Mr. Kuchma told Ruslana at the award ceremony. Ruslana's victory means that Kyiv will host the 50th Eurovision Song Contest in May 2005. Meanwhile, Kyiv Mayor Oleksander Omelchenko told journalists the same day that the Ukrainian capital currently has no appropriate concert hall with a seating capacity of 15,000 to 20,000 that could accommodate next year's Eurovision event. Mr. Omelchenko added that the largest available hall in Kyiv, in the Palace of Sports, can seat an audience of nearly 10,000, but its interior does not meet "European standards," RFE/RL's Ukrainian Service reported. (RFE/RL Newline)

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AP/ Murad Sezer

Ruslana in concert in Istanbul.

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U.S. judge throws out 23 of 53 counts against Lazarenko

by Roman Kupchinsky

RFE/RL Organized Crime and Terrorism Watch

The trial of former Ukrainian Prime Minister Pavlo Lazarenko that began on March 15 and is continuing in a Northern District federal court in San Francisco is the second of its kind in the history of U.S. jurisprudence. (The first was that of deposed Panamanian leader Manuel Noriega in 1990.) Lazarenko is accused in a second superseding indictment filed by U.S. prosecutors of money laundering to the tune of some \$114 million and mail fraud, which together carry a maximum sentence of 370 years imprisonment.

The trial, which has received scant coverage in the Ukrainian media, took a sharp turn on May 7 when Judge Martin Jenkins tossed out 23 of 53 counts against Lazarenko. The judge concluded that the government was unable to establish proof of violations of existing Ukrainian law and sufficient evidence of fraud to sustain a conviction.

The move hints at the difficulty the prosecution is likely to have in securing a conviction of Lazarenko, who served as Ukraine's prime minister from October 1996 to July 1997.

Justin Kane of the Center for Investigative Journalism in San Francisco filed the following report with RFE/RL's Ukrainian Service:

"All charges related to [Unified] Energy Systems of Ukraine and opposition leader Yulia Tymoshenko were dismissed. The judge also dismissed all charges connected to the energy company Itera, the alleged extortion of businessman Oleksiy Dydyatkovskyy, and the sale of prefabricated homes to the Ukrainian government.

"Lazarenko's acquittal on the charges of wire fraud and transportation of stolen property leaves 28 counts in the indictment, all related to Lazarenko's alleged extortion of his for-

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mer partner, Petro Kirichenko, and the alleged fraud at Naukovy State Farm. Prosecutors had already dropped two additional charges.

"The ruling substantially undermined what remains of the prosecutors' case against Lazarenko, casting doubt on whether they can convince jurors that Lazarenko violated both U.S. and Ukrainian law. In his order, Judge Martin J. Jenkins agreed with the defense's arguments that the prosecutors had not established a violation of Ukrainian law for the charges he dismissed. 'No reasonable trier of fact could find that it has,'" the judge wrote.

"The judge consistently rejected the government's theories that Lazarenko had defrauded the Ukrainian government and had deprived Ukrainian citizens of his honest services. 'The government has utterly failed to establish material harm' to the Ukrainian people or government, Jenkins wrote. He also dismissed a government claim that Lazarenko had defrauded RAO Gazprom in the course of his actions during the restructuring of the Ukrainian gas industry."

Writing in his response to a request by the defense to acquit their client under rule 29(a) of the Federal Rule of Criminal Procedure, however, Judge Jenkins rejected a defense request to drop an extortion charge. The government had presented sufficient evidence "that a reasonable juror could find beyond a reasonable doubt that Mr. Lazarenko committed extortion with respect to Mr. Kirichenko," Jenkins concluded.

Lazarenko's former partner, Kirichenko, testified on behalf of the government at the trial.

The defendant

Pavlo Ivanovich Lazarenko, born on a collective farm in the Dnipropetrovsk Oblast of Ukraine, became prime minister on October 21, 1996. He was removed from the post on July 1, 1997. He was detained by the U.S. Immigration and Naturalization Service (INS) at New York's JFK Airport in February 1999 as

he disembarked from a flight from Greece, charged with attempting to enter the United States on an invalid visa. Lazarenko then applied for political asylum, claiming he was "being persecuted" by the regime of Ukrainian President Leonid Kuchma. The asylum application was never ruled upon, and, shortly afterward, Lazarenko was arrested on charges of money laundering and mail fraud. Lazarenko has since spent nearly five years in federal detention in the San Francisco area, where he had previously purchased a house in Marin County for approximately \$7 million cash.

Widespread corruption?

Tales of pervasive corruption at the highest levels of government in Ukraine have been heard throughout the depositions in this trial, both videotaped and in the courtroom. Testimony has also arguably been damaging to the Swiss and Caribbean banking systems, which seem to have allowed opaque transactions and taken minimal steps to check the origins of funds entering their banking systems.

Swiss banks have been accused of laxity in their dealings in the past, including some high-profile cases of allegedly illicit funds being funneled or diverted by Russian and Ukrainian officials. In the early 1990s, Kremlin property manager in the Yeltsin administration Pavel Borodin was accused of using Swiss accounts to launder some \$30 million in connection with the Mabatex-Kremlin reconstruction scandal. Borodin was found guilty by a Swiss court in 2003 and ordered to pay a fine of \$700,000, which he has so far refused to do. In December 2003, Russian State Duma deputy and popular singer Josef Kobzon – long reputed to have ties to organized crime – had \$743,000 confiscated from a Swiss account by Swiss police who claimed the money came from illicit activities.

Witnesses at the Lazarenko trial suggested that managers at Credit Suisse, a bank initially used by Lazarenko, might

have been negligent in their due-diligence duties or, on the other hand, genuinely believed the funds were clean.

Other witnesses testified that Lazarenko later withdrew his funds from Credit Suisse and deposited them with the Federal European Credit Bank in Antigua, which he and former business partner Kirichenko had bought. The Caribbean connection in this alleged money-laundering scheme played a significant role in future money transfers to the United States.

Ukrainian media coverage

The proceedings in San Francisco are taking place during a presidential election year in Ukraine; as such, they could have some impact on Ukraine's future leadership if unbiased information about the hearings was being made available to the electorate. That, however, has not been the case thus far.

As Lazarenko's trial was about to commence, RFE/RL saw its programs dropped from a nationwide FM radio network in Ukraine. Two days after RFE/RL found a new partner to broadcast its Ukrainian-language programming, Radio Kontinent, the Ukrainian authorities shut down that station for allegedly "violating its license." Some commentators have linked those events with the Lazarenko trial and its accompanying coverage.

President Kuchma has denied that his administration had anything to do with RFE/RL's predicament, but members of the Ukrainian opposition have expressed a different view. A demonstration in Kyiv on March 10 attended by nearly 7,000 people to protest attacks on press freedoms was not mentioned on any of Ukraine's nationwide television-news programs.

It is worth noting that there are no television crews or correspondents from Ukraine attending the Lazarenko trial. As far as the Ukrainian media is concerned, this trial might as well not be taking place at all.

Fire at munitions depot in Melitopol region forces evacuation of nearly 7,000

by Vasyl Pawlowsky

Special to The Ukrainian Weekly

KYIV – At about 1 p.m. on May 6, a fire broke out and old artillery shells stored at the 275th artillery munitions depot near the village of Novobohdanivka, Melitopol raion of Zaporizhzhia Oblast, began to explode. The danger posed by an overfilled munitions depot on fire forced the evacuation of 6,963 inhabitants of neighboring villages found within a 10-kilometer radius of the munitions depot.

One military officer was killed; his family name was listed by the Defense Ministry as Panchenko. Four others died as an indirect result of the incident, and four were hospitalized.

Ukraine's Emergency Situations Minister Hryhorii Reva stated in a report to the Verkhovna Rada on May 11 that the explosions and fire that occurred at a munitions depot were caused by violations of fire safety regulations, in particular, smoking by personnel near a site where munitions were stored.

However, Minister of Defense Yevhen Marchuk said the same day that while negligence by the depot's management could have been a cause of the fire, he did not rule out foul play.

"This depot was working with several commercial firms. A dispute arose over a sum of 2.5 million hrv, and the Defense

Ministry and the General Staff carried out a check in April," he explained. "An audit was ordered, which should have been completed on May 15. So, the explosion occurred just 10 days before the completion of the audit. What's more, the explosion occurred about two days after law enforcement bodies began to question the service personnel and businessmen who were cooperating."

Mr. Marchuk added that he was confident the investigation would quickly identify those responsible. "I think that they will quickly work their way through all the versions, since all those who allowed this to happen at the local level are alive and have been detained," he said.

He underscored that safety measures are still so lacking in this area of the military, even after considerable clean-up work had taken place over the last year, that accidents and explosions could occur at any one of Ukraine's 184 munitions depots at any time. Many of these depots are from 10 to 20 percent over their capacity. In the case of the Novobohdanivka facility, where this accident took place, there were 800 more railway cars of munitions than allowable by regulation, stated Mr. Marchuk.

Much of Ukraine's stored munitions were inherited from the Soviet Union and today pose one of the biggest problems faced by the Ukrainian military. Mr.

Marchuk pointed out that when he took the reins of the Defense Ministry, many ammunition rounds were openly scattered about the grounds of munitions depots and some had lain on the ground for so long that they were partially covered by dirt and debris. He added that in order to bring all the depots to a safe level expenditures of 889 million hrv would be required.

The disposal and recycling of all of these munitions has become "problem No. 1" for the Ukrainian military," Mr. Marchuk added.

In an interview on Hromadske Radio, Serhii Zhurets, an expert from the Center for Army, Conversion and Disarmament Studies, stated that the stockpile inherited from the USSR is equivalent to about 320,000 tons of munitions that are not stored safely, and every year approximately 20 tons are added to this stockpile. At the rate Ukraine is recycling its stockpile of such munitions, it will take 40 years to safety recycle them, explained Mr. Zhurets.

Twenty-six fire trucks battled the blaze. Heavy rain during the night assisted in dousing the fire, and reduced the intensity of the fire and the frequency at which the artillery shells were exploding. The fire also threatened a number of storage areas at the base including one that housed landmines. The blaze was finally extinguished on May 9.

Ukraine's vice prime minister and head of the State Committee for Manmade, Environmental Security and Emergency Situations, Andriy Kliuyev, announced on May 7 that the city of Melitopol had already received 4 million of the allotted 7 million hrv for the clean-up operations, though at the same time Mr. Kliuyev dismissed rumors that any chemical, nuclear, explosive substances or ammonia were stored at the depot. However, earlier reports from the Defense Ministry had noted that some of the armaments contained radioactive materials.

Mr. Kliuyev called the damage from the blast insignificant as windows were broken, roofs collapsed and doors were broken. He went on to say that nearly 3 kilometers of railroad had to be completely rebuilt. Other reports claimed that the railway station in a neighboring village had been leveled by the blast.

While state officials said they would await further investigation before making official conclusions as to what caused the ammunition to ignite, Ukraine's Procurator General Hennadii Vasyliiev wasted no time in opening a criminal case against the military's top brass, commenting that the blast at the munitions depot was the result of criminal negligence by military leaders. He said that Ministry of Defense leaders, including Mr. Marchuk, had continuously ignored

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OBITUARY: Theodore V. Shumeyko, PR specialist, community activist, 81

by Helen Smindak

NEW YORK – Theodor V. Shumeyko, a New York public relations specialist for a half-century who was known for his integrity and sense of humor, died of heart failure at The Valley Hospital in Ridgewood, N.J., on March 16. His death, at age 81, came a week and a half after he was hospitalized for a broken hip incurred in a fall.

A lifelong supporter of Ukrainian culture, especially of music, Mr. Shumeyko was highly active in the Ukrainian Youth League of North America and the Metropolitan Chorus of New York and New Jersey during the 1940s. He also contributed numerous articles to The Ukrainian Weekly, assisting the work of his brother, The Ukrainian Weekly's founding editor Stephen Shumeyko.

Mr. Shumeyko, who used the name Ted, was director of public and community relations for Monsanto Chemstrand, then went on to become director of public relations and publicity for Burlington Industries.

He operated his own marketing/communications firm, The Shumeyko Group, for 10 years, handling clients like Dan River and the Nonwovens Association, before joining T.J. Ross & Associates in 1982. A few years later he was elected vice-president of T.J. Ross by the board of directors.

At Monsanto, Mr. Shumeyko helped to launch the popular product Saran Wrap. While at Burlington, he arranged to build a street-level miniature textile mill at West 54th Street and Sixth Avenue that became a major tourist attraction.

He was known for the "bunch lunches" he organized for decades at New York's famous Sardi's restaurant and for thoughtful gifts delivered to newsrooms, from a knapsack containing a pair of roller skates and a box of red pencils (for a new managing editor) to a cushy white toilet seat (sent to a reporter who broke the story of Seventh Avenue showrooms being burglarized while staffers were in the rest room).

In an obituary that appeared in Women's Wear Daily, retired WWD textile editor Marvin Klapper told writer Scott Malone that "all (Mr. Shumeyko's) dealings were completely aboveboard. He never would do anything that was not ethical."

Norman Karr, retired director of

Jeanswear Communications, said he admired Mr. Shumeyko's "light touch in working with the press – he could tell the story of a company he was representing without making people feel their arms were being twisted."

Born in Newark, N. J., one of seven children of Ukrainian immigrants Tekla Sydiaha Shumeyko and Michael Shumeyko, Mr. Shumeyko served with the U.S. Army in World War II. After graduation from Seton Hall University, he began working in public relations and advertising agencies, joining Chemstrand in 1962 as director of global publicity and communications.

Proud of his Ukrainian heritage, Mr. Shumeyko was active in the Ukrainian Youth League of North America, serving as financial secretary in 1947-1948 and as vice-president in 1948-1949. During those years, he also worked on the League's official publication, The Ukrainian Trend, either as associate editor or editor, and its sister publication, The Bulletin.

Daniel Slobodian, former administrator of the Soyuzivka resort, who succeeded Mr. Shumeyko as UYL-NA president, recalls "the uncontrollable enthusiasm" Mr. Shumeyko radiated while planning and attending Youth League rallies, managing a basketball playoff in New York, and organizing and publicizing the "Echoes of Ukraine" concert in 1950.

Mr. Slobodian remembers that Mr. Shumeyko had "a good, strong bass and a great love for Ukrainian music – so for years he was a member of the Metropolitan Chorus of New York and New Jersey directed by Stephen Marusevich."

Funeral services were held at St. Paul's Ukrainian Catholic Church in Ramsey, N.J., and burial took place at George Washington Cemetery in Paramus, N.J.

Mr. Shumeyko is survived by his wife, Slavka (Sue) née Syrotiuk; three sons, Evan, Mark and Bob; a daughter, Susan Jill Mulhere; two sisters, Annie Sedlak and Sophie Bukata Shumeyko, and seven grandchildren.

The family has asked that memorial donations be sent to the Children of Chernobyl Relief Fund, 277 Old Short Hills Road, Short Hills, N.J. 07078.

Tributes to Dr. James E. Mace from Ukraine and Canada

Below are additional tributes to the late Dr. James E. Mace, researcher of the Ukrainian Famine-Genocide, who died in Kyiv on May 3.

Today there are few people whose hand Ukrainians would openly kiss, his is one of them. It was a great honor to work with James Mace. He was a very special man, a great scholar and true Ukrainian – in many ways more Ukrainian than those who hold Ukrainian citizenship.

He was a person of strong moral character and convictions. I can say that James truly felt for Ukraine. He came to truly understand the people after he recorded the stories of the grandmothers and grandfathers who even then continued to be afraid to identify their names 40 years after they fled the tragedy they had lived through. James felt for them and understood them.

He was a close colleague. He was brave and dedicated. Unfortunately we have few such journalists here. Last year when we fought to have the Pulitzer Prize taken from Walter Duranty – given to Duranty for lies and deceit – we tried to recruit local journalists to write letters to the Pulitzer Committee. We got little support from them, even though many average people did send letters.

James understood why, he understood that we are a "post-genocidal society" – a term he coined. I realize we need to put more effort into overcoming this. He worked to make it happen. This is one of his other enduring legacies.

– *Larysa Ivshyna: editor-in-chief, Den newspaper, Kyiv.*

I do not want James' accomplishments limited to his revelations on the Great Famine. He did much more. He was very interested in contemporary Ukraine as a scholar and as a person living here.

He didn't simply think in terms of his work, he truly wanted Ukraine to become known in the world and not remain on the periphery.

He was objective, honest and competent. When he began to write about corruption in Ukraine, people didn't want to read that, to

acknowledge that it existed in Ukraine.

– *Volodymyr Polokhalo, editor-in-chief, Politychna Dumka, Kyiv.*

It was with deep sadness and sorrow that I heard the tragic news of the death of the renowned Ukrainian national activist, Professor James Mace.

It is impossible to understand to the fullest extent what this loss means to our country. In the person of James Mace, Ukraine had found not only a superb scholar of its history, but also a true son, who, in taking to heart the sufferings of Ukrainians, had become part of the Ukrainian nation.

We Ukrainian diplomats bow our heads before the memory of this person, who made a priceless contribution in disseminating throughout the world the truth about the tragedy of the Great Famine in Ukraine. Now it is up to us to fairly and respectfully evaluate the colossal mission that James Mace took upon himself. Like the herald of a greater truth, he awakened the world so as to at last awaken our nation. From today for eternity the name of James Mace will be carved on the stone tablets of Ukrainian history.

– *Ukraine's Minister of Foreign Affairs Kostiantyn Gryshchenko (in a letter read at the memorial service in Kyiv by press attaché Markian Lubkivsky).*

To honor the late Prof. James Mace, the Ukrainian Canadian Civil Liberties Association has dedicated the forthcoming book, "Not Worthy: Walter Duranty's Pulitzer Prize and The New York Times" (Kashtan Press, 2004) to his memory.

We trust this gesture, admittedly modest, will nevertheless serve to underscore how much Ukrainians around the world came to admire the dedication and passion with which Jim, one of contemporary Ukraine's best friends, strove to help a post-genocidal society recover its self-respect and national identity.

– *Dr. Lubomyr Luciuk, director of research, Ukrainian Canadian Civil Liberties Association.*

Holodomor memorial fund established in name of Great Famine researcher

by Morgan Williams
Action Ukraine Coalition

WASHINGTON – A special Dr. James E. Mace Memorial Holodomor Fund has been established by the Ukrainian Federation of America, Dr. Zenia Chernyk, chairperson, Vera Andryczyk, president. The special memorial fund will be administered as part of the program of the federation, a non-for-profit U.S. charitable and educational organization organized in 1991.

The Ukrainian Federation of America is dedicated to the preservation of Ukrainian culture and heritage and providing assistance to Ukraine in its drive for full democracy as well as social and economic advancement.

Donated funds will be used to support the Holodomor Education and Exhibition Program in Ukraine that Dr. Mace has

been involved in, and other projects to honor the life and work of Dr. Mace, as approved by the federation in consultation with Dr. Mace's wife, Natalia Dziubenko-Mace. Ms. Dziubenko-Mace is, in her own right, an outstanding and long-time researcher and writer about the Ukrainian Famine-Genocide of 1932-1933 (known in Ukrainian as the Holodomor, whose literal meaning is death by forced starvation.)

Donations to the Dr. James E. Mace Memorial Holodomor Fund can be made by making out a check or other financial instrument to the Ukrainian Federation of America (in U.S. dollars), designating the donation for the Dr. James E. Mace Memorial Holodomor Fund, and mailing the check to: Dr. Zenia Chernyk, Chairperson, Ukrainian Federation of America, 930 Henrietta Ave., Huntingdon Valley, PA 19006-8502.

Book detailing Gongadze murder released in Kyiv in Ukrainian language

by Roman Woronowycz
Kyiv Press Bureau

KYIV – "Beheaded," the book by Jaroslaw Koshiv detailing the results of his journalistic investigation into the abduction and killing of the Ukrainian journalist Heorhii Gongadze, was released in the Ukrainian language in Kyiv on May 21, on what would have been the young reporter's 35 birthday.

The book chronicles how the Georgian freedom fighter became a Ukrainian journalist and then the founder of one of Ukraine's first Internet newspapers, before he was abducted, tortured and then beheaded in what has been widely considered a politically motivated murder.

The Ukrainian version gives readers an additional chapter, which identifies those individuals Mr. Koshiv believes were responsible for the murder in September 2000 and describes how and why the killers allegedly went about the torture and killing of the Lviv-born journalist.

Mr. Koshiv told The Weekly that he added the chapter after he obtained and verified additional information that had become available since the English-language version of "Beheaded" was published. Much of that information came from the Institute for Mass Media in Ukraine, which had obtained detailed accounts of what transpired from a former leader of a special forces law enforcement group of the Ministry of Internal Affairs, Ihor Honcharov.

Mr. Honcharov had asked that after his death a package be forwarded to the Institute for Mass Media, which turned out to be a diary-like account of Mr. Honcharov's involvement with murder and extortion as the leader of the special force. Mr. Honcharov died under mysterious circumstances last spring, while awaiting trial on unrelated charges.

Mr. Koshiv said he decided to release a Ukrainian translation of his book after people at each stop of the book tour introducing

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THE UKRAINIAN WEEKLY
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Brzezinski's advice...

(Continued from page 1)

felt on May 14 when President Kuchma dismissed First Vice Minister for Foreign Affairs Oleksander Chalyi. Mr. Chalyi was the Foreign Ministry's top official for Euro-integration.

After his dismissal, Mr. Chalyi said that Ukraine had lost the window of opportunity that the EU had offered it. While he did not specifically mention the reason as being Ukraine's move into a common market with Russia and its eastern neighbors, he allowed that "a certain conflict of interest between Ukraine and the EU had arisen."

In both his speech before the university students and during the television interview, Dr. Brzezinski agreed that the SES agreement would hinder Ukraine's entry into the EU – especially since its ratification came just as 10 new member-states had entered the EU.

Dr. Brzezinski noted that Ukraine and the other SES countries would never be allowed to enter the EU together. However, he also pointed out that European Union officials should have realized that both Russia and Ukraine need to have prospects for entry into the EU in order for the region to maintain security.

He called Ukraine much further ahead in democratic development than Russia. He also said that as long as Ukrainians could not say with a high degree of confidence who would be their next president democracy exists in the country. He made a comparison to Russia, where it was widely understood that President Vladimir Putin would get re-elected months before the actual day of the vote.

"I do not know who will be the next U.S. president. I do not know who will be the next Ukrainian president. But I knew who would become the next Russian president," Dr. Brzezinski stated during a press conference on May 15.

On his last day in Kyiv, Dr. Brzezinski visited Bykivnia Forest, located on the outskirts of Kyiv, to take part in an annual commemoration for the tens of thousands of Ukrainian intellectual and cultural leaders who were slaughtered during Stalin's reign of terror in 1937-1938. An official U.S. delegation headed by Ambassador John Herbst was there for a memorial service and to lay a commemorative wreath at the site, which continues to be vandalized and still does not have an appropriate monument erected to the memory of the victims.

Dr. Brzezinski told the few hundred gathered in Bykivnia that he had thought he knew much about the crimes of communism, inasmuch as he had done his doctoral thesis on the work of the early Soviet secret police, but that he was taken aback by the horror of Bykivnia.

"Bykivnia has left a far deeper impression than all that I had heard beforehand," commented Dr. Brzezinski. "I am taken by the spirit of the members of the [Vasyl Stus]

Memorial Society (which has fought to make the forest a national memorial complex). I believe that children and young people should travel here on an annual pilgrimage."

Dr. Brzezinski's visit to Kyiv came from an invitation from National Deputy Viktor Pinchuk and his industrial concern, Interpipe. Mr. Pinchuk, considered one of Ukraine's ruling business "oligarchs," and the richest man in the country, recently became a member of the international organization the Council on Foreign Affairs and sits on its Emergency Commission. Last month international philanthropist and financier George Soros was in Kyiv on Mr. Pinchuk's invitation.

On May 20-21 ex-U.S. President George Bush, the father of the current president, was scheduled to be in Kyiv on a private visit to meet with President Kuchma and give a lecture at Kyiv State University. Mr. Pinchuk, who extended the invitation to Mr. Bush, is President Kuchma's son-in-law.

Book detailing...

(Continued from page 4)

the English-language version kept clamoring for one in Ukrainian as well.

"There was always the thought in the back of my head that I should release a Ukrainian version, but I needed someone to help with the translation. Then I met Iryna Vuytsyk in London," explained Mr. Koshiw.

Ms. Vuytsyk, a graduate of Lviv University, met Mr. Koshiw when the two attended the same meeting of the National Union of Journalists to listen to a presentation by Mykola Melnychenko, the former

member of the personal security detail of President Leonid Kuchma who told the world a month after Gongadze's beheaded corpse was unearthed outside Kyiv that he had digital recordings in his possession on which President Kuchma and his cronies are allegedly heard planning the disappearance of the Ukrainian journalist.

Mr. Koshiw said the biggest obstacle he had to surmount to get a Ukrainian version in print was to find a printing house in Ukraine that would do the job. He was rejected 14 times before he found a publisher.

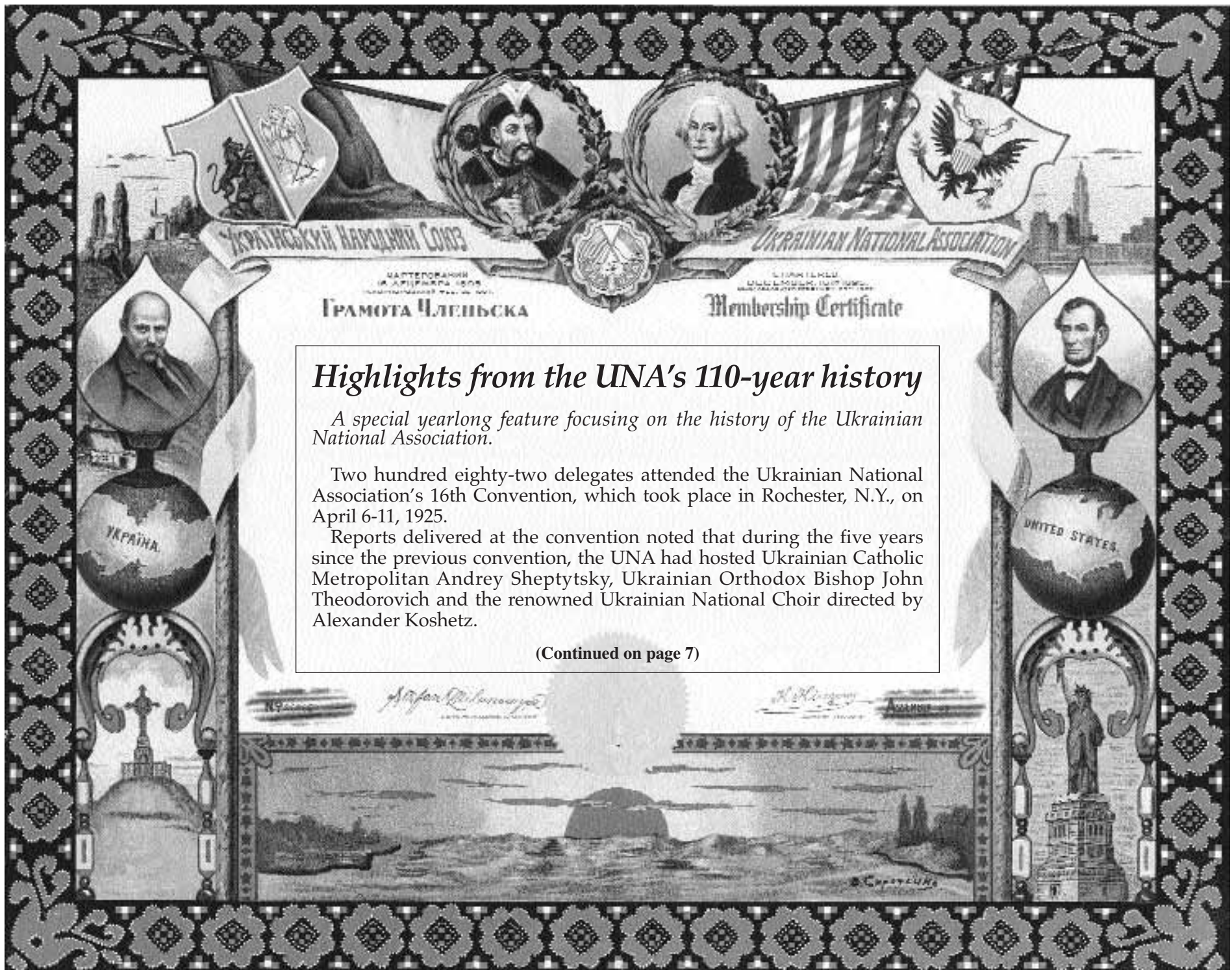
"No one ever said yes, and no one ever said no, they just kept on putting off any decisions," explained Mr. Koshiw.

He finally agreed to an offer from the Sobor Party of Ukraine, even though initially he had wanted an independent publisher for the book in order to avoid accusations that it was written as a political tool. The Sobor Party, headed by Anatolii Matvienko, a former close colleague of President Kuchma, is part of the Tymoshenko parliamentary faction in Ukraine's Verkhovna Rada, which is strongly critical of the Ukrainian president.

Mr. Koshiw was frank in admitting that he released the book on Gongadze's birthday so that it would draw some attention. He explained that he didn't believe it would attain wide distribution in Ukraine as long as the current authorities remain in power.

Mr. Koshiw is an Austrian-born Briton whose parents were driven from their homeland by withdrawing German Nazi forces during World War II. Mr. Koshiw has published several previous works on Ukraine, including, "The Chernobyl Catastrophe," written in 1988, and "Materials of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Great Britain on Ukraine and Ukrainians, 1917-1948," which was printed in 1997.

In 1998-1999 Mr. Koshiw worked as an assistant editor for the Kyiv Post, the largest English-language newspaper in Ukraine. He has also worked as a television journalist for HTV-Wales and for the BBC in London.



(Continued on page 7)

THE UKRAINIAN WEEKLY

Ukraine's election: Congress points the way

Last week we reported that leaders of the Helsinki Commission, formally known as the U.S. Commission on Security and Cooperation in Europe, had introduced a concurrent resolution "urging the government of Ukraine to ensure a democratic, transparent and fair election process for the presidential election on October 31, 2004."

Introduced in both the Senate and the House of Representatives, the resolution "expresses its strong and continuing support for the efforts of the Ukrainian people to establish a full democracy, the rule of law and respect for human rights in Ukraine," while urging the government of Ukraine "to guarantee freedom of association and assembly, including the right of candidates, members of political parties and others to freely assemble, to organize and conduct public events, and to exercise these and other rights free from intimidation or harassment by local or national officials or others acting at their behest." The resolution also urges Ukraine's authorities to ensure "full transparency" of the election process, "free access for Ukrainian and international election observers," and "unimpeded access by all parties and candidates to print, radio, television and Internet media on a non-discriminatory basis."

In other words, the concurrent resolution seeks a level playing field for all candidates and an open election process that everyone – candidates, voters, observers and the people of Ukraine – can trust.

Why is this resolution needed? One word: Mukachiv. The April 18 mayoral election in that western Ukrainian city was widely seen as a harbinger of what could happen in the upcoming presidential elections. Mukachiv's mayoral election was marked, and marred, by intimidation, violence and fraud, as well as all sorts of election irregularities. The result, it seems, is that the election was stolen by the candidate of the Social Democratic Party-United, which just happens to be the party led by the chief of the presidential administration, Viktor Medvedchuk. (See our editorial of May 2.)

The concurrent resolution now in Congress "pledges its enduring support and assistance to the Ukrainian people's establishment of a fully free and open democratic system, their creation of a prosperous free market economy, their establishment of a secure independence and freedom from coercion, and their country's assumption of its rightful place as a full and equal member of the Western community of democracies."

It is fitting that the leaders of the Helsinki Commission have taken the lead on this issue. After all, as noted by Sen. Ben Nighthorse Campbell, co-chairman of the Helsinki Commission, as he introduced the S. Con. 106, the commission "has long monitored and encouraged human rights, rule of law and democracy in Ukraine," and "it continues to be a stalwart supporter of Ukrainian development as an independent, democratic and market-oriented state."

The senator's words were echoed in the House (where the measure is labeled H. Res. 415) by Rep. Christopher Smith, chairman of the Helsinki Commission, who argued: "By urging the Ukrainian authorities to abide by their freely undertaken OSCE commitments on democratic elections, this resolution emphasizes our commitment to the Ukrainian people and the goal of Ukraine's integration into the Western community of nations." Furthermore, Rep. Smith pointed out that "Developments [in Ukraine] with respect to democracy have been discouraging over the last few years. The elections represent a real chance for Ukraine to get back on the road to full respect for the tenets of democracy, human rights and the rule of law. The United States stands in solidarity with the people of Ukraine as they strive to achieve these essential goals."

Why should the U.S. Congress pass a resolution advising Ukraine how to handle its presidential election? Because friends have the consideration and courage to tell each other the truth, and because friends want to see each other succeed and realize their dreams. Thus, we should applaud the efforts of Sen. Campbell and his colleagues to help Ukraine take its next steps toward establishing democracy. At the same time, we hope that at this next crossroads Ukraine will take the right route.

May
29
1978

Turning the pages back...

Philadelphia area Ukrainians and Jews engaged in a brief confrontation with a Soviet ocean liner on May 29, 1978, as they attempted to focus public attention on human rights violations in the Soviet Union.

Renting a pleasure vessel from Rainbow River Tours, members of the Committee for the Defense of Valentyn Moroz and the Jewish Community Relations Council sailed up the Delaware River in the Good Ship Lollipop to the Tioga pier where the Soviet liner, called the Odessa, was moored. The ship was scheduled to weigh anchor at 4 p.m. and depart for a six-day cruise to Bermuda.

Armed with bullhorns and protest signs in English, Ukrainian and Russian, the protesters hoped to come within range of the Odessa so that the crew could read the signs and hear their chants. The signs read "Freedom for Ukrainians" and "Free Soviet Jews." The two groups chanted "Svoboda" and loudspeakers played "Exodus" and Ukrainian songs. Philadelphia police patrol boats and Coast Guard cutters kept the Good Ship Lollipop about 300 feet away from the Odessa.

Ulana Mazurkevich, chairwoman of the Moroz committee, said the joint Ukrainian-Jewish effort was aimed at pointing out Russian oppression of both groups. "In the Soviet press they have daily articles saying that 'Ukrainian nationalists are working with Zionist Jews.' This will really infuriate them," said Ms. Mazurkevich.

Sister Gloria Coleman, chairwoman of the Philadelphia Inter-religious Task Force on Soviet Jewry explained: "One group (the Jews) wants freedom of exit; the other wants the ability to live in freedom," adding "but we are all working for human rights."

Source: "Philadelphia Ukrainians, Jews rent boat to picket Soviet ocean liner," *The Ukrainian Weekly*, June 11, 1978.

NEWS AND VIEWS

Why Ukrainian studies?

Following is the text of remarks by Dr. Bohdan Vitvitsky, chair of the organizing committee for Friends of Columbia University Ukrainian Studies II (FOCUS II), delivered in Columbia University's Low Library Rotunda at the May 8 gala banquet attended by diplomats, scholars and the public.

by Dr. Bohdan Vitvitsky

In 1991 President George Bush traveled to Kyiv to tell Ukrainians in his now infamous "Chicken Kiev" speech that they should avoid "suicidal nationalism" and, thus, be wary of seeking independence. What was stunning about that speech was not so much its moral cynicism – after all, would anyone have been misguided enough to travel to Jerusalem in 1948 to tell the Jews that they should avoid a purportedly suicidal Zionism and, therefore, an independent Jewish state? – but the extraordinary level of historical ignorance that underlay its conclusions.

Did anyone associated with writing or approving the Chicken Kiev speech have any inkling whatsoever about the Holodomor, the Famine of 1932-1933? Of the destruction of all Ukrainian religious, political, scientific and cultural institutions and the persons who made those institutions up? Of the Soviet regime's war against any vestiges of normal Ukrainian life? Or that even Ukrainian folk singers, such as Volodymyr Ivasiuk, and Ukrainian poets, such as Vasyl Stus, were being killed as late as 1979 and 1986, respectively, merely for writing patriotic Ukrainian verse?

To understand how something like the Chicken Kiev speech could have come about, it is helpful to go back to August 1948, when the Policy Planning Staff at the U.S. State Department prepared a top secret memorandum titled "US Objectives With Respect to Russia." Part of this memo was titled "Partition vs National Unity," and the memo posed the following question:

"First of all, would it be our desire, [...] that the present territories of the Soviet Union remain united under a single regime or that they be partitioned? And if they are to remain united, at least to a large extent, then what degree of federalism should be observed in a future Russian government? What about the major minority groups, in particular the [sic] Ukraine?"

Let me now read some excerpts of the State Department analysis that followed:

"The Ukrainians are the most advanced of the peoples who have been under Russian rule in modern times. They have generally resented Russian domination; and their nationalistic organizations have been active and vocal abroad. It would be easy to jump to the conclusion that they should be freed, at least, from Russian rule and permitted to set themselves up as an independent state.

"We would do well to beware of this conclusion. Its very simplicity condemns it in terms of eastern European realities.

"It is true that the Ukrainians have been unhappy under Russian rule and that something should be done to protect their position in the future. But there are certain basic facts which must not be lost sight of. While the Ukrainians have been an important and specific element in the Russian Empire, they have shown no signs of being a 'nation' capable of bearing successfully the responsibilities of independence in the face of Great Russian opposition. The Ukraine is not a clearly defined ethnical or geographical concept. In general the Ukrainian popula-

tion, made up originally in large measure out of refugees from Russian or Polish despotism, shades off imperceptibly into the Russian or Polish nationalities. There is no clear dividing line between Russia and the Ukraine, and it would be impossible to establish one. The cities in Ukrainian territory have been predominantly Russian and Jewish. The real basis of 'Ukrainianism' is the feeling of 'difference' produced by a specific peasant dialect and by minor differences of custom and folklore throughout the country districts. The political agitation on the surface is largely the work of a few romantic intellectuals, who have little concept of the responsibilities of government. ...

"Furthermore, the people who speak the Ukrainian dialect have been split, like those who speak the White Russian [Byelorussian] dialect by a division which in eastern Europe has always been the real mark of nationality: namely, religion.

"Finally, we cannot be indifferent to the feelings of the Great Russians themselves. They were the strongest national element in the Russian Empire, as they are now in the Soviet Union. They will continue to be the strongest national element in that general area, under any status. Any long-term policy must be based on their acceptance and cooperation. The Ukrainian territory is as much a part of their national heritage as the Middle West is of ours. ...

"[The Ukrainians] are too close to the Russians to be able to set themselves up successfully as something wholly different. For better or for worse, they will have to work out their destiny in some sort of special relationship to the Great Russian people.

"It seems clear that this relationship can be at best a federal one, under which the Ukraine would enjoy a considerable measure of political and cultural autonomy but would not be economically or militarily independent. Such a relationship would be entirely just to the Great Russians themselves. It would seem, therefore, to be along these lines that U.S. objectives with respect to the Ukraine should be framed."

It is, of course, touching that our government thought that supporting Russian hegemony was "just," or that Ukrainians should cheerfully ignore what the government in Moscow had done to them in the 1930s and 1940s, or that they should cheerfully accept ongoing cultural genocide. But let's focus on factual matters. The State Department had a lot of very smart people working for it in 1948, as, of course, it does now. How could they have gotten so many factual things so wrong?

A leading British historian writing a half century later suggested something that may serve as one possible explanation for this:

"Ukrainian history is often misunderstood simply because Western readers have never learned the basic 'where and when' of the context. Few people know, for example, that Ukraine first gained its modern independence in 1918, or that, at earlier stages, important parts of it had variously belonged to Poland, to Austria, to Romania, or to Czechoslovakia. Thanks to the preponderance of Russian-sourced information about Eastern Europe, it is often assumed quite inaccurately that Ukraine is basically a province of Russia, that its capital, Kyiv, has always been Russian, and that Ukrainians are just a rather peculiar sort

(Continued on page 10)

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

A reaction to Moscow's moves re patriarchate

Dear Editor:

Reading reports about the hostile reaction against the establishment of the Ukrainian Catholic Patriarchate by Orthodox bishops, incited by Russian Patriarch Aleksei II, and with the support of Ecumenical Patriarch Bartholomew, one wonders what has happened to the Christian teaching "Thou shalt love the lord thy God and thy neighbor as thyself."

Paging through the pages of the history of Churches in Ukraine, it can be noticed that this basic principle most of the time was not applied to the Ukrainian Churches by the highest spiritual leaders in Moscow, Constantinople or in Rome.

History shows that the Ukrainian Church, Catholic or Orthodox, always stood firmly on Christian principle. Nevertheless, these Churches were not tolerated by Moscow and most often discriminated against instead of being defended by others.

Since the Russian Church has a tendency to identify a civic authority as being almost equal to God, the Church became totally dependent on the state. As a result of this attitude, it became a partner in the earthly politics that led to the subjugation of the Ukrainian people and the destruction of their Churches. The Ukrainian Orthodox Church became a victim because it preferred to be the Church of the Ukrainian people. Contrary to canon law, the Moscow Patriarchate first installed "guardians" for the Kyiv Metropoly. Soon after, the Patriarch of Constantinople, after receiving compensation, in 1685 turned the Church of Ukraine under the jurisdiction of the Moscow Patriarchate. This move resulted in the destruction of the autonomous ecclesiastical rights of the Church, the elimination of traditional characteristics and the beginning of Russification.

During the tsarist regime, whenever the Russian political and ecclesiastical arm reached, the Ukrainian Catholic Church met more vicious persecution. Tsar Peter I earned the title of "Butcher of the Ukrainian Catholic Church." On July 11, 1705, he personally killed two Basilian priests in Polock who defended the Blessed Eucharist from being sacrilegiously profaned. His successors, Catherine II, Nicholas I and Alexander III, all were known for their "holy fervor" in forcibly converting Ukrainian Catholics to Russian Orthodoxy. Thousands upon thousands of Ukrainian Catholics in Volyn, Kholmschyna and Pidliashshia – clergy and laity alike – died in prisons, were sent to Siberia, or were slaughtered by the bullets of Russian troops.

After the fall of the tsarist Russian regime, the Ukrainian Autocephalous Orthodox Church was revived under the leadership of Metropolitan Vasyl Lypkivsky. Soon the Communist regime, the inheritor of tsarist imperialistic policy,

used terror and murder to destroy the newly established Church.

The same trend of annihilation continued when predominantly Catholic western Ukraine came under the rule of the Russian Communists. After the Ukrainian Catholic Church refused to convert to Russian Orthodoxy it was met with even more hard and cruel reaction. In 1945 all the Church's bishops were arrested and sentenced to long imprisonment. In their place the patriarch of Moscow appointed Russian Orthodox Bishop Makarius. To provide a semblance of voluntary conversion, an illegal sobor was convened. Those who opposed the sobor – the clergy and thousands of faithful – were jailed or deported to Siberian camps.

In spite of these tragedies and sufferings, past and recent experiences indicate that Ukrainians cannot expect any sympathy or any fair deal from anyone.

When Joseph Stalin decided to starve to death millions of Ukrainians and later destroyed their intelligentsia, there were hardly any voices of protest. Instead, one could hear all kinds of excuses in defense of the perpetrators – and even a cover-up of these heinous crimes.

While both Ukrainian Churches, Orthodox and Catholic, were being destroyed, there was no significant outcry from any corner of the Christian world.

It becomes obvious that Ukrainians must take destiny into their own hands with the hope that, with God's help, they will prevail. For many years the faithful of the Ukrainian Catholic Church have been striving to have a patriarch as their spiritual leader. This desire became more urgent after the collapse of the Soviet Union, as Ukraine became independent and the Churches were revived. Last fall our bishops took the right step by electing Cardinal Lubomyr Husar as patriarch of 7 million to 10 million Ukrainian Catholics.

Unfortunately, the Vatican Curia is asking the Moscow Patriarch for permission to establish this Patriarchate for the Ukrainian Catholic Church, despite the fact that the agreement of the Union of Brest of 1596 guarantees the Church autonomy in administrative matters. To no one's surprise, Moscow objected and organized the opposition of several Orthodox patriarchs.

Now is the time for the Ukrainian people and their Spiritual leaders, especially the bishops, to speak up loud and clear in one voice: We do have a patriarch who was elected rightfully, and unanimously!

Now is the time to inform Moscow's patriarch and his allies to stay out of our business.

Now is the time to let the Vatican Curia's politicians know that the Ukrainian people have exercised their right. We should let them know that the Church plays a very important part in the life of the Ukrainian people, and that we would like to see it grow and prosper regardless of objections from Moscow, Constantinople or elsewhere.

Dr. Michael J. Kozak
Minneapolis

Highlights from the UNA's 110-year history

(Continued from page 5)

Also notable were the UNA's efforts in the successful drive for the National Defense Loan to aid Ukraine, as well as the UNA's leadership in the establishment of the umbrella organization called United Ukrainian Organizations of America.

There was good news on the organizing front also, as it was reported that the UNA had formed 58 new branches and that its membership had grown to 17,011 adults and 9,510 juvenile members. Assets, too, had grown, reaching \$1,334,415.47.

The convention also agreed that three new types of insurance would be available from the UNA: 20-Year Endowment, 20-Payment Life and Life Paid Up to Age 65.

In other convention news, Theodore Hrytsey was elected president.

Source: "Ukrainian National Association: Its Past and Present, (1894-1964)," by Anthony Dragan (translated from the original Ukrainian by Zenon Snylyk). Jersey City, N.J.: Svoboda Press, 1964. The border featured in this special feature is reproduced from a UNA membership certificate dating to 1919.

Faces and Places

by Myron B. Kuropas



A life lived long and well

Anna Wasyłowsky was an outstanding woman in her day, literally one of a rare, dying breed.

She belonged to an outstanding group of Ukrainian American women who in their prime were visible in all aspects of Ukrainian community life – family, church, culture, fraternal affairs, politics, youth activities.

An activist in the mold of such former community icons as Mary Dushnyck, Anastasia Volker and Pauline Riznyk who had it all – brains, beauty, charm, energy, determination and an American education – Anna Wasyłowsky passed away on April 3, eight days before her 94th birthday.

In her youth, she was part of the planning committee for the Ukrainian Pavilion erected at Chicago's 1932-1934 Century of Progress World's Fair.

Back in 1950, when the Ukrainian National Association was enrolling 3,000 new members a year, Anna was elected a UNA supreme advisor. She later became part of the UNA search committee which discovered and recommended the purchase of a resort in the Catskill Mountains, a site that is now our own beloved Soyuzivka.

A long-time resident of Chicago, Anna was active at St. Nicholas Parish, where she served for a time as president of the Blessed Virgin Sodality, as well as president of the St. Nicholas PTA. She also spent 15 years managing and narrating a radio program for WEDC titled "Colorful Ukraine."

A lifelong Republican, she was secretary of the Ukrainian Republican Association of Chicago for 10 years and was appointed a secretary at the 1944 GOP National Convention in Chicago.

Soon after President Harry S. Truman signed the 1948 Displaced Persons Act, Anna was invited by the State Department to join Chicago attorney Roman Smook in Vienna to assist in the repatriation process of Ukrainians fleeing the evil empire. She declined out of concern for her two young children, Geraldine and Walter, then still completing their education. When the first refugees began to arrive in Chicago – many were temporarily housed at the UNA Home on Western Avenue – Anna joined dozens of UNA members who found jobs and more permanent housing for hundreds of America's latest arrivals.

Anna was married to Philip Wasyłowsky who, prior to his death in 1989, was a living legend in Ukrainian political circles in Chicago. A walking encyclopedia of Ukrainian immigration history, Philip had once been a "sotnyk" in the Ukrainian Hetman Organization and, following his disillusionment with the Hetmantsi, a founding member of Branch 2 of the Organization for the Rebirth of Ukraine (known by its Ukrainian acronym as ODVU).

Back in the days when the UNA in Chicago still sponsored annual picnics on Higgins Road, the Wasyłowskys were always helping with the arrangements. One year Geraldine, who had matured into quite an attractive young lady, was crowned "Miss UNA" at one of the picnics.

Mrs. Wasyłowsky was also active in the Ukrainian National Women's League of America (Soyuz Ukrainok), serving for a time as the UNWLA delegate to the Illinois Federal Women's League. She helped organize the Ukraine section of the annual "Christmas Around the World Pageant" at Chicago's famed Museum of Science and Industry, and presented lectures on Ukrainian culture at various local high schools and colleges.

In 1993, Anna Wasyłowsky was honored by the City of Chicago with a bronze plaque and a granite rock for her work as one of Chicago's outstanding women. Originally displayed on State Street, the granite monument can now be viewed at the Hull House Museum on the Chicago campus of the University of Illinois.

Following Philip's retirement, the Wasyłowskys moved to Munster, Ind., where they became active in the St. Josaphat Ukrainian Catholic parish.

Both of Anna's children received higher degrees from top universities, Geraldine a B.S. and M.A. from Northwestern University, Walter a coveted M.B.A. from the University of Chicago.

In addition to two successful children, Anna Wasyłowsky took pride in her two grandchildren and five great grandchildren.

What a life! Vichna yiyi pamiat!

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



Anna Wasyłowsky flanked by her daughter Geraldine Wasyłowsky Bartels and her son Walter Philip Wasyłowsky.

NEWBRIEFS

(Continued from page 2)

Rada rejects pullout from Iraq

KYIV – The Verkhovna Rada on May 19 voted down a motion to pull Ukrainian troops out of Iraq. A day earlier the Rada had supported a proposal to discuss the issue of the deployment of Ukrainian peacekeepers in Iraq in a closed-door session, UNIAN reported. The motion was backed by 230 deputies, mostly from the Yulia Tymoshenko Bloc, the Socialist Party, the Communist Party, Our Ukraine and some pro-government caucuses. Previous attempts to pass a motion calling for such a discussion were defeated. (RFE/RL Newline, Associated Press)

Court rejects second official language

KYIV – The Constitutional Court of Ukraine on May 17 rejected a request by 165 lawmakers that it rule whether their bill of proposed constitutional amendments, including one that would introduce Russian as an “official” language in Ukraine, is constitutional, Interfax reported. The proposed amendment in question reads: “Citizens have the right to use Ukrainian as the state language and Russian as the official language in the process of managing state matters and in self-government bodies.” In rejecting the request, the court said amendments to the Ukrainian Constitution’s Chapter 1, titled “Basic Principles,” should be supported by at least 300 deputies. According to the court, the proposed amendment relates to Article 10 in Chapter 1 of the Constitution, which establishes Ukrainian as the state language in Ukraine. Moreover, the court cited a December 1999 ruling that the terms “state language” and “official language” are synonymous. (RFE/RL Newline)

Deputies see Medvedchuk’s hand

KYIV – Anatolii Matvienko, a member of the ad hoc parliamentary commission that investigated the controversial mayoral election in Mukachiv in April, told the Verkhovna Rada on May 12 that presidential administration chief Viktor Medvedchuk organized and coordinated the falsification of that ballot. The Ukrainian Parliament was hearing reports on the results of official investigations of the Mukachiv election. “The election in Mukachiv became a rehearsal of the [upcoming] presidential election for the regime,” Mr. Matvienko said. “Medvedchuk wanted to show to both the president and the prime minister that only he is able to secure their victory in the presidential election.” Also on May 12, Verkhovna Rada passed a resolution calling on President Leonid Kuchma to fire some local officials over the Mukachiv controversy, but failed to introduce an amendment urging President Kuchma to sack Mr. Medvedchuk as well. (RFE/RL Newline)

Russia seeks free-trade zone with Ukraine

MOSCOW – Russian President Vladimir Putin said after talks with Ukrainian Prime Minister Viktor Yanukovich in the Kremlin on May 15 that Russia is ready to create a “full-fledged free-trade zone” between the two countries, RIA-Novosti and polit.ru reported the same day. Mr. Putin admitted that Russia may initially suffer economic losses, but said they could be compensated for by increasing the volume of bilateral trade. Mr. Putin also said that he will meet with the presidents of Kazakhstan, Ukraine and Belarus in the Crimea in the “nearest future” to finalize an accord on the Single Economic Space. Meanwhile, Russian Prime Minister Mikhail Fradkov announced on May 15 after meeting with

(Continued on page 9)

NEWS AND VIEWS: Foolitzer Prize awarded to Pulitzer Board and The New York Times

by Dr. Jaroslaw Sawka

WARREN, Mich. – The Walter Duranty Foolitzer Prize Committee has awarded the first ever Foolitzer Prize to the Pulitzer Board and The New York Times jointly for their shameful decisions, respectively, not to revoke and not to return Walter Duranty’s Pulitzer, and for the crude rationalizations of their decisions.

Each of the recipients will receive the two-cent monetary award – one American penny and one Canadian penny – to symbolize the combined efforts of the Ukrainian American and Ukrainian Canadian communities to have the Pulitzer awarded to Walter Duranty revoked.

Markian Pelech of Hillsborough, N.J., has been awarded the \$100 prize for nominating these two “winners.”

The joint award was a total surprise, as the original intent of the committee was to recognize a single work of biased journalism injurious to Ukraine and Ukrainians. It was originally thought that the Foolitzer Prize would be awarded to a Duranty-type individual engaged in misinformation or disinformation, and not to two of the most prestigious journalistic institutions in the world.

It proved truly difficult to select a clear-cut winner or to determine which recipient’s “spin” was more contemptible: that of the Pulitzer Board for not revoking Duranty’s Pulitzer or that of The New York Times for not renouncing and returning it. The rationales given by both the Pulitzer Board and The Times for their decisions were deemed disingenuous and deceitful by the Foolitzer Prize Committee.

Despite this outcome, the heroic year-long campaign by Ukrainian American and Canadian communities clearly succeeded in making the Ukrainian Famine (Holodomor) and Duranty’s ill-gotten Pulitzer household words referred to in many publications and by numerous media pundits along the entire political spectrum from the right to the left.

On November 21, 2003, the Pulitzer Board announced its decision not to revoke Duranty’s Pulitzer. It argued that Duranty’s reporting in 1931 didn’t have anything to do with the Famine of 1932-1933 (Holodomor), as though there had been no uprisings, evictions, expropriations and confiscations, deportations, mass executions or famine prior to 1932. This is tantamount to confining Holocaust discussions to the year 1944 and deliberately ignoring the previous Einsatzgruppen “Aktions” and the ghetto liquidations.

The Pulitzer Board “concluded that there was not clear and convincing evidence of deliberate deception” despite Duranty’s own acknowledgments that his official dispatches always reflected the official opinion of the Soviet regime and not his own, as per agreement between The New York Times and the Soviet authorities. Thus, by his own admission, Duranty was acting not as an independent journalist but as a propagandist for the Soviet government. The original intent of the Pulitzer Prize was to reward journalism not propaganda.

It is sad indeed that this board doesn’t want to distinguish between journalism and propaganda. This is a grievous injustice not only to the memories of the victims of the Famine, but also to the memories of two courageous journalists, Gareth

Jones and Malcolm Muggeridge, who refused to compromise their profession and reported accurately despite vilification by none other than Duranty himself.

Unfortunately, The New York Times isn’t any more honorable than the Pulitzer Board. It is now apparent that The Times never had any intention of returning Duranty’s Pulitzer. It hired a professor of history, Dr. Mark von Hagen, to analyze Duranty’s work and bolster The Times’ hold on this prize. This turned out to be a disaster for The Times because Prof. von Hagen’s detailed report was not supportive. In fact, Prof. von Hagen stated that the prize should not have been awarded to Duranty. The report was quietly buried and ignored not only by its sponsor, The New York Times, but also by the Pulitzer Board.

Upon realizing that “experts” from academia weren’t about to “duranty” themselves for the sake of the status of Duranty’s Pulitzer, various spokespersons, most notably Times publisher Arthur Sulzberger Jr., started to “spin” wildly.

One spokesman tried to distort the Ukrainian community’s grass-roots campaign as a slick, well-financed operation as though it was coordinated and financed by millionaires and conspirator cabals.

Another spokesperson alleged that Duranty’s Pulitzer couldn’t be returned because The New York Times didn’t have it and, besides, Duranty was dead and all this happened so long ago and ... etc., etc.

Of course, this was all a smokescreen because no one ever suggested that Duranty be exhumed and his coffin searched for the prize. All that the Ukrainian communities wanted was reassurance that The New York Times would stop taking credit and expressing pride in this particular prize, and stop counting it as part of what is now a tainted collection of Pulitzers.

As the deadline for the November meeting of the Pulitzer Board approached, panic must have set in. Mr. Sulzberger actually contacted the Pulitzer Board, warning them that revoking Duranty’s Pulitzer would be setting a “bad” precedent and would be akin to the Stalinist practice of “airbrushing” victims – in this case, airbrushing Duranty out of history and into oblivion. This, too, is spurious because the campaign against Duranty’s Pulitzer was never to make him “disappear” but, on the contrary, to make him a gold standard example of what should happen when a propagandist gets an award meant for a journalist. It is very important for all that his name, his prize and the roles of The New York Times and the Pulitzer Board in this whole affair serve as a historical lesson to deter others from compromising the tenets of their profession for any prize.

The correct actions would have restored journalistic integrity. Revocation of Duranty’s Pulitzer would demonstrate that the Pulitzer Board would not let its name and reputation be sullied by propagandists. Return of the Pulitzer by The Times would show that it truly believes in its professed obligation and promise to publish “all the news that’s fit to print.” Now that, Mr. Sulzberger, would have been a “good” precedent. The New York Times and the Pulitzer Board squandered a golden opportunity to set things right.

They both deserve the Foolitzer.

POSTSCRIPT: Who will earn the Foolitzer award for 2004?

Mel Gibson with his “Passion of the Christ” this year has started raising many “passions.” The hysteria began to rise

(Continued on page 17)

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Dr. Jaroslaw Sawka is the spokesperson for the Walter Duranty Foolitzer Prize Committee on behalf of the Ukrainian Graduates of Detroit-Windsor.

COMMENTARY: The Times and Duranty - time to up the ante

by Marko Suprun

Up until March 23 of this year, the Walter Duranty plaque at the New York Times had a one-sentence footnote that read "Other writers at the Times, and elsewhere, have discredited this coverage." On April 19 the disclaimer was enlarged to a full page and now almost eclipses Duranty's picture. Did Arthur Sulzberger Jr. and The Times have a change of heart in those 28 days?

Certainly not. The enlarged statement is a glib response to the efforts of Ukrainian organizations to "cancel Duranty's prize." Duranty was the first in a long line of propagandists to develop a Holodomor denial movement and minimize the Communist genocide against Ukrainians – a movement that has outlived the political life span of the Soviet Union. The New York Times provided Duranty with a forum to promote his denials. Therefore, it is complicit in the denial.

Despite the shortcomings of the new disclaimer, the organizers of the 2003 letter campaign were more successful than originally thought. The thousands of people, Ukrainians and non-Ukrainians alike, who sent in letters and postcards to the Pulitzer Committee produced a tangible result. The disclaimer is indeed larger.

I was inspired by the people and organizers of the 2003 letter campaign and bought shares in The New York Times in order to attend the annual shareholders' meeting held on April 13. Doing so allowed me to voice my concerns

Marko Suprun is originally from Winnipeg, the first city in the world to erect a memorial to the victims of the Holodomor. He holds an M.A. in comparative politics from Columbia University in New York and is currently working on a documentary about the genocide of Ukrainians.

Text of new Duranty inscription

Below is the text of the inscription on the plaque dedicated to Walter Duranty, winner of the 1932 Pulitzer Prize for correspondence. The plaque is located in what is known as "Pulitzer Alley" in the headquarters building of The New York Times. (Editor's note: Our thanks to Dr. Lubomyr Luciuk of Kingston, Ontario, for obtaining a copy of the text.)

1932

To Walter Duranty, for his Series of Dispatches on Russia.

Duranty, one of the most famous correspondents of his day, won the prize for 13 articles written in 1931 analyzing the Soviet Union under Stalin. Times correspondents and others have since largely discredited his coverage.

Duranty's cabled dispatches had to pass Soviet censorship, and Stalin's propaganda machine was powerful and omnipresent. Duranty's analyses relied on official sources as his primary source of information, accounting for the most significant flaw in his coverage – his consistent underestimation of Stalin's brutality.

Describing the Communist plan to "liquidate" the five million kulaks, relatively well-off farmers opposed to the Soviet collectivization of agriculture, Duranty wrote in 1931, for example: "Must all of them and their families be physically abolished? Of course not – they must be 'liquidated' or melted in the hot fire of exile and labor into the proletarian mass."

Taking Soviet propaganda at face

directly to Mr. Sulzberger, the board of directors and other shareholders. As the son of a Holodomor survivor, I was compelled to keep the pressure on.

It is time to up the ante. Consider for a moment what the reaction of The New York Times would have been had everyone who sent in a letter appeared in person at the annual shareholders meeting and voiced their opinions.

Between now and the next shareholders' meeting, we can accomplish the following. First and foremost, the term Holodomor must penetrate standard English and be on par with the term Holocaust. A letter campaign must be directed at the board of the American Heritage Dictionary, Webster's Dictionary and the Oxford Dictionary of the English Language to recognize Holodomor as a word used to summarize the genocide of Ukrainians by the Communists.

Secondly, Walter Duranty must be called a Holodomor denier. The label has to stick like crazy glue. Malcom Muggeridge and Gareth Jones, two writers who also witnessed the Holodomor but reported it, are sources Ukrainians can cite. Professors in the U.S. and Canada have reached out to their contemporaries in Ukraine to accelerate work and research on the Holodomor. Their continued efforts will prove beyond all doubt that Duranty and others had an agenda to deny the genocide.

Third, Ukrainian Americans who are members of the Democratic Party should start a campaign to have the Democratic National Committee publicly denounce the Communist ideology and its party formation verbally and in print, wherever and whenever possible. The Democratic Party in the United States continues to accept the endorsement of the Communist Party of the United States and, in so doing, they lend legitimacy to the CPUSA, which in turn continues to mini-

value this way was completely misleading, as talking with ordinary Russians might have revealed even at the time. Duranty's prize-winning articles quoted not a single one – only Stalin, who forced farmers all over the Soviet Union into collective farms and sent those who resisted to concentration camps. Collectivization was the main cause of a famine that killed millions of people in Ukraine, the Soviet breadbasket, in 1932 and 1933 – two years after Duranty won his prize.

Even then, Duranty dismissed more diligent writers' reports that people were starving. "Conditions are bad, but there is no famine," he wrote in a dispatch from Moscow in March of 1933 describing the "mess" of collectivization. "But – to put it brutally – you can't make an omelet without breaking eggs."

Some of Duranty's editors criticized his reporting as tendentious, but The Times kept him as a correspondent until 1941. Since the 1980s, the paper has been publicly acknowledging his failures. Ukrainian American and other organizations have repeatedly called on the Pulitzer Prize Board to cancel Duranty's prize and The Times to return it, mainly on the ground of his later failure to report the famine.

The Pulitzer board has twice declined to withdraw the award, most recently in November 2003, finding "no clear and convincing evidence of deliberate deception" in the 1931 reporting that won the prize, and The Times does not have the award in its possession.



A view of the new plaque at The New York Times noting Walter Duranty's 1932 Pulitzer Prize.

mize the crimes of communism. Sen. John Kerry, the de-facto Democratic presidential candidate must be encouraged to vehemently reject the endorsement of the CPUSA for the 2004 elections. This will throw a very large monkey wrench in the Holodomor denial movement.

Ukrainians in other countries who are members of center-left political parties (the Liberal Party in Canada, the Labor Party in England, for example) should be encouraged to do the same. Members of the Socialist Party in Ukraine should convince their leader, Oleksander Moroz, to also issue similar proclamations denouncing communism and the Communist Party.

Finally and most importantly, Ukrainians must convince The New York Times to voluntarily return Duranty's Pulitzer, print as detailed a retraction and denouncement of his denials (they must allocate at least as much space to this as they did to the Jayson Blair scandal) and then allocate space for the memoirs of Holodomor survivors. The memoirs must

be printed annually and indefinitely in the Sunday edition that follows the official Ukrainian National Day of Remembrance, which is the fourth Sunday of every November.

This is not as far-fetched as you might imagine. Being a shareholder is an empowerment. The old colloquialism "put your money where your mouth is" has incredible weight for corporate America. Be prepared to lose some of your money; the shares I bought have depreciated. So what? The lives and memories of millions of Ukrainians and, in particular, the lives of my Dad's two younger brothers, are priceless.

Think of it this way: the chairman and the board are bound by a duty to acknowledge the concerns of their shareholders. Letters can be ignored ad infinitum.

In reality, you will be expressing the voice of a Ukrainian starved to death by communism. You'll put a smile on someone's face in heaven. I know I did.

Hope to see you there.

NEWBRIEFS

(Continued from page 8)

Prime Minister Yanukovich that in two or three weeks Moscow and Kyiv will sign a protocol abolishing taxes and duties within the free-trade zone. (RFE/RL Newline)

Kuchma sacks pro-European official...

KYIV – President Leonid Kuchma on May 14 dismissed Vice Minister for Foreign Affairs Oleksander Chalyi, Ukrainian news agencies reported. Mr. Kuchma's decree stated that the dismissal was requested by Mr. Chalyi, who wants to return to his former scientific and educational work. Mr. Chalyi, 50, was widely believed to be a staunch supporter of Ukraine's European integration while serving in Prime Minister Viktor Yanukovich's Cabinet of Ministers. (RFE/RL Newline)

... reaffirms pro-European course

KYIV – President Leonid Kuchma issued a message to compatriots on Europe Day, which is observed on May 15, Interfax reported, quoting the presidential press service. "Ukraine is firmly determined to move down the European road, the road of reform," the message read. "We will be consistent in continuing market transformations, strengthening the principles of democracy, and maintaining high living standards. ... The course along which Ukraine is moving corresponds to the very deep strivings of the Ukrainian nation,

which has always realized its historic belonging to the family of European nations." The Kyiv International Institute of Sociology and the Democratic Initiatives Fund found in a poll conducted in April that 51 percent of Ukrainians believe that their country should not join the EU at all and should keep "open borders" with Russia, RFE/RL's Ukrainian Service reported on May 14. (RFE/RL Newline)

Turchynov on U.S. court decision

KYIV – Oleksander Turchynov, a lawmaker from the opposition Yulia Tymoshenko Bloc, told the Verkhovna Rada on May 14 that the "campaign of repression" unleashed against Ms. Tymoshenko by law enforcement bodies in Ukraine has collapsed, Interfax reported. Mr. Turchynov was commenting on U.S. Judge Martin Jenkins' May 7 decision to dismiss 23 of 53 counts of the indictment against former Ukrainian Prime Minister Pavlo Lazarenko, who is currently on trial in San Francisco. Notably, Judge Jenkins dropped all charges relating to Unified Energy Systems of Ukraine, which was headed by Ms. Tymoshenko in 1996-1997. The prosecution in San Francisco alleged that entities controlled by Ms. Tymoshenko's company gave Mr. Lazarenko bribes in the sum of \$217 million. Mr. Turchynov added that now the entire world understands that the campaign to malign and persecute Ms. Tymoshenko was launched at the behest of President Leonid Kuchma. (RFE/RL Newline)

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Why Ukrainian...

(Continued from page 6)

of Russians. The 10 years that have passed since the USSR collapsed and Ukraine recovered its independence have been all too short to counteract the preceding decades, not to say centuries, of propaganda and misinformation.” (Prof. Norman Davies, University of London and Oxford University, in his foreword to “Searching for Place” by Dr. Lubomyr Luciuk, 2000.)

Let’s now return to our initial question, Why Ukrainian studies?

There are many answers to this question, let me suggest but three:

- First, Ukraine is a country of almost 50 million people; any place that large requires academic attention, study and analysis.

- Second, we Americans appear just now to be waking up to the realization, in connection with our war in Iraq, that societies that have endured years of highly repressive, totalitarian regimes that engaged in mass murder afterwards manifest profound atomization and various other social and political distortions. This is also not something that most folks who studied the Soviet Union or now study post-Soviet countries seem adequately to have understood and appreciated, so there now seems little awareness that perhaps something important is reflected by the fact that whereas Russia is happily ruled by a career KGB officer, 60 percent of its population thinks Lenin was a great leader, 45 percent of its population thinks Stalin was a great leader, and 30 percent of the Russian population would vote for Stalin if he were running for office. In Ukraine, by contrast, and despite all of the official and media hanky-panky directed at undermining his candidacy, for the last two years a genuine democrat has continued to lead in

Ukraine’s presidential polls. Perhaps, for purposes of trying to understand the world better and for purposes of informed policy development, we need to try and understand what is going on here and why.

- Third, ignorance is not bliss. The United States is, after all, a superpower: our actions simply cannot afford to be based on misinformation and disinformation about the Ukrainian historical experience and Ukraine’s language, culture and so on. Happily, the simple fact of Ukraine’s independence has begun to make a difference. Also, luckily, some of the State Department personnel assigned to Ukraine since independence, such as our honored keynote speaker this evening, [former U.S. Ambassador to Ukraine Carlos Pascual] have been unusually thoughtful, perceptive and wise in their grasp of certain Ukrainian realities. But it is not our government in Washington or institutions such as The New York Times that give birth to the people who then run that government or pretend to come to grips with what really happened in Ukraine in 1932-1933 – they are all educated at universities such as Columbia, Harvard, Yale, Georgetown, Stanford and others. That is why each of you who is here this evening, and all of those who may not be here but who have contributed to Friends of Columbia University Ukrainian Studies, should be so proud. For you are supporting the expansion and development of accurate information and knowledge about Ukraine at one of the premiere institutions of higher learning in the world. And, by doing so, you are performing a very important public service both for the United States and for Ukraine. I therefore commend you, and I congratulate you all on your wisdom and foresight in supporting this campaign to benefit Ukrainian Studies at Columbia.

European Union...

(Continued from page 2)

absence from EU ambitions for closer ties is Belarus. Mr. Verheugen said that country’s authoritarian leadership has itself to blame for its “isolation.”

“The picture is – I regret to say that – very gloomy. So far, we don’t have cooperation with the government of that country. We don’t have contractual relations. There is no dialogue at all. And I think in the present situation there is no way to discuss with Belarus an action plan,” Mr. Verheugen said. “We are still at square one. What we have to do is to support initiatives which would finally lead to political reform and political change in Belarus.”

The EU does not have many options. Mr. Verheugen said the bloc is trying to help democratic forces in Belarusian civil society find their voice and become more visible. Mr. Verheugen said he remains “absolutely without illusions.” However, he added, once the “conditions are right,” Belarus will be welcomed as a partner country in the EU’s new neighborhood project.

Mr. Verheugen also rejected suggestions that the Polish government does not support the commission’s tough stance vis-à-vis neighboring Belarus. He said the commission is in constant contact with Warsaw and that “there is no contradiction.”

Russia will not receive its own action plan in July, but Mr. Verheugen said this is simply because the EU-Russia relationship has already developed substantially.

Mr. Verheugen also said the commission supports the inclusion of the three South Caucasus countries in the new neighbors initiative. “Furthermore, and

that is new, we suggest in our strategy paper of today that the countries of the Southern Caucasus – Georgia, Azerbaijan and Armenia – should be included,” Mr. Verheugen said. “This is in the view of the commission a necessary and important reaction addressing recent developments in that part of Europe and responding to the clear request which we have got from the leaders of those countries.”

The commissioner, however, poured cold water on the ambitions of the leaders of EU partner-countries who have hoped the new neighborhood program could be a stepping-stone toward accession.

Mr. Verheugen appeared to contradict suggestions made in recent years by Mr. Prodi and other senior EU officials that once the present round of enlargement is over, a further debate on the “borders of Europe” will follow. This debate is necessary to decide which countries have a right to membership, as the bloc’s founding treaty stipulates all “European countries” can join.

Mr. Verheugen ruled out such a debate for the foreseeable future, however, saying the EU does not “foresee a debate about the borders of Europe.” He added: “For the time being, what we can do is we can clearly define the borders of the European Union. For the time being, it is obvious that for a relatively long time to come, the western border of the former Soviet Union will be the eastern border of the European Union, with the exception of the Baltic countries, which are already members of the EU.”

He said the Balkan countries, headed by Croatia, will all be absorbed.

Mr. Verheugen said Turkey’s ambitions are well known, too, and its membership remains possible. The commission will decide in the fall whether to launch accession talks with Ankara.



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Book on history of Ukrainian-Russian relations is launched at Shevchenko Society

by Dr. Orest Popovych

NEW YORK – “Culture, Nation and Identity: The Ukrainian-Russian Encounter, 1600-1945,” a volume co-edited by Andreas Kappeler, Zenon E. Kohut, Frank E. Sysyn, and Mark von Hagen, was presented on May 1 at the Shevchenko Scientific Society (NTSh). The book comprises 16 essays by an international cast of historians, with the subject matter subdivided into three major categories: the Early Modern Period, the Imperial Period and the 20th Century. It was published on April 1 by the Canadian Institute of Ukrainian Studies (CIUS).

Dr. Orest Popovych, the NTSh vice-president responsible for information, welcomed the capacity audience and particularly the two renowned guest speakers, Drs. Von Hagen and Sysyn, who were about to present the featured work they had co-authored and co-edited. A more complete introduction of the speakers was offered by Prof. Vasyl Makhno, who chaired the program.

Dr. von Hagen is a professor of Russian, Ukrainian and Eurasian history, and director of graduate studies at Columbia University, as well as a former chairman of the Harriman Institute there. Currently he is the president of the International Association of Ukrainian Studies (IAUS).

Dr. Sysyn is a professor of Ukrainian history at the University of Alberta, where he is the director of the Peter Jacyk Center for Ukrainian Research at the CIUS. Presently he is a visiting professor of Ukrainian history at the Harriman Institute of Columbia University and is also a vice-president of the IAUS.

First to speak was Dr. Sysyn, who traced the genesis of the presented book to the CIUS conferences in the 1980s dedicated to Ukrainian-Polish, Ukrainian-German, Ukrainian-Jewish and Ukrainian-Russian relations. He said it was most difficult to organize the Ukrainian-Russian “encounters”, because scholars of Russian origin did not take Ukrainian studies seriously. In fact, said Dr. Sysyn, most Sovietologists, regardless of their background, either ignored or downplayed the significance of the nationality problems in the Soviet Union and were positively shocked when 15 states suddenly emerged out of the ruins of the Soviet Empire. Of course, there were exceptions, notably the volume’s co-editors Dr. Kappeler, who has specialized in the multinational character of the Russian Empire, and Dr. von Hagen, whose studies of the Red Army prompted him to become aware of the nationality problem in the Soviet Union and in the Russian Empire.

Post-Soviet realities have compelled the ex-Sovietologists to radically change their attitudes especially after Ukraine and Russia became independent states in 1991, so that Ukrainian-Russian relations acquired international significance. Then it became easier to convene scholarly conferences on the subject, and in the years 1994-1995 a series of four such conferences was held in New York and in Cologne, Germany. It is the research papers selected from the first three of these sessions that constitute the present volume.

While the book is heavily annotated to be of value to a specialist, it also elaborates on a number of general topics that can be of interest to a layman, such as: the development of Ukrainian and

Russian national identities; the cultural influence of Ukrainians on Russia; the question of the colonial status of Ukraine; the role of Russian-Ukrainian relations in Soviet policies; the Soviet secret police as an anti-Ukrainian instrument; and the effect of the German occupation policy during World War II.

The re-orientation of Western Sovietologists, however, found little resonance among their Russian colleagues, who preferred to view Ukraine’s independence as a passing fad. According to Dr. Sysyn, once Ukraine became independent, even Russian liberals ceased to

be liberal. Nevertheless, Dr. Sysyn was able to point to some recent signs of a budding interest in Russia as to the pursuit of Ukrainian studies. One example is the upcoming conference on the Pereiaslav Council, which is scheduled to be held at St. Petersburg University.

Dr. von Hagen echoed the comments by Dr. Sysyn about the continued difficulties in engaging Russian historians in discussions of Ukrainian problems, describing the situation as “the absence of Russian partners to this day.” True, in

(Continued on page 16)

Correction: missing paragraphs

Due to a technical error involving layout of last week’s issue (May 16), the story headlined “Historic medal awarded to Filip Konowal is found” was missing its last section.

Below is the missing section, beginning with the paragraph that was truncated in last week’s issue (and which should have jumped to page 11).

The day after he returned to Canada leading a peace parade through Ottawa’s streets on July 20, 1919, Konowal got caught up in a dispute involving two Ukrainian Canadians in Hull, a city in Quebec now known as Gatineau that is located across the river from Ottawa.

According to Dr. Luciuk, Konowal came to the aid of a friend who was being attacked by a man allegedly involved in bootlegging. “The attacker barricaded himself inside a house. Konowal grabbed a knife from the restaurant next door and went up to the door of the house and tried to get in. He shoved the knife through the

door and killed the guy,” related Dr. Luciuk. “Konowal dropped the knife on the ground and stood there until the police came.”

Konowal spent six years in a Montreal asylum on grounds of insanity attributed to a head wound he sustained during the war. Following his release, he worked as a janitor on Parliament Hill in Ottawa. His heroism remained largely anonymous, though the prime minister at the time, Mackenzie King, was aware of the VC winner in his midst and had him transferred to work for him as a special custodian.

Konowal – who by then had remarried a widow, Juliette Leduc-Auger – died in Ottawa in 1959 at the age of 72.

Dr. Luciuk hopes that once authenticated, the Victoria Cross that went AWOL will be on permanent public display at the new War Museum, which is scheduled to open in May 2005 so that “all Canadians can learn about the sacrifices of people like Konowal.”

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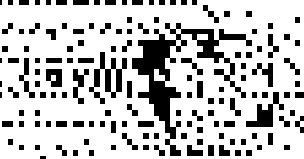


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Crimean Tatars...

(Continued from page 1)

a.m. on May 18, 1944, after Joseph Stalin decided that the Crimean Tatar nation had sided with the Nazis in the "Great War for the Motherland." Thousands more, mostly hardy, work-aged men, were either drafted into military work battalions or sent off to Siberia. Sources say up to 90,000 died during the forced trek eastward and in the year afterward.

President Leonid Kuchma, speaking during a commemoration held in Kyiv at the Shevchenko Opera House, noted that within three days not only had 200,000 men, women and children been cleared from the Crimean Peninsula but no trace of their centuries-long existence on that land remained: not a single mosque, no Crimean Tatar schools or books written in the native language. A 25-million book library had been destroyed, cemeteries had been uprooted and villages leveled.

To date some 265,000 Tatars have returned to Crimea, and more arrive each day as they decide that the opportunity to return to their native lands will lead to a better life than what they currently have in Uzbekistan. The draft bill rejected by the national deputies on this day would have given Crimean Tatars certain preferences regarding land rights, construction of homes, job opportunities, as well as guarantees of cultural, linguistic and religious freedoms.

Mr. Jemilev, who was born in Crimea in November 1943 and deported to Kazakhstan with his family a half year later, told The Weekly that while the Ukrainian government had done much to assist the return and resettlement of the Crimean Tatars, his community needs to have its rights codified because two many issues remained unresolved between the new Crimean Tatar settlers and other inhabitants of Crimea.

"There is a huge lack of fairness regarding the land issue. Many Crimean Tatars who returned to their historic villages do not have the right to obtain land because they did not belong to collective farms on the territory of Ukraine," explained Mr. Jemilev.

He noted what he called a "particularly large problem" on the Black Sea coast of the Crimean Peninsula, where Crimean Tatars occupied 70 percent of the land before their deportation. Today the land is considered lucrative real estate as Ukraine's tourist industry slowly develops. However, Crimean Tatar ownership is less than 1 percent.

Mr. Jemilev noted that he supported land squatting, a new phenomenon recently taken up by Crimean Tatars, in which families illegally reoccupy and adversarially hold pieces of the territory that they claimed prior to their deportation. Mr. Jemilev said that too often this is the only way the Crimean Tatars could secure their rights because neither the Kyiv central government nor regional authorities in Symferopol, the Crimean capital, had made a truly dedicated effort to accommodate the Crimean Tatars.

"Today we are trying to reach an understanding with the government. Where we get cooperation there are no grabs for property, but where the Crimean Tatars are being ignored and where land is being sold to Russian structures, there such methods are employed," explained Mr. Jemilev.

During the rally on Lenin Square – a name that the Communist-dominated Symferopol municipal government has not yet deemed necessary to change – thousands of young and old alike wearing traditional Crimean Tatar fezzes and head scarves listened to Mr. Jemilev and fel-



Roman Woronowycz

Marchers head for Lenin Square and the city center of the Crimean capital from the Symferopol train station.

low Verkhovna Rada national deputies from the Our Ukraine faction, including the chairman of the Parliamentary Committee on Minority Rights, Hennadii Udovenko, assert the right of the Crimean Tatars to live on their ancestral lands.

They listened to representatives of the Crimean National Council, the Mejlis – speaking in their native Turkic – call for the return of the land plots that were confiscated after their deportation and handed to ethnic Russians who were invited to come to live in their homes.

Their hands gently extended and their palms pointed skyward, the gathered throng also chanted a Muslim prayer, led by Mufti Emirali Ablaievym, their spiritual leader.

Many in Crimea had expected emotional demonstrations and even violence after several altercations between Crimean Tatar and ethnic Russian youth, blamed by many on the Russians, in the last several weeks. Throughout the day rumors ran rampant that members of the quasi-military organization UNA-UNSO, were in town to support the Crimean Tatars in a fight with ethnic Russians. However, no conflict ensued, and people dispersed peaceably at the end of the two-hour rally.

The Crimean Autonomous Parliament had declared May 18 a day of sorrow and remembrance. Many shops were closed, classes did not take place, and no alcohol was allowed to be sold until after 5 p.m.

The day began with the laying of commemorative wreaths at several sites around the city where memorials to the deportation had been erected, including Grigorenko Park, named for Petro Grigorenko, a Soviet general-turned-dissident who had supported the Crimean Tatars' quest for a return to their native land during the Soviet era.

The largest ceremony took place before the Symferopol train station, where the physical deportation of the Crimean Tatar nation had begun on the morning of May 18, 1944. In a park before the train station, some 7,000 Crimean Tatars assembled for informal prayers, which were followed by a rally led by regional leaders of the Crimean Tatar Mejlis.

At the appointed time, the group organized itself into columns and began the one-kilometer march to Lenin Square, where it met up with five other columns entering the city center from various directions, waving both the state flag of Ukraine and the Crimean Tatar national flag.

The previous day Prime Minister Viktor Yanukovich had participated in the unveiling of another monument, this one to the Memory of the Rebirth of the Crimean Tatar Nation, at the Crimean

University of Pedagogy and Engineering, which was erected by the Crimean Tatars as a thank-you to the Ukrainian and Uzbek nations for their humanity and the support given the Crimean Tatars.



Women in prayer before a memorial located in the park near the train station from which the deportations of 200,000 Crimean Tatars began.



The memorial in front of Symferopol's train station, where the Crimean Tatars gathered and prayed in solemn commemoration of the date, May 18, 1944, when the deportations of their people began. The inscription on the memorial reads: In this place will be erected a monument to the victims of the genocide inflicted on the Crimean Tatars.

St. John's Ukrainian Catholic School in Newark: 65 years of illustrious history

by Ksenia Hapij

NEWARK, N.J. – The primary needs of the Ukrainian people who emigrated to the United States at the beginning of the 20th century were to have a place of worship and to establish their own school to preserve their Ukrainian language and heritage.

In 1906 the members of the Ukrainian community in Newark, N.J., established the parish of St. John the Baptist. In 1910 they began evening classes every second weekday from 5 to 7 p.m. At first only 12 children attended, but by 1914 the enrollment reached 100 pupils. Because the population was so scattered throughout the area, these evening classes were held both in the church hall and at a storefront.

In 1918, with the continuing growth of Ukrainian Catholic immigrants, a new building was purchased. By 1927 the number of students grew to 300, and yet another building was purchased on Morton Street. All evening classes were then consolidated in one location. During the next 10 years, because of the shift of population from Newark to the neighboring municipalities, a slow but steady decline in enrollment was noted.

In 1939 the evening school was closed down and the Basilian Sisters were asked to organize a parochial day school. St. John's Ukrainian Catholic School of Newark, N.J., began humbly with an enrollment of 20 students. By 1944 the enrollment grew to 45 students and by the end of World War II the enrollment reached 85 students.

In 1946 the Redemptorist Fathers assumed responsibility for the parish and the school. Under this new leadership an effort to expand the school was initiated, and by 1947 the enrollment increased to 100 students. Again, with the influx of new immigrants during the post-war years, growth was inevitable and a campaign to build a new school in a new location was initiated. In 1953 the school was moved to a yet undeveloped section of Newark, called Vailsburg, and the school immediately experienced a surge of vitality. As the decade closed, a record



St. John's students and faculty in 1939.

486 Ukrainian students were enrolled in the flourishing new St. John's School.

Over the course of the 1950s and 1960s the renewed life of the school reached a steady tempo. This turned St. John's Ukrainian Catholic School in Newark into a hallmark of educational excellence.

The purpose of St. John's School was three-fold: first, the all-encompassing education of pupils in academic fields of study; second, the instructing of pupils in the Ukrainian Catholic way of life; and third, the development of love and knowledge of the pupils' own Ukrainian

language, rite and culture. Cultural and religious events were a regular part of the school program, and the Newark community greatly prided itself on the accomplishments of its multi-talented children.

As time journeyed on, the demographics of the area again changed and enrollment began to drastically diminish. A shift in the school's complexion occurred in the late 1960s when school enrollment dropped to 340 students.

Many parents with school-age children resettled in suburban areas and in 1980, even though St. John's was awarded spe-

cial recognition as one of the 10 best grade schools in the Newark Archdiocese, there were only 140 students enrolled in the kindergaren and all eight grades.

When Ukraine won its independence in the early 1990s, the United States once again saw an influx of new immigrants who enrolled their children in St. John's. The dedicated Basilian Sisters who faithfully taught in St. John's for over 60 years could no longer continue because of their diminishing numbers, so

(Continued on page 16)



St. John's schoolchildren and teachers in 1989.

REVIEW: "Don't Look Away," a photography exhibit at UIMA

by Irene Zabytko

CHICAGO – Documentary photographs are an amazing conduit for reawakening the collective consciousness of past events. This is especially true when the images represent tumultuous or tragic events that are forgotten in the midst of whatever current turmoil is occurring in our own worlds.

No matter how far we are removed from the past, the best documentary photographers like Robert Capa's classic images of the Marines landing on Omaha Beach on D-Day, or Steve McCurry's famous National Geographic photo of the traumatized unnamed Afghani girl, immediately causes the viewer to revisit that time and place, and reconnect to that particular history.

Like Messrs. Capa and McCurry, three young photographers of Ukrainian descent are also documenting their striking images which command viewers to reconnect to and remember their chosen subjects: the Ukrainians who are victimized by Chernobyl and AIDS, and other trauma. The photos are on display at Chicago's Ukrainian Institute of Modern Art in a group show featuring the work of Alexandr Glyadyelov from Kyiv, and two Ukrainian Americans, Adrienne Kovalsky and Joseph Sywenkyj.

The show is aptly titled "Don't Look Away" because that is what the viewer is inclined to do when first approaching these heart-wrenching and poignant photos of children and adults ravaged by disease, poverty and pain.

But after the initial shock subsides, the images by each of the photographers are beguiling, and often sublime without ever white-washing the harsh realities that each of the portraits reveals.

Mr. Glyadyelov's compelling work documents drug addicts and AIDS patients in Ukraine. The black and white

portraits are gritty and honest, but Mr. Glyadyelov still captures his subjects' humanity despite their torment and afflictions.

Ms. Kovalsky's photos, also in black and white, feature a patient undergoing heart surgery in a Ukrainian hospital. Despite the limited, almost primitive conditions, Ms. Kovalsky's work also illuminates the care and heroic fortitude of the staff.

But it's the color photography by Mr. Sywenkyj that I was personally drawn to, particularly the ones of the Chernobyl victims. One of the most unforgettable is the portrait of the little girl named Martushka, a Chernobyl victim at the Lviv Regional Children's Special Clinic. Martushka is wearing a pretty dress and clutching a doll. Her hair is shorn, her complexion pale, and yet her eyes are not at all child-like, but those of a much older, wiser person who simply accepts her life with tremendous calmness and courage. In the caption near the photo, we learn that she died soon after this picture was taken.

In another Chernobyl-related photo, an old woman sits inside her home in "the dead zone." There is a map on her kitchen table; plants appear to thrive on her window sill. Her hands are clasped as if in prayer, and her face exhibits simple gratitude.

Other photos of the Chernobyl victims are from orphanages in Dnipropetrovsk and Zaluchia. In these, malformed children are seen struggling in their cots. One of the most memorable is that of a child lying on his stomach, his crippled limbs wrapped in a blue blanket but raised high in the air as if ready to fly. Despite his deformities, his beauty and innocence are still visible.

No less captivating are the series of photos Mr. Sywenkyj took of a family coping with AIDS. The parents, Ira and



Sasha, after he found out that Maria, his 10-month-old daughter is HIV positive. Photo taken by Joseph Sywenkyj in Odesa in 2002.

Sasha, are both HIV-positive and worry over the fate of their newborn, Maria. The child survives a coma after the couple nurses her back to health in their home, while their other children carry on by playing together in the tense household.

Singular photos of other AIDS victims are also included. In one, a woman named Olya wears her wedding dress for the photo. She stares at the lens in defiance; her wearied, pretty face demands attention and respect. In the caption, Mr. Sywenkyj states, "she was the happiest I ever saw her."

Anya Antonovych, curator for "Don't Look Away," selected the unflinching and profound photos by these three outstanding photojournalists based on cer-

tain criteria: to honor the Ukrainian Institute of Modern Art's commitment to showcasing young talent, and reminding the Ukrainian diaspora that "the reality of Ukraine is severely at odds with the romanticized conception of our ancestors' land that exists in so many of our memories." Another reason, she added, is to inform the general public of Ukraine's prevailing difficult conditions so as to engender "a reaction not of guilt, but of human responsibility."

All of the works by these three talented photojournalists are powerful reminders of the tragedies Ukrainians are still enduring in a country that is not always remembered by the rest of the world.

Stetch completes solo trilogy with "Exponentially Monk"

by Susan Higginbotham

VALLEY COTTAGE, N.Y. – With two critically acclaimed solo releases to his credit – "Ukrainianism" and "Standards" – John Stetch has delivered an exhilarating third solo piano release, this time boldly immersing himself in the venerable music of jazz legend Thelonious Monk.



The album, characterized by rhythmic momentum, diverse textures and harmonic invention, runs the gamut of Monk's work, from virtuosic tour-de-force playing to some of the composer's more haunting, introspective ballads, while showcasing the warmth and buoyancy of his own exquisite tone. Endowed with technique and deft fluidity, Mr. Stetch breaks new ground with his

arrangements, brilliant improvisations and powerful grooves, peppered sporadically with his own quirky humor – a quality Monk himself, by all accounts, never lost sight of.

Incorporating elements of classical, bluegrass and world music, Mr. Stetch occasionally plays inside the piano – strumming, plucking or muting the strings – sometimes using mallets. Here, he manages to push the jazz envelope, avoiding clichés and triteness, while presenting an album that is at once accessible yet familiar, in ways that even the novice listener will certainly enjoy.

Over the course of the album's 55 minutes, comprising 13 tracks, Mr. Stetch dazzles the listener with arrangements of Monk's compositions "Bright Mississippi," "Well You Needn't," "Think of One," "Green Chimneys," "Gallop's Gallop," "Evidence," "Criss Cross," "Little Rootie Tootie" and "Ask Me Now," as well as "Blue Monk" and three ballads, "Monk's Mood," "Round Midnight" and "Ugly Beauty."

With "Exponentially Monk," Mr. Stetch has successfully tapped into the depth and range of human emotion, delivering an album filled with passion, pounce and technical brilliance.

In 2002, Mr. Stetch released

(Continued on page 19)

John Stetch: a biography

John Stetch is appearing in concert at the Ukrainian Institute of America on Friday, June 4, celebrating his solo trilogy and the release of "Exponentially Monk." The concert begins at 8 p.m.

Mr. Stetch has emerged on the world stage as one of the finest pianists of his generation, with solid press accolades from such publications as Downbeat and Billboard, as well as many similar publications from Europe and the Far East.

Born in Edmonton, Alberta, Mr. Stetch began playing the piano unusually late – at age 18. His musical interests began at age 9, when his father passed down his own clarinet and taught him the basics. After several years Mr. Stetch switched to saxophone – beginning with alto, then eventually completing his first year of university on classical tenor saxophone.

Mr. Stetch's life as a professional musician began when he moved to Montreal to attend McGill University. After working for several years on the Montreal scene, he recorded his first album, "Rectangle Man," which led to subsequent tours and recordings. He was a frequent guest on the CBC's (Canadian Broadcasting Company) Jazzbeat.

Mr. Stetch moved to New York in 1992 and continued to work with his own trio and quartet. He also worked as a sideman with Rufus Reid for seven years and had occasion to work with James "Blood" Ulmer, Reggie Workman, Rashied Ali,



John Stetch

Billy Hart, Mark Turner, Seamus Blake, Carmen Lundy and others.

Three of Stetch's recordings have been nominated for Juno Awards (the Canadian Grammys). He earned second place in the Thelonious Monk Composer's Competition and claimed first prize – Le Grand Prix du Jazz du Maurier – at the 1998 Montreal International Jazz Festival, which in turn led to his debut recording for Justin Time.

Mr. Stetch was featured on Marian

(Continued on page 19)

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St. John's School...

(Continued from page 14)

in the year 2000 the Sisters Servants of Mary Immaculate responded to St. John's invitation and continued the fine educational tradition of our school.

Unfortunately, because of the changing demographics of the area and the unavailability of school-age children, the enrollment continued to decline. In 2004 the enrollment dwindled to less than 70 students. This placed an impossible financial burden on St. John's Ukrainian Catholic Parish, which sadly acknowledged this reality and made the painful decision to close St. John's school at the end of this academic year - the 65th year of its educational history.

As we reflect upon the past, we gratefully realize what a beautiful gift St. John's School was to the New Jersey Ukrainian community. Thousands of Ukrainian children had the blessing of fostering their Ukrainian Catholic identity in a sound academic atmosphere. The foundation that these children received is immeasurable and priceless. Without any doubt, St. John's Ukrainian Catholic School contributed enormously to the preservation of the Ukrainian language, heritage and tradition. Numerous graduates of St. John's today are active members of Ukrainian communities throughout the United States and the world.

Through the years there have been numerous reunions of graduates and alumni. These many events allowed former students to gather with their classmates and teachers. Now, one more such event is being planned.

On June 6, St. John's Parish in Newark plans to honor all the teachers and benefactors who throughout the years have made this journey of an Ukrainian Catholic education possible. A heartfelt invitation is extended to all teachers, former students, parents, friends and benefactors.

St. John's Parish will celebrate a solemn divine liturgy of Thanksgiving at 10 a.m. St. John's School then will be open for everyone to come and reminisce, to renew old friendships and to celebrate a wonderful 65-year-old history. This will be a celebration of appreciation and gratitude, giving everyone an opportunity to come and partake in St. John's illustrious history.

Book on history...

(Continued from page 11)

the Russian Academy of Sciences there is a Division of East-Slavic Nations, which covers Ukraine, and there does exist a modest program at the University of Moscow for teaching Ukrainian. However, these pale in comparison with the attention that Poland devotes to Ukrainian studies, where there are presently 190 students taking Ukrainian at the University of Warsaw alone.

Dr. von Hagen, as Dr. Sysyn before him, made it a point to thank NTSh for its co-sponsorship of the Ukrainian Studies Program at Columbia University, which has enabled the two of them to teach jointly a course titled "Ukraine-Russia: Historical Encounters and Arguments." This new course starts with the collapse of the Soviet Union and works its way chronologically backward, all the way to Kyivan Rus'. The students are encouraged to explore a variety of alternatives in the interpretation of history, including that favored by Mykhailo Hrushevsky. It is significant, said Dr. von Hagen, that students from any other university in New York can enroll in the Ukrainian studies courses at Columbia.

The book presentation evoked a lively period of discussion. Afterward, the two co-editors were busy autographing copies of the presented book, which quickly sold out.

Yushchenko hazy...

(Continued from page 2)

be won by the politician who will say: '... I am not so much interested in history as in what will happen after October 31 in this country,' Mr. Yushchenko said.

"I am speaking about principles. I do not want people to think that I personify problems in this country," Mr. Yushchenko added in response to the suggestion that if he becomes president he might punish – with "re-privatization" – his most bitter political opponents, Viktor Medvedchuk and Hryhorii Surkis.

The Our Ukraine leader declared that he would pursue political reform in the country if he was elected president. "I think the most efficient way [to pursue reform] would be to formulate principles of political reform and time frames for its implementation, as well as sign to

accords with partners for its realization in the Parliament and publish these documents before the presidential election," Mr. Yushchenko explained.

Asked whether he could offer guarantees of security and protection for President Leonid Kuchma after his departure, Mr. Yushchenko suggested that this issue should be regulated within the wider context of democratization in Ukraine. "This is the main principle, which has a lot of details, including that connected with a law on security and social stability of the man whom we call the president of Ukraine," Mr. Yushchenko said. "I am speaking not about President Kuchma but about the president of Ukraine. ... You know, many countries have a law that regulates the status of the president. Ukraine does not have such a law, and its adoption could provide answers to a number of detailed things."

Foolitzer Prize...

(Continued from page 8)

even before the script was finalized, let alone any filming begun. It became feverish with Mel Gibson's interview in the March issue of Reader's Digest in which he mentioned the Ukrainian 1932-1933 Famine (Holodomor) in the same breath as the Holocaust. Immediately, he was set upon by the two most notorious self-appointed hate experts, Rabbi Marvin Hier of the Simon Wiesenthal Center and the Abe Foxman of the Anti-Defamation League, who specialize in selectively finding and condemning "hate." These attempts at censorship, browbeating and denial that the Holodomor was genocide unwittingly accomplished just the opposite.

How can one decide which of these two characters is worse? Neither of them ever found any "hate" in Israel when the lynch mobs were shouting "death" to John Demjanjuk after his acquittal. Nor did they find any "hate" when U.S. taxpayers were forced to subsidize "art" intended to humiliate Christ and Christians by publicly showcasing a cross in a jar of urine. Now, they're engaging in genocide denial? Incredible.

It seems we are headed for yet another shared Foolitzer Prize next year. Let's hope nothing worse comes along, as this is bad enough.

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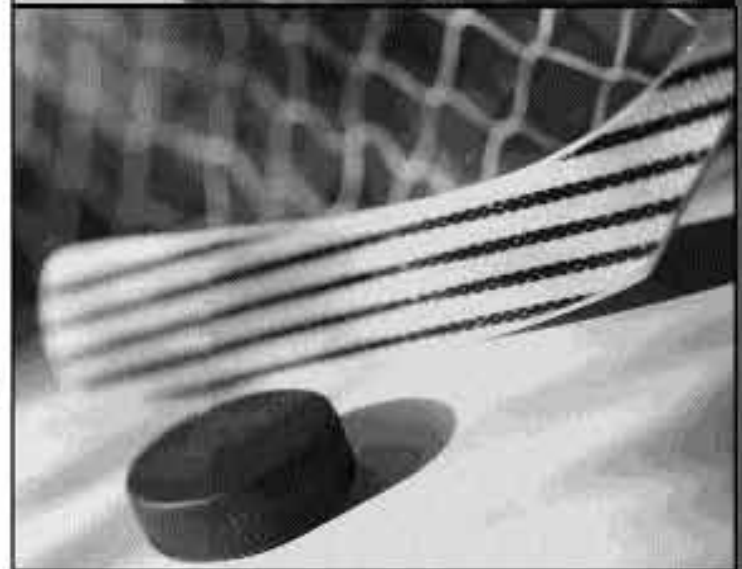
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Stetch completes...

(Continued from page 15)

"Ukrainianism," the first recording in his solo trilogy for Justin Time Records. "Ukrainianism" celebrates Stetch's Ukrainian heritage by featuring a blend of jazz, classical and world-influenced arrangements of folk tunes that had been part of his life. This was received with voluminous critical acclaim and was hailed by Down Beat

as "one of the best solo piano recordings in recent years"; Jazziz called it "a very powerful and truly monumental recording."

His second release, "Standards," featuring "derangements" of some well-treaded material, was released in 2003. This was met with equal enthusiasm - JazzTimes praised Mr. Stetch for possessing "an unlimited imagination, unique harmonic and rhythmic conceptions and the digital dexterity to execute any idea he hears."

John Stetch...

(Continued from page 15)

McPartland's "Piano Jazz" show on National Public Radio (NPR), and his solo concerts at the Irving S. Gilmore International Keyboard Festival were broadcast on Branford Marsalis' NPR show, "Jazz Set."

In 2002, Mr. Stetch released "Ukrainianism," and in 2003 he released "Standards." With the release of "Exponentially Monk", Mr. Stetch completes his solo trilogy and joins the ranks of other piano masters in creating a collection of fresh solo repertoire.

Since beginning his solo series, Mr. Stetch has given solo concerts at some of the world's most prestigious jazz venues, including the Monterey and Montreal jazz festivals. In support of his career, the Canadian government has awarded Mr. Stetch numerous grants for touring, development and composition, including a current yearlong grant to develop free improvisation. He has also been commissioned by several private foundations for his work.

Though his current primary focus is solo piano, Mr. Stetch's performance schedule still includes touring with his New York trio.

Fire at munitions...

(Continued from page 3)

reports from the Procurator General's Office that pointed to gross violations of regulations regarding the storage of munitions and weapons.

As a result of the explosion, President Leonid Kuchma signed an executive order creating a special commission headed by Prime Minister Viktor Yanukovich that will inspect all military bases to identify how arms, ammunition and danger-

ous explosives are stored. The commission was to report its findings to President Kuchma by May 20.

Prime Minister Yanukovich, who visited the Novobohdanivka site after the fires had been brought under control, said the National Security and Defense Council would decide the question of whether Mr. Marchuk should remain in his post as defense minister.

Speaking to evacuees of the area, the prime minister said all those responsible for the incident would be severely punished.

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NOTES ON PEOPLE

Honored by town's Cultural Commission

WARREN, Mich. – On Sunday, April 25, Olga Dubriwnyj Solovey was awarded the 2004 Warren Cultural Commission Fine Arts Award in the field of music. A plaque was presented to her at the spring program of the Warren Community Chorus and Concert Band performance.

Ms. Solovey was nominated by the area chapters of Ukrainian American Coordinating Council and the Ukrainian National Womens' League of America.

She has been actively involved for many years in the Warren community as an accompanist, choir conductor and program director. Recently, she was the accompanist for the Ukrainian Immaculate Conception High School senior presentation of the Ukrainian operetta "Sharika."

For the past 10 years, Ms. Solovey has been the director and accompanist for the Ukrainian senior singing group, Zoloti Dzvony, based at the Ukrainian Village. Her newest singing group, a quartet of young women, Soloveyky (Nightingales) performs a wide variety of Ukrainian music.



Olga Dubriwnyj Solovey

Representatives of the Ukrainian community sang "Mnohaya Lita" when the Fine Arts Award was presented to Ms. Solovey.

Ms. Solovey is a member of Ukrainian National Association Branch 292.

Featured in newsletter of regional Arts Guild

SYRACUSE, N.Y. – The Central New York Art Guild newsletter recently ran a story on Ukrainian artist Anna Perun. Ms. Perun immigrated to the United States in 1991 and has spent much of her time since then teaching Ukrainian culture, history and the art of making "pysanky," traditional Ukrainian Easter eggs.

For the past 10 years Ms. Perun has put on a demonstration at a local shopping mall near her home in Syracuse, N.Y., to show how the Easter eggs are made and to explain their place in Ukrainian culture. She has appeared there annually at the invitation of the shopping center several weeks before Easter and often attracts a large, curious audience. Ms. Perun told the art newsletter that "The Ukrainian egg tells a story. The artist needs to think about what the egg is going to symbolize when it is finished."

"The Ukrainian Easter egg is a symbol of life. It represents hope for happiness, prosperity, strength and health from God," said Ms. Perun, who holds two master of arts degrees – one in artistic expression from the Technical School of



Anna Perun

Fine Art in Lviv, Ukraine, and the other in interior art from the Lviv-based Ivan Franko National University.

Anna Perun is a former secretary of Ukrainian National Association Branch 39 and works as a teacher at the Lesia Ukrainka School of Ukrainian Studies in Syracuse, N.Y.

Profiled in newspaper from Auburn, N.Y.

PARSIPPANY, N.J. – The Citizen newspaper of Auburn, N.Y., carried a story on Dr. John Hvozda, a Ukrainian American professor who "who walked across Eastern Europe to newly liberated Austria and learned English from the GIs."

"Dr. John Hvozda survived the Nazis and Communists in World War II Ukraine. ... Determined to live in freedom, he worked his way to our country, and, between factory shifts, earned his law degree. He taught political science at Auburn Community College and is now retired," the newspaper wrote in its December 23, 2003, story.

The article's author, Roger Hare,

explained that Dr. Hvozda's first-hand account of communism was in direct odds with other information Mr. Hare had previously learned about that period of history.

"A survivor of Stalin's roving death squads, he explained Cold War history from all sides," the author wrote in his commentary titled "A tribute to Doc Hvozda."


The article continued by saying that, "although no side was spared his criticisms, [Dr. Hvozda] put forth the possibility that everything I knew was wrong. I have not been the same since. I wish more people knew this man. A middle-class American kid has no idea what this country means until they talk to an immigrant who suffered to get here."

Dr. John Hvozda is a member of Ukrainian National Association Branch 39.

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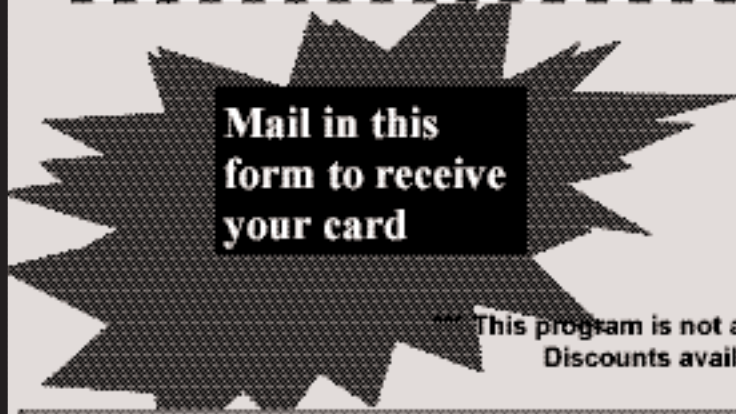


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New Jersey State Council of UCCA holds its biennial general meeting

by Michael Koziupa and Antin Bilanych

EAST HANOVER, N.J. – The biennial general meeting of the Ukrainian Congress Committee of America Inc., New Jersey State Coordinating Council, took place on March 7 at the Ramada Hotel on Route 10 in East Hanover. The meeting was opened by the president, Ivan Burtyk. He underscored that this year's elections are taking place in an important historical time, notably before the election of the president of Ukraine and of the United States of America, as we all await better times for Ukraine, as well as America.

The meeting opened with the reading of the agenda and the designation of a presidium to run the meeting. Wolodymyr Janiw was picked as chairman, Zenon Halkowycz as vice-chairman and Iwan Kushnir as secretary. Maria Duplak, representing the national board of the UCCA was asked to join the presidium.

The first to give his report was Mr. Burtyk, who noted that immediately after his election two years ago the State Council was involved in organizing relief efforts to help those flood-ravaged areas in western Ukraine.

Later the Rev. Vasyl Hoverla visited from Kazakhstan, from the city of Karaganda and more than \$50,000 was collected to help Ukrainians in that country. With the assistance of these funds a second church was being built in the city of Pavlodar. The council also paid for 120 subscriptions to the Nyva newspaper published in the Ukrainian language. These subscriptions helped the newspaper as well as the many citizens who

do not have the opportunity or funds to purchase the paper. Another \$30,000 was collected to support over 650 families in need.

The council was also involved in organizing celebrations of the 11th anniversary of Ukraine's independence held at New Jersey Gov. James E. McGreevy's residence.

In coordination with veterans of the Ukrainian Insurgent Army (UPA) a concert was held celebrating the 60th anniversary of its founding. Medals from Ukraine were handed out to the veterans during the event.

In January the council helped organize the presentation of the exhibit "Not To Be Forgotten: Chronicle of the Communist Inquisition in Ukraine, 1917-1991" in a number of cities. This allowed the organizer of the display, Roman Krutsyk, president of the Kyiv City Organization of the All-Ukrainian Memorial Society named in memory of Vasyl Stus, to speak to and answer the questions of Ukrainian Americans about this period in Ukraine's history.

This tour in New Jersey and across the United States resulted in \$60,000 worth of donations. This allowed over 700 copies of the exhibit to be displayed in all of the raions in Ukraine, as well as for copies of the exhibit to be sent to Australia, Canada and Europe, as well as to the United Nations and many American universities. A color album of the exhibit was also created for presentation to all Ukrainian embassies.

Three exhibits were also sent to Kazakhstan. In Pavlodar, where the

(Continued on page 25)



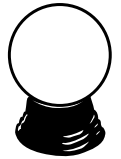
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Conference Schedule

Friday, June 11

7:00 - 10:00 Reception at the Embassy of Ukraine

Saturday, June 12

8:00 - 9:00 Registration

9:00 - 9:15 **Introductory remarks**

George Masiuk, Conference Chairman
Ihor Kotlarchuk, TWG President

9:30 - 11:45 **Ambassadors' Forum**

Amb. Oleh Bilorus
Amb. William G. Miller
Amb. Steven Pifer

12:00 - 2:00 Lunch

Address by Hon. Mykhailo Reznik
Ukrainian Ambassador to the United States

2:15 - 4:15 **Ukraine on the Eve of Elections**

Dr. Nadia Diuk, National Endowment for Democracy
Eugene Fishel, U.S. Department of State
Amb. Nelson Ledsky, National Democratic Institute
Dr. Taras Kuzio, George Washington University
Orest Deychakiwsky, moderator, CSCE

6:00 - 7:00 Reception

7:00 - 9:00 Banquet

"TWG Through the Years - a Retro Look"
Presentation by Natalie Sluzar, TWG's First President

9:00 - 1:00 **Dance: to the music of TEMPO**

Sunday, June 12

9:30 - 11:30 **Improving Our Professionals' Organizations**

Irena Kurowowycky, UNWLA ("Soyuz Ukrainok")
Andrij Wowk, UESA (Engineering Society)
Representative, UMANA (Medical Society)
Representative, UABA (Legal Society)

George Masiuk, moderator, TWG

11:30 - 1:00 Brunch

Address by Kostyantyn Morozov (invited),
Former Ukrainian Minister of Defense

1:00 - 2:00 **Traditional East European Folk Music**

Alexander Fedoriouk, cimbalom; Marko Dreher, violinist
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Ukrainian pro hockey update

by Ihor Stelmach

Andreychuk deserves Hall of Fame

No hockey pundit anywhere will dispute the fact that Dave Andreychuk has spent the better part of his long illustrious career as an immovable object in front of NHL goalies. However, does this mean Andreychuk himself should be considered an irresistible force once he eventually becomes eligible for Hockey Hall of Fame induction? Of course, at the rate Andreychuk's going along, his retirement from active status will probably be delayed still one more year. After all, the aging sniper notched the 20-goal plateau for the 19th time during the 2003-2004 regular season, finishing the season with 21 goals and 39 points, having played in all 82 of Tampa Bay's games.

The career of Dave Andreychuk will present an interesting challenge for Hall of Fame selectors, who in the past couple of years granted entry to the likes of Ukrainian Bernie Federko, Clark Gillies, Pat LaFontaine and coach Roger Neilson – all debatable choices.

So, what does one do with a player who has never won a Stanley Cup, never

been named to an all-star team, never been considered the dominant player at his position in any given season? Will these traditional measurable Hall of Fame criteria preclude a player of Andreychuk's calibre from gaining serious consideration and/or election despite a lengthy list of on-ice achievements?

Well, this same player will eventually finish his career 11th all-time in goals scored – ahead of such superstars as Bobby Hull and Jari Kurri – and may likely end up with either the record for power play goals or come in a close second place.

The advice to the Hall of Fame committee is: if in any doubt, don't leave him out!

Here are the arguments (countering "complaints" about this hockey player) to include Andreychuk.

- First complaint: He's not flashy enough.

First rebuttal: Who cares? He doesn't have Sergei Fedorov's wheels or Jaromir Jagr's moves, but Andreychuk, 40 years young, has been remarkably consistent throughout his 21-year career. He has failed to reach the 20-goal mark just three times – once in his rookie year, and a second time in an injury-shortened season.

During his most productive years, he was perhaps the league's best scorer from tight quarters, usually two feet in front of the net. And when he does ultimately call it a career, he'll be the highest goal-getting forward among the all-time top 30 either not yet in the Hall or a legitimate shoo-in for immediate induction. (The other bubble boys on the doorstep are Dino Ciccarelli and Pat Verbeek.) Let us not forget, in these offensively challenged, low-goal scoring slews of years the NHL is trying to escape, scoring continues to be the name of the game.

- Second complaint: No big awards, no Stanley Cups.

Second rebuttal: Individual awards and all-star berths are wonderful, but they're still subjective measures of excellence, voted on by members of the sport's media. There is margin for error.

On the other hand, Andreychuk's goal totals are purely objective. The lack of championships, meanwhile, should not be a deterrent. Witness prolific scorers like Marcel Dionne, Mike Gartner and other Hall of Famers who have already set the non-cup precedent.

- Third complaint: He'd be adversely affecting the hall's exclusivity.

Third rebuttal: Are you kidding? We're not talking about inducting some Johan Garpenlov (yeah, who?). When he finally finishes his career, it will be with well over 600 goals. The inductee class of 2003 (Federko, Gillies and defenseman Rod Langway) combined for 739. Note that's three player's combined totals to Andreychuk's total. Besides, the Hockey Hall of Fame is already filled with true-blue superstars. Isn't it time to

reward a true blue-collar hero for the ultimate in longevity and consistence? Five years after he retires, of course.

Mysterious illness hits Tkachuk

St. Louis Blues left-winger Keith Tkachuk, his team's most consistent offensive presence this season, woke up one morning in late December with a grossly swollen ankle and terrible pain.

Somewhere, somehow – no one ever figured out for sure – he picked up an infection called "cellulitis," which is inflamed cells. He tried skating several days later in Detroit, but didn't have enough strength in the ankle. The Blues no doubt missed their top point producer,

(Continued on page 27)

New Jersey State...

(Continued from page 23)

exhibit was displayed for three weeks, there were many complaints and demonstrations by the Russian population. At the end of the three weeks, the building where the exposition was being displayed was burned down by arsonists. The exposition and other important Ukrainian items were destroyed.

On February 10, 2003, the Ukrainian American community had the opportunity to meet Ukrainian National Deputy Oksana Bilozir. The meeting was extremely interesting and informative, but it also was a bit of a financial burden for the State Council, Mr. Burtyk said.

The secretary and treasurer also gave their reports. The supervisory board delivered a positive report on its review of all relevant materials.

After an open discussion, elections were held. The following executive was voted in: President Burtyk; First Vice-President Michael Koziupa; Second Vice-President Halkowycz; Secretary Joseph Jacus; Treasurer Wolodymyr Waskiw with Stefan Kmet; Press Chairs Antin Bilanych and Zenia Brozyna; Public Relations Chairs Jerry Kuzemczak, Kvitka Semanyshyn and Peter Paluch; and general members Iwan Kushnir and Vasyl Matlaga.

Special guests the Very Rev. Mitred Protopresbyter Roman Mirchuk, pastor, and Orest Kucyna, trustee, of St. John the Baptist Ukrainian Catholic Church in Whippany, N.J., were presented with \$1,000 checks from the UCCA N.J. State Council and the UCCA Morris County Branch, which made these two organizations founding members of the soon-to-be constructed Ukrainian Cultural Center of New Jersey that is being built along with a new church in Whippany.

Messrs. Koziupa and Kuzemczak were selected as delegates to the national congress of the UCCA slated for September. Messrs. Janiw and Kmet were chosen as delegates to the national executive.

Ms. Duplak, secretary of the national UCCA, delivered a greeting, and closing remarks were made by Mr. Burtyk, who thanked outgoing officers and asked UCCA members to stay active and support him in his next two years of service.

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<p style="text-align: center;">PYSANKA</p> <p>June 15-25 — 11 days — LVIV-Iv. Frankivsk-Jaremche-Kolomyja-CHERNIVTSI-Khotyn-Kam. Podilskij-KYIV \$2350</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">INDEPENDENCE TOUR II</p> <p>Aug. 17-31 — 15 days — YALTA-Symferopil-Bakhchisaraj-KYIV-POLTAVA-CHEKASSY/Chyhyryn-Subotiv-UMAN-Moryntsi-Kyrylivka-ODESA \$3050</p>
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Ukrainian pro hockey...

(Continued from page 25)

scoring just once in two losses at Detroit and lowly Chicago. After some creative cobbling of his skate, Tkachuk was able to dress and skate after Christmas, though still in some pain. He tallied two assists his first night back, again as the Blues top threat.

"It's not quite where I want it to be yet," Tkachuk said at the time. "But we're hurting for healthy bodies."

Few would directly admit it, but with so many Blues out with nagging injuries, some in the organization wanted teammates to take a cue from Tkachuk and Doug Weight (playing with a sore groin at the time).

"It's a good situation," said then-coach Joel Quenneville, "having your top players wanting to play, playing through injuries."

Nieuwendyk works wonders with two young Ukes

For a guy who's closer to 40 than he is to 30, veteran Joe Nieuwendyk certainly wasn't acting his age this regular season. After all, age is just a number, eh?

First of all, he roomed with 20-year-old rookie Ukrainian Matt Stajan on all Toronto Maple Leafs road trips. But his most important contribution was centering a forward line with a couple of stalled 23-year-olds, Ukrainian Alexei Ponikarovsky and Russian Nik Antropov. The three linemates combined for seven points in three games in mid-January when first put together.

Nieuwendyk, 37, was particularly helpful with Ponikarovsky, a hulking left-winger whose development slowed for three years in the Leafs organization. Perhaps he was ready to break out, but playing with Nieuwendyk seemed to have injected Ponikarovsky with the right doses of enthusiasm and confidence.

"I think Ponikarovsky has great talent and when you have size and speed like him, it's crazy for him not to develop into being a force out there," Nieuwendyk said. "He's just realizing that now."

Fedoruk not about to change his ways

It's going to take more than a few broken facial bones to freeze out "The Fridge." Those who follow the Philadelphia Flyers wondered if Todd Fedoruk's career role – that of team enforcer – might have to change after he underwent surgery in mid-November to have four fractures in the orbital bone around his left eye repaired.

Fedoruk, injured in a fight with the New York Islanders' tough guy Eric Cairns the previous night, vowed he wouldn't change his style, even though doctors had to implant a small, permanent titanium plate in his upper cheekbone.

"Guys break their faces all the time," Fedoruk said. "The stuff they put in there is only going to make it stronger. It's ready to take another punch. It's not going to affect me."

Fedoruk returned to the Flyers line-up in early December and wore a visor for about one month afterward. Coach Ken Hitchcock called the Ukrainian rumbler his most improved player on the team and said he has finally become more than

just a fighter.

Olczyk learning motivational techniques

Rookie Coach Eddie Olczyk was pushing the right buttons for the improving Pittsburgh Penguins, who managed to put together an impressive final month of the 2003-2004 regular season.

Center Milan Kraft, a healthy scratch for a couple of games, responded to the benching with three goals in the next two games. Left-winger Ramzi Abid, scratched in five straight games, turned it around with four points in his next three. Center Brian Holzinger, prior to being traded to Columbus, left-winger Tomas Surovy and defenseman Brooks Orpik also responded to sitting out.

However, when defender Josef Melichar played poorly, Coach Olczyk tried a different motivational tactic: Melichar was made an alternate captain for one game. Melichar responded with back-to-back strong efforts.

"Everyone seems to be listening to Olczyk real well," said GM Craig Patrick. "They're responding to everything he wants."

Nikolishin's efforts not going unnoticed

Who could have possibly predicted this? A veteran castoff from the Chicago Blackhawks might be the most indispensable player for the star-studded Colorado Avalanche?

Nobody would have, but this does arguably describe the value of center Andrei Nikolishin to the Avs.

Not only was Nikolishin the Avalanche's top penalty-killing forward, he was also one of the NHL's best at winning faceoffs – a category the Avs did not excel in last season.

"He has gotten more minutes with some of the injuries we've had and he has made the most of them," said Avs coach Tony Granato. "He has been great for us."

Acquired for a third-round draft choice from Chicago last June, Nikolishin ranked third for a time this season in faceoff-winning percentage at nearly 62 percent and even chipped in a bit offensively with five well-timed goals and 12 points. On the penalty kill, he helped improve Colorado from 21st into a top 10 ranking.

"He's a really, really solid player," said teammate Teemu Selanne.

(Quotes courtesy of beat writers Derrick Gould, Ken Campbell, Wayne Fish, Joe Starkey and Adrian Dater. Thanks also to *The Hockey News'* Jason Kay.)

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Soyuzivka's Datebook

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Friday pub night with band,
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Sunday with Askold Buk Trio

June 3, 2004

Ellenville Teachers School
Related Association Banquet

June 5, 2004

Wedding – Kukuruza/Peter
and Szaruga/Anna Marie

June 7-10, 2004

Clergy Days

June 13, 2004

80th Birthday Party, Tony Percoco

June 14-18, 2004

UNA Seniors' Week

June 18-20, 2004

Adoptive Parents' Weekend,
sponsored by the Embassy
of Ukraine and the UNA

June 20, 2004

Father's Day Program

June 20-July 2, 2004

Tennis Camp

June 27-July 4, 2004

Plast Camp – Tabir Ptshat,
Session One

July 2-4, 2004

Fourth of July Festival with zabavas

July 4-11, 2004

Plast Camp – Tabir Ptshat,
Session Two

July 10-17, 2004

Discovery Camp, Session One

July 17-24, 2004

Adventure Camp, Session One
Discovery Camp Session Two

July 18-23, 2004

Chemney Youth Camp, Session One

July 24-31, 2004

Discovery Camp, Session Three
Adventure Camp, Session Two

July 25-30, 2004

Chemney Youth Camp, Session Two
Scuba Diving Course (revised dates)

August 1-6, 2004

Soyuzivka Golf Week

August 6-8, 2004

2nd Annual Sports Jamboree (see ad)

August 8-21, 2004

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PREVIEW OF EVENTS

Wednesday, June 2

NEW YORK: The Ukrainian Engineers' Society of America, New York City Chapter, will present a lecture by Dr. Lubomyr T. Romankiw, IBM Fellow, IBM T.J. Watson Research Center, Yorktown Heights, N.Y., on the topic "Magnetic Hard Disc Storage: Past, Present and Future." The lecture will be held at the Ukrainian Institute of America, 2 E. 79th St. Sign-in/networking begins at 6:45 p.m., and the lecture at 7:30 p.m. Admission: \$5; students, free with valid ID. The lecture will count towards New York State continuing education credit for licensed professional engineers. To receive announcements about these and other UESA events send a blank e-mail to: uesa-event-subscribe@yahoo.com

Friday-Sunday, June 4-6

NEW YORK: As part of the "Archetypes of Ukrainian Culture" series, the Ukrainian Art and Literary Club and Mayana Gallery present "Rusalka in the White Birch Tree," an evening dedicated to "Rusaliyi," an ancient Ukrainian springtime fertility celebration. The program will include Jaroslawa Gerulak who will speak on "Depictions of the Rusalia Ritual on Bracelets from the Kyivan Rus' Period (11th-13th century)"; a sound recording of the Sonatina for Clarinet ("Rusalka") by composer Volodymyr Tkachenko, with commentary by Lavrentia Turkewicz; and a video showing of "Kupalo Rounds" as performed by the Kyiv Dyvotsvit Folk Ensemble. Time: 7:30 p.m. Donation: \$7. In the gallery, the "Rusalia: Spring Fertility Rites" exhibit will be on view through June 6. Gallery hours: Saturday-Sunday, 1-5 p.m. The Mayana Gallery is located at 136 Second Ave., fourth floor. For more information, call (212) 260-4490 or log on to <http://www.geocities.com/ukrartlitclub/>.

Saturday, June 5

NEW YORK: The Shevchenko Scientific

Society invites the public to a lecture by Judge Bohdan Futey of the U.S. Federal Claims Court, titled "The Rule of Law and Constitutional Reform in Ukraine Today." The lecture will take place at the society's building, 63 Fourth Ave. (between Ninth and 10th streets) at 5 p.m. For additional information call (212) 254-5130.

Sunday, June 6

HORSHAM, Pa.: The Ukrainian American Youth Association (SUM), Philadelphia Branch, invites the area community to attend SUM's traditional Youth Day and picnic, which will be held on the grounds of the Tryzub Ukrainian American Sports Center, Lower State and County Line roads. The official program will commence at 10:30 a.m. with flag-raising and opening ceremonies, including commendations and awards, to be followed by the celebration of liturgy. The sports program will include soccer, volleyball and track and field events. The artistic program will be held in the afternoon; among featured performers will be the Vesna Ukrainian dance ensemble, under the direction of Halyna Kozak. Picnic fare will be available throughout the day. These will also be music in the evening for the public's entertainment and dancing.

Saturday, June 12

NEW YORK: The Shevchenko Scientific Society invites the public to a showing of two short films produced and directed by Lesya Kalynska, a graduate student in the department of film and television, New York University, Tisch Graduate School of the Arts. To be screened are the documentary film "Niko" (2004), directed by Ms. Kalynska, and the feature film, "Debt" (2004), directed by Levan Koguashvili and produced by Ms. Kalynska. The films will be shown at the society's building, 63 Fourth Ave. (between Ninth and 10th streets) at 5 p.m. For additional information call (212) 254-5130.

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