

Dedicated to the ideals and interests of young Americans of Ukrainian descent. Informative, instructive. Supplement of Ukrainian Daily Svoboda. Published by the Ukrainian National Association.

СВОБОДА SVOBODA UKRAINIAN DAILY

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The Ukrainian Weekly Section

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Many States and Cities Observed the 38th Anniversary of the Declaration of Ukrainian Independence

GOVERNORS AND MAYORS ISSUE PROCLAMATIONS, LAUDING UKRAINIANS FOR THEIR STRUGGLE FOR FREEDOM

REPRESENTATIVES OF UKRAINIAN CHURCHES OFFER PRAYERS FOR UKRAINIAN FREEDOM IN THE SENATE AND HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES. — UKRAINIAN BLUE AND GOLD BANNER FLOWN ALONGSIDE THE STAR-SPANGLED BANNER

UKRAINIAN INDEPENDENCE DAY

The unfurling of the Ukrainian blue and golden banner — symbol of the Ukrainian spirit of liberation and democracy — over the city halls of our municipalities throughout the country during the past weekend, the proclamations by State Governors and City Mayors of the Ukrainian Independence Day 38th anniversary of the historic January 22, 1918, — when the Ukrainian National Republic came into being, and the 37th anniversary of January 22, 1919, when the Western Ukrainian Republic, which arose on November 1, 1918, and merged itself with the Ukrainian National Republic on that day, the proclamation of which was made at the historic St. Sophia Square in Kiev, all of this has turned out to be a great inspirational force for us, Americans of Ukrainian birth or descent. At times, our devotion to the Ukrainian Cause, to the national liberation of our suffering and tortured kinsmen in their native land, so long enslaved — since the fall of the Ukrainian National Republic, before the onslaughts upon it by its many national enemies, led by the Russians, both Red and the Whites — at times our devotion to the Ukrainian national liberation movement has lagged. So many times, we have not done "our bit". We have preoccupied ourselves with too many other things. We have allowed ourselves to be drawn

into partisanship, allowing various group squabbles to interfere with our innate desire to be helpful, morally, materially, and practically to the Ukrainian Cause over there and over here. In this sense, this year's observances of Ukrainian Independence Day, coupled with the official proclamations of governors and mayors, will, we believe, cause us to reevaluate what we have truly done, and, at the same time, to evaluate what, from now on, we shall do for the Ukrainian Cause. The celebrations of Ukrainian Independence Day this year have had another value. And that is that the average American citizen, by just walking by the City Hall or municipal park, and by seeing the Ukrainian banner alongside the American, by reading in his daily accounts of the same and persons involved, by seeing the illustrated stories pertaining to the same, had his interest perked up. He possibly has not read any or all of the publications in English on Ukrainian history and culture sponsored by the Ukrainian National Association, — which have been of great value to inform our fellow Americans about the Ukrainians. But now, we have reason to believe, the Mr. Average American will begin to think at least a little about the Ukrainian people, fighting down through the centuries for their individual and national liberty.

NEW YORK CONGRESSMAN PAYS TRIBUTE TO UKRAINIAN FIGHTERS FOR FREEDOM

Congressman Harold O. Ostertag of New York, delivered a brief oration in the House of Representatives, paying tribute to the Ukrainian people on the occasion of the 38th anniversary of the rise into being of the Ukrainian National Republic, which several years later was destroyed by the Russians, the Poles, and other national enemies of the Ukrainian people. The Congressional Record of January 19th last, reports his talk as follows: Mr. Speaker, on this the 38th anniversary of the independence of the Ukraine, we may well pause to take stock of our policies with respect to the peoples who have fallen under Communist domination. President Eisenhower spoke with a clear voice, on the point, last summer in Geneva, when he said:

who love freedom. It is particularly a beacon to the people of the Ukraine, who are this week commemorating the short-lived era of independence which they won after World War I. The Ukraine is a nation with a grand and heroic past. It came into being in the Middle Ages, and became Christianized a thousand years ago. In 1648 it became known as the Ukrainian Kozak state and as such it stood as a barrier against onslaughts from the east and from the north. Overcome and absorbed by the czars, Ukraine eventually won another brief but glorious era of freedom following World War I, only to lose it again to the Communists. Since then, it has suffered some of the harshest tyrannies known to history, including the Kremlin-made famine of the 1930's which was designed to break the resistance of the Ukrainians to communism, and in which more than 6 million Ukrainians died. Mr. Speaker, it is a privilege to pay tribute to these courageous people at this time, and to express the hope that the day will come when their liberation, as envisioned in our foreign policy, will be achieved.

Prayers in U. S. Congress For A Free Ukraine

PRAYER ON UKRAINIAN INDEPENDENCE DAY IN THE U. S. SENATE

The invocation at today's session of the United States Senate was offered by His Excellency, Metropolitan John Theodorovich of the Ukrainian Orthodox Church in the U. S. On this occasion of the 38th anniversary of the proclamation of the independent democratic Ukrainian National Republic in Kiev, on January 22nd 1918, His Excellency prayed for a full recovery of the health of the President of the United States and stressed that "in these turbulent times of struggle between the forces of good and evil, we are our brother's keepers," adding that this day of Ukrainian independence should remind us of that country brutally conquered by rule of terror and compulsion, concluding with the words for "God to give us grace to see that the strugglers for freedom everywhere remember enslaved Ukraine, and give her love and moral support, for the hungry desire of freedom that is there." Metropolitan John offered the invocation in the House of Representatives on the same occasion of Ukrainian Independence Day in January 1955. His Excellency reiterated on this occasion that he is the only surviving member of the hierarchy of the Ukrainian Orthodox Church which under Soviet rule suffered the loss, by murder and torture, of three Metropolitans, thirty Bishops and thousands of priests. These sacrifices have not been in vain, for, according to the Metropolitan, the Ukrainian people will continue their struggle for religious and political freedom until the day when they are able to repeat the ceremony of proclaiming their independence just like on that day of Jan. 22, 1918.

PRAYER ON UKRAINIAN INDEPENDENCE DAY

offered by Monsignor Nicholas BABAK, Vice-president, Saint Basil's College, Stamford, Conn. in the United States House of Representatives on January 19th 1956. In the Name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost. Amen. O, generous and loving God, we humbly thank Thee for the inestimable blessings which Thou hast bestowed upon our land and its people, among whom are those who have fled from the inhuman tyranny of the colonialism of imperialistic Russian communism, and who have now regained the blessings of liberty. In this land of abundance Thou hast permitted men of all races, speaking many tongues, to live together under one flag. Enlighten and guide, O wise and Almighty God, our devoted patriots, our leaders, the members of Congress, and the President of the United States in restored health, and enable them to fulfill the grave obligations of their respective positions with honesty and ability. For their work fill them with zeal; always to put welfare of our country and welfare of humanity over self. May they hasten to secure that universal peace which respects Life, Liberty and the pursuit of Happiness — freedom of religion, freedom of the press and freedom of lawful assembly. With Thy help, O Lord, way they bring new life to the once free Ukrainians and all enslaved people — people who now helplessly cry out from vast prisons behind barbed wire to men of freedom everywhere. Fill the hearts of these American patriots with such compassion and determination that they may help to secure for all men, governments which derive their just powers from



New York City's Mayor Robert F. Wagner here presents to Mr. Peter Kuchma, head of the United Ukrainian Committee of the UNA, and a member of the Auditing Committee of the Ukrainian American delegation, his officially signed Ukrainian Independence Proclamation. The delegation was headed by Counsellor-in-Law Walter Stec; Mr. Dmytro Halychyn, president, and Mr. Michael Piznak, president and vice-president, respectively, of the Ukrainian National Association, were members of the delegation.

PROCLAMATION BY MAYOR WAGNER OF NEW YORK CITY

Whereas, January 22nd, will mark the 38th anniversary of a Free and Independent Ukrainian Republic, and the Ukrainians and Americans of Ukrainian descent all over the world, we observe this Anniversary as Memorial to aid once free native land, and Whereas, the love of freedom and democracy still lives among the suppressed peoples of the present day Ukraine, and Whereas, American citizens of a free land will have a

Ukrainian Independence Day Observed in Washington

The anniversary of the January 22, 1918 Declaration of Ukrainian national independence, was observed in Washington, D. T., last Saturday, January 21st, at the Hotel Mayflower. Some three hundred guests attended, including Congressmen, Senators, and members of various foreign legations. Principal speakers were Congressman Feighan, and former Congressman Kersten. Talks were also delivered by Lev Dobriansky, chairman, and Mr. Dmytro Halychyn, president of the Ukrainian Congress Committee of America. Edward O'Connor, former DP Commissioner was a toastmaster. The affair was held under the auspices of United Ukrainian organizations, headed by Mr. Omilan Antonovych.

'UKRAINE'S FIGHT FOR FREEDOM, BARRIER AGAINST SOVIETS

At the dinner held last Saturday night, January 21st, in Washington, D. C., at the Mayflower Hotel, to commemorate the 38th anniversary of the Ukrainian Independence Day, January 22, 1918, Mr. Dmytro Halychyn, president of the Ukrainian Congress Committee of America and of the Ukrainian National Association, was one of the principal speakers. The text of his talk follows:— Tonight, we are gathered on an occasion which is indeed rare and very important not only to Americans of Ukrainian descent but also to every American. It is important to every American for many reasons, and I would like to mention at least one. Recently, there was published in the newspapers a report, a gruesome, horrid, factual story as told by a Hungarian physician, who was detained for 6 years in a Russian concentration camp in Siberia, and now released. The story goes on like this: In the camp in which he was detained, inhuman and intolerable conditions prevailed, so that the inmates of that camp decided on a strike in order to obtain better living conditions and better treatment. The strike lasted for quite a long time, and the Russians tried to break it with all available measures, but they couldn't. So one day they decided to send tanks against the inmates of that camp. On that same day about 500 Ukrainian women formed with their bodies a human wall, a barrier. They thought in this way they would stop the tanks. But the Russian bandits rolled over them and crushed them all under the wheels of tanks. So 500 women died a heroic death being trampled under and massacred. Were it not for January 22, 1918, on which date the Ukrainian Central Rada announced to the world that from this day on, Ukraine is a free, independent and sovereign state of Ukrainian people, were it not for that high ideal of January 22 by which those women were inspired, there would not be today a story about 500 women sacrificing their lives in order to help their fellow men. And, as long as there are such heroic women and men who are ready to sacrifice their lives, who prefer death to slavery, Russia will think twice before she will dare to unleash an attack against a free world. That is the reason why this date of January 22nd is important not only to Americans of Ukrainian descent, but also to every American and every free human being. The least we can do at this time is to pay our deep homage to those heroic women and men who even now stand in the first line of defense and with their lives guard us against a sneak attack of the Russian communist hordes. And with regard to this, I would like to quote to you 2 or 3 sentences of an article that appeared only two days ago in the Herald Tribune: "Despite thirty-eight years of Communist indoctrination, despite all the persecution and purges in their homeland, the Ukrainians still constitute a potential fifth column. In one respect that is an influence for peace, since it helps deter the Kremlin from launching major armed aggression against the West." Now, in conclusion, let us pray that God give those heroic women and men strength to endure this ordeal and suffering. May God give them strength to live through this slavery, and see yet the day when the ideal of January 22nd, the ideal of a free and independent Ukraine — will be realized.

Ukrainian Flag Displayed at Eisenhower Salute New York Rally

Under arrangements made by Mr. Michael Piznak, counsellor-at-law, head of the Ukrainian Division of the Republican State Committee, a number of Ukrainian Americans, including Mr. Dmytro Halychyn, national chairman of the Ethnical Groups of the Republican Party, and Mr. Anton Dragan, editor of the "Svoboda" attended the President Eisenhower Salute rally held Friday night at the Madison Square Garden, New York City, attended by 17,000 persons. A gate of \$ 1,000,000 was reported. The program featured an ice show, in which each skater appeared in the finale with a flag of the members of the United Nations. Last, but not least, there appeared Mr. A. Sakolshyn without skates, — wearing a Ukrainian embroidered shirt, and holding aloft the Ukrainian gold and blue banner. A number of young Ukrainian girls, attired in Ukrainian costumes, were at the very front, and were the cynosure of the vast assemblage. Give them fearlessness and courage to protect the God-given rights of their fellowmen. Amen.



THE PRESENTATION OF UKRAINIAN FLAG to the city and Ukrainian literature to the public school system and the local public library by the United Ukrainian Organization of the city of Perth Amboy, N. J. is shown above during the observance of Ukrainian National Independence Day in City Hall. Left to right in the picture are: John Budniak, chairman and master of ceremonies — member of UNA Branch 155 — for the program, Miss Marcella Budniak, Chief of Police John Swallick, Mayor James J. Flynn receiving the flag from Mrs. Ann Steczak, and Peter Stachiw, members of the committee on arrangements. Standing behind Mayor Flynn at his left is the Rev. Jaroslav Gabro, pastor of the Ukrainian Catholic Church of the Assumption. (Evening News Photo)

PROCLAMATION OF RHODE ISLAND GOVERNOR

Ukraine is the name of a geographical region in southeastern Europe, the original homeland of the people known as Ukrainians. Many countries have wanted to control its rich farm lands and mineral resources and have fought to do so. Upon January 22, 1956, the Ukrainian people will celebrate their national holiday and will commemorate this great act toward liberation which took place on January 22, 1918. On January 22, 1919, occurred the consolidation of Greater Ukraine with Western Ukraine. As soon as its independence was declared, Ukraine started a life and death struggle against Bolshevik Russia and the Czar. This struggle inspired by sacred nationalist ideals, was painfully sustained with immense human and material sacrifices; and now there fore, do I, Dennis J. Roberts Governor of the State of Rhode Island and Providence Plantations, proclaim Sunday, January 22, 1956, as Ukrainian Independence Day, and, remembering that there are in America well over one and a half million Americans of Ukrainian descent, we ask all our people of this State to respect and admire this Nation which has for the past 154 years been striving increasingly for the restoration of its independence and which still struggles against Russian Bolshevism. It deserves our admiration, representing a treasured human strength which stands for the defense of democracy and Christianity. We hope that freedom for Ukraine can become a reality in the days ahead.





