

# THE Ukrainian Weekly

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## CHORNOBYL DISASTER: FALLOUT CONTINUES

### Reports reveal all is not normal

by Bohdan Faryma

(With wire service reports)

NEW YORK — Anxious Kiev residents are streaming out of the city and clogging public transportation as radiation levels increased from the stricken Chernobyl nuclear plant 60 miles away, the official Soviet news agency TASS reported on Wednesday.

TASS said a wind shift caused the rise in radiation levels and prompted an

exodus from the Ukrainian capital and the Soviet Union's third most populous city nearly 12 days after a fiery explosion at the giant atomic power station.

Other Soviet news outlets continued to report "all is normal" in the wake of the world's worst nuclear disaster, according to Western journalists.

"A certain rise in the level of the radioactive background in the city and in certain districts of the region has been observed," TASS said, but it added that the radiation levels still pose no health threat.

"Of course there is some anxiety..." TASS said. "In railroad stations and at airline ticket offices there are queues for tickets. Now dozens of extra long-distance trains, suburban commuters,

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### Soviets: we don't need outside assistance

by Roma Hadzewycz

NEW YORK — Rep. Benjamin Gilman led a delegation of three Ukrainian Americans to the Soviet and Ukrainian SSR Mission to the United Nations here on Monday, May 5, to discuss the possibility of humanitarian aid from abroad for residents of Ukraine affected by the nuclear accident at the Chernobyl power plant.

During the 45-minute meeting inside the Mission, three Soviet officials told the upstate New York congressman and the Ukrainian Americans that there is no reason for concern, that the Soviet authorities do not need any outside assistance in providing for the disaster victims, and that the problems (unspecified) wrought by the accident are being solved.

The Soviets representatives also echoed the official Soviet casualty figures (2 dead, 197 injured) and assertions that announcement of the calamity was delayed because authorities had to have time to study the situation.

The Ukrainian American delegation included Ulana Mazurkevich and Irene Skulsky of the Ukrainian Human Rights Committee of Philadelphia and Ronya Stojko Lozynskij of the Ukrainian Congress Committee of America, New York chapter.

Several times during the meeting, Rep. Gilman reiterated his request that the Soviet government set up an emergency agency to facilitate contacts between evacuated residents of the Chernobyl area and their relatives living abroad.

The New York republican also presented the Soviet diplomats with a copy of House Resolution 440, which was unanimously passed on May 1. The resolution, as Rep. Gilman explained in a cover letter addressed to Yuri Dubinin, permanent representative of the USSR to the United Nations, "expresses the sympathies of the American

(Continued on page 11)

### 250,000 children leave Kiev

by Michael B. Bociurkiw

JERSEY CITY, N.J. — While Soviet television showed pretty pictures of flowers and happy families strolling down the streets of Kiev on May 8, Ukrainian mothers were reportedly taking their children to the train station and placing them, unescorted, on Moscow-bound trains to escape radioactive dust. The next day it was confirmed that some 250,000 Kiev schoolchildren between the ages of 6 and 13 are having their school year cut short and will be sent to summer camps early.

Meanwhile, as lethal radioactive particles spewed out from a still-smoldering crippled reactor in Chernobyl some 60 miles away, the local leadership in Kiev was discovering that a big nuclear leak is as hard to conceal as to control. A TASS report on May 8 finally acknowledged that there was disquiet in the Ukrainian capital, and that Kiev residents may not have been given full information about the disaster at Chernobyl.

Accounts received from Western diplomats and journalists May 8 about the emerging panic situation in Kiev were quiet at variance with the official line disseminated through TASS earlier in the week. Soviet officials quoted by the government-operated news service maintained that life in the Ukrainian capital proceeds normally. Indeed, pictures released last week by TASS of May Day celebrations in Kiev — showing smiling Ukrainian youths caught up in the euphoric spirit of workers' parades — gave the impression that Western reports about widespread nuclear contamination was much ado about nothing.

To reinforce the remarkable sense of normalcy in Kiev, TASS, in its dispatches, waxed enthusiastic about an international cycle race in the city's streets, and Soviet sports personalities were filmed and reported to be doing their athletic training.

Soviet officials were so intent on projecting a business-as-usual attitude

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### Up to 4,000 may have been at power plant

by Michael B. Bociurkiw

NEW YORK — As many as 4,000 workers could have been working at the Chernobyl nuclear power plant in Ukraine when an explosion occurred on April 25, a Western expert on nuclear power in Ukraine said.

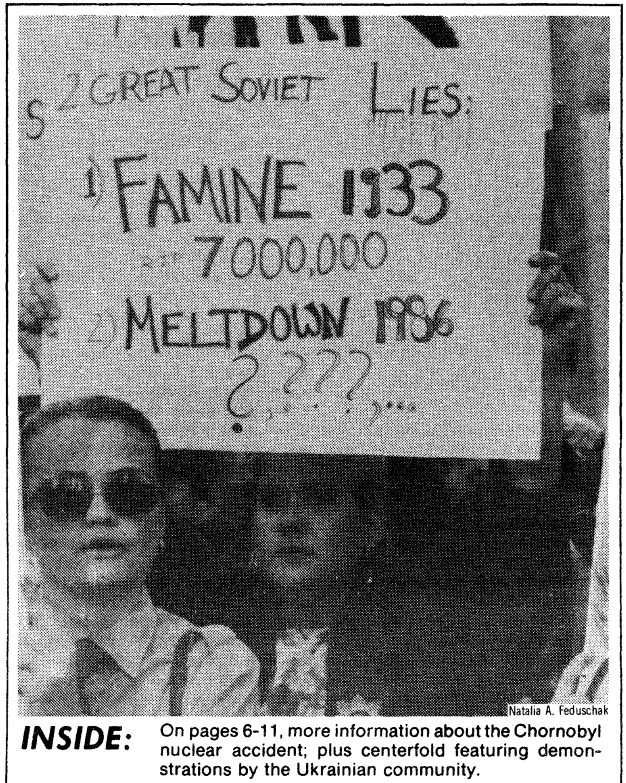
David Marples, a research associate at the Canadian Institute of Ukrainian Studies who has done extensive research on the development of nuclear power in Ukraine, stated in an interview with The Weekly last week that his estimates were gleaned from published Soviet sources obtained in Europe and North America.

The accident at the Chernobyl reactor, 60 miles north of Kiev, spewed radioactive material into the atmosphere that drifted into many neighboring countries, and sent a radioactive cloud as far away as Japan and the West Coast of the United States.

The town of Prypiat, says Dr. Marples, is "an artificially constructed town" that was built when the plant was first put into operation in 1977. Based on Soviet estimates of the amount of residential space in Prypiat and the average size of a Soviet family, Dr. Marples said that the "minimum amount" of workers was 3,700, and possibly as many as 5,000.

"When you think that there are six reactors under construction (at Chernobyl) and that at the Khomeinytsk plant where there's one reactor under construction then we

(Continued on page 11)



Natalia A. Feduschak

**INSIDE:** On pages 6-11, more information about the Chernobyl nuclear accident; plus centerfold featuring demonstrations by the Ukrainian community.

## U.S. Commission on Famine holds inaugural meeting

by Roma Hadzewycz

WASHINGTON — The organizational meeting of the U.S. commission on the Ukraine Famine, a government body created by public law 99-180, was held here at the Rayburn House Office Building on Wednesday, April 23.

The meeting had a nuts-and-bolts agenda: discussion of the scope of the commission's work, approval of the commission's by-laws and budget, and an exchange of ideas among members as to the projects and hearings that the body may undertake.

The meeting was opened by Rep. Dan Mica (D-Fla.), the commission's chairman, who submitted his opening remarks into the record (The full text appeared in last week's Weekly.)

Statements were also made by other commission members present, including Reps. Benjamin Gilman (R-N.Y.) and William Broomfield (R-Mich.).

Others at the meeting were Rep. Dennis Hertel (D-Mich.), Undersecretary Gary L. Bauer of the Department of Education, Surgeon General C. Everett Koop, and the six public members: Bohdan Fedorak of Warren, Mich., Dr. Myron B. Kurpas of DeKalb, Ill., Daniel Marchishin of Bound Brook, N.J., Anastasia Volker of Royal Oak, Mich., Ulana Mazurkevich of Elkins Park, Pa., and Dr. Oleh Weres of Oakland, Calif. Dr. James Mace, the commission's staff director, participated in the proceedings.

Staffers of Sens. Dennis De Concini (D-Ariz.) and Robert Kasten (R-Wis.) were also present because the senators were unable to attend. Ambassador H. Eugene Douglas of the State Department was away in California on urgent business and also was not present.

During the meeting, the six members were duly sworn in as U.S. government employees by Delois Hammonds, personnel officer of the General Services Administration.

Among the topics and ideas raised at

the Famine Commission's first meeting were the following:

- establishment of a scholars' council whose members would serve on a voluntary basis as advisors to the commission (it was suggested by Rep. Mica that Dr. Marta Bohachevsky Chomiak be named head of this council);
- employment of contract workers to conduct an oral history project (the pilot of which was directed by Dr. Mace for the Ukrainian Professionals and Business Persons Association of New York (Continued on page 15))

### Ihor Olshaniwsky dead at 56

As The Weekly was going to press, news reached the newspaper that Ihor Olshaniwsky, president of Americans for Human Rights in Ukraine, died on Thursday, May 8, at the age of 56 at St. Barnabas Hospital in Livingston, N.J.

Mr. Olshaniwsky, a tireless community activist, was the initiator and moving force behind legislation that established the U.S. Commission on the Ukraine Famine. He was active in the Committee for the Defense of Valentyn Moroz and served in the U.S. Army during the Korean War.

Memorial services will be held on Sunday, May 11, at 7:30 p.m. at the Lytwyn and Lytwyn funeral home in Union, N.J. The funeral liturgy will be offered at St. John's Ukrainian Catholic Church in Newark, N.J., at 9:30 a.m. on Monday, May 12. Interment will be at St. Andrew's Ukrainian Orthodox Cemetery in South Bound Brook, N.J.

Surviving are Mr. Olshaniwsky's wife, Boshena, daughters, Ulita and Dora, and son, Borys, and other family members in the United States and Ukraine.

## Jackson-Vanik may be scrapped

JERSEY CITY, N.J. — A major piece of trade legislation introduced in 1974 to deny tariff preferences to countries like the Soviet Union that do not permit free emigration may be suspended if Senate Majority Leader Robert Dole gets his way.

According to a report in The New York Times, the Republican senator from Kansas told a multinational body of business, academic and former

government leaders that the Jackson-Vanik Amendment to the 1974 Trade Reform Act should be suspended as "an encouragement and incentive to the Soviets to take another look at their human-rights policies."

It was the first time that anyone in the Congressional leadership has challenged the usefulness of the milestone legislation, which has been criticized by the Soviets in their discussions with Washington over improved relations.

Sen. Dole, who is considered a presidential contender for 1988, was quoted as saying that the legislation had done little to improve emigration of Soviet Jews in recent years, and "maybe it's time we ask the administration to work with Congress to fashion some new approach."

Although the White House did not comment on Mr. Dole's proposal, Secretary of Trade Malcolm Baldrige called it "an important proposal" and said "it should be studied."

A spokesman for the American Jewish Committee told The New York Times that the U.S. should get the Soviets to "improve the situation" before easing trade restrictions.

Hyman Bookbinder, the Washington representative of the American Jewish Committee, said, "My feeling is that there isn't a chance in a million that this present Congress would suspend the law."

## Soviets OK Deschenes fact-finding trip

TORONTO — The Soviet Union has informed the Canadian government's Commission of Inquiry on War Criminals that it has 34 witnesses who are prepared to testify against two Canadians, reported the Toronto Star on May 8.

The USSR officially responded to the Deschenes Commission on April 30, granting permission for the commission to travel to the Soviet Union and "see for themselves the documents and to listen to the statements of the witnesses and make their own conclusions," said Alexei Makarov, minister counselor at the USSR's Embassy in Ottawa.

Mr. Makarov told the Toronto Star that the two men about whom the Soviet government has information are accused of mass execution of Soviet citizens during World War II.

The Star said that previously published reports, based on Soviet evidence, said one suspect, who now lives outside Metro Toronto, belonged to a Ukrainian underground unit that killed at least 100 men, women and children who were either Poles or Ukrainians.

Yaroslav R. Botiuk, the Toronto lawyer who represents the Brotherhood of Veterans of the 1st Division of the Ukrainian National Army before the Deschenes Commission, said the allegations are false and that the man had nothing to do with the Nazis.

"He was in the Ukrainian underground and fighting the Soviets before the Germans came to Ukraine. What I know about this man has never, in any way, shape or form, involved him in fighting with the Nazis," Mr. Botiuk said.

Mr. Makarov's revelation of a Soviet

response to the Deschenes Commission came on May 7, one day after the inquiry headed by Justice Jules Deschenes concluded its public hearings.

Deschenes Commission officials would not comment on the Soviet offer and would only say that it was "under consideration." The USSR said the Deschenes Commission could travel to the USSR only after June 10. The commission is to present its report to the Canadian government by June 30.

On May 8, the Canadian Broadcasting Corporation reported the government will give no extension to the commission, even though it has been granted permission to travel to the Soviet Union.

The Soviet offer makes no mention of the preconditions originally stipulated by the Deschenes Commission. Judge Deschenes ground rules include: access to original documents on war crimes, use of independent interpreters and the freedom to examine witnesses in accordance with Canadian rules of evidence.

The commission's request to travel to the Soviet Union was delivered to Soviet officials late last year.

The Deschenes Commission was established by the Mulroney government in February 1985 to determine whether there are any Nazi war criminals living in Canada as well as how and when they came into the country. The commission operates on a \$1 million budget and can travel anywhere it chooses. The government also mandated the inquiry to examine what legal means are available to bring war criminals to justice.

## Australia asked to track Nazis

SYDNEY — The Executive Council of Australian Jewry has asked the Australian federal government to set up an investigative unit to track down any Nazi war criminals that may be living in Australia, reported an Australian wire service.

Leslie Caplan, the council's president, reportedly said that the Australian investigation should model itself after the U.S. Justice Department's Office of Special Investigations or the Canadian Commission of Inquiry on War Crimes and go after alleged war criminals who could have come to Australia undetected after World War II, especially from the Baltic States and Ukraine.

Mr. Caplan said that representatives of the ECAJ have already had talks about the proposal at the highest levels in Canberra and received a sympathetic

response. He added that Jewish representatives will be going back to the government soon.

Mr. Caplan said refugees who came to Australia from Germany and the Baltic States in the late 1940s were not asked about their war records before being allowed in. According to his information, 2,830 people suspected of being war criminals were refused admission to Canada after World War II and possibly many in that group eventually came to Australia.

The ECAJ reportedly knows of two war criminals who definitely came to Australia: a man refused extradition to the Soviet Union in 1961 by the Liberal Country Party Coalition, and a man arrested last year in Florida with an Australian passport.

## Reagan explains Bonner snub

WASHINGTON — President Ronald Reagan said that it would have been "counterproductive" to meet with Yelena Bonner, wife of dissident physicist Andrei Sakharov. The president said on April 23 that "quiet diplomacy" held the best hope for gaining the human-rights activist's freedom.

The New York Times reported that President Reagan said he was in "complete sympathy" with Ms. Bonner's efforts to end her husband's fraternal exile in Gorky.

"I believe that quiet diplomacy is the best way to succeed in getting the rights of dissidents to leave the country," the president told the press.

Mr. Reagan had declined to meet with Ms. Bonner, who is in the United States for medical treatment.

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## AFGHANISTAN: refugee camps are like "a slow death"



Habib Mair

Afghan mujahideen and citizens are often carried on the backs of donkeys across mountain passes in search of medical care.

by Natalia A. Feduschak

### PART IV

Since the inception of the war, many Afghans have fled their homeland because of destruction in rural areas. Today, Afghans in Pakistan make up the single largest group of refugees in the world, surpassing by millions even those Ethiopians who were forced to leave their country because of widespread drought. End-of-the-year figures for 1985 showed that 2.6 million refugees were registered in Pakistan and 1.8 million were in camps within Iran. Half of these are located in the eastern Iranian provinces of Khorasan and Sistan-Baluchistan. In 1985, 45,000 to 50,000 refugees fled to Pakistan from their homeland.

#### Situation bad in camps

The refugees, three-quarters of whom are women, children and the elderly, are generally in poor health. A study made by the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) found that infant mortality among Afghan refugees was one of the highest in the world and the rate of birth related deaths is also among the world's highest. The high death rates have been attributed to lack of proper medical care.

Journalists and other experts who have visited the camps have said that the situation there is near a crisis level.

"They (refugees) are living in the fear of the unknown," said Victor Malarek, senior reporter for Canada's national newspaper, *The Globe and Mail*. "They wonder, 'Will I ever go back to my country.'" Mr. Malarek has extensively covered the world refugee problem for *The Globe and Mail*.

"Life in the camps has nothing," he said recently. There are no toilets, and during the summer months it is very hot. There is a lack of sanitation, no water to drink, let alone to bathe with. Thus, the conditions for disease to spread are ideal, Mr. Malarek said. During the winter, it is cold and people are not properly clothed.

Najib Tahiri, president of the Afghan Association of Ontario (Canada), who spent time in internal refugee camps in Afghanistan and Pakistan told *The Weekly*, "it's a desperate situation. There's lack of everything. People don't have anything to do. It's a slow death."

"People arrive with nothing but a supply of pants," said Marin Strmecki, a free-lance journalist who visited Afghanistan twice. "It's very sad, it's quite stark in showing an understanding of something about the war. But, as a result, it also shows their determination to go on. As a result of the war, they have lost all they had. This (life in the camps) shows they have nothing to lose."

The refugees also live in constant fear of being bombed, Mr. Malarek said. The Soviets have consistently violated Pakistan airspace, the Embassy of Pakistan has claimed, dropping bombs and creating mass chaos.

While the government of Pakistan has voiced its

support in letting in refugees from Afghanistan, there has been increased tension between the two nationalities. Because the Afghans don't know when they will be able to return to their homeland, many have become increasingly entrenched in Pakistani society and the economy. Thus, in areas densely populated with refugees, Afghans have taken away jobs from the also poor Pakistanis.

"There is a lot of resentment and many frictions are created," said Mr. Strmecki. "It causes a strain on the (labor) supply. You have 3 million entering the labor force. Afghans have to do manual labor which they wouldn't have done before," he said.

Mr. Malarek pointed out that the camps have also bred a new generation of people who have become increasingly dependent on an institutionalized environment.

"They are so used to the way of life in the camps, of getting food and medical attention and shelter. They can't live without the camps. What are these people going to do for themselves?" asked Mr. Malarek. "They'll never learn to farm. What is their potential for survival when everything is handed to them?"

But, experts have agreed that the situation inside Afghanistan is worse because service organizations cannot get humanitarian aid into the country. Medical assistance is scarce, and there are food shortages in some areas. At the same time, several people have ascertained that the Afghans would rather stay in their country than go to the camps.

According to Dr. John Hillman of the International Medical Corps (IMC), Afghans go to the refugee camps primarily for two reasons:

"What I found and the people inside Afghanistan (say)," he told a task force on Afghanistan in Washington last year, "is that they will leave for basically two reasons. They will leave because they are hungry and they just can't take it any more, and they will leave for medical care. They won't leave because they get bombed... The child with no hand will go back. You will see men all over the country with no legs or the amputated prosthetic devices. They don't leave, but when they are hungry and sick they go."

These refugees have received humanitarian assistance primarily through the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, a body established in 1951. (U.S. contributions have provided over one-fourth of the UNHCR budget.) In 1985 the United States contributed about \$66 million to the World Food Program (WFP)/UNHCR for the Afghan relief program in Pakistan and \$38 million worth of commodities through the WFP. U.S. donations totalled approximately one-third of the international relief contributions for Afghan relief last year. Other major contributors to the relief effort are Japan, Western Europe, Saudi Arabia and various Persian Gulf states.

#### Lack of medical care a problem

The war in Afghanistan has virtually wiped out the medical community in Afghanistan. Today, there are few hospitals in the country, many having been

destroyed by Soviet bombs, according to various sources. In an attempt to provide medical help to the Afghans, several organizations such as *Medecins Sans Frontieres (MSF)*, a French-based organization and the International Medical Corps have set up field hospitals in Afghanistan to provide needed assistance to the populace. The International Red Cross (IRC) provides services at the border. It was ordered by the Afghan government on October 8, 1982, to end its activities there.

All these organizations and the mujahideen themselves agree that one of the largest problems in Afghanistan today, is the lack of medicine and proper medical care.

"A lot of innocent people are dying," because of the lack of medical care, said Tour Khanjar, a mujahideen who is in this country on a speaking tour. "Two million Afghans have been killed in this war."

In the five years he has been with the mujahideen, Tour said his primary responsibility was to act as a paramedic and bring medicine from Pakistan to Afghanistan. Through his work, he has seen much misery, he said.

"If someone sick in Afghanistan, they're dead. There are no doctors." Some civilians and insurgents may walk up to two months to the Pakistan border for help. "And then, sometimes they're killed or die along the way," said Tour.

Tour stated because half of the Afghan-Pakistan border is in the control of the mujahideen, it is easy to bring supplies across. But once those supplies cross the border, "in two hours they're finished. People are dying from their pain."

While international relief organizations have tried to provide medical aid and have been to some degree successful in providing medical help and training to the mujahideen and Afghan civilians in basic medical techniques, some of the problems have come from lack of proper supplies shipped from abroad.

Nations are relatively ignorant of the needs of the Afghan people in terms of medicine. Once, Tour said, the mujahideen received a shipment of tablets which they thought were aspirin, possibly the most sought-after commodity. When they opened the boxes, however, what they found was expired heart medication, he said.

*Medecins Sans Frontieres*, or *Doctors Without Borders*, has been a motivating force world wide in providing medical help in stricken areas. In 1980, seeing that "millions of people ha(d) been left by the war without any medical assistance" the organization established dispensaries and hospitals on five regions of Afghanistan, according to one of the organization's doctors, Dr. Juliette Fournot. Since 1980, 115 medical physicians, doctors and nurses have worked in Afghanistan.

Medical experts have agreed that some of the most prevalent problems faced in Afghanistan today are malaria and tuberculosis. In a statement made before a congressional panel last year quoting from a study made by a former president of Kabul University, Dr. Robert Simon of the IMC said:

"While before 1978 Afghanistan was recognized by the World Health Organization as having conquered malaria, 50 per every 1,000 people have the active disease among the surveyed population ... Another devastating finding in the population is tuberculosis. Our statistics disclose the prevalence of tuberculosis in 130 out of every 1,000 of the population as having the disease."

The IMC, formed in 1973, as of last year employed 200 American doctors and nurses. The organization is now running three facilities in the country. Dr. Simon said that most of the patients being treated are villagers. Many of the wounded, he said, are brought on the backs of donkeys through mountain passes.

The International Red Cross, while not providing medical help within Afghanistan has "mobile medical teams that cruise the border (and help) the mujahideen that make it to the border," said Jean Jacques Surbeck, of the organization's liaison office to the United Nations.

The IRC, however, has set up two permanent bases outside the Afghan border — one a rehabilitation unit and another an orthopedic-prosthetic unit which provides false limbs and wheelchairs.

"We've treated a lot of children," Mr. Surbeck said, "but the majority of the people are mujahideen."

The IRC has recently begun talks with the Afghan government about the possibility of once again providing medical aid within the country.

(Continued on page 14)

## Ukrainians enter political arena in Canadian prairie provinces

by Michael B. Bociurkiw

### PART II: ALBERTA

JERSEY CITY, N.J. — On May 8, voters in the western Canadian province of Alberta went to the polls in a general election.

Among the hundreds of candidates who headed for the hustings were more than 15 Ukrainians, most of whom represented the ruling Progressive Conservative Party.

The Conservatives, who have been in power in Alberta since 1971, hold 75 of the 79 seats in the legislature. The election was viewed as an opportunity for the government of Premier Don Getty to seek a popular mandate.

Although the main issue of the selection seems to be the ailing provincial economy — which has been hit with plummeting oil prices and rising unemployment levels — several of the Ukrainian candidates say they also want the government to pay more attention to the needs of the Ukrainian community.

In 1971 there were more than 135,000 Ukrainians in Alberta, making up about 8 percent of the total population. The provincial capital, Edmonton, is governed by a Ukrainian mayor, and several urban and rural communities in the province have their own publicly funded Ukrainian-English bilingual programs in the Catholic and public school systems.

Andriy Semotiuk, president of the provincial Ukrainian Canadian Committee, said a number of Ukrainians volunteered in several ridings for candidates who are "sympathetic to the Ukrainian community and multiculturalism."

Although he could not put an exact figure on the number of Ukrainian candidates running in this selection, Mr. Semotiuk said most of them are running in the Edmonton area.

#### Ukrainian candidates

Among the well-known Ukrainian candidates:

- Julian Koziak, 45, a Ukrainian-Catholic from Edmonton who is the minister of municipal affairs in the Getty cabinet. Mr. Koziak attracted national attention last year when he was narrowly defeated by Mr. Getty in the Progressive Conservative Party leadership race. He is running in the riding of Edmonton-Strathcona.

- The eparchal president of the

Ukrainian Catholic Women's League, Catherine Chichak, 55, is hoping to regain her seat in the legislature after an agonizingly narrow defeat in the last provincial election.

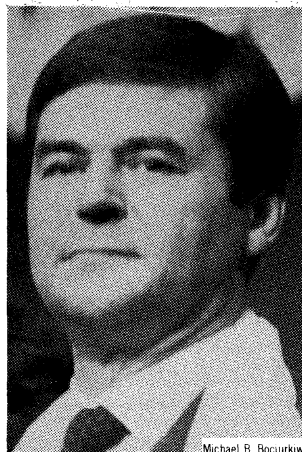
A member of the legislative assembly from 1971 to 1982, Ms. Chichak served on several legislative committees and was a trustee of the Edmonton Catholic School Board. The director of a local art gallery, Ms. Chichak is running on the Progressive Conservative ticket in the riding of Edmonton-Norwood. According to Jennifer Tweddle, publicity chairperson, Ms. Chichak is considered to have "an excellent chance of winning."

Ms. Chichak is still well-known in the riding from her first term in office, Ms. Tweddle said, but other sources in Edmonton said she will have to fight hard to beat her main opponent, Ray Martin, who leads the pro-labor New Democratic Party.

Besides calling for increased provincial support for the Ukrainian-English bilingual program, Ms. Chichak is emphasizing the need for reduced unemployment, private sector revitalization, single parents assistance, and crime prevention.

- Ihor Broda, a former president of the Ukrainian Professional and Business Club of Edmonton, won the Progressive Conservative nomination for Edmonton-Glenarry. A senior organizer in Mr. Koziak's leadership campaign, Mr. Broda is calling for increased provincial funding for the

(Continued on page 13)



Michael B. Bociurkiw  
Julian Koziak

## Demjanjuk's detention extended; Shcharansky visits prisoner

JERUSALEM — John Demjanjuk, who is suspected of being a guard at the Treblinka concentration camp known as "Ivan the Terrible," was ordered held for another 15 days.

Mr. Demjanjuk's remand was extended on Friday, April 25, after the judge said he had received fresh prima facie evidence that the former auto-worker was "Ivan," reported The Jerusalem Post.

The Associated Press reported that on May 1, former Soviet political prisoner Anatoly Shcharansky met for some 10 minutes with Mr. Demjanjuk. Mr. Shcharansky was taking a tour of the maximum-security Ramla prison.

The Soviet Jewish activist, who was freed by Soviet authorities in a spy swap on February 11, spoke with Mr. Demjanjuk in his cell in Russian and English.

The AP reported that prison spokesman Shimon Malka said, "Demjanjuk looked very surprised by the visit and told him (Mr. Shcharansky) hesitantly in English, 'If I'm not mistaken, you're Shcharansky.'" Mr. Malka, who witnessed the meeting, said the two men exchanged smiles and shook hands, and spoke mostly in Russian.

Mr. Shcharansky had requested a tour of the prison and he spent some three and one-half hours there.

## AHRU's public rallies raise \$100,000 for Demjanjuk defense

NEWARK — In April, Americans for Human Rights in Ukraine (AHRU) sponsored eight public rallies in the larger Ukrainian-American centers of the mid-Atlantic states in order to inform the community about the John Demjanjuk case and to voice an urgent appeal for help.

AHRU's president, Ihor Olshaniwsky, who was originally scheduled to speak at these rallies, was unable to fulfill his commitment due to his unexpected and sudden illness. In his stead, the following individuals participated: Dr. Ihor Koszman (vice-president of AHRU), Andrew Fylypowycz, Bohdan Vitvitsky and Mari-Anne Rikken.

All vigorously presented the legal and political aspects and implications of the Demjanjuk case, and its far-reaching effects in the Ukrainian and other ethnic communities.

The children of Mr. Demjanjuk spoke about the prolonged suffering of the victim and his family, and also appealed for help.

AHRU also has scheduled five rallies for the month of May.

In order to increase public awareness

of the seriousness of the Demjanjuk case, AHRU, in addition to its rallies, has mailed out to individuals and organizations over 10,000 informational packets with enclosed forms for listing of donations.

To expedite the raising of urgently needed funds for legal defense of Mr. Demjanjuk, AHRU has opened special accounts in Self-Reliance credit unions in New York, Philadelphia, Chicago, Baltimore, Newark and Elizabeth, N.J., and Warren, Mich., as well as the First Security Federal Savings Bank in Chicago and Future Credit Union in Warren, Mich.

Since the extradition of Mr. Demjanjuk to Israel on February 28, \$100,000 has been raised by AHRU for the Demjanjuk defense action. The goal is \$500,000.

Because time is of the essence, AHRU urgently appeals to all individuals to respond without delay and donate generously to the AHRU Legal Fund. All donated funds will be used for the legal defense of Mr. Demjanjuk in Israel. Donations are tax-deductible and may be sent to: AHRU Legal Fund, 43 Midland Place, Newark, N.J. 07106.

## 350 protest religious persecution

by Marianna Liss

CHICAGO — Some 350 Ukrainians and other Eastern European protesters on April 12 filled the street in front of Holy Trinity Orthodox Cathedral (Orthodox Church in America) with the largest demonstration in a weeklong effort to confront visiting Russian Orthodox and Baptist clergy and laymen from registered Churches in the USSR.

The Soviet delegation had come for the Decennial Theological Consultation held in Evanston, Ill., a suburb of Chicago. The meeting was sponsored by the National Council of Churches of Christ.

Prayers and hymns were sung by the crowd in an outdoor service in counterpoint to the vespers held inside the church. The demonstrators were orderly while they listened to political speeches delivered over a megaphone. The Ukrainian protesters prayed for the martyrs of Soviet persecution, their enemies and the visiting clergy.

A young woman from SUSTA, the U.S. federation of Ukrainian student clubs, stated that Ukrainians in Chi-

cago cannot accept the KGB agents masquerading as clergymen or the hypocrisy they demonstrate — there were so many martyrs for the faith.

Later that evening, one of the Soviet translators stated that the delegation was offended by the demonstration: "It was we who were lied about," she said.

The week of demonstrations had begun with a press conference on Thursday, April 10, the day the Soviet delegation arrived in Chicago. The Ukrainian Congress Committee of America, Ukrainian Catholics and a Jewish organization, the Chicago Conference on Soviet Jewry, protested the lack of religious freedom in Soviet Ukraine and in the entire USSR, calling on the visiting clergy to help the persecuted.

On April 11, at the Lutheran School of Theology, University of Chicago, a banquet was held in honor of the visiting clergy; again Ukrainians demonstrated. Some 30 to 40 people, including members of the American Friends of Anti-Bolshevik Bloc of Nations (ABN), protested outside.

Myroslaw Charkewycz, president of

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Pat Sembaliuk in front of campaign billboard.

## THE UKRAINIAN NATIONAL ASSOCIATION FORUM

### 30th UNA Convention: history and comments

by John O. Flis  
PART I

UNA conventions are the longest of any Ukrainian conventions. Delegates start arriving Sunday afternoon and do not depart until the following Saturday. The week is filled with activities: the singing of the Ukrainian, United States and Canadian anthems, welcoming addresses, reports of officers, questions and discussions by delegates, appointment or election of convention committees, reports of committees, banquets, speechmaking, more discussion and recommendations, resolutions and, of course, what the delegates came to the convention for in the first place — the election of a body of officers to run this organization for the following four years. All of this consumes five or six days of deliberations.

Few people stop to ponder what goes into the holding of a successful convention. First, and this is decided years in advance, is the choice of a home base. A well-organized and hard-working district which is eager to accept the great responsibility of a convention is a prerequisite. A good hotel is chosen, paying attention to adequate accommodations and reasonable prices. Many hotels do not qualify because of size, lack of parking facilities or absence of easy access.

Rochester, N.Y., met our requirements. The local district was hard-working, friendly and headed by Walter Hawrylak (who is also the hard-working treasurer of the Rochester Ukrainian Federal Credit Union). The members of the credit union are all members of the Ukrainian National Association and/or of the Ukrainian Fraternal Association. While other districts were still thinking about it, Rochester made its bid. Philadelphia and Toronto, which also wanted to host the U.N.A. convention, could not compete with the Rochester hotel prices. The Holiday Inn-Genesse Plaza of Rochester couldn't be touched by others with prices for accommodations, availability of a hall for a concert and meetings, availability of caucus rooms and voting rooms, and above all, availability of adequate eating facilities in or near the hotel. A contract with Holiday Inn-Genesse Plaza was signed in 1980, and thus, the prices of accommodations were frozen two years in advance.

The Rochester Convention Committee began quietly to plan its work, so that when I mentioned in January 1981 that it was time to start the work of the individual committees, I was told that these committees had been meeting and working for the past six months. The Reception Committee, the Journal Committee, the Concert Committee, and the Banquet Committee had been diligently planning and working so that on that fateful day in May 1982 each subcommittee would be ready for the arrival of the first delegates. In jest, I asked Mr. Hawrylak if the Rochester Ukrainians ever sleep.

The Executive Committee had to appoint five delegates to the Credentials Committee and five delegates to the Financial Committee, which it did on April 14, 1982. The By-Laws Committee was also appointed to look over all proposed changes in by-laws. In view of our planned merger with the Ukrainian

Fraternal Association, the work of this committee was limited. The committee, therefore, met for a day one week before the convention and planned out its work. The Registration Committee would arrive in Rochester on the Saturday before the convention, lay out its work and prepare for the arrival of the delegates.

Rochester waited patiently for the coming of Sunday, May 23, and for the arrival of the first delegates.

#### Sunday evening concert

By 5:30 p.m. Sunday evening, registration of delegates which had been going on since 1 p.m. had ceased. Delegates and guests had about an hour for dinner or a snack before the commencement of a concert of Ukrainian songs and dances. Long days and hours of preparation had gone into the planning. Now was the time for Rochester to shine. And shine it did.

Some of the finest Ukrainian talent was marshalled for the event. Laryssa Magun Huryn, soprano from New York City, Lesia Borysenko, pianist from Rochester, the Surma Dance group of Rochester, Dunay of Rochester, directed by Yara Kekish, Surma mixed choir of Rochester, and Namysto ensemble of Washington, revelled in the abundance of well-earned applause.

Each performed superbly. The audience loved the performers and showed it by its tumultuous applause. At the end of the concert I thought how wonderful it would be if the convention was half as successful as the concert.

#### That certain group of 11

Eleven members of the Supreme Assembly who were members or sympathizers of the Liberation Front had hoped for different results from the June 1981 annual meeting held at Soyuzivka.

Seeing the group of 11 acting in unison on all matters, the remaining 15 members of the Supreme Assembly, not being certain that the ailing UNA supreme president was able to lead them against the organized group of 11, banded together for the coming struggle. Their unity produced a predictable vote on all controversial matters: a vote of 15 to 11.

When it came to discussion of the UCCA debacle in Philadelphia in October 1980, the group of 11 again pitted themselves against our 15. The outcome was predictable: approval of the walkout of UNA delegates from the 13th Congress, approval of UNA participation in the Committee for Law and Order in the UCCA and approval of the refusal of the UNA Supreme Executive Committee to take part in all UCCA matters.

The group of 11 lost at every turn on the UNA forum. This made them even more determined. To show their displeasure at this turn of events, the group of 11 announced that it would form a committee for law and order of its own, the same as we had formed after the UCCA debacle at Philadelphia. However, the Committee for Law and Order in the UNA never did determine and point out which alleged actions on the part of the supreme president, the Supreme Executive Committee and the Supreme Assembly constituted violations of the

UNA Constitution and By-laws. The comparison of the goings-on at the UCCA's 13th Congress with the goings-on at the UNA meeting was a poor one. Our vocal 11 were in a minority in the UNA Supreme Assembly, constituted a smaller minority in general membership and possessed no possible legal means of seizure of control of the governing organs of the UNA as they had within the UCCA. The majority of UNA membership was awakened by the seizure of the UCCA by the Liberation Front and this awakened majority pledged to prevent at the UNA convention a repetition of that which occurred at the UCCA's 13th Congress.

In spite of the commotion caused at the 1981 annual meeting at Soyuzivka by the Supreme Assembly 11, nothing of consequence was accomplished by them, notwithstanding the groundless accusations and innuendoes made by them between the 1981 annual meeting and the 1982 convention against the supreme president, the Supreme Executive Committee and the remainder of the Supreme Assembly.

Copies of the accusations by the group of 11 were never served upon the Supreme Executive Committee. However the accusations were sent to Svoboda. The Supreme Executive

Committee determined that there was to be no trial by the press here. The group of 11 even threatened to appoint their own UNA representatives to the UCCA organs. The Supreme Executive Committee did not become frightened and stood as a bulwark against all these false accusations. We were certain that all attacks would cease abruptly if the Supreme Executive Committee would repent and buckle under and return to the UCCA fold where presently only the wishes of one political party were being respected. The accusations by the Supreme Assembly 11 were printed in Shliakh Peremohy and Homin Ukrainy, both newspapers printed by Liberation Front and both having but a limited number of subscribers.

The Ukrainian community wondered how the Supreme Executive Committee had managed to marshal such patience and not even issue a denial of the accusations.

On December 29, 1981, the Supreme Executive Committee acted. It denied the accusations and demanded that the group of 11 retract its accusations. In the alternative, the Supreme Executive Committee would resort to other remedies available to it under the UNA By-laws. Instead of a retraction, the

(Continued on page 12)

### UNA facts

#### Soyuz and seniors

In continuation of its tradition of helping seniors, the Ukrainian National Association will dedicate the organization's first home for the elderly on Father's Day, June 15, at Soyuzivka in Kerhonkson, N.Y.

The day will begin with a liturgy at 10 a.m., followed by the blessing of the seniors building. Lunch will be held at 1-3 p.m. and will end with a concert at 3 p.m.

In addition to the senior's building, the UNA has planned a 50-unit townhouse project on land adjacent to Soyuzivka. The 50-acre tract of land was purchased from the Shevchenko Scientific Society.

The organization plans to hire a team made up of an engineer, architect, builder, special counsel and a local attorney to work on a homeowners association plan.

The UNA said it does not envision

any problems in selling the townhouses to seniors. According to UNA Supreme President John Flis, "the entire concept will be a tremendous undertaking. The plan would entail building 10 housing units in 1987, 20 units in 1988 and 20 units in 1989. The construction of successive phases of the plan would depend on the salability of units already constructed."

Mr. Flis said there is sufficient water supply for all the units. It remains unclear at this time if the homes will have individual septic tanks or if a central sewage system will be installed as percolation tests have not yet been taken.

The cost of the condominium project will run from \$3 million to \$5 million. The UNA has expressed the hope that it will bear only a portion of the cost. The rest will be recouped by "members-purchasers" of homes, according to Mr. Flis.

### CONVENTION COUNTDOWN

#### An overview of UNA convention Nos. 16-20

This week, we resume our convention countdown with a look at convention Nos. 16 through 20, covering the years 1925-1941.

• The 16th convention of the Ukrainian National Association was held in Rochester, N.Y., on April 6-11, 1925, with 282 delegates in attendance. From the reports delivered at the convention we learn that in 1922 the UNA hosted Metropolitan Andrey Sheptytsky of Lviv at its headquarters.

Others who visited the main office were Bishop John Theodorovich and the Ukrainian National Choir from Ukraine with its director, Oleksander Koshetz.

The UNA gained 58 new branches and members stood at 17,011 adult

members and 9,510 juvenile members. UNA assets had grown to \$1,334,415.47 — surpassing for the first time the \$1 million mark.

Three new classes of insurance were approved at the convention. Theodore Hrytsey was elected supreme president.

At the annual meeting of the Supreme Assembly held in February 1927, it was decided to establish an Orphanage Committee that would work out a plan for an orphanage and fund-raising activities.

• The 17th convention was attended by 330 delegates who traveled to Newark, N.J., for the week of May 13-18, 1929. During the previous four years, the UNA had enrolled 6,831 new mem-

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## NUCLEAR DISASTER IN UKRAINE

### Ham operator hears Soviet say — "Tell the world to help us"

by Natalia A. Feduszhak

JERSEY CITY, N.J. — In an apparent attempt to inform the world of the nuclear disaster which occurred in Chornobyl, Ukraine, a Soviet ham operator broadcast a message to a Japanese counterpart asking him to "tell the world to help us."

The conversation was overheard by Dutch ham enthusiast Annis Kofman on April 29, at 11:15 p.m. local time.

"He sounded upset, sounded like somebody who doesn't know what to do," Mr. Kofman said on May 2 in a telephone interview with *The Weekly* from his home in Bergen, the Netherlands. Mr. Kofman said he was listening to his radio when he picked up the conversation between the Soviet and the Japanese operators. According to Mr. Kofman, the Soviet operator, who was near the scene said in broken English:

"We got to know that not one but two reactors are melted down, destroyed and burning. Many, many hundreds of deaths and wounded by radiation, that may be many, many more. We heard heavy explosions. Many dead can't be removed because of the radiation. It's a real disaster. Thousand and thousands of people are removing, taking their child and cattle to the south, many are 20 miles of it and, in fact, I don't know what to do.

"There are large injections, that I don't know if injections help to radiation. I am afraid there will be lack of good food and water in a couple of days. I'm trying to get some stock. I don't know if our leaders know what to do. Because this is a real disaster, You can't imagine what's happen here, all the death and the fire. Please tell the

world to help us."

Then, Mr. Kofman said, he could not make out what the Japanese operator said because his microphone was too far away. When the Soviet operator answered, noise on his end made the rest of the conversation inaudible.

Mr. Kofman said he did not tape the conversation for fear of missing "vital information." And, although he found that the user codes for both the Soviet and Japanese operators were fake, Mr. Kofman said he believes the message was authentic.

"I'm convinced this was an authentic transmission of a very anxious, very afraid human being ... and I base that conviction on listening to various operators for 15 years. I'm convinced this man who spoke English with a very heavy Russian accent was giving the world some information."

Mr. Kofman said he speculates the reason the codes of the operators were fake was because the Soviet wanted to cover his identity. The ham operator's code Mr. Kofman explained, discloses both his identity and his geographic location.

Mr. Kofman explained, "The Russians are restricted in what they're allowed to say." For disclosing the type of information he did, the Soviet ham operator could have suffered severe consequences. "There's not a trace of the Japanese ham. He (the Soviet) took his precautions because he knew what he was doing was a risk," Mr. Kofman stated.

Ham operators are like a large family, and Soviets make up a good proportion of them. "No political issues are discussed. They're friends, close friends, calling each other by their first names," he said.

"The one very remarkable thing about Russian hams is they're very limited in what they can talk about," Mr. Kofman stated. In light of the recent accident in Chornobyl, however, ham operators all over the world have tried to get through to those friends in the Soviet Union and find out how much they know about the situation there.

"They've been asked several questions like, 'What happened in your country, do you know?'" Most of the answers have been along the lines of: "I don't understand the question, there's too much noise," "I'm sorry, I can't answer that question." Indeed, only one ham operator has answered questions, according to Mr. Kofman.

In another conversation he overheard with a Soviet ham operator, Mr. Kofman explained the conversation which transpired:

"He (the operator) answered all the questions that were asked and then took some time between questions to answer." He was asked questions like, "Do you know, Nikolai, the radiation level?" He asked four times to repeat the question," Mr. Kofman said, and then he answered "13." "I've gotten the impression that there was a press conference there," Mr. Kofman said, meaning he felt someone was telling the operator how to answer.

"The Soviets must have heard in all the international news media, they must have known a ham transmission came from the country," Mr. Kofman stated.

## Faces and Places

by Myron B. Kuropas



### *The Chornobyl catastrophe's "revelations"*

The nuclear disaster in Chornobyl, Ukraine, confirms once again that the Soviet system has changed little under the leadership of Mikhail Gorbachev.

There is still little regard for the lives of individual human beings, Soviet or otherwise. Hundreds may die. Thousands may suffer. Hundreds of thousands may be threatened. But no medical help will be sought because the Soviet illusion of infallibility must be always preserved for the benefit of the disinformed Soviet masses and the world's naive.

For Ukrainian Americans, the Chornobyl catastrophe corroborated two other facts about life under the Soviet regime: Ukraine is still the site of the some of the greatest human suffering of the 20th century; the Soviet hierarchy will always attempt to cover up abominable acts whether they be caused by indifference, ineptitude or insanity.

Ukrainian agony, apparently, has no

of 3,898,457 civilians (including 900,000 Ukrainian Jews) and 1,366,588 military, including prisoners of war, or a total of 5,265,045. This figure does not include the 2,244,000 Ukrainians forcibly transported to Germany for slave labor, many of whom perished in Allied bombing raids. The Nazis razed 714 cities and towns, some 28,000 villages, 151 museums, and countless historical, cultural and architectural treasures during their occupation of Ukrainian soil.

Describing his trip to Ukraine soon after the German retreat, American journalist Edgar Snow wrote that from 60 to 80 percent of the Soviet Union's loss during the war occurred in Ukraine. "The whole titanic struggle which some are so apt to dismiss as the 'Russian glory,'" Mr. Snow wrote in 1945, "was first of all a Ukrainian war."

The Soviets, of course, continue to deny the existence of a forced famine in Ukraine. In an article which appeared in

### **Ukraine is still the site of some of the greatest human suffering of the 20th century...**

limits, no end. In 1932, Stalin planned a famine in Soviet Ukraine that resulted in the premeditated murder of millions of innocent men, women and children. "The famine," wrote Suzanne Bertillon in the French publication *Le Matin*, "was created by Moscow for the purpose of destroying an entire people whose only sin is the longing for freedom." The Soviet secret police, wrote Malcolm Muggeridge in the *Manchester Guardian*, "had gone over the land like a swarm of locusts and taken away everything edible; they had shot or exiled thousands of peasants, sometimes whole villages; they had reduced some of the most fertile land in the world to a melancholy desert."

While millions starved to death in Ukraine, Stalin was building his industrial base with money obtained from the sale of Ukrainian wheat. Traveling to Ukraine in 1934, Christian Science Monitor correspondent William Henry Chamberlin estimated that "more than 4 million perished." Recent studies based on heretofore unavailable Soviet census figures suggest the true number of dead was close to 7 million.

When Adolf Hitler invaded the Soviet Union in 1941, it was Ukraine that bore the brunt of Nazi devastation. According to recently published Soviet statistics, the German occupation resulted in the extermination in Ukraine

the Soviet publication *Radianska Ukraina* as late as August 11, 1985, R. Babi, director of the Institute on State and Law of the Academy of Sciences of the Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic, described Ukraine's greatest tragedy as nothing more than "difficulties with food provisions." According to Mr. Babi, scholarly articles describing the famine and its causes which have recently begun to appear in the West are "a diversion based on fabrications, wily argumentation and insinuations which have not withstood the test of time" and which constitute "an attempt to slander and undermine the Soviet state and social order to destabilize the high-principled and internationalist unity of Soviet society."

Moscow also continues to claim that it was "Russia" that contributed most to Germany's defeat, conveniently forgetting Bolshevik collaboration with the Nazis for a period of almost two years. The Stalin-Hitler pact strengthened the German war machine and contributed to Ukraine's devastation because the Soviet army was ill-prepared for the Nazi onslaught.

Today the evil empire is alive and well, and led by Mr. Gorbachev. If the world ever wanted to see the real Mikhail, it had that opportunity on May 1 in Moscow. There he stood atop Lenin's tomb, waving to the May Day paraders, totally oblivious to the anguished concern of millions of people.

Mr. Gorbachev may be more dapper than his predecessors but he's still cut from the same Leninist-Stalinist cloth as the rest of the Bolshevik band. The only thing that nefarious gang can guarantee humankind in the future is just more pain and suffering.

*Dr. Myron B. Kuropas is vice-president of the Ukrainian National Association and ethnic liaison for Americans for Human Rights in Ukraine. He was recently appointed a public member of the U.S. Commission on the Ukraine Famine, a U.S. government body established by Congress in 1985.*

## 1,300 rally in Toronto

TORONTO — Nearly 1,300 Ukrainian Canadians stood in near silence on May 7 in Queens Park, where the Ontario legislative buildings are located, in a demonstration of concern for the unnamed and uncounted victims of the Chornobyl nuclear power plant accident.

The silent vigil followed a march from Convocation Hall at the University of Toronto to the steps of the Ontario Legislature.

### Editor's note on transliteration

The Ukrainian Weekly transliterates the name of the town from which the nuclear power plant derives its name as "Chornobyl." This is in keeping with Ukrainian-language transliteration as used by the *Map and Gazetteer of the Encyclopedia of Ukraine* (edited by Volodymyr Kubijovyč, 1984). Other news media have been employing the spelling "Chernobyl," which is based on the Russian transliteration. We have used the spelling "Chornobyl" throughout our stories, except when quoting official documents.

## NUCLEAR DISASTER IN UKRAINE

### *A glimpse of Soviet reality*

## Chornobyl: the human factor

by David Marples

The terse announcement by Radio Moscow (April 28) that there had been a nuclear accident at the Chornobyl atomic energy station in the Ukrainian SSR indicates a mishap of catastrophic proportions. In the past, the Soviet authorities have refused to acknowledge even the chance of an accident in the industry.

As recently as February 1986, Radio Kiev was extolling the safety mechanisms at Chornobyl, commenting that the surrounding area was so pollution free that the plant reservoir is even being used for fish breeding. It went on to note that after a quarter of a century of exploitation, "There has not been a single accident at a Soviet nuclear power plant."

The Chornobyl plant is located on the river Prypiat, about 130 kilometers north of the Ukrainian capital of Kiev, a city of over 2 million persons. It is one of nine nuclear power plants either in operation or under construction in Ukraine, which is the center of nuclear energy in the European part of the USSR. Commissioned in 1971, the Chornobyl plant reached a capacity of 4,000 megawatts by the end of 1984, making it the largest plant in Ukraine, and one of the four largest in the Soviet Union.

Herein lies one problem. Since the construction of nuclear power plants in the USSR has traditionally fallen behind plan — "We are lagging behind by one year, like students who are behind in studying for their exams," declared a Soviet official this spring — efforts are being made to raise the tempo of construction by inducing workers to greater output, and even competition with other plants.

Two more reactors were scheduled at Chornobyl for the 1986-90 period, but the first 1,000-megawatt block was supposed to be ready this year, or about 50 percent more quickly than the average timespan between blocks officially advocated by the Soviet authorities. According to the Ukrainian newspaper *Radianska Ukraina*, (December 29, 1985), the Chornobyl plant was "leading the field" in the race to become the largest nuclear plant in the USSR.

The race to complete reactors forms part of the new Soviet plan to double the amount of nuclear-generated electricity in the USSR by 1990. In Ukraine, the plan is for nuclear energy to account for 60 percent of electricity by the end of the century (it is currently around 12 percent). But the evidence suggests strongly that the industry is being pushed ahead before the creation of the necessary infrastructure.

In terms of technical personnel, for example, the Soviets have admitted that there is a gross shortage of specialists. The training of qualified cadres specifically for the nuclear energy industry is in its infancy. A faculty of nuclear energy — the first

*Dr. David Marples is a research associate at the Canadian Institute of Ukrainian Studies.*

in the USSR — was created at the Odessa polytechnical institute only in 1975. A second was opened at Kiev last year, along with the foundation of an Institute of Nuclear Energy at the Moscow physical engineering institute. In short, only now are suitably qualified persons beginning to emerge in the industry.

It has also been a common practice in Ukraine and elsewhere to employ the services of students to help construct plants during the summer vacations. According to *Komsomolskoye Znamia* (the Ukrainian newspaper for Young Communists), in the summer of 1985, "bands of students" were working at the Odessa, Rivne, Chornobyl, South Ukraine and Zaporizhzhia nuclear power plants in Ukraine. At the same time, *Komsomol* youth brigades at Chornobyl were declared to be working at 150 percent of the normal rates at the end of 1985. These two factors indicate both the haste of the operations and the disregard for safety shown by the Soviets in a situation when the economy demands that the industry be stepped up.

In February, Radio Moscow criticized workers at the Odessa plant in Ukraine for their failure to keep pace with scheduled plans. On the following day, Radio Kiev followed suit, this time declaring that the construction of the station at Rivne, in western Ukraine, was taking place "in an unstable fashion." But while pressure has been maintained, workers' needs have been ignored. Late in 1985, Ukrainian party chief Volodymyr Shcherbytsky visited the plant at Zaporizhzhia, pointing out not only that the plant was short of equipment and had failed to recruit the necessary personnel, but also that the local authorities had failed to improve transport, medical and commercial services, and that there were no recreational facilities for workers.

In the event of the possible meltdown of the uranium graphite reactor at Chornobyl, and the strong probability of fatalities at the plant — both directly and in the long-term through the effects of radiation — the question has to be raised as to why the Soviets have developed the industry with such speed and with so little concern for the human factor.

Two reasons suggest themselves. In the first place, the USSR is facing an energy crisis. Traditional coal reserves at the old European coalfield in Siberia has fallen behind schedule in addition to necessitating extortionate expenditure on transportation. Current problems in the oil industry have forced Mr. Gorbachev to rely to an increasing extent on nuclear energy as a reliable Soviet power source.

Second, the Ukrainian plants are also being constructed as part of a concerted plan to develop nuclear-generated electricity for the East European countries. For example, the plant being constructed at Khmelnytsky (western Ukraine) is to service Poland and Czechoslovakia, the south Ukrainian plant is being funded jointly with Rumania, and

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## House unanimously passes resolution calling for aid, investigation

WASHINGTON — The House of Representatives on Thursday, May 1, unanimously passed a resolution concerning the nuclear accident at the Chornobyl nuclear power plant in Ukraine, some 60 miles north of Kiev.

The resolution calls for assistance to the victims of the disaster and for a complete investigation into the accident. It also condemns the Soviet Union for not providing information to neighboring countries affected by the accident.

The resolution, H. Res. 440, was sponsored by Rep. Mary Rose O'Keefe (D-Ohio) and co-sponsored by Reps. Marcy Kaptur (D-Ohio) and Robert Walker (R-Pa.).

The full text of the resolution follows.

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Whereas on or about April 26, 1986, a catastrophic accident occurred at the nuclear power plant at Chornobyl, 60 miles north of Kiev in Ukraine;

Whereas Soviet authorities made no efforts to inform neighboring countries of Europe and other countries affected by the accident of the accident, preventing them from offering warning and a measure of protection for their citizens;

Whereas neighboring European nations have reported high levels of nuclear radiation as a result of the Soviet nuclear accident at Chornobyl, which may have potential adverse long-term effects;

Whereas this accident has resulted in significant loss of life;

Whereas large numbers of people have sustained serious injuries;

Whereas Americans with relatives in the Kiev area are anxious over the fate of their family members; and

Whereas this accident could result in longstanding technical, medical and environmental problems: Now, therefore, be it Resolved, That the House of Representatives —

(1) conveys the sympathy of the American people to the people of Ukraine, especially to the families of victims;

(2) calls upon the Government of the Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic and the Government of the Soviet Union to facilitate direct channels of communication to allow relatives to

receive word about the fate of family members;

(3) supports the offer of the United States Government to provide technical and medical assistance to help authorities in Ukraine cope with the tragedy;

(4) calls upon the Government of the Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic and the Government of the Soviet Union to allow the American people to provide material and moral assistance to the accident victims and their families by facilitating the prompt delivery of humanitarian packages;

(5) expresses its concern and support for those nations in Europe that have experienced nuclear radiation from the Chornobyl accident;

(6) calls upon the Government of the Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic and the Government of the Soviet Union to facilitate the furnishing of technical and humanitarian assistance by appropriate international organizations in order to address the immediate problems and develop cooperative strategies for the future considerations of this problem that has international ramifications;

(7) deplors the Soviet Union's failure to provide the world with notification of and information about the nuclear accident at Chornobyl, and calls upon the Government of the Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic and the Government of the Soviet Union to permit the international press to cover the situation freely so that the world may be assured of complete and accurate information;

(8) calls upon the Government of the Soviet Union to permit the International Atomic Energy Agency to conduct an investigation of the cause of the nuclear accident at Chornobyl and to share the results of the investigation with other nations in order to assess the safety and reliability of nuclear reactor design and operation; and

(9) calls upon the President to take prompt steps to establish at the International Atomic Energy Agency a mechanism for an automatic, immediate response by agency technical personnel, including on-site visits and monitoring, to any nuclear accident posing a significant threat to public health and safety.

## "This is not a private matter"

*Summary (distributed at the Ukrainian Institute of America press conference on May 2) of an article written by Liubov Kovalevska of Prypiat in response to the resolutions and directives of the 27th Congress of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union. Published on March 27, 1986, in Literaturna Ukraina under the headline, "This is not a private matter."*

The article points out that at a capacity of 4 million kilowatts in 1984 the Chornobyl atomic power station was already one of the largest nuclear power stations in the USSR, and with the commissioning of the fifth and sixth blocks in 1986 and 1988, the capacity would reach 6 million, making it the largest nuclear power station in the world.

However, against this background,

Ms. Kovalevska points to setbacks and problems in the construction of the station. She indicates that the 1985 plans remain unfulfilled and the prevailing situation at the power station has resulted in the poor morale of the construction workers: "... the building work should proceed as an uninterrupted process on the basis of the strictest adherence to building technology. But this is exactly what is not happening. The problems of the first block were inherited by the second, the problems of the second by the third and so on..."

Ms. Kovalevska indicates that the problems have grown and compounded during the construction of the station evoking indignation and a sense of helplessness in management. She points out that the sche-

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## NUCLEAR DISASTER IN UKRAINE

# Ukrainians of all ages protest cover-up of Chornobyl accident



Natalia A. Feduszhak

At the TUSM-sponsored demonstrations in New York, women mourn victims of Chornobyl disaster.



Roma Hadzewycz

St. Basil Academy students with placards at the rally held by the Ukrainian Human Rights Committee.

## Chicago Ukrainians rally downtown

by Marianna Liss

CHICAGO — The nuclear disaster at the Chornobyl nuclear plant in Ukraine seemed to blow in on the wind at the downtown Daley Plaza, snapping Ukrainian flags, whipping priestly vestments and swirling around the 750 people gathered on May 1 for a solemn moleben in memory of the Ukrainian lives lost in the accident and for the health of those still living.

The moleben began with Bishop Constantine of the Ukrainian Orthodox Church deploring the sacrifice of innocent Ukrainian lives to Soviet "disrespect for human life and their technological inabilities."

The Chicago bishop said that the Soviet government has "guaranteed that nothing could go wrong with the nuclear plants which they had established."

"Why they were just perfect — a perfect plan that brought about a catastrophe this week. A catastrophe that the Soviet regime would attempt to camouflage: 'No problems, only two are dead! No problems, all is under control! No problems, no need for any assistance!' But the problem for the Soviet government is exactly 'control,' for they are out of it! That is devastating for Moscow, to be out of control," he stated.

He urged the crowd to appeal to President Ronald Reagan to demand that the United Nations look into the matter and "uncover the secrets which the Soviets have not yet pronounced."

Bishop Constantine noted that during the week that Ukraine observes Christ's Passion, Ukraine also was "placed on Golgotha."

"But we have the faith that ... Easter will surely come, and with it the resurrection of a free Ukrainian nation."

He ended the sermon on the theme of resurrection and, along with Bishop Innocent Lotocky of St. Nicholas Ukrainian Catholic Diocese of Chicago, Ukrainian Catholic and representatives of the Roman Catholic, Lutheran,

Baptist, Methodist, Presbyterian and Episcopal Churches, joined in common prayer for the living and the dead.

Alderman Jerome M. Orbach of Chicago's 46th Ward presented a resolution that he will introduce to the City Council to officially "deplore the intransigence" of the Soviet Union in giving information to the world and in refusing help, endangering the ecosystem and the lives of people. The resolution expresses a desire to help those affected in Ukraine, other Soviet republics and Eastern Europe, and Scandinavia.

It also urges the State Department to set up the Kiev Consulate to facilitate communications between Ukrainian-Americans and their relatives in Ukraine.

The Ukrainian Orthodox League of the metropolitan Chicago area had organized the manifestation at the Daley Plaza, and one of its members noted that Holy Week, when Christians concentrate on the sufferings of Christ, heightened the Chornobyl tragedy. Ukrainians were focusing on the suffering of Ukraine.

"It was hard not knowing the extent of the accident," the member stated.

"There was no one to protect the innocent, just as there was no one to protect Christ, if I can use that example. They were trod upon, murdered for the pride of the Soviet Union." The member finished her statement by expressing gratitude for the love and concern shown by the greater American community in the Chicago area toward Ukrainian Americans during this difficult time.

On Tuesday, April 29, during the regular Lenten presanctified liturgy at St. Volodymyr and Olha Ukrainian Catholic Church, the Rev. Peter Galadza recapped the known events of the day and stated, "During the week of Christ's Passion, our brothers and sisters are undergoing a different kind of Calgary due to nuclear contamination."

TV cameras swung in and out of services that week. On Wednesday, April 30, 180 children of St. Nicholas Ukrainian Catholic Church in Chicago sang responses for a service held at noon for the disaster victims with Bishop Innocent Lotocky presiding.

That evening, again at St. Volodymyr and Olha, there was an ecumenical service with Ukrainian Catholic and

Orthodox clergy. The Rev. Andriy Chirovsky's sermon characterized the Chornobyl disaster as the greatest tragedy which is part of a long series of catastrophes and cover-ups by oppressive regimes in Ukraine.

Later in the week, on Friday, May 2, during the Voice of America live broadcast of a church service, the Rev. Marian Butrynsky reminded parishioners that while they were having their baskets of food blessed to remember that Ukrainians in Ukraine were blessing baskets of contaminated food.

All the Ukrainian churches in the area and the Midwest held various services to pray for the living and the dead.

The Chicago and Midwest area Ukrainian Orthodox churches held panakhyda services on Saturday, May 3, after Holy Saturday services as part of a nationwide prayer offering by the Ukrainian Orthodox Church in the U.S.A. for victims of the Chornobyl disaster in Ukraine.

At the main cathedral, St. Vladimir's in Chicago, the mood of the people was somber but as many as 150 to 250 people came for the memorial services.



Marta Kolomojcz

Chicagans demonstrate at Daley Plaza.



## NUCLEAR DISASTER IN UKRAINE

### 21 arrested near Soviet U.N. Mission

by Natalia A. Feduschak

NEW YORK — Twenty-one people were arrested on May 2 outside the Soviet Mission to the United Nations as they protested the USSR's handling of the Chernobyl disaster, while at a nearby demonstration Sen. Alfonse D'Amato (R-N.Y.) blasted the Soviets for their "barbaric conduct" and for having "no regard for human life."

Clad in skeleton costumes and holding black wheat stalks, those arrested lay down outside the mission's gates, chanting such slogans as "Information, not radiation," "Save Ukes, no nukes," and "Russian nukes out of Ukraine."

They were charged with disorderly conduct and then released on their own recognizance.

A block from the mission, located at West 67th Street, approximately 200 more demonstrators with signs stood behind police barricades, also chanting slogans like "Russian butchers go to hell" and "Freedom for Ukraine." They burned a Soviet flag and threw black paper in the air, symbolizing nuclear fallout and in memory of those who had died in the Chernobyl disaster.

"The Chernobyl disaster underscores the Soviet policy of circumnavigating nuclear safety guidelines. They pursue cheap electrical power at the cost of

human life," said Nick Hryckowian, one of the organizers of the demonstrators, which was sponsored by the Ukrainian Student Association of Mykola Michnowsky (TUSM).

"Ukrainian people have been trampled on too long," Sen. D'Amato told the protesters. "You embarrass them (the Soviets) when you expose them as you are today. You embarrass the shameless body of the U.N. that does not have the courage to really stand up and fight for the human rights of people throughout the world."

The protesters, made up of people of all ages, demanded that the Soviets let them get in touch with their families in Ukraine, Soviet citizens be informed of precautionary measures they should take against radiation, the Soviets disclose more information about the Chernobyl disaster, Western humanitarian assistance be allowed into the country, and Ukraine be made a nuclear-free zone until the U.N.-affiliated International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) is allowed to inspect all the nuclear facilities in Ukraine. (The Soviet Union announced on May 4 that it had invited the head of the IAEA to visit Moscow to discuss the power plant at Chernobyl.)

While leaving the demonstration, Sen. D'Amato told The Ukrainian Weekly that the accident at Chernobyl would bring to light for Americans human-rights abuses within the Soviet Union and make more credible statements made by those people who have maintained the severity of abuses in the USSR.



Sen. Alfonse D'Amato is interviewed by the press.

"The Soviets have a callous disregard for the rights of their own citizens. This last incident demonstrates that," he said. "I think they (Americans) are going to be more understanding when people say, 'Look, don't believe Gorbachev's rhetoric, take a look at his record, take a look at the manner in which he treats his own people and the disregard that he has for human life,' allowing, for example, U.S. students who were in Moscow two days after this event took place to come into the contaminated area of Kiev. That's the kind of disregard they have for human life."

The senator also said the Chernobyl disaster has been a "blow to the propaganda wall that the Soviets were attempting to build, casting themselves

as people who care about others, about human rights, when they do not."

Mykola Movchan, an ex-Red Army soldier who came to this country in 1984 after defecting from his unit in Afghanistan, said he was impressed with the number of young people who participated in the demonstration and with the fact that the American media has given the Chernobyl disaster so much coverage.

"This is evidence that it is an important issue. This is evidence that it concerns more than Ukrainians alone... and further evidence that human life has no value. I think people who still found hope in the Soviet Union may change their mind," he said.

### New Yorkers join Philly protest

by Roma Hadzewycz

NEW YORK — Five hundred Ukrainian Americans — including two busloads plus several carloads of Philadelphians and many local community members — demonstrated near the United Nations on Monday, May 5, to protest the Soviet blackout of information about the Chernobyl nuclear catastrophe.

Ulana Mazurkevich, president of the Ukrainian Human Rights Committee of Philadelphia, noted in her opening remarks, "Ukraine today is isolated and communications are at a standstill." Protesters, many bearing signs and banners, supported her assertion, chanting, "Leak information, not radiation."

The demonstration, organized by the UHRC, began at Dag Hammarskjold Plaza with a rally featuring several speakers.

Later, the crowd marched along the U.N. Plaza to Ralph J. Bunche Park, where protesters ascended the Anatoly Shcharansky Steps near the Isaiah Wall. Others lined the Raoul Wallenberg Walk. There the crowd chanted slogans as the lunchtime passers-by looked on.

On the way to the park, the demonstrators succeeded in briefly stopping all traffic on First Avenue directly in front of the United Nations headquarters.

At Hammarskjold Plaza, Dr. James Mace, staff director of the U.S. Commission on the Ukraine Famine, told the gathering that this was "a time to lay politics aside and concern ourselves with saving lives." He pointed out that in addition to Ukrainians,

many Byelorussians, Russians and Jews are affected by the nuclear disaster.

Dr. Mace also stressed the similarities between the 1933 famine in Ukraine that the Soviet government succeeded in covering up, and today's tragedy, which the Soviets are attempting to conceal from the world.

He called on the Soviet government "to allow experts to travel, not to Moscow, but to the Ukrainian SSR to assess the damage," and on the United Nations to dispatch officials to investigate the incident. He also challenged the Soviets to open lines of communication so that relatives in the West could learn about the fate of residents of Ukraine.

Ludmilla Thorne of Freedom House stressed that Chernobyl is "only the latest of crimes committed by the Soviet Union."

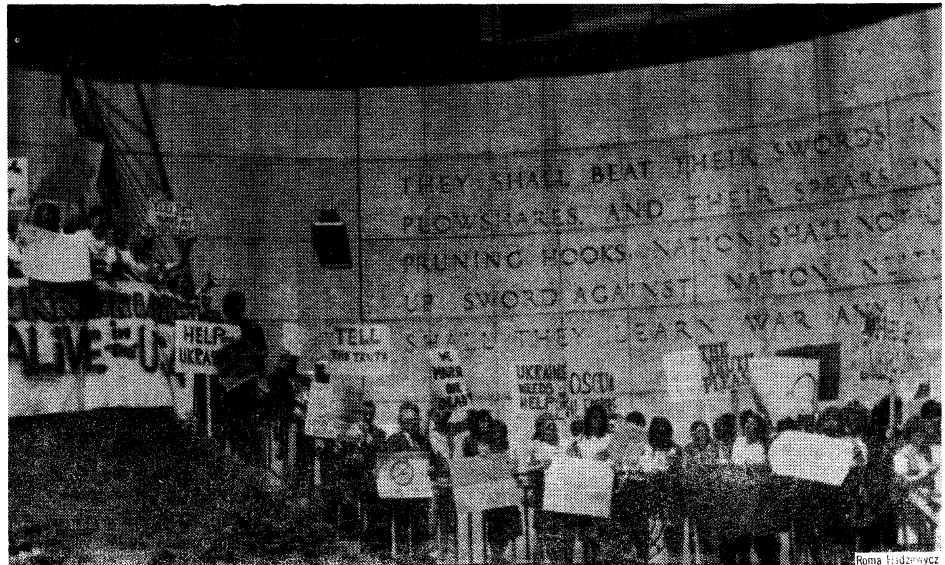
"For 69 years, the USSR has treated its citizens as less than human. ...The Soviet leaders are criminals and they must be treated as such," she stated.

A speaker from the Lithuanian American Community of the U.S.A., Daiva Kezys, said that if Ukrainians and Balts are not told what safety precautions to take in the wake of the Chernobyl nuclear accident, then the USSR is committing "nuclear genocide."

Other speakers were: Nadia Svitlychna of the External Representa-

tion of the Ukrainian Helsinki Group, Ronya Stojko Lozynskij of the New York chapter of the Ukrainian Congress of America, Jerome Shestack of the International League for Human Rights; and Herbert Rickman, an aide to New York City Mayor Edward I. Koch.

A statement signed by Ms. Svitlychna and Leonid Plyushch on behalf of the Helsinki Group's representation abroad, called on the United Nations to establish an international commission to study the nuclear catastrophe in Ukraine. The statement, parts of which were read to rally participants, also sought the West's support of the Ukrainian community's efforts to extend aid to kin in Ukraine.



Demonstrators on Shcharansky steps in front of Isaiah Wall.

## NUCLEAR DISASTER IN UKRAINE

### Open letter to Reagan

Following is the text of an open letter to President Ronald Reagan written by Peter Skorupsky of Mercerville, N.J.

I urge your immediate action and assistance regarding the ongoing tragedy of the nuclear disaster at Chernobyl, Ukraine. Moscow has committed a greater crime than having delayed notification to other countries of this accident.

Until European governments publicly announced radiation clouds, Moscow maintained silence toward its own people and the world. BBC correspondents report that throughout Monday, April 28, citizens in Kiev were unaware of the accident, and to date no protective measures were offered. It is unconscionable and inexcusable that they have deliberately neglected to inform Ukrainians in the immediate risk areas of the hazards. We must not let this malevolence continue or pass.

Several thousand have reportedly died. Obviously the radiation threat is so great that within 30 years, millions may die from various cancers and diseases, and babies will be born abnormal and deformed. In the short term, millions are being exposed to contaminated food, milk and drinking water. Most of the near-term deaths will occur within a few months. In the long-term, in addition to cancers, the destruction and impairment of the victim's immune systems will produce agonizing, slow deaths precipitated by "other diseases."

Yet for several days the Russians have delayed evacuation of victims. They have demonstrated no intention to evacuate likely victims outside of the Chernobyl area. They have done nothing to warn Ukrainians of the threat and advise them of simple life-saving precautions — warning Ukrainians about the drinking water, for children, pregnant women and the elderly to stay indoors, protecting food reserves by avoiding milk and washing vegetables and fruit, activating civil defense decontamination measures or issuing potassium iodide tablets.

Had the West remained silent, it is certain Moscow would have done even less. One recalls Moscow's silence about the world's worst nuclear disaster at Kyshtym in the Urals, where 35 towns are no longer on the map. They have subtly inquired of Sweden and Germany for information in managing the intense graphite fire, which still burns. As is typical, they were adamantly refused the West's offers of humanitarian and technical assistance.

As you know, the Muscovites consider non-Russian populations superfluous. In their 69-year history, the Soviets have brutally murdered about 60 million Ukrainians by famines and purges. Is Mr. Gorbachev continuing a tradition by denying Ukrainians warning and safety?

The Helsinki Accords and the U.N. Convention on Genocide are being violated this very moment, not only by Moscow's daily persecutions and

(Continued from page 15)

### Letter: Russia or Ukraine?

Dear Editor:

The recent nuclear reactor disaster near Kiev will literally be a disaster to our brothers and sisters living in Ukraine. As Americans we have to ask how a political system can be so rotten to allow its citizens (whether captive or otherwise) to go about their normal daily activities without giving the people any warning to protect themselves. (As I write this, it is seven days after the disaster began and the 2.5 million Ukrainians living in nearby Kiev are still being told that the problem has been exaggerated and that only two people have died.) What started out as a major disaster is now a crime against innocent people. As Ukrainian Americans we must continue to pray, hope, and "make waves" for our people.

But the disaster has also brought to the open another problem. One that has been going on for years. But one that can be affected and changed if we as Ukrainian Americans will act quickly.

The eyes of the world should be focused on Ukraine and the Ukrainians living there. Instead the eyes of the world are focused on "the Russians living in Ukraine," the nuclear disaster near "Kiev, Russia," etc. While we've got the world's attention, we have the best opportunity to fight the American media's ignorance of geography and disseminating misinformation about our people.

No one person or organization could possibly contact every one of thousands of newspapers and radio stations and hundreds of television stations across the country. But we can accomplish the educating of these people if each one of us were to write to all the newspaper radio, and television offices

just in our own areas. ("Local" letters are more effective, anyway.)

And the best educational tool to include in each letter is Harvard University's recently published brochure "Russia or the Soviet Union?" In a brochure that would not take more than a few minutes reading time, it explains the differences between the terms "Soviet Union," "Russia," "Ukraine," and all the other captive ethnic groups in the USSR. Copies may be obtained by writing to Harvard University Ukrainian Studies Fund, 1583 Massachusetts Ave., Cambridge, Mass. 02138. The cost is only 10 cents apiece. So get more than you need and keep extra on hand.

Since the brochure tells it all, your cover letter could be as brief as, "Dear (name of editor or reporter), I respect your news reporting. Usually you are very accurate in your reports. However, you have not been completely accurate in your reporting on the captive nation of Ukraine, and the Ukrainians in general. I refer to the recent nuclear disaster at Chernobyl, Ukraine. I am sure you would like to be as accurate as possible on every issue. Please read the enclosed brochure written by Harvard University. Thank you." You will get a better response by sending the letter to individual reporters rather than "the news office."

Now you've got a challenge. Are you too busy? Will you do nothing? Or will you put a little time and effort into helping your fellow Ukrainians today?

Don't put it off. If each of us acts quickly, we each have a chance to do our share to affect history.

George A. Honchar  
Stanley, Va.

### Guarini meets with local leaders



Rep. Frank Guarini (right) meets with Ukrainians of Jersey City, N.J.: Steve Smotrycz, Stephan Krawczeniuk and the Rev. Roman Mirchuk.

by Chrystyna Lapychak

JERSEY CITY, N.J. — Rep. Frank J. Guarini (D-N.J.) met with local Ukrainian church and community leaders in his law office here on May 21 to brief them on what he knew of the nuclear plant disaster in Chernobyl and exchange views on how to get aid to the victims.

Rep. Guarini expressed his concern for the victims and his outrage at the Soviet government's lack of cooperation with the rest of the world in terms of revealing precise information on what occurred at the Chernobyl nuclear facility and what long-term effects are expected.

The congressman told the audience of a congressional resolution that would set up a mechanism to handle future disasters of this sort. The resolution, which was up for a vote this week, would grant the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) the authority to act in the case of such a disaster by dispatching a team, an emergency squad, to the affected area to assess the situation and make recommendations.

Most of the religious and community leaders present, including Ukrainian National Association President John Flis, the Rev. Roman Mirchuk of St. Peter and Paul Ukrainian Catholic Church in Jersey City, and the Rev. Wasyl Iwashchuk of the Ukrainian Orthodox Church in Bayonne, said community members were worried about their relatives and friends in Ukraine and felt helpless in their search for information.

Many of the attendees agreed that providing medical aid to the victims should be a top priority for Soviet

authorities, as well as governments in the West.

The Rev. Mirchuk and Marion Marowski of the N.J. Polish American Alliance both suggested that the International Red Cross become involved in assisting the injured and homeless victims of the blast, and those exposed to high radiation levels in Poland.

Mrs. Marowski also recommended that the World Health Organization, which is believed to have good relations with East European countries, could filter medical supplies to the victims through those countries.

Mr. Flis said that the UNA was willing to extend aid "in millions of dollars," if necessary, "to help our brethren in Ukraine."

In addition to this, Stephan Krawczeniuk of the Self-Reliance Ukrainian Federal Credit Union in Jersey City said that he had personally received dozens of telephone calls, from individuals to investment companies that deal with Ukrainian agencies, pledging money for aid.

Also present were representatives of the Russian and Slovak communities.

After listening to the community leaders, Rep. Guarini suggested ways for individuals and organizations to get involved. He asked them to petition the U.S. and Soviet governments by writing letters, making phone calls and demonstrating for more information as well as assistance to the survivors. He said that public opinion in the West had the power to pressure the Soviets into slowly releasing more vital information on the accident and its effects. When asked if he personally believed the West would ever learn the whole story, Rep. Guarini replied, "Knowing the Soviets' past track record, we may never know."

### JBANC seeks humanitarian aid

ROCKVILLE, Md. — The Joint Baltic American National Committee (JBANC) has joined the Ukrainian Congress Committee of America in asking for immediate U.S. as well as international humanitarian assistance to the victims of the nuclear disaster near Kiev.

The JBANC, which represents Lithuanian, Latvian and Estonian Americans, joined the UCCA in a meeting with White House representatives on April 29, in expressing a deep concern about the extent of the disaster which has struck Ukraine. The JBANC has also urged the Soviet Union to cooperate fully with Western governments and agencies in order to minimize the loss of life and the endangerment of health.

"The Baltic American community, which has relatives and friends in

Lithuania, Latvia and Estonia, is especially disturbed by the failure of Soviet authorities to alert the residents of these countries to the dangers posed by the radioactive cloud which has passed over them," stated Dr. John Genys, JBANC chairman.

In light of this callous Soviet disregard for human life and public safety, the JBANC is urging the U.S. government to initiate necessary actions which would provide immediate humanitarian aid to the Ukrainian and Baltic people.

The JBANC also asks that the U.S. government urge Soviet authorities to ease restrictions on communications between Ukrainian and Baltic Americans and their families in the affected areas so that American citizens can provide direct assistance.

## NUCLEAR DISASTER IN UKRAINE

### Soviets...

(Continued from page 1)

people to the people of Ukraine and calls upon the authorities there to permit direct channels of communication, supports the offer of the American government of technical and medical assistance, and requests the authorities in Ukraine to permit the American people to provide material and moral assistance to the victims of the Chernobyl disaster."

The congressman also noted in his letter: "I share the concern of millions of Americans that the government of the Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic and the government of the Soviet Union have not done enough to alert the world to the dangers involved in the nuclear power plant at Chernobyl."

Rep. Gilman and the Ukrainian Americans spoke first with Rashid M. Khalikov, third secretary of the Soviet Mission, and then with Vladimir T. Lapitski, counselor of the permanent mission of the Ukrainian SSR. They also talked briefly with Valentin Karymov, counselor of the Soviet Mission.

Mr. Khalikov told the delegation that



Ukrainian SSR Counselor Vladimir Lapitski (left) with Rep. Benjamin Gilman and Ulana Mazurkevich.

an American physician, Dr. Robert Gale, a specialist in bone marrow transplants, was tending to the critically ill in Moscow, and that Dr. Hans Blix, director of the United Nations-affiliated International Atomic Energy Agency, was on his way to Moscow.

He stressed: "The accident must not be used to raise the feelings of distrust ... for bad ends."

In response to the question, "How do we provide people-to-people aid?" posed by Ms. Mazurkevich, Mr. Khalikov said, "I can't give official answers." However, he did say that he would convey the contents of the discussions to the ambassador.

Mr. Khalikov then proceeded to relay the contents of a Russian-language TASS news release which reported the Soviets "gratitude for expressions of sympathy and offers of support" received from around the world. "The needs will be met by our own national means," the release continued. [As reported last week, the USSR would not accept humanitarian assistance from the International Red Cross or the U.S. government.]

Ms. Skulsky then interjected, "We have funds and goods ready to go" (to Ukraine). Mr. Khalikov answered, "Your offer to help will be conveyed to the ambassador and the Soviet government."

He continued, "All settlements have been moved out of the area of contamination," and he reported that two members of the Politburo, Prime Minister Nikolai Ryzhkov and Yegor

Ligachev, [accompanied by First Secretary Volodymyr Shcherbysky of the Ukrainian Communist Party of Ukraine] have visited the area and have "familiarized themselves with the situation."

Together with the government commission [headed by Boris Shcherbina, a deputy prime minister] and local authorities they will "work to eliminate the breakdown and its consequences," he said. Mr. Khalikov would not elaborate on the "situation" or the "consequences."

He also noted that the Politburo members had met with the evacuees, but, when asked how many were evacuated and where they were moved, he said he did not know. He also said he did not know how many employees work at the Chernobyl nuclear power plant.

Mr. Lapitski of the Ukrainian Mission joined the meeting. He stated, "The main problems are solved...we don't need any help."

When asked about the possibility of Ukrainian Americans sending aid packages to the stricken area, he replied, "The Ukrainian Mission cannot help in this connection."

### Up to ...

(Continued from page 1)

know there are at least 800 workers (for each reactor)" said Dr. Marples. "From that you can deduce that the figures I mentioned are a minimum figure; there are probably more."

According to Western sources quoted in the May 3 edition of *The Economist*, a British newsmagazine, about 5,000 people could have been working at the plant and on the construction of two reactors nearby on an average day. The experts added that for the radioactive cloud to be strongly detected as far away as Europe and Scandinavia, the concentration of radioactivity around the site of the accident itself must have been lethal.

The Soviet party newspaper *Pravda* reported May 6 that Soviet authorities had managed to evacuate 25,000 people in four hours from the nearby town of Prypiat; an additional 24,000 residents in surrounding areas were also evacuated according to the head of a Soviet task force investigating the accident.

(On May 8, however, the British Broadcasting Corporation reported that for an entire week, the population of one of the biggest towns in the area of the Chernobyl plant was not cleared. And, that same day, Philip Taubman of the New York Times told National Public Radio that some 84,000 people had been evacuated from a 30-mile radius around the crippled reactor.)

There has been no official word on how many workers were at the plant at the time of the explosion.

The Chernobyl plant was the region's first, according to *Encyclopedia of Ukraine*. It went on line in 1977 and in 1985 reached a capacity of 4 million kilowatts.

Radio Moscow, monitored in New Jersey, reported May 7 that the workers at the reactor "had no fear" during the accident.

Quoting a TASS report, the official Soviet short wave radio service gave the first word on the condition of some of the evacuees.

"The community of Prypiat," Radio Moscow said, "where the families of the plant staff live, were evacuated immediately after the accident and now the people are settling in other communities away from the station where they were taken in the first hours after the accident."

The Radio Moscow report continued: "The chairman of the local government body in the Borodniansky region of Ukraine, Tamara Uglimenko, told the TASS correspondent that 6,200 people — women, children and old people — have been settled in the region."

"All small children have been provided with places at preschool care centers."

### Chernobyl...

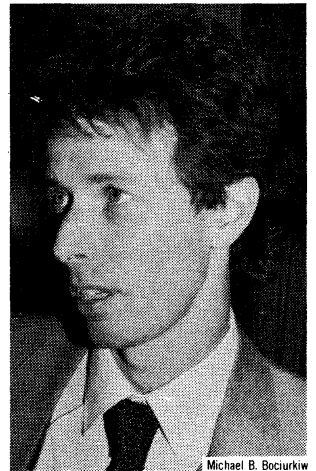
(Continued from page 1)

will serve both that country and Bulgaria. Evidently the Chernobyl plant was also part of this integrated system to supply nuclear power to Eastern Europe. Ukraine's location on the Soviet western borderland renders it an ideal location for such "cooperation."

The Soviets have now paid the penalty for placing economic needs above safety factors. Despite their acclaimed safety record, a smaller accident was reported at the Rivne

plant in 1981, but evidently had little impact on the authorities. Two nuclear heating plants under construction at Odessa and Kharkiv appear to be dangerously close to major population centers. And the size of the catastrophe at Chernobyl suggests that the city of Kiev may be endangered, despite its relative distance from the scene. The accident has not only imperiled human life, however. It has put into question the entire 12th Five-Year Plan for 1986-90.

The future of the industry in the USSR remains in some doubt.



Dr. David Marples

The report said that people who have entered the 30 km. zone around the nuclear plant have received "special" medical attention.

Now, says *Pravda*, the city that housed the nuclear plant workers and their families is empty. "Only special radiation monitoring vehicles appear in the streets disturbing from time to time the silence."

So far there has been no official information about how long it would be before local people would be permitted to return to their homes, about the precautions being taken for the populations of nearby cities, or any real information about long-term danger to health.

### "This is not..."

(Continued from page 1)

due for the commissioning of the fifth block was brought forward from three years to two years, a move which strained planning and supplies, throwing the whole project into disarray and weakening discipline and over-all responsibility.

Ms. Kovalevska criticizes the so-called "experimental" arrangements between the management of the Chernobyl construction works and the construction management arm of the Ministry of Energy. She underscores the consistent shortages of construction materials, e.g. reinforced concrete and steel works in many areas and inefficient management of materials and supplies where they have been available. In these circumstances she says it has been difficult to obtain the best effort from the work force. She cites an instance where 326 tons of sealed containers from a Volga factory for storing spent nuclear fuel were deficient. She also criticizes quality control on the site.

Ms. Kovalevska raises these matters out of concern for safety, as this is an atomic power station, indicating that fundamentally this is a matter of conscience for each person involved in the project. She cites many examples of undisciplined supply management, declaring that the results visible to date are not pleasing.

She argues that accelerated scheduling at the Chernobyl plant should not be a private matter for the construction managers, as the entire country and its industry are dependent on the efficient and successful final result.

## 30th UNA...

(Continued from page 5)

group of 11 heaped on and printed in the Liberation Front publications additional accusations of alleged wrongdoing and violations of UNA By-laws by the Supreme Executive Committee.

The continued vicious attacks by the group of 11 did accomplish one thing: solidarity. A unified front on the part of the non-Liberation Front members was being forged slowly but surely out of the fear of a totalitarian takeover of the UNA and out of pride for the accomplishments of the present UNA generation and those generations that came before us.

Finally the Supreme Executive Committee made its move. On April 14, 1982, it adopted a resolution which was published on May 16, 1982, finding the group of 11 guilty of acting against the best interests of the UNA, guilty of villifying the good name of the supreme president, Supreme Assembly and the Supreme Executive Committee, guilty of false accusations and distortions of truth, guilty of acts and deeds unbecoming the dignity of members of the Supreme Assembly and guilty of acts constituting malfeasance and misfeasance in office. Knowing that it, the Supreme Executive Committee, had the power to turn this matter over to the Supreme Assembly for final disposition, the Supreme Executive Committee intentionally turned this matter over to the 30th UNA Convention which was to convene one week later. The convention delegates were requested to properly evaluate the words, deeds as well as the conduct of these 11 members of the Supreme Assembly and render their decision in the election process when voting for the most deserving and qualified candidates for the new Supreme Assembly. In simple terms, convention delegates were requested not to re-elect the group of 11 to their posts in the Supreme Assembly if the convention delegates did disapprove of the conduct of the group of 11.

The Supreme Executive Committee was certain that those delegates that had UNA interests at heart would not re-elect the group of 11. No one could forecast that the lack of a vote by the delegates or better yet, bullet voting by the same delegates for candidates of their choice, would assure re-election of some of the group of 11.

On Monday morning at approximately 8:45 a.m. the delegates began to gather in the convention hall. Some delegates who had arrived too late to register on Sunday, registered at this time. The Registration Committee was so well prepared that each delegate was almost simultaneously registered upon presentation of his credentials.

The convention hall was slowly filling up. By 9:30 a.m. all the members of the Supreme Assembly, including honorary members were seated. I called the 30th Convention of the Ukrainian National Association to order.

Halyna Sochan-Gridley was requested to sing the three national anthems, "The Star Spangled Banner," "Ukraine Has Not Yet Perished" and "O, Ca-

nada."

The tenseness that prevailed among the delegates throughout could be felt.

The two-tier dais, occupied by members and honorary members of the Supreme Assembly, and honored guests, usually cheerful, showed the existence of uneasiness most of all. Serious and apprehensive, they were wondering if and when delegates would rise, claim "point of order" and move for the exclusion or expulsion of the group of 11 from the convention hall. This could happen at any time, if we had failed to convince those delegates with whom we spoke the night before to refrain from such an act.

Archbishop Mark of the Ukrainian Orthodox Church of the U.S.A. recited the opening prayer and asked God to bless us all with a successful convention and unity within UNA ranks. His prayer was longer than usual, but we all believed in the need of prayer if the convention was to proceed without a battle royal.

It was time for me to formally open the convention with my opening statement, first in Ukrainian and then in English.

### Opening address

I began by welcoming all delegates to this the 30th Regular UNA Convention in the name of the Supreme Executive Committee. I stated the objective of the convention, to wit, to verify and certify the work of the Supreme Executive Committee elected four years ago, to formulate and adopt such plans as we deem necessary for our times and elect such persons to our governing circles as we deem best qualified for the realization of our expectations.

I reminded all of our duty to prepare for the UNA's 90th anniversary, which would occur in two years, and for the 50th anniversary of the Great Famine in Ukraine which would be commemorated in 1983. I reminded all delegates to remember the glorious past of the UNA, and visualize and formulate our future as our discussions proceed in a brotherly fashion, which, after all, is the basis upon which the UNA is founded.

I called for everyone to rise and observe a minute of silence for the 2,836 members who had passed away during the last four years, among them such UNA greats as Dr. Wolodymyr Gallan, Wolodymyr Didyk, John Ewanchuk, William Hussar and the recently deceased Roman Slobodian, UNA supreme treasurer of many years.

And last, I paid honor to our Rochester Convention Committee, which had toiled for many months under the leadership of Walter Hawrylak, to make this a memorable convention.

With that I formally opened the 30th Convention of the Ukrainian National Association. "God help us," I concluded.

I looked at my audience as I concluded my opening remarks. There were very few smiling faces. The applause was lukewarm. The delegates saw me, heard me, but could not yet make up their minds whether or not they wanted this man to lead their organization for the next four years.

The Rochester Convention Committee was mentioned in my

opening remarks. I then introduced Mr. Hawrylak, the chairman of that committee, and asked him to address the assembled delegates. Mr. Hawrylak, in his speech welcoming all delegates to Rochester, also expressed his hope that the convention would be conducted in a spirit of tolerance and fraternalism. The delegates, realizing the sincerity of Mr. Hawrylak's statements, applauded warmly.

Prior to the election of the convention presidium, certain formalities had to be complied with. The convention agenda was approved, sergeants-at-arms were appointed, and the Credentials Committee was asked for its initial report. Judge Bernard Korchinski, the committee chairman, reported that the committee had reviewed and accepted the credentials of 396 delegates, 26 Supreme Assembly members, and seven honorary members of the Supreme Assembly. More than a quorum was present. The convention had formally convened.

I most feared those certain delegates with their "points of order." I was ready to call "out of order" anyone who even stood up, in order to avoid a floor fight. I was certain that the eventual victor in such a battle was grinning unknown among us. But no one got up to claim the floor.

### Election of convention presidium

At all UNA conventions, the election of a convention presidium is most important. The success of the convention itself depends in large measure upon the team that is elected to conduct the convention. This team has to be familiar with the UNA by-laws, Roberts Rules of Order, the state of the Ukrainian political situation and the problems facing the UNA today. Most of all, the chairman and his two assistants must be personable and articulate. Ability to inject humor during hot debate is helpful, ability to judge when to press a little further and when to give in, and ability to carry on in both languages, English and Ukrainian, is a must.

Not necessarily possessing all those qualities, I served as the UNA convention chairman four times, in New York in 1962, in Chicago in 1966, in Cleveland in 1970, and in Philadelphia in 1974. Dr. Jaroslaw Padoch followed me in 1978 in Pittsburgh as the convention chairman.

This particular convention had politics interjected into the election of the convention chairman. One side, more or less, was composed of those that walked out of the 13th UCCA Congress in Philadelphia in September 1980. We like to be called the "democratic element or bloc." The other side was composed of the Liberation Front, or the Bandierite element or bloc. The American-born delegates came to the UNA convention undecided. The American-born bloc did not like what they had been hearing. They heard that 100 American votes were committed in order to help the Liberation Front elect their candidate for convention chairman. The Liberation Front delegates would in return support the candidacy of Joseph Lesawyer for supreme president. Fact or fiction, that is what we heard from other delegates.

The division of the convention delegates among the various common-bond groups was estimated as follows: Liberation Front, 120 votes; American born, 150 votes; old immigrants, 40 votes; Melnykites, 55 votes; Orthodox, 45 votes; and Baptists and other small factions formed along religious or political lines, 30 votes. Each group, of course, claimed many more votes than it

actually controlled.

If the Liberation Front could thus solidify this merger of their approximately 120 votes, with the promised 100 American votes, the outcome of the convention could be easily predicted.

This vote for the convention presidium, coming at this time, was particularly important. It would have an influence on the outcome of the remainder of the convention. The very future of the UNA was being determined, and most delegates didn't assign any significant importance to it.

I first recognized Andrew Keybida of Branch 322 of Newark, N.J., who nominated Leonid Fil of Branch 432, a Canadian who had served as convention vice-chairman during the 29th Convention in Pittsburgh. The nomination was duly seconded. Joseph Lesawyer of Branch 325, Brooklyn, N.Y., was recognized and he nominated Attorney Julian Kulas of Chicago, Branch 136. Unknown in UNA circles, Mr. Kulas is nevertheless well-known by all Ukrainians in America as the lawyer representing Walter Polowchak, the boy who refused to return to Ukraine. The nomination was duly seconded by four Liberation Front delegates.

Both candidates were good men. One thing struck me as strange, and that was Mr. Lesawyer himself nominating Mr. Kulas. If anyone was doubtful of Mr. Lesawyer's alliances at this convention, the nomination of Mr. Kulas by him was proof positive. A lot of American-born delegates began to see the light.

At the request of a delegate, I appointed Messrs. Keybida and Lesawyer to observe the count. The secret ballots cast were counted by the Registration Committee and the result showed Mr. Fil with 239 votes, and Mr. Kulas with 180 votes.

The bottom fell out from under the group of 11. Their entire hope to control this convention was dashed to smithereens. They would not recover from this defeat. But of course they now had the excuse that the promised 100 American votes were not delivered as stipulated.

The nominees for the remainder of the presidium were unopposed. Elected as vice-chairmen were Walter Boyd-Boryskewych of Detroit and Attorney Nestor Olesnycky of Irvington, N.J., and as secretaries, Maria Sawchak and Melanie Milanowicz. A superb slate, I thought.

Before I gave up the gavel, the delegates voted for 14 delegates to the Elections Committee and for five delegates to the Petitions Committee. The results of this secret balloting were announced the following day.

The afternoon session began with Chairman Fil officiating. He thanked the delegates for his election and the election of all members of the presidium. He was firm, direct, possessed, pleasant and spoke both languages, Ukrainian and English, well.

A press committee, composed of Svoboda Editor-in-Chief Zenon Snylyk, Editor Emeritus Anthony Dragan, The Ukrainian Weekly Editor Roma Sochan Hadzewycz, Helen Olek, Wasyl Sharvan, Wolodymyr Lewenetz, Genevieve Zerebniak, Zenon Onufryk and Wasyl Diduk was duly appointed by the chair.

The remainder of the Monday afternoon session was devoted to supreme officers and auditors rendering additions to their printed reports. The first to render such an addition to his printed report, was I.

*In Part II: reports of Supreme Assembly, response of John O. Flis, report of the Elections Committee and primary election vote.*

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## Ukrainians enter...

(Continued from page 4)

Ukrainian-English bilingual program. "I'd support anything to keep the Ukrainian bilingual program," Mr. Broda was quoted as saying. Mr. Broda, 35, is currently the Edmonton chairman of the Alberta Heritage Council and the vice-president of the Edmonton branch of the League for the Liberation of Ukraine.

An Edmonton lawyer, he became a candidate in this election after defeating six-year incumbent Rollie Cook at a local Progressive Conservative nomination meeting in February. Mr. Broda's chances of winning are said to be good.

### Minister leaving politics

One Ukrainian, who has been in the forefront of Alberta politics for the past few years, has decided to leave the political arena for good. Energy Minister John Zaozirny is giving up his seat in the prized riding of Calgary Forest Lawn and is returning to private life.

Ukrainians will also be keeping a close eye on the contest in Edmonton Kingsway, where a 36-year-old member of the Ukrainian Professional and Business Club of Edmonton, Alan Wasnea, who is Polish, has been working hard for more than year to boost his name recognition. According to the Globe and Mail, a national newspaper based in Toronto, Ms. Wasnea has knocked on thousands of doors and attended many public functions to establish his presence and show his interest.

Sources in Edmonton said Mr. Wasnea has received a substantial amount of support from the Ukrainian community. According to a report in Ukrainian News, he is in favor of guarantees for Ukrainian and other bilingual programs in a new school act, "which would state that programs in languages other than English or French be provided in those districts where numbers warrant them."

But the Ukrainian candidate facing the biggest uphill battle is Pat Sembaliuk, the Liberal candidate in Edmonton Belmont. Members of the Liberal Party in this province are still dogged by the legacy of the government of former Prime Minister Pierre Trudeau, whose Liberal policies, many westerners say, destroyed the provincial oil industry and sent unemployment levels skyrocketing.

No Liberal has been elected to the Legislature since 1971, and most pundits have given Liberals little chance of making a breakthrough in the May 8 election. The Liberal Party in Alberta held only 1.8 percent of the popular vote in 1982, and the party is \$31,376 in the red. (Meanwhile Alberta's Progressive Conservative Party has a \$1.35 million war chest to fight the election.)

But Ms. Sembaliuk, a past-president of the Ukrainian Professional and Business Club of Edmonton and a teacher, doesn't let the statistics bother her. In a telephone interview with The Weekly, she said she is pleased with the level of support in the riding. A few Conservatives sympathetic to the Ukrainian community have quietly provided her with support, and Ukrainian News, Alberta's largest Ukrainian newspaper, published an editorial endorsing her candidacy.

"She is well aware of our community's priorities," Ukrainian News wrote, "It would be good if at least some Liberals got elected, and Pat Sembaliuk is one representative who would best serve our community's interests."

"All of the opposition to the Alberta Liberals can be attributed to Pierre Trudeau's policies," said Ukrainian News editor Marco Levitsky.

Some observers say, however, that the Liberals are slowly gaining ground in western Canada. They buttress this point with the fact that Edmontonians elected Laurence Decore, a well-known Liberal, as mayor in 1983.

"This thing with Trudeau has to be overcome," said Ms. Sembaliuk. "The voters in the last election were not necessarily anti-Liberal, but rather anti-Trudeau."

Ms. Sembaliuk says she is focusing her campaign on the deteriorating state of the provincial economy, which is expected to generate a \$2.1 billion deficit this year. She stressed that Albertans need to have a strong opposition party. "There's no opposition here, there's no one (in the Legislature) to stimulate debate," she said.

Mr. Decore, himself a Ukrainian, attended Ms. Sembaliuk's St. Valentine's Day fund-raising banquet, but for the most part he has maintained an arms-length distance from the campaign.

"As a mayor in Alberta, I'm in a rather delicate situation," said Mr. Decore in an interview. "There is a custom here where it is understood that a mayor is a mayor for all of the citizens and not just for the citizens of one party."

Mr. Decore added that he would have a difficult time "securing funds from the provincial government" if he were to show his political stripes during the provincial election.

## 350 protest...

(Continued from page 4)

the Ukrainian Congress Committee of America, Illinois chapter, stated that the protest was "to make Soviet clergy realize that people in the West know there is a lack of religious freedom in the USSR." He warned against accepting KGB agents in clerical garb.

At the banquet honoring the Russian Orthodox and Baptist delegation, the Rev. Alexie M. Bychkov, general secretary of the All-Union Council of Evangelical Christians — Baptists, spoke about peace. He was also very appreciative of the support he had received from the National Council of Churches and the people who had honored him. He stated, "You have done a lot for us over the years. Thank you for your cooperation."

A local Ukrainian Baptist pastor, the Rev. Olexa R. Harbuziuk, said that in his opinion the Rev. Bychkov was completely under KGB influence; the Rev. Bychkov once declared that Leonid Brezhnev was the instrument of God for God's work in the church.

The last day of picketing was on April 16 outside the United Methodist Church in Evanston. The members of the Chicago Action for Soviet Jewry and the United Synagogue Youth joined the Ukrainian American Justice Committee along with members of the Illinois UCCA to protest the final meeting of the theological consultation. About 20 to 30 people were standing with pickets signs outside the church.

At the press conference in the church, Metropolitan Filaret, head of the Russian Orthodox delegation, denied that there was any religious persecution in the Soviet Union.

Elizabeth, N.J.

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The popular Edmonton mayor said he is very pleased with the enthusiastic participation of the Ukrainian community in the campaign. "It's nice to see the Ukrainians find themselves very much involved in the political process in Alberta," Mr. Decore said, adding, "that access to positions of power creates a situation where politicians have a better understanding of minorities."

A former Ukrainian language consultant for the Edmonton Public School Board, Ms. Sembaliuk said she wants the government to provide the community with funding for teaching materials and transportation.

### School transportation issue

According to Mr. Semotiuk, president of the Ukrainian Canadian Committee in Alberta, Ukrainian parents who sent their children to schools that offer the Ukrainian-English bilingual program are in dire need of provincial subsidies to pay for the cost of transporting their children to school.

Because the bilingual program is offered in a limited number of schools, several children have to travel long distances to get to classes.

"The cost of transporting the school children from home to school and back has been a considerable drain on the families' finances," said Mr. Semotiuk.

He added that the transportation costs are as high as \$1,000 per year.

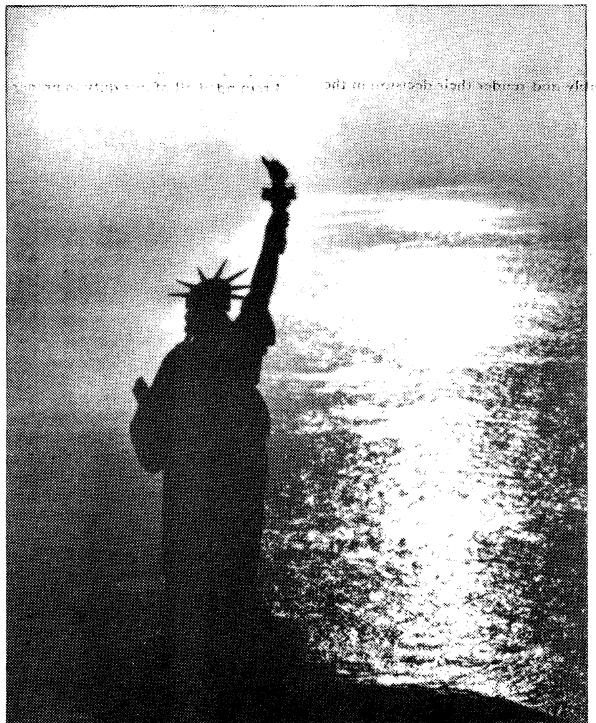
In addition to securing more funding for the Ukrainian bilingual program, the UCC wants the provincial government to allow the Ukrainian community more flexibility in determining its funding priorities.

A spokesperson for the Alberta office of the Ukrainian Canadian Committee, Myron Spolsky, said the Ukrainian community in that province is well ahead of other provinces in the amount of funding it receives from the provincial government. The provincial government hands out grants, sometimes in the millions of dollars, to such institutions as: the Canadian Institute of Ukrainian Studies, the Ukrainian Cultural Heritage Village, and the Ukrainian Canadian Committee.

Mr. Spolsky said the community wants more of a voice in pointing out areas in the community which require government funding.

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Name: \_\_\_\_\_

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I will be accompanied by \_\_\_\_\_ members of my immediate family.  
 I am a member of UNA Branch \_\_\_\_\_  
 I will arrive at (circle one): 10 a.m., 11:30 a.m., 1 p.m., 2:30 p.m.

Clip, fill out and mail to: Ukrainian National Association, 30 Montgomery St., Jersey City, N.J. 07302.

# AFGHANISTAN...

(Continued from page 3)

## Possibility of famine a concern

A study which was conducted by a British organization called AfghanAid between September and December 1983 found that up to 500,000 people are in imminent danger of starvation. The findings are based on an investigation of the circumstances of more than 5,000 children in Afghanistan's provinces.

While the organization admits that findings were subject to a larger than normal degree of error because of the war situation and hearsay evidence, the possibility of famine has been enough to trigger the concern of medical experts and legislators on Capitol Hill.

At a congressional hearing on famine held last year in Washington, Dr. Antoine Crouan of Medecins Sans Frontiers said that 1984 was a particularly "grim year for food supply in Afghanistan for three main reasons: a sharp increase in Soviet and Afghan troop activities; the poor weather conditions, specifically, lack of precipitation; and the continued flight of thousands of peasants seeking refuge in Pakistan and India."

While the situation has improved somewhat, experts ascertain that it is still poor. The price of food has increased in Afghanistan and, more importantly, "the resistance request food before arms, and this is very, very important," Dr. Crouan stressed.



Afghan citizens leaving Afghanistan, making their way to the refugee camps of Pakistan.

Dr. Crouan said that between 1982 and 1984, there was "a marked increase in the incidence of serious malnutrition in women and children."

Barnett Rubin, professor of political science at Yale University said that the Soviets have made the destruction of food a policy, including "every element of the system that produces food." Mr. Rubin said the Soviets have destroyed the land, the irrigation systems which feed the land, livestock and fruit trees (fruit had been one of the main exports of Afghanistan before the intervention).

## Soviet viewpoint

The Soviets maintain that the problems in Afghanistan are overblown and that the West has overlooked advances made in the society.

In an April 25 statement in response to a press release by the U.S. Mission to the United Nations which condemned the Soviet Union of "barbaric treatment" of Afghan women and children, the Soviet Mission said:

"Despite the terror unleashed against the people of Afghanistan with U.S. money and participation, the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan has achieved progress in the field of economy as well as in the development of health care, culture and education. One hundred ninety-two new schools and pre-school institutions were opened in 1985 alone. More than a million people learned to read and write as a result of the campaign against illiteracy. After the revolution, health care has been constantly improving, the health care system has been expanding, the number of hospital beds has grown by 80 percent and the number of physicians by 40 percent."

## Afghans find refuge abroad

Pakistan is not the only country where Afghans have found haven. Some Afghans who have been able to raise enough money have settled in the United States and Canada.

Ahmad Omar has been in this country nearly three years. He is typical of the Afghan refugee that has been able to find asylum in the U.S., he said. The economic class of people who have made their new home in the United States, Mr. Omar said, is higher than that of the people in Pakistan. Today's refugees here make up the professional class of Afghanistan. But for all their well-being in Afghanistan before the war, Mr. Omar said, many of these people have had to begin over, taking jobs as cab drivers and doing manual labor.

Mr. Omar said he ran a small hotel called Les Cavaliers in Afghanistan before the war. Eventually, he got into the export business as well, shipping furniture all over Europe. It was on a business trip to West Germany in 1979 that Mr. Omar found out about the Soviet intervention in Afghanistan. He decided not to go back, but rather stayed in West Germany, working as a hotel manager for his brother.

"I waited one-and-a-half years for my family," he said in an interview with *The Weekly*. "They escaped through the mountains" from Kabul.

Mr. Omar said he retained the hope of returning to Afghanistan after the war, not believing it would last long.

"After the Olympics, I saw there was less chance to go back and applied for political asylum in the U.S.

get humanitarian aid sent to Pakistan to the refugee camps. They have set up several service organizations to aid in their attempts to do this. Some of these organizations will be looked at next week.

The American and Canadian refugees have tried to retain their traditions in their new homeland. On March 21, they celebrated the traditional Islamic New Year. There they played on instruments from Afghanistan such as the tabla, a drum-like instrument that has covering on both ends and sang centuries old songs.

Many of those at the New Year's dance spoke of their homeland and its future. There is a feeling of tremendous uncertainty as to what will happen to Afghanistan they said. If the Soviets and the communist party, the People's Democratic Party of Afghanistan (PDPA) continue to stay in power, some refugees here believe that within two generations, the country could be virtually indoctrinated with Communist ideology and the old Islamic ways of life will disappear.

"They want to rush (industrialization) like the shah of Iran did," said one participant who wished to remain unnamed.

"Every country should find a way for social change (at its own peace)," Mr. Omar said. "It's a matter of time, of generations. They brought reforms in a brutal form, especially land reform. In Islam, if legally you have land, the law will protect you. No one has the right to invade your property. There, the government confiscates it and gives it out. That's the way they did it."

## Tough asylum policies

Those refugees who have been able to get into the United States and Canada have been fortunate by most standards. On the whole, both countries have been reluctant to let in refugees because the Afghans as a whole have been granted asylum in Pakistan. Thus, the governments feel they should stay there and not come to the U.S. or Canada. Between 1982 and 1984, the number of refugees from Afghanistan which were granted asylum in the United States was 9,289. Each year, between 1,000 and 2,000 are granted refugee status in the U.S. Last year, of the 12,000 refugees allowed to enter Canada, only 40 were from Afghanistan.

Duke Austin, spokesman for the Immigration and Naturalization Service (INS) maintained that while the U.S. government is doing the best it can in granting refugee status, many are not allowed in because they do not fall under certain guidelines.

"The number that can enter from this part of the world (the Near East) is 5,000. There are 3 million Afghans who need new homes. Just wanting to come here doesn't make you eligible. Do you assume the U.S. has open borders?" he asked.

The Refugee Act of 1980 says a person has to have "a well-founded fear of persecution based on race, religion, nationality, membership in a particular social group or political opinion." If someone meets those standards based on the situation of the home country they can apply to come to the United States. But because Pakistan grants temporary asylum to the Afghans, a majority do not fall under those guidelines.

Canada has been lax on letting in refugees also. Mr. Tahiri said that although the government assured the community there that 200 Afghans would be let in by March, no action has yet been taken.

"They promised to do something about it. We prepared a list and gave it (to them). They (said they) would get in touch with embassies abroad. We go response right away that these people should be contacted. We're trying for the reunification of families, but nothing has happened."

Instead, Mr. Tahiri said, family members have been harassed at the Canadian embassies in Islamabad and New Delhi when they went to apply for visas. The main problem stems from embassies abroad not wanting to push exit papers through. Mr. Tahiri said the immigration department in Canada must know of the problems and isn't doing anything to rectify the situation.

"Five percent can't benefit from the local (refugee) camps. There are the tribals, the villagers, people who believe and stay there and fight. They have hope, they want to fight. But there is a fraction of the urban middle class who live in the cities. These people emotionally and physically don't have the ability to live in the camps. They are looking for resettlement. They'll do anything to escape from this situation."

*Next: Humanitarian aid and a resolution to the conflict.*

## 250,000 children...

(Continued from page 1)

to the outside world that they reportedly refused permission to a Greek tour group to cancel a scheduled visit to Kiev and brought them to the area against their own will.

Most Western reports out of Kiev are now showing that the consequences of the April 29 accident at Chernobyl are far from being under control, and that its 2.5 million residents are being threatened by potentially deadly radioactive particles. Among the reports confirming the disquiet in Kiev:

- Officials in Kiev have warned residents to keep their children indoors, and to avoid the hazardous radioactive dust coating the city. People have been told to keep their windows closed, to wash their hair and hands regularly, and to scrub their floors daily.

- Sales of ice cream and food sold by street vendors have been banned.

- Radio Moscow reported that extra trains, buses and aircraft have been sent to Kiev to accommodate the increased flow of people wanting to leave the city. (TASS claimed that the reason for the mobs at train stations and ticket offices in Kiev is the start of the summer vacation season. But nearly half of the people spotted by a reporter in Moscow getting off the trains from Kiev on the morning of May 8 were children, and the number of trains and planes that have been added on are apparently far in excess of the normal holiday load.) Gary Thatcher, the Moscow correspondent for the Christian Science Monitor, reported that as many as 84,000 people left Kiev on May 8. Some of the people that arrived from Kiev at the Kievsky Voksal in Moscow, the terminus for trains from Kiev, told Western reporters that they were travelling not because of the holiday weekend but because of the concern about radiation.

- One of the most important signs of the seriousness of radioactive contamination in Ukraine came May 8 from Richard Catrell, a British member of the European Parliament: "Information reaching me suggests that the Soviet Union — using diplomatic

channels — has approached Brussels with a view to purchasing substantial quantities of surplus (European Economic Community) food...all these commodities would be purchased far in excess of the relatively modest amounts in comparison which we've sold to the Soviet Union in recent years."

- The Ukrainian Minister of Health has warned people in Kiev not to go swimming in outdoor bodies of water, and he has urged them to wash surfaces that have been contaminated by dust. He said: "We will now have to deal with the inevitability of the fact that some people have been exposed to radiation."

## A look at...

(Continued from page 5)

bers, and assets now surpassed the \$2 million mark, reaching \$2,196,884.17. It was also reported that the UNA had built a new building to house Soyuz and the Svoboda press operations.

A proposal to reorganize the juvenile branch was approved at the convention, and Nicholas Murashko became the new supreme president.

- The 18th convention was in Detroit on May 15-20, 1933. Two hundred ninety-seven delegates heard reports indicating that the UNA now had 19,831 adult members and 12,015 juveniles, and that assets totalled \$2,941,338.92. The position of supreme treasurer was eliminated, and the positions of secretary and treasurer were consolidated into a new position called financial secretary.

Delegates also voted that the supreme president should be a full-time employee of the UNA main office. The newly elected Supreme Assembly was to see to it that the English-language Ukrainian Weekly publication became a reality. Nicholas Murashko was re-elected supreme president.

At the Supreme Assembly's extraordinary session in February 1934, the merger of the UNA and the Ukrainian Workingmen's Association was discussed, and it was decided that the executive committee should continue negotiations with the UNA. It was also determined that a monument to the founder of the UNA, the Rev. Hryhory Hrushka, should be erected.

- Washington was the site of the 19th UNA convention in May 10-15, 1937. A total of 319 delegates were present. It was reported that the UNA had 30,335 adult and juvenile members, and that assets were \$4,489,305.96.

Nicholas Murashko was elected to his third term as UNA supreme president.

- The 20th convention was held on May 12-17, 1941, in Harrisburg, Pa., at a time when the second world war was raging in Europe, and much discussion was devoted to the liberation of Ukraine. Four hundred fifteen delegates were present at the conclave.

The reports revealed that the UNA had 38,165 members and assets of \$5,926,167.04. It was also noted in the reports that the UNA, and three other fraternal organizations, the Ukrainian Workingmen's Association, the Providence Association and the Ukrainian National Aid Association, had convened the first Congress of American Ukrainians in 1940, and that this gave birth to the Ukrainian Congress Committee of America.

It was also reported that the UNA had become active in organizing and sponsoring sports teams, including baseball, basketball and bowling. Nicholas Murashko was elected to a fourth term as supreme president.

Join the UNA

## Open letter...

(Continued from page 10)

relentless oppression of 50 million Ukrainians, but as it denies millions of Ukrainians warning and safety in reaction to the accident at Chernobyl.

Radio Liberty/Radio Free Europe and the Voice of America must expand their limited Ukrainian-language broadcast schedules and coverage of this emergency. It is with the greatest urgency that I ask you to intervene in every possible way to help minimize casualties and lessen the suffering of Ukrainians being exposed to lethal radiation, contamination and fallout still being released.

The USSR's deliberate failure to warn Ukrainians of imminent and present dangers is a heinous and murderous act. Every private, diplomatic and public channel of communication must be utilized and every option be exercised to bring pressure to bear upon Mr. Gorbachev to save lives.

The USSR must not only be condemned for its ongoing crimes against Ukrainians and humanity, but indicted for its continuing disregard and flagrant violations of human rights and the agreements which promise to preserve and protect the rights of all people, including those in Ukraine.

I ask your help with regard to this ongoing emergency. Americans of Ukrainian descent throughout the United States are very concerned for their relatives living in the affected areas. Yet the USSR denies them the means to make timely inquiries.

Ukrainians around Prypiat and Kiev are denied humane warning and assistance.

On behalf of these Ukrainian victims, I respectfully urge your immediate action in this matter. There is still a little time to make a difference, to save many innocent lives.

I am deeply grateful for the United States offers of humanitarian and technical assistance extended the Ukrainian people. I would very much appreciate being kept apprised of your efforts in this matter.

The Ukrainian Students' Club at Columbia University/Barnard College presents:

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## U.S. Commission...

(Continued from page 2)

York and New Jersey);

- taping and videotaping of survivors' accounts of the artificially created famine;

- scheduling of hearings across the United States;

- issuance of press releases concerning the commission's work to the news media; and

- fund-raising to enable the commission to undertake more projects (such funds would be in addition to the \$400,000 already provided for the commission by the U.S. government).

Rep. Mica also suggested that the U.S. Congress would in all probability be willing to extend the commission's authority, though not its funding, if it were determined that commission needs more time to conduct worthwhile projects. The commission chairman also cautioned that, thanks to the Gramm-Rudman bill, it is possible that some of the funds for the commission's work might be cut, therefore, community fund-raising may be crucial to the commission's success.

The commission members decided that the body's first act would be to write a letter to the Public Broadcasting Service in reference to its refusal to air the award-winning documentary on the famine of 1932-33, "Harvest of Despair." A draft of this letter was to be prepared by Ms. Mazurkevich.



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## PREVIEW OF EVENTS

May 16

**WARREN, Mich.:** The St. Joseph High School (of Detroit) Alumni Association will be holding its 95th annual reunion dinner and dance at 6 p.m. at the new De LaSalle Collegiate, 14600 Common Road. For more information call (313) 465-0512.

**NEW YORK:** A spring zabava featuring the music of the Ukrainian band Iskra will be held at 9 p.m. at the Ukrainian Institute of America, 2 E. 79th St. The dance is being sponsored by the Ukrainian Students' Club at Columbia University and Barnard College. Admission is \$10. The proceeds will go towards the establishment of Ukrainian courses at Columbia. For more information call Xenia Zielyk at (212) 677-1551.

May 16-18

**NEW YORK:** The 10th annual St. George Ukrainian Festival will be held on East Seventh Street between Second and Third avenues on Friday at 4 p.m. to 11 p.m.; Saturday at 11 a.m. to 11 p.m.; and Sunday at 1 p.m. to 11 p.m. The three-day festival will feature performances of Ukrainian folk dance, bandura music, soloists and vocal ensembles. Hahilky and dance performances will be presented by students of St. George School and St. George Academy. There will be a Ukrainian arts and crafts exhibit and sale, with demonstrations in the making of ceramics, silkscreens, woodcuts, pysanka, beadwork, woodcarving and embroidery. Ukrainian food, records, tapes and novelties will be on sale. For more information call St. George Parish at (212) 674-1615.

May 17

**TRENTON, N.J.:** Branch 11 of the Ukrainian National Women's League of America will hold a spring dance at St. Joseph's Ukrainian Catholic Church auditorium, 1195 Keutz Ave., at 9 p.m. Admission is \$15 per

person and \$10 for students. For further information call Olha Faraoniw at (609) 882-9419.

**UTICA, N.Y.:** A public rally about the case of John Demjanjuk is being sponsored by Americans for Human Rights in Ukraine at the auditorium of the Ukrainian Catholic Church, Cottage St. at 6:30 p.m. (after the "sviachene" dinner). Members of Mr. Demjanjuk's immediate family will be among the speakers at the rally.

May 18

**NEW YORK:** A violin and piano recital will be performed by Juliana Osinchuk and Kevin Lawrence at the New York Historical Society, 170 Central Park West at 2 p.m. The performance will include works by Mozart, Prokofieff, Janacek and Cowell.

**DETROIT:** The Ukrainian Educational Association "Ridna Shkola" will be holding its 35th anniversary banquet at 1:30 p.m. at the Ukrainian Cultural Center. Tickets are available at all Ukrainian credit unions. For more information call Ihor Iwanyckyj at (313) 839-5749.

**KERHONKSON, N.Y.:** Americans for Human Rights in Ukraine will be sponsoring a rally for John Demjanjuk at 1 p.m. in the hall of Holy Trinity Ukrainian Catholic Church.

May 23

**TORONTO:** The Ukrainian Students' Club at the University of Toronto will be holding a banquet for all alumni members at Hart House on the University of Toronto campus. The program will feature a lecture on the history of the club, a picture and poster display, and an entertainment program with Ukrainian vocalist Lesia of Montreal and Toronto's Odnoshanist band. Tickets are \$35 and \$30 for students. For more information, contact the club office at (416) 964-0389.

## Reports reveal...

(Continued from page 1)

diesel trains and extra flights are being put on."

TASS also said some people living in the area of the Chernobyl plant tried to take home remedies to guard against radiation, and ended up poisoning themselves with the concoctions. The report said none of the poisonings was fatal, but did not elaborate.

The TASS report was the first official indication that many residents were worried about the accident, which sent clouds of radioactive material drifting around the world.

The Soviets previously have tried to give the impression its citizens were reacting calmly to what has been described as the world's worst nuclear disaster.

Soviet television continued its "all is normal" reports on Wednesday, according to UPI Moscow correspondent G. Luther Whittington, and the official Novosti news agency reported "everything proceeds in its normal way." Both accused the West of using the accident as a pretext for detracting from "the real issue" of nuclear arms reductions.

TASS said the radiation level in Kiev has risen "over the past few days" because of changes in "the strength of the wind and its direction."

In the Soviet Union, the nightly news program "Vremya" showed happy evacuees in a picturesque Ukrainian village about 190 miles east of Chernobyl. Workers on the Pripyat River were shown testing the air with hand-held Geiger counters, and one said radiation levels were normal. Chernobyl is on the Pripyat river, which flows into the Kiev reservoir.

Although television film footage and Novosti portrayed an idyllic situation in the countryside, contradictions emerged between government and media statements.

Novosti said the evacuation of Pripyat (population: 25,000), the town near Chernobyl, went "promptly and without a hitch," and only took 165 minutes.

But senior Soviet officials admitted Tuesday that authorities at Chernobyl initially failed to grasp the magnitude of the nuclear accident and waited more than 36 hours before evacuating thousands of people living near the burning reactor.

They said "highly improbable and unforeseen failures" including a chemical explosion triggered the accident at 1:23 a.m. on April 26 and that the evacuation began at 2 p.m. the next day — 36 hours later. The blaze was quelled with 4,000 tons of sand, presumably dumped from aircraft.

Reuters reported, however, that Soviet authorities did not complete evacuation of the town of Chernobyl until May 6. A senior Western diplomatic source said on May 8 that he had information that the authorities began moving 30,000 people out of that town after Politburo members Nikolai Ryzhkov and Yegor Ligachev visited the area on Friday, May 2.

The unnamed diplomatic source also stated that Soviet reports indicate that the stricken reactor was still in a serious state.

In a telephone interview, a radiation expert in Los Angeles told the New York City Tribune that those who were exposed to radiation for the 36 hours, and especially those who fought the Chernobyl blaze from the ground and from aircraft, faced "great" danger.

"The people [around the reactor] were apparently exposed for 36 hours to

relatively high amounts of radiation, external and possibly internal," said Joseph Karbus of the Radiation Management Office of the Los Angeles County Department of Health Services.

"Pravda," the Communist Party mouthpiece, had reported Monday on the efforts of Soviet firefighters battling the 100-foot flames at the reactor, extolling their "heroism." But Mr. Karbus seemed to suggest that these men, plus those in the planes overhead who were dropping sand and the fission-stopping element boron on the blaze, had absorbed potentially lethal doses of radiation internally, by breathing tainted air, and externally, from the exposed reactor core.

"The external radiation will penetrate clothing," he said, intimating that even radiation suits would not be very protective.

At the first Soviet government news conference on the accident — called the world's worst by Western experts — the officials also repeated earlier casualty figures, stated their faith in nuclear power and accused the United States of trying to create hysteria.

They said fire at the stricken reactor had been extinguished and that radiation from the Ukrainian power station was falling fast.

Boris Shcherbina, chief of the government investigation, said the Soviet Union had released "honest information" on the incident as soon as it became clear what had happened.

But he said local officials had failed to grasp the magnitude of the mishap, which he said probably started with a chemical explosion.

"The first information we obtained was not the same which we obtained when we were in the area," he said. "In the area, the local experts had not made a correct assessment of the accident."

Diplomats at the press conference said it was clear the Kremlin had decided to acknowledge there had been mistakes in the initial handling of the accident and pin the blame publicly on the local authorities.

The investigation commission was appointed on Monday last week, the day Moscow first reported the accident which had sent radiation streaming across Europe. Moscow came under strong criticism from abroad over the two-day delay and its failure to provide full details.

In his account of events of Chernobyl, Mr. Shcherbina said two of the station's four reactors were ready to start operating again, though the third would "require careful study and research."

Foreign officials last week said they thought the third reactor was also running out of control or burning.

In all, 49,000 people have been evacuated from an 18-mile area around the plant. Mr. Shcherbina said remaining workers in the area were taken out "when the situation became more dangerous two days later."

He said radiation levels reached a peak on April 27 before falling back to the present level of 10-14 milliroentgens.

Monitoring in Ukraine and neighboring areas showed levels "had not exceeded the norms of radiation safety established by the International Atomic Energy Agency and the USSR Health Ministry," he said.

IAEA chief Hans Blix and two other officials are investigating the accident at the invitation of the Soviet government.

Dr. James Mace, a Harvard professor and authority on the Soviet Union, called it a "positive" sign that the director of the IAEA is being allowed into Moscow. "But studying the disaster from Moscow," he said, "is like trying to study a disaster in France from a point in Germany."

## UIA becomes Chernobyl info center

**NEW YORK** — The Ukrainian Institute of America 2 E. 79th St., with the support of Ukrainian organizations, has formed a Network for the Ukrainian Catastrophe '86 (NUC), in response to the Chernobyl nuclear disaster reported in late April in Ukraine. NUC will serve as a clearinghouse of information. NUC has installed a special hotline telephone.

## To unveil memorial

**LOS ANGELES** — A memorial in remembrance of the 7 million victims of the 1932-33 famine-genocide in Ukraine will be dedicated at the Los Angeles County Mall on Sunday, May 18, at 12:30 p.m.

The principal speaker will be Los Angeles County Supervisor Michael D. Antonovich.

The Los Angeles County Mall is located in the County Government Center between Hill Street and Grand Avenue in Los Angeles.

The May 18 dedication is being sponsored by the Los Angeles Genocide in Ukraine Commemorative Committee. For further information call (818) 734-2065.

NUC headquarters requests that informed individuals report any news they may have about the current conditions in Ukraine and the health of residents in the affected area. NUC will, in turn, serve as a center for dissemination of the news to the press, both national and local.

Concerned individuals are encouraged to send letters and telegrams to government officials, both local and national, to the United Nations, its commissions and affiliated world organizations to: a) appeal for medical supplies, personnel, food and clothing to be sent to aid victims of the nuclear tragedy; b) ask that radiation victims be allowed to travel to the West to receive medical attention; c) request that more information be supplied to the West about the exact nature of this nuclear accident, its cause and the extent of the devastation.

The Network for the Ukrainian Catastrophe (NUC) is ready to assist individuals needing advice and information in contacting the appropriate officials and relief agencies.

Individuals able to volunteer time and resources are asked to call the NUC hotline, (212) 288-2441.