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# THE UKRAINIAN WEEKLY

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

Vol. LXII

No. 51

THE UKRAINIAN WEEKLY SUNDAY, DECEMBER 18, 1994

75 cents

## Sen. McConnell plans overhaul of U.S. foreign aid structure

by Xenia Ponomarenko  
UNA Washington Office

WASHINGTON — At a December 12 press conference, U.S. Sen. Mitch McConnell unveiled his plans to overhaul the existing foreign aid structure in the 104th Congress. In his proposed legislation, the Kentucky Republican set three major goals for foreign aid: protection of American security; promotion of American economic interests; and preservation of political and regional stability.

An overriding principle is that the United States should not fund anything overseas that "we are not funding here," he cautioned.

Sen. McConnell's bill will condition aid to Russia based on Russia's non-intervention in the countries of the former Soviet Union, will earmark assistance to Ukraine, Georgia and Armenia and will facilitate the entry into NATO by Poland, Hungary, the Czech Republic, Slovakia, Latvia, Lithuania and Estonia.

Other highlights of the proposed legislation include abolishing the U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID) and placing its responsibilities with the secretary of state, and including the U.S. Peace Corps and the United States Information Agency (USIA) within the Department of State.

Sen. McConnell emphasized the need to start from scratch in the provision of assistance, since foreign assistance has been "crippled by the outmoded Foreign Assistance Act of 1961." This law consists of 300 pages of conflicting policies and questionable goals with no sense of coherence, he noted. The senator expressed his disappointment that, during his service on the Foreign Operations Subcommittee, not a single country graduated from the need for foreign assistance, demonstrating the flaws in the current foreign aid law and the need for a complete overhaul.

The McConnell bill will focus on those countries that demonstrate a commitment to reform through implementation of a free economic market system rather than targeting only the "symptoms of poverty and despair" in these countries as in the past. The senator cited Chile as an example of a country that developed an unhealthy "aid dependency." Once this country was "cut loose," the Chilean economy turned the corner and now Chile is joining NAFTA, he noted.

Sen. McConnell summarized, "no economic entitlements, no fostering of dependencies... The U.S. will only fund U.S. national priorities." To Sen. McConnell, these priorities are the countries in Europe and the newly independent states, and the countries in the Middle East. All other programs will be cut by approximately 20 percent.

The Kentucky lawmaker stressed the aspects of his bill that he believes will

ensure future stability for the United States.

- First, he will toughen the assistance provision for Russia. The senator said he is not opposed to aiding Russia, but believes Russian aid must be conditioned on Russia's non-intervention in the countries of the former Soviet Union.

- Second, the bill will contain specific earmarks for Ukraine, Georgia and Armenia. Sen. McConnell said he never agreed with the administration's "Russia-first" approach to assistance in the former Soviet Union.

- Third, the bill targets NATO expansion for the Visegrad countries and the Baltics by providing international military training, peacekeeping training and excess defense articles to these countries.

When asked how he would ensure that the earmarks in the bill are implemented by the administration, the senator replied that he does not foresee the same problems with earmarks as in the past, "since the Republicans [now] have a majority" in the Congress.

In response to repeated questioning about whether countries receiving assistance will have to compete for their slice of the assistance pie, Sen. McConnell emphasized that countries must demonstrate they are willing to support a free market system.

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## Two survivors, 29 feared dead as Ukrainian cargo ship sinks

by Roman Woronowycz

JERSEY CITY, N.J.— Only two survivors were found in the search for the 31-member crew of a Ukrainian cargo ship that had capsized and sank in the north Atlantic Ocean on December 9, 750 miles from the Nova Scotia coast. Late on December 14, the U.S. Coast Guard suspended the search for survivors and bodies of merchant marines from the Ukrainian cargo vessel Salvador Allende.

The Atlantic Area Commander, Vice-Admiral James M. Loy decided to suspend the operation because of the improbability of anyone surviving six days in the turbulent waters and harsh conditions of the north Atlantic Ocean in December. Rescuers had to deal with extreme weather conditions during their search, including 40-foot seas and 60-knot winds. The rescue effort will resume only if evidence surfaces that someone is still alive or a body discovered.

U.S. Coast Guard spokesperson, Petty Officer Kevin Miller, said two survivors, picked up Saturday, December 10, remain the only merchant marines found alive. The two survivors were identified by Ukraine's Embassy in Washington as 36-year-old 3rd Mechanic Oleksander

Taranov of Kherson and 37-year-old 2nd Mate Ivan Skyba of Odessa. Mr. Taranov was flown to Dartmouth General Hospital in Nova Scotia. He was released from the intensive care unit on December 12 and is in good condition, recuperating from hypothermia, said hospital spokesperson Sandra Ciarnaco. Mr. Skyba was picked up by a Norway-bound ship, the Torungen. The Japanese ship's captain, Lee In, told The Weekly on December 15 that Mr. Skyba is in good condition, although non-ambulatory due to leg injuries suffered during his rescue.

Seven bodies of dead Allende crewmen were reported seen by rescuers. At first U.S. Coast Guard spokespersons confirmed that four bodies had been recovered, but later said that no bodies had been retrieved. Spokesperson Lt. John Shallman explained that the report of four recoveries was erroneous, yet not unusual in this type of rescue effort. "We had 20 ships in all from various countries, looking for survivors, speaking many languages. Along the line someone misunderstood a message." Twenty-nine sailors remain missing.

The six-day search was a large-scale, multi-national effort that involved more

(Continued on page 4)

## Ukraine calls for political settlement in Chechnya

by Marta Kolomayets  
Kyiv Press Bureau

KYYIV — The Ukrainian government views the war in Chechnya as an internal Russian affair, but has expressed hope that the conflicting sides will be able to reach an understanding before the hostilities escalate, according to a statement issued by officials on Monday, December 12.

"Unfortunately, both sides did not find sufficient agreement and did not find the good will to be able to sit down at the negotiating table and reach a decision concerning their existing problems," said First Deputy Foreign Minister Borys Tarasiuk at a briefing on Tuesday morning, December 13.

[On Thursday, December 15, Russian troops were 20 kilometers outside Grozny, the capital of Chechnya; reports from the western front made it clear that Moscow was pulling no punches in ending the rebel region's three-year-old claim to independence, reported Lee Hockstader of The Washington Post. He added that for now the Russian strategy is apparently to lock Grozny in a stranglehold and force the Chechens to negotiate at gunpoint.]

The Ukrainian Parliament also passed

a brief four-sentence statement on Tuesday, December 13, appealing to the feuding sides to resolve their problems by political, peaceful means.

Although some deputies wanted to discuss the issue, the proposal was rejected by a vote of 162-77, with 59 abstentions.

"There is no need for ethnic-based flirtations," said Mykhalo Doroshkevsky, a member of the Communist Party in the Crimea.

"Our Parliament has a lot to do without the Chechnya situation," he added.

### **Delicate situation**

Observing that the "Chechen question is very delicate," Mr. Tarasiuk noted that "neighboring countries should behave with restraint."

The diplomat added that Ukraine's citizens and organizations have been warned against becoming involved in the conflict. "But the government of Ukraine is not indifferent to the fate of its citizens who may have — for any number of reasons — ended up in Chechnya. We have a developed mechanism that will defend the rights of our citizens, and we discussed this matter with our ministry and Russia as soon as the situation turned into military conflict."

However, a spokesman for UNA-UNSO, the ultra-right wing nationalist organization said the group "had enough people in Chechnya."

"UNA-UNSO has been and is giving any assistance within its power to the Chechen nation," said Viktor Melnyk, a spokesman for UNA-UNSO, on Thursday, December 15.

At a news conference last week, a spokesman for the group said it was ready to send some 200 people to Chechnya in defense of the republic's sovereignty. However, the group's leader, Dmytro Korchynsky, told reporters that the organization's members would be involved only as observers in resolving the conflict.

Chechnya needs only moral support from Ukraine, said Ruslan Badayev, a representative of the Chechen government, speaking at a UNA-UNSO news conference on Tuesday, December 13.

According to Mr. Badayev, the developments in Chechnya virtually imply the beginning of a Caucasus war. "Dagestan has already declared war against Russia. Ingushetia has already become involved in action with Ossetian volunteers trying to break through

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## ANALYSIS

## Ukraine under President Kuchma

by David R. Marples

In the four months that have passed since Leonid Kuchma was elected president of Ukraine, two major events have occurred. A plan to initiate fundamental economic reforms has been adopted; and the Ukrainian Parliament has endorsed by a large majority the Nuclear non-Proliferation Treaty originally agreed to by former President Leonid Kravchuk. Ukraine can thus take its place on the world stage as a potential member of the European Union and President Bill Clinton's Partnership for Peace Program.

On the other hand, President Kuchma's avowed policy of developing closer ties with Russia has been less successful. The Ukrainian-Russian friendship treaty has been stalled several times, ostensibly because of Russia's irritation at Mr. Kuchma's proposal to "write off" Ukraine's billions of rubles of debt to Russia. An attempt in September to raise the status of the Russian language in Ukraine — some feel that President Kuchma was the initiator — collapsed as a result of a sustained campaign against it by Rukh deputies in the Parliament. The new president, who has won praise in the West as a firm administrator and more dedicated reformer than his predecessor, must address an economic breakdown without committed support from Ukraine's neighbor and largest trading partner, Russia.

The scale of Ukraine's collapse is alarming. On October 15, the Ukrainian currency (karbovanets or coupon) fell from 71,500 to 100,000 to the U.S. dollar just a few days after the spectacular collapse of the Russian ruble in Moscow. A member of the Ukrainian Parliament's Committee on Economic Policy could only attribute the fall of the coupon to "sabotage against Kuchma's reforms." During the period 1991-1993, President Kuchma has pointed out, Ukraine's national income produced has dropped by 39 percent, a fall greater than during World War II. According to World Bank figures, Ukraine had the highest inflation rate in the world in the second half of 1993. More recently in some regions of Ukraine, unhappy coal miners went on strike for higher wages. Coal miners' strikes are now so common that they attract scarcely any attention in the media.

On the other hand, it has been pointed out that in Kyiv at least, there are signs of recovery: more and better cars on the road; new restaurants; foreign enterprises are opening with increased regularity.

## Sen. McConnell...

(Continued from page 1)

He said he finds that "one thing that works is free markets and free trade."

The senator stated that economic growth is the first priority in the development of a country and that "other issues will follow" in reference to human rights as conditions of foreign aid. He noted the successful economic growth in Asian countries.

Stating that he "was never a fan" of the Partnership for Peace plan advocated by the Clinton administration, Sen. McConnell said he believes the national interests of the United States will be bolstered by earmarks for Ukraine, Georgia and Armenia, and the expansion of NATO to include Hungary, Poland, the Czech Republic and Slovakia.

He added that he believes the U.S. will not always get along with Russia, but that is no reason to delay NATO expansion. He also expressed support for President Bill Clinton's recent moves toward the expansion of NATO for these countries.

(Further, the forthcoming IMF loan could significantly alleviate Ukraine's debts.) Is there a nouveau riche stratum in Ukraine, and if so, what sort of people are included therein?

One answer was provided recently in an article in Moscow's Literaturnaya Gazeta, a newspaper that in the past used to receive its numerous "scoops" directly from KGB sources. It concerned a certain E. Podanev from the Crimea, the former hand-to-hand combat champion of the Soviet Union and a figure as colorful as the former Communist apparatchiks are dull.

Mr. Podanev became a "racketeer" in the post-Soviet period. He became a landowner with a dacha, and owned a fleet of helicopters. Having successfully made the transition from criminal to successful businessman (crossing a somewhat indefinable line), he decided to join the political elite. As a man of means, however, rather than simply running for office he created the Christian-Liberal Party of the Crimea, assisted, inter alia, by the Church Bank and a retired rear admiral.

Many businessmen were allegedly "forced" to join this party and pay fees in hard currency. The party soon became the largest in the politically volatile Crimea, with 168,000 members by last summer. Its center was Sevastopol, a prime base for clandestine oil transportation by the Ukrainian-Russian organized crime syndicate.

Like that of others engaged in such pursuits, Mr. Podanev's end was fast and bloody. At the height of the party's success, he and two other leaders were assassinated, and the party was disbanded in August, possibly at the behest of crime figures. The importance of his venture lies in its attempt to combine enterprise with political power, something rarely attempted by the political consortia in Ukraine.

The Kuchma regime wishes to privatize the economy without permitting much scope to entrepreneurs such as Mr. Podanev. The president's plan is to change the credit and monetary system; to introduce the new Ukrainian currency (the long-delayed hryvnia); to end foreign currency circulation in Ukraine; liberalize tax policies; and to extend privatization by the end of 1995 from small enterprises to large ones, and in the process to reorganize 8,000 middle-sized and large state enterprises into joint stock companies.

Land reform is also a prime goal, in addition to reducing the authority of local councils and increasing that of the Cabinet of Ministers. The reform program might be described as "privatization from above." Other observers have referred to it as a "Polish variant" of economic reform and one that will entail severe sacrifices from the population.

Ukraine today is politically apathetic — no party at present can command more than 3 percent of popular support — and divided between those who eke a subsistence existence and a tiny minority of almost grotesquely rich (and usually very young) new entrepreneurs. Yet a vigorous new president directs a state that is further advanced in the democratic process than its giant neighbor to the east, and one that has been accepted into the international arena after a three-year hiatus not all of its own making.

David R. Marples is director of the Stasiuk Program on Contemporary Ukraine, Canadian Institute of Ukrainian Studies, University of Alberta. This article appeared originally in the *Edmonton Journal* on November 25.

## NEWSBRIEFS

## Kuchma fires energy chief

KYYIV — Ukraine's President Leonid Kuchma fired the chief official in charge of natural gas and oil supplies for failing to make payments on arrears of \$713.5 million owed Turkmenistan for gas supplies. The countries had agreed last month to reschedule Ukraine's debt payment over a seven-year period. Mykhailo Kovalko, chairman of the state oil and gas committee, who had negotiated the extended repayment plan, was fired along with two other officials after a weekend Cabinet meeting, where Mr. Kovalko was also accused of inaction in reducing domestic gas consumption. President Kuchma said the necessary payment of \$41 million had been made to Turkmenistan on December 11, as part of the \$361 million Ukraine has received from the International Monetary Fund. In return, Turkmenistan has agreed to restart the flow of gas to Ukraine. Mr. Kuchma, commenting on corruption in Ukraine said, "Everyone here views himself as a transitional figure. They want to grab something and run off with it. I'm talking about people at the very top." (Reuters)

## Coal shortage forces imports

KYYIV — Officials announced on December 14 that Ukraine would import more than half a million tons of coal this month from Russia and Poland to avoid an energy shortage that has already shut down large sectors of industry. The two countries are asking payment in advance. In addition, Deputy Prime Minister Anatoly Dyuba told the Parliament that by March Ukraine would have to import an additional 4 million tons. Ukraine's coal industry has shrunk considerably in the last few years. This year's projected output of 95.3 million tons is well below the Soviet era peaks of 218 million. Mr. Dyuba said that even with the imports, available daily supplies will still total only 120,000 tons, which he called "short of requirements." Coal shortages have hit thermal power stations and steel mills, one of Ukraine's few hard currency-earning industries. Lately electricity shortages have also caused rotating power brownouts in major cities. (Reuters)

## Inflation rate soars, again

KYYIV — Ukraine's inflation rate soared in November, at 72 percent, reaching its highest level in a year. In October, the country saw 22 percent levels. Deputy Minister of the Economy Viktor Kalnik said the steep increase is a result of the government's decision to slash subsidies at the beginning of November. On November 2, prices for transportation, energy and rent

were freed, resulting in tenfold price increases in some instances. Kalnik said he expects December inflation to hit 35 percent to 40 percent. (RFE/RL Daily Report)

## The Crimea's Tsekov resigns

SYMFEROPIL — The Crimea's Parliament Chairman Sergei Tsekov said on December 14 that he was resigning his position, blaming turmoil over proposals to change the make-up of the Parliament's leadership. Mr. Tsekov's resignation was not accepted by the deputies. Sergei Nikulin, member of the Parliament's leading faction, Russia, said, "This is a personal battle for jobs. At issue here is nothing less than personal ambition." (Reuters)

## Salmonella outbreak kills newborns

KYYIV — A salmonella epidemic in a Kyiv hospital maternity ward has killed nine newborn babies and left 23 fighting for their lives, health officials said on December 14. Ukraine's Deputy Health Minister Raisa Bogatiryova reported that the epidemic was transmitted via the milk used to feed the infants. She said the remaining babies, although in serious condition, should survive. She did not blame the hospital staff, stating that no symptoms were apparent or reported. It is the worst such outbreak in 17 years. Several epidemics, including cholera and diphtheria, have broken out in Ukraine recently. Ms. Bogatiryova said that the spread of the diseases can be attributed to worsening social conditions, the collapse of the health care system in the post-Soviet world and a disregard for elementary hygiene, even in hospitals. (Reuters)

## Apartments for army officers

WASHINGTON — The Pentagon announced on December 14 a joint U.S.-Ukrainian venture to build a \$16 million apartment complex in Khmelnytsky for former Strategic Rocket Forces and their families. Many officers have fallen on hard times since the collapse of the Soviet empire and the devaluation of their pensions. The money comes from funds provided under the Nunn-Lugar Act. Groundbreaking for the 135-unit development occurred on December 14. The project is expected to be completed within a year. (Associated Press)

## Caterpillar gets Ukraine contract

PEORIA, Ill. — The world's largest manufacturer of earth-moving equipment

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## THE UKRAINIAN WEEKLY

FOUNDED 1933

An English-language newspaper published by the Ukrainian National Association Inc., a non-profit association, at 30 Montgomery St., Jersey City, N.J. 07302.

Yearly subscription rate: \$30; for UNA members — \$20.

Second-class postage paid at Jersey City, N.J. 07302.

(ISSN — 0273-9348)

Also published by the UNA: Svoboda, a Ukrainian-language daily newspaper (annual subscription fee: \$55; \$30 for UNA members), and Veselka, a Ukrainian-language children's magazine (annual subscription fee: \$10; \$8 for UNA members).

The Weekly and Svoboda:  
(201) 434-0237, -0807, -3036

UNA:  
(201) 451-2200

Postmaster, send address changes to:  
The Ukrainian Weekly  
P.O. Box 346  
Jersey City, N.J. 07303

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The Ukrainian Weekly, December 18, 1994, No. 51, Vol. LXII  
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## "Initiative for Ukraine" hopes to reinvigorate Ukrainian computer industry

by Roman Woronowycz

KYYIV — A training center ultimately aimed at establishing a country-wide computer industry in Ukraine began its work here in October. Within five years the training center hopes to have established the foundation of a major industry by having trained thousands of current Ukrainian computer specialists how to work and compete with the industry from the West.

"Hopefully we will make Ukraine a key and central place for the computer programming industry," said Steven Minsky, director of Apple CDV Ltd., an independently owned marketing affiliate of the well-known computer firm Apple Corp. CDV Ltd. has been operating in Kyiv since late 1992. It is the sole authorized distributor of Apple products in Ukraine.

The effort called the Initiative for Ukraine, spearheaded by CDV Ltd., will attempt to organize and develop a national software industry, which then should bring into Ukraine much-needed foreign currency and create jobs. It will be developed in tandem with major universities in Ukraine. "We want to create a series of Silicon Valleys in Ukraine," said the 31-year-old Mr. Minsky.

His brother, Jack, who is international development director for CDV Ltd., formulated the idea of Initiative for Ukraine. "Kyiv was the center of the Soviet computer industry, and as the Soviets did with many industries, they located the schools where the action was," he said. "For Ukraine that meant the lion's share of computer schools were located here, which in turn has given the country a concentration of computer scientists unequaled anywhere in the world — even in California's Silicon Valley."

Steve Minsky estimates that nearly 500,000 software experts have been trained in Ukraine since the 1960s, many of whom today drive taxis or are unemployed because the country's economy continues to slowly decay. Ukraine probably has more computer expertise potential than most high-tech countries, said Mr. Minsky. "There are many experts. Most students were taught the binary code (the basis for computer science) at the elementary school age. Now we have to take the expertise and develop a product, a market and an industry."

The government especially seems excited by the effort, no doubt because it would develop a modern service-oriented industry in addition to creating employment and halting the brain drain to the West that has affected most post-Soviet countries. Mr. Minsky explained that within five years the potential exists for Ukraine to capture 2 percent of the world software marketplace and create 100,000 new jobs while bringing \$3 billion in revenues to Ukraine.

In July 1992, President Leonid Kravchuk enthusiastically supported the idea and suggested that the initiative collaborate with Ukraine's Academy of Sciences. A commission was organized which culminated on June 3 in an announcement by Mr. Minsky and Borys Paton, head of the Academy of Sciences, that they were ready to implement their plans. Ukraine's recently elected president, Leonid Kuchma, has also expressed his support for the program.

The Minskys and Mr. Paton envision the Initiative for Ukraine as a gradually developing six-pronged endeavor. At its heart is what Mr. Minsky calls a "train the trainers" program, in which 12 Ukrainian computer programmers are taught Western programming techniques and become familiar with Western computer hardware and software. The 12 trainees were selected in a competitive process.

The training center, dubbed MacKyiv University and located in the CDV Ltd. offices, opened October 10. It is equipped with Apple computers provided by CDV Ltd., which is also providing food, lodging and administrative support for the 12 students, approximately a \$40,000 investment. The software has been provided by an independent Apple affiliate in Hungary, Semantec, while the U.S. Agency for International Development has provided \$208,000 in computer hardware and support funds.

After a four-month training program, the students will receive certificates and then disperse to various universities in Ukraine to train additional programmers. "Each trainer will have four 'children' of his own," said Mr. Minsky, explaining the number of trainees the new trainers will take on. In the second round, programs are due to begin at universities in Lviv, Kharkiv, Donetsk, Zaporizhzhia, Odessa and Symferopol. Mr. Minsky said the universities, like the



The first twelve students of the "train the trainer" program (back row) with CDV Ltd. director Steven Minsky (seated at center) and his staff.

students, were competitively chosen with a basic requirement that each school have a high expertise in software programming.

By mid-1995, Mr. Minsky envisions 2,000 programmers having completed or then participating in programs in 60 cities across Ukraine. He underscored that the program is projected to continue for an additional four years.

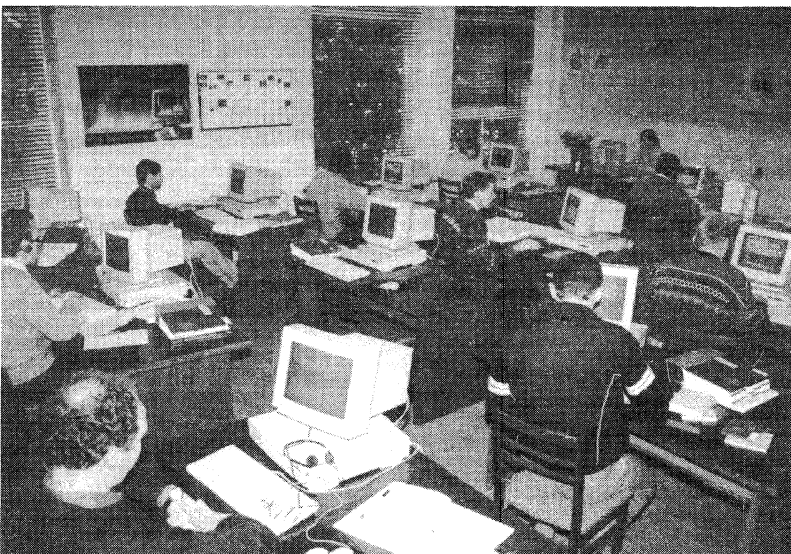
A second phase of the program was initiated at the end of October and calls for developing the business acumen of the participants. Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute (RPI), the oldest engineering institution in the United States, which has several ongoing business incubator projects in Kyiv and Lviv, has stationed instructors at the training center. They will teach the 12 participants Western business standards and how to develop a business plan. "A requirement for receiving a certificate of completion will be that each student develops a comprehensive and specific business plan," explained Mr. Minsky.

The industry development initiative also calls for management counseling by the International Executive Services Corps, a U.S. government volun-

teer program similar to the Peace Corps, which attempts to develop individual and corporate technical skills in developing countries. Currently, a retired U.S. software executive has been recruited to counsel the participants.

Other prongs of the Initiative for Ukraine include developing a software information center, funding an Apple Prize for outstanding students and founding an information center at the Academy of Sciences under the auspices of the Institute of Software Systems, which will assist the academy in developing its inventions for export.

Mr. Minsky, whose grandparents left Kyiv in 1917, said that neither CDV Ltd., nor Apple nor the Rensselaer Institute will hold any of the patents or copyrights when new products are developed. "Whatever new copyrights are developed will be owned by those individuals who developed them," said Mr. Minsky. The Boston-born Wharton Business School graduate added that the whole initiative is meant strictly as a not-for-profit effort. "We feel that our investment will be paid back in the long term," said Mr. Minsky. "We are investing in good will."



The MacKyiv training center at CDV Ltd. headquarters and some of the twelve trainees.

## Married man ordained priest by Ukrainian bishop of Saskatoon

by Christopher Guly

OTTAWA – Bishop Basil Filevich hopes that silence means consent.

Over the Canadian Thanksgiving Day weekend, on October 9, the 76-year-old head of the Ukrainian Catholic Eparchy of Saskatoon for 11 years, ordained a married man to the priesthood. Yet, more than two months later, Bishop Filevich has yet to hear any word from the Vatican's Congregation for Eastern Churches over Ivan Nahachewsky's elevation from the deaconate to the priesthood.

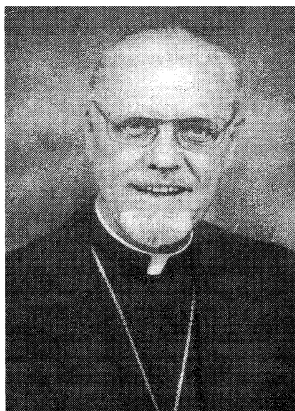
But he has heard from some Latin-rite Roman Catholic priests, he said. "I received many calls from them saying 'Good for you,'" explained Bishop Filevich, who is still awaiting word on his own retirement from the Vatican two years after submitting the resignation required of Catholic prelates over age 75.

"Ten years ago, the synod of Ukrainian Catholic bishops wrote to the pope seeking clarification over the issue of married clergy in our Church," said the bishop in a telephone interview from his consistory offices in Saskatoon. "But so far, we haven't received any response."

However, a Vatican official told the Catholic News Service that the 1930 ban on ordaining married men in the Eastern rite in North America remains in effect. A similar ban had been imposed a year earlier in the United States.

Bishop Filevich explained that the question of married clergy in the Ukrainian Catholic Church was addressed in the Union of Brest of 1596. "One of the conditions of that was that we would retain our customs."

Furthermore, the bishop said the new Code of Canon Law for Eastern Churches, released three years ago, supports the tradition of ordaining married men to the priesthood.



Bishop Basil Filevich

Yet, the Rev. Marco Brogi, undersecretary of the Eastern-rite congregation, told the Catholic News Service recently that the North American prohibition remains in effect under "special norms of the Holy See." In other words, the Vatican allows it, but only in Ukraine, the homeland of the Ukrainian Catholic Church.

However, Bishop Filevich said that he ordained the Rev. Nahachewsky, a father of three based in Kamsack, Saskatchewan, "in good faith and out of necessity." Thirty priests serve 102 churches in the Saskatoon Eparchy. Although the Rev. Nahachewsky, who was ordained a deacon two years ago, is in his early 30s, the average age of priests in Saskatchewan is between 67 and 68, said the eparch.

"I've had to close more than 30 churches because we just don't have the resources,"

(Continued on page 10)

## Two survivors...

(Continued from page 1)

than 38 merchant marine vessels, 18 aircraft from the United States and Canada including C-130 transport planes, Navy P-3 Orions and the U.S. Coast Guard cutter Seneca.

The 450-foot Allende, carrying a load of rice from Texas and headed for Helsinki, Finland, encountered 65-mile-an-hour winds and 40-foot waves early Friday morning, capsized and then sank at approximately 7 a.m., although no one is certain why. Such weather conditions, although not the norm, are far from unusual for the north Atlantic at this time of year.

Distress calls had been received from the ship, which is owned by the Black Sea Shipping Co. (BLASCO) of Odessa, as early as Thursday evening, said U.S. Coast Guard officials. The first rescue crew aboard a Canadian C-130 Hercules,

## I. Szkafarowsky dies at age 57

YONKERS, N.Y. – Iwanna Prystacka-Szkafarowsky, mother of acclaimed opera singer Stefan Szkafarowsky and mother-in-law of UNA Adviser Alexander Chudolij, died tragically on December 14, in Yonkers, N.Y., at the age of 57.

Burial took place on December 17 at Holy Spirit Ukrainian Catholic Cemetery in Hampton, N.Y.

reached the Salvador Allende, which was then listing at about a 45-degree angle, at about 3 a.m. Friday morning. A group of 11 sailors in a long wooden life boat was spotted by the rescue crews, who achieved radio communication with them, reported The New York Times.

"They radioed us in heavily accented English, that there were 11 people on board," said Lt. Kevin Dort of the Canadian forces, who was on the plane. "We saw several waves swamp the boat, but the boat always came back up. Then we tried to talk to them again and they didn't come back." The rescue crews could not initiate rescue operations because of the inclement weather but did drop several survival kits to the sailors in life boats, life rafts and hanging on to debris.

Mr. Taranov, one of the survivors, was picked up Saturday afternoon, after more than a day in the waters of the North Atlantic. He was wearing only cloth overalls, two woolen sweaters, a nylon jumpsuit and an orange life jacket, reported The New York Times. He was pulled up by a cable onto an HH-60 helicopter by the New York Air National Guard, after being spotted in 25-foot waves about 75 miles from the site of the sinking of the Allende.

The other survivor, Mr. Skyba, was picked up by the Torungen just after midnight December 10.

U.S. Coast Guard spokesperson Steve Sapp said that any investigation into the cause of the Allende's sinking would be initiated by the country under whose flag the ship sails, in this case Ukraine.

## Black Sea Fleet should be single entity, says Crimea

by Marta Kolomayets

Kyiv Press Bureau

KYYIV – The Crimean Parliament voted unanimously on Thursday, December 15, to appeal to the Russian and Ukrainian presidents to keep the Black Sea Fleet a single entity, an operational unit to serve the interests of the Commonwealth of Independent States, reported Interfax-Ukraine.

The vote came as yet another round of Ukrainian-Russian talks about the fleet concluded in Kyiv on Wednesday, December 13.

"We have covered over two-thirds of the road and coordinated the critical issues in the main document, a draft declaration on principles to solve the Black Sea Fleet problem, which is to be signed by the presidents," said Deputy Prime Minister Yevhen Marchuk, the head of the Ukrainian delegation, in Kyiv on Wednesday, December 14.

However, according to a Foreign Ministry official, the negotiations over the disputed Black Sea Fleet are collapsing, with Russian negotiators refusing to review Ukraine's latest proposals.

Speaking on condition of anonymity, he said the Russian side, chaired by special envoy Yuriy Dubinin, was unprepared and had not reviewed documents presented by the Ukrainians earlier in the month.

The Russians continue to demand that Ukraine provide Russia with a naval base

in the Crimea for historic reasons.

Ukrainian Vice-Admiral Volodymyr Bezkorovainy said that Ukraine's stand on Russia's infantry stationed on Ukrainian territory will remain tough.

"Russia must deploy its troops on its own territory," he added.

Deputy Prime Minister Marchuk said on Wednesday, December 14, that both sides have agreed to leasing as a basic condition for the Russian navy's use of Ukrainian territory.

But, according to Ukrainian sources, the terms and mechanism for leasing Ukrainian territory have yet to be worked out. The talks are to continue on December 20.

It seems unlikely that a treaty on partnership and cooperation between the presidents of the two neighboring countries can be signed if the fleet issue remains unresolved. It has been a sticking point in relations since the collapse of the Soviet Union.

"The Crimean Parliament is convinced that a special decision on the Black Sea Fleet's status can be made only with participation of the Crimeans in the negotiating process between Ukraine and Russia," said a document released by the peninsula's Parliament on Thursday, December 15.

The officials of the peninsula think that the Black Sea Fleet should be manned, for the most part, with Crimean conscripts.

## Ukraine calls...

(Continued from page 1)

Chechnya."

Down in the Crimea, in the autonomous republic's capital of Symferopol, more than 500 people gathered on December 12, for a rally and demanded an immediate halt to military actions against the Chechen people and the withdrawal of Russian troops.

Members of the Mejlis, the Crimean Tatar council, organized the meeting. They were supported by the Crimean branches of Rukh, the Popular Movement of Ukraine and the Ukrainian Republican Party.

Refat Chubarov, deputy chairman of the Crimean Mejlis, said the Russian leadership's decision to draw troops into Chechnya is "absurd."

Ten volunteers from the Crimea's Muslim Party left for Chechnya earlier in the week to assist Dzhokhar Dudayev, leader of the breakaway region, reported Interfax-Ukraine.

"Crimea's Muslim Party members will not stand idly by when danger threatens the state of Ichkeria because of the bloodthirsty Russian empire," said a statement issued by the party.

On Sunday, December 11, in Ukraine's capital city, Kyiv, democratic forces organized a rally near the Russian Embassy to protest the introduction of Russian troops into Chechnya.

The rally, attended by about 100 people, was organized by the Ukrainian Democratic coalition comprising 40 political organizations. Organizers of the rally characterized the recent developments in Chechnya as "the beginning of a second stage in the break-up of the empire."

"This can be considered a dress rehearsal for an attack on Ukraine," said political analyst Vadym Halynovsky, writing for the Hotline press service.

"Unleashing an armed conflict with a nation that has a right to struggle for its independence proves that the imperialists

will stop at nothing if their absolute power is in danger," said Oleksander Lavrynovych, one of Rukh's leaders.

Mr. Lavrynovych said developments in that region reveal Russia's true face to the world, as a state that cannot be considered democratic.

"We cannot watch silently the destruction of Chechen statehood and the Chechen nation," he said.

"It was exactly on Human Rights Day that Russia decided to lead its troops onto the territory of the Chechen Republic of Ichkeria... Russia demonstrated to the world its inability to renounce forceful dictatorship and armed intervention in deciding political problems," said Vyacheslav Chornovil, the leader of Rukh.

"We feel that the aggression against the Chechen republic nullifies any declarations from the Russian leadership about principles of democracy and should be condemned by the world community," he added.

Mr. Chornovil added that Rukh will turn to the United Nations, parliaments, governments, human rights organizations and the world community to appeal to the Russians to stop this aggression.

"We also hope that the Supreme Council and the president of Ukraine will not remain silent concerning the bloody events near the borders of Ukraine," said Mr. Chornovil.

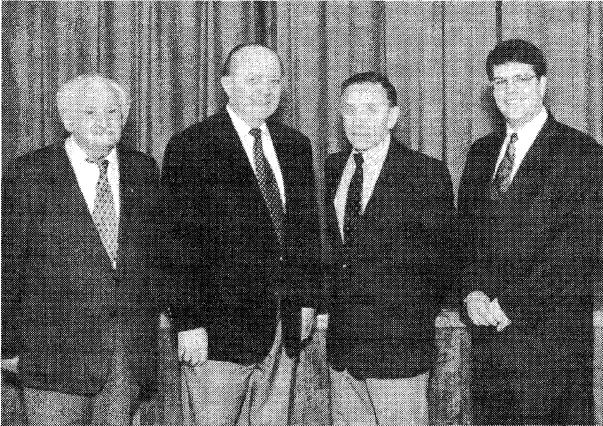
"The Russian democrats are reaping the fruits of their own anti-national policy on the Soviet Union's collapse," said a statement issued by the Socialist Party's Kyiv branch.

Parliament Chairman Oleksander Moroz has suggested that a group of deputies and journalists travel to Chechnya to explore the situation, adding that direct contacts with the conflicting sides would help Ukrainian parliamentarians to form an opinion about the events.

"Such a delegation might promote the peaceful settlement of the conflict," said Mr. Moroz earlier in the week.

# THE UKRAINIAN NATIONAL ASSOCIATION FORUM

## Districts and branches celebrate UNA centennial



Cleveland District Committee officers: (from left) Bohdan Semkiw, Zenon Holubec, Wasyl Liscynsky and Taras Szmagala Jr.

### Cleveland

by Mary Bobeczko

CLEVELAND – UNA members of the Cleveland District attended a jubilee banquet on Sunday, November 6, at Holy Trinity Ukrainian Orthodox Church hall.

The banquet was opened by George Oryshkewych singing the American national anthem and the Ohio Boychoir singing the Ukrainian National Association Hymn, under the direction of Alexander Musichuk. Dr. Robert Bray was the accompanist. The Ohio Boychoir also sang a number of other selections.

The invocation was given by Msgr. Leo Tymkiw, pastor of St. Andrew Ukrainian Catholic Church.

Taras Szmagala Jr., the master of ceremonies, welcomed 250 guests gathered for the celebration. He recalled some of the many wonderful projects the UNA has sponsored and supported in the past 100 years. He appealed to younger UNA members to become active in their branches and become officers. The pioneers deserve to retire and the younger members should continue to be active, he noted.

After a delicious meal was served family-style by the Holy Trinity Ukrainian Orthodox Church's catering staff, the keynote address was given by UNA Vice-

President Nestor Olesnycky. He highlighted the accomplishments of the UNA in the past 100 years. The most urgent project facing the UNA at this time, said Mr. Olesnycky, is responding to CBS regarding the "60 Minutes" segment shown on October 23.

He encouraged the guests present to send protests with individual letters, described some of the contacts with CBS executives and appealed to everyone to financially support the UNA Ukrainian Heritage Defense Fund. The UNA will fully support all actions that have to be taken to clear our Ukrainian name, Mr. Olesnycky underlined.

Awards were distributed to active secretaries, officers and members with service of 40 years or more to the UNA.

Guests were entertained by Malvy Trio members: sopranos Zirka Shoklook and Chrystia Sywyj-Hlabse, and alto Anna Keller with accompanist Markian Komichak.

The banquet concluded with a benediction by the Rev. Ivan Freishyn-Chirovsky, pastor of Holy Protectress Ukrainian Catholic Church.

A 100th anniversary booklet was published, consisting of congratulatory messages, proclamations and pictures of active UNA branches and supporters of the UNA. It also included a short history of

(Continued on page 13)



UNA'ers celebrating in Ambridge: (from left) Michael Savie, Nestor Olesnycky, Michael Komichak and Susan Savie.

### Ambridge

by Nick Diakiwsky

AMBRIDGE, Pa. – Some 170 people from the Ambridge area attended UNA Branch 161's celebration of its 75th anniversary and the UNA centennial on Saturday, October 29.

The banquet was held at the American Legion Hall in Baden, Pa. Many of those in attendance were long-time UNA members as well as third-generation and newly organized members. Many age groups were represented, from guests in their 20s to some in their 80s.

Branch President Ron Monzi served as the master of ceremonies and opened the event with a moment of silence for deceased members and the 132 victims of Flight 427, who perished nearby on September 8. The invocation was given by Msgr. Michael Nestor of St. Peter and Paul Ukrainian Catholic Church in Ambridge.

The first speaker was Congressman Ron Klink (D-Pa.), who commended the members and local Ukrainian community for maintaining traditions, for the branch's

75 years and the UNA's 100 years. He also talked about how organizations such as the UNA hold the communities together through these traditions and heritage.

He thanked those who have been active in his campaign and presented the branch with a congressional salute and certificate of recognition on the occasion of this anniversary.

Mr. Monzi read a citation from the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania House of Representatives that was sponsored by State Legislator Susan Laughlin. The branch was also presented a resolution from the Borough of Ambridge.

Long-time branch member Joe Rodio spoke about the history of the branch, and the many contributions and activities that the branch has sponsored over the years.

UNA Advisor and Branch 161 Secretary Nick Diakiwsky spoke about the many benefits of fraternalism – especially the UNA. He also talked about ensuring the branch's future by inspiring, promoting and organizing youth. Mr. Diakiwsky also invited those in attendance to take a complimentary copy

(Continued on page 13)

### Chicago



On October 9, 110 people attended a triple anniversary celebration of Chicago Branch 22 at the Lone Tree Inn. The occasion was the UNA's centennial, the 60th anniversary of the founding of Branch 22 and the 35th anniversary of Helen Olek Scott's tenure as branch secretary. Among honored guests present were: (from left) Michael Kuropas, Walter Scott, Advisor Stefko Kuropas, Mrs. Scott, Patricia Kuropas, Branch 22 Vice-President Jerry Chlypniacz, Lesia Kuropas, Myron Kuropas and Stephen Kuropas. (The latter two are honorary members of the UNA General Assembly.)

### Detroit



On the occasion of the Ukrainian National Association's centennial, the Detroit District Committee arranged, through the Ukrainian Philatelic and Numismatic Society, for a special cacheted-illustrated cover and postal cancellation (see above) to mark this anniversary. These were available during UKRAINPEX '94 held in Warren, Mich., in October. The show's theme was the UNA centennial, and its program book reflected that theme with a special notation about the history of this fraternal organization.

## THE UKRAINIAN WEEKLY

### Overhauling foreign aid

On Monday, December 12, Sen. Mitch McConnell made headlines with his common-sense approach to allocation of U.S. foreign aid. What the senator proposes is a complete overhaul of the existing foreign aid structure — and for good reason. Some countries around the world consider themselves to be automatically entitled to annually receive U.S. aid — no questions asked. Others feel they are entitled to the lion's share of aid aimed at reaching a specific region.

In legislation he is proposing, Sen. McConnell set three guidelines for foreign aid: protection of U.S. security, promotion of American economic interests, and preservation of political and regional stability. Among other provisions, his bill would make Russia's non-intervention in former Soviet republics a precondition for the granting of U.S. aid and would facilitate entry into NATO by Poland, Hungary, the Czech Republic, Slovakia and the Baltic states.

The Washington Times called Sen. McConnell's plan "a workable and sensible new approach," "a good attempt at striking the right balance between generosity and self-protection." It added: "... the principle that U.S. aid ought to be contingent upon our interests, as well as upon an acceptance of the freedoms that we hold dear and that have made our democracy what it is, is as sound as anyone could hope for."

These words, of course, have special significance at a time that Russia is using military force to "restore order" in Chechnya. (Many observers are calling Russia's actions in that breakaway region a true test of its democracy.) They are a direct reference also to the way Russia treats its neighbors. Most recently, for example, during the Budapest summit of the Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe, Russia threatened to block Ukraine's accession to the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty. If not for some 11th-hour arm-twisting by U.S. Secretary of State Warren Christopher, the historic moment might not have happened. In the end, however, Russia signed on, with the United States and the United Kingdom, to a memorandum providing security assurances to Ukraine, and Ukraine did sign the NPT.

During a press conference announcing his proposal, Sen. McConnell explained that the United States' national priorities are in Europe and the Middle East, and in the new independent states. Regarding the latter, he has said his bill will contain earmarks, i.e. specific allocations, for Ukraine, Georgia and Armenia to counter what he has described as the Clinton administration's "Russia first" approach to assisting these now independent states that once were part of the Soviet Union. He voiced confidence that in the new Republican-controlled Congress he does not foresee the same problems with passing such earmarked assistance as there had been in the past. And, he underscored that targeted assistance for Ukraine, Georgia and Armenia will bolster the national interests of the United States.

The Kentucky lawmaker is no doubt known to readers of *The Ukrainian Weekly*, not because his constituency encompasses many Ukrainian voters (it does not), but for his previous efforts in the realm of foreign assistance, especially for his bills earmarking aid to Ukraine and other former Soviet republics. It was Sen. McConnell who pushed hard for the Senate to approve the Foreign Assistance Appropriations Act for Fiscal Year 1995 that earmarked not less than \$150 million for Ukraine. He argued forcefully that he was including the earmark because "I believe the administration will only provide assistance if they are directed to do so," and noting that "the administration has had two standards for providing aid — one for Russia and one for the rest of the NIS. Nowhere is the double standard more evident than Ukraine." (Unfortunately, that earmark was later turned into a mere recommendation during the House-Senate conferees' debate on the bill.)

Now the Kentucky Republican will chair the Foreign Operations Subcommittee of the Appropriations Committee in the 104th Congress — a Republican-controlled body. Now in this position of increased power, we welcome his pragmatic approach to foreign aid and his proposed overhaul of the system that has been in place for years.

Dec.  
19  
1884

### Turning the pages back...

As Ukrainian immigrants arrived in the U.S. 100 years ago, many settling in the coal mining towns of Pennsylvania, there were no churches or priests to satisfy their particular religious

needs. They made do with those closest in ethnic character to their own, such as St. Casimir's Polish-Lithuanian Church in Shenandoah.

But as their numbers grew larger, their clamoring for their own pastor and church reached Metropolitan Sylvester Sembratovych back in Galicia. Following several entreaties, one of which included an envelope containing \$50 to cover transportation costs, Sembratovych dispatched the Rev. Ivan Volansky in late November 1884, with the instruction to the émigré flock to "remain true to your Ruthenian rite."

The Rev. Volansky arrived under the outstretched arm of Liberty in December 1884 and proceeded directly to Shenandoah, where the most insistent congregation was waiting. A few days later, he traveled to Philadelphia to present himself to Roman Catholic Archbishop Patrick Ryan. The latter was aghast that the Rev. Volansky was married, refused to meet him, and suggested that the clergyman return to Europe immediately.

Undeterred by this, and finding the doors of Shenandoah's St. Casimir Church closed to him, the Rev. Volansky rented a hall, where, with a capacity crowd on hand, he celebrated the first Ruthenian-Ukrainian divine liturgy in North America. It was the evening of December 19, 1884, the feast day of St. Nicholas, the day of gift-giving.

Source: Myron B. Kuropas, "The Ukrainian Americans" (Toronto: University of Toronto Press, 1991).

## NEWS AND VIEWS: The rebirth of Evangelical Reformed Church

by William Bahrey

Sunday, September 18, was a memorable day for the Ukrainian Evangelical Reformed Church (UER) faithful. On that day commemorative worship services were celebrated in the municipalities of Rivne and Stepan, solemnizing the first anniversary of the rebirth of that Church and the end of its Soviet-imposed silence since the Soviet invasion of western Ukraine on September 1, 1939.

Until recently, it was believed that the UERC, its 30 congregations, 18 houses of worship, the Hrushevsky elementary school and other property were confiscated and destroyed by that implacable foe of freedom of thought, speech and worship, the Soviet regime, in its drive toward uniformity and conformity. Despite the cruelty of the regime, the believers' strong faith in God, their faith in His love for His people, and their trust in His guiding hand toward ultimate moral victory sustained them in their steadfast course toward the Church's resurrection.

Among these faithful was the Rev. Filimon Semeniuk whose courageous, moral leadership kept alive the faith and hope for the eventual triumph of justice and understanding.

On September 18, the church's pastor, the Rev. Semeniuk, and the Rev. Dr. Martin Nap, a missionary minister of the Reformed Church (liberated) in the Netherlands, laboring in Ukraine, preached at both services to inspired members, friends, regional seminary candidates and seminarians from the Reformed Churches in Hungary.

Also present were the eagerly awaited members of the executive board of the Ukrainian Evangelical Alliance of North America (UEA of NA), and Attorneys Victor Borowsky from America and Andre Kozak from Canada.

Mr. Borowsky is the son of the late Rev. Volodymyr Borowsky, former pastor of the UERC, and for many years the executive secretary of the UEA of NA and editor-in-chief of that organization's publication, *Evangelical Morning*. He conveyed greetings from William Bahrey, president of UEA of NA. He then briefly reviewed the history of the UERC from its earliest days (1924) to its "liquidation" by invading Soviet forces and to its temporary safe haven in Canada and America. The founding pastors of the Ukrainian Evangelical Reformed Church were eulogized, for it was through their ceaseless labors that the Church prospered.

Greetings from the members of the Ukrainian Evangelical Reformed Church in Toronto were conveyed by Mr. Kozak, son of the late elder Michael Kozak, successful entrepreneur and devoted Church leader and lay preacher. At this worship service Mr. Kozak presented gifts from the UERC of Toronto: a historically valuable Altar Bible, complete sets of Bibles, Bibles for youth,

### Nostra culpa

In the article "CIUS is weathering storm of financial cutbacks" by Andriy Wynnyckyj (October 23), based on an interview with Dr. Zenon Kohut, director of the Canadian Institute of Ukrainian Studies (based in Edmonton, Alberta), Premier Klein, head of the provincial government of Alberta was incorrectly identified. Mr. Klein's first name is Ralph and he is the leader of the Progressive Conservative Party of Alberta.

hymnals and other much-needed items. Gifts were also presented from the UEA of NA by Mr. Borowsky.

All gifts were well received with tears of joyful gratitude. Regrettably, lack of time prevented Attorneys Borowsky and Kozak from visiting the newly established church in Kyiv.

Highly significant and unforgettable is the constancy of the Rev. Dr. Nap. His missionary steadfastness of concern, guidance, encouragement and other help to sustain the Church's life and growth is extraordinary and visible in every aspect of the Church's rebirth in this period of serious nationwide economic depression that is affecting the Church's growth. Until recently, the world felt it inconceivable that Ukraine, blessed with considerable wealth of nature resources, should ask for assistance. The world now realizes that the Soviets' notorious discriminatory practices against Ukraine in all spheres of that nation's life — social, cultural, educational and economic — had drained Ukraine's economy, leaving the country in shambles for its citizens to repair.

On the last day of their visit to Rivne, the two attorneys and the pastor held an encouraging, official meeting with Volodymyr Moroz, mayor of Rivne, to discuss the congregation's request for a building site for a sanctuary, a seminary, a student dormitory, and housing for the elderly, orphans and homeless. At this meeting (arranged by Mr. Borowsky's relative, a resident of Rivne), the mayor assured the three that consideration will be given upon the congregation's presentation of a detailed proposal for the project.

The Church now has architectural drawings and building plans. Soon, a building fund drive will be started, and Reformed Churches in the West are urged to participate.

## Appeal from World Council of Social Services

The Social Services Advisory Committee of the World Council of Ukrainian Social Services is compiling a directory of qualified professionals in applied human studies including social workers, psychologists, guidance counselors, psychiatrists, sociologists, pastoral care workers and the like.

The purpose of this directory is to identify professionals with a specific knowledge base, teaching ability and/or expertise who would be prepared to: gather materials for educational projects in Ukraine; participate in educational ventures in Ukraine; and act as a resource for consultation or referral.

Our committee hopes that you will join us in this exciting project by having your names listed in this directory and by putting your expertise to work towards educational endeavors that can benefit the development of Ukrainian Social Services.

To register, please write to: Social Services Advisory Committee, World Council of Ukrainian Social Services, 2118A Bloor St. W., Toronto, Ontario M6S 1M8; (416) 762-1108; fax: (416) 762-8081; or P.O. Box 20462, St. Petersburg, FL 33742.

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

### Damage continues from CBS smear

Dear Editor:

The "60 Minutes" smear job caused more damage on a local community basis than it did via direct contact with its immediate viewing audience. Here in Westchester County, N.Y., the Gannett papers just published three more letters to the editor. This is round two. If memory serves me correctly, round one included one pro "60 Minutes" letter, and two cliché letters opposing the broadcast.

On November 28, the ultra-left-wing Gannett papers let loose with their second salvo. The anti-"60 Minutes" letter looks like a verbatim transcript of articles from The Weekly. However the other two can best be described as stereotypical buckets of swill hurled at Ukraine and Ukrainians. The authors of these two letters call up all the old chestnuts they can squeeze into one letter. Facts don't deter them. Facts won't change their minds. They have their blinders on, and are moving full steam ahead on their single-track railroad of hate. Their ignorance of the facts, literally, screams.

One letter stated that "the '60 Minutes' broadcast was factual and fair. It basically allowed the people involved to speak for themselves." Those particular words tell me that their author never personally saw the "60 Minutes" smear piece. He probably was told, "Write anything you want, as long as you mention CBS."

Vigilance is the duty of every Ukrainian today. Such smear campaigns must be challenged. I don't know whether the Gannett papers will publish my letter now. They have in the past, un-edited. I don't recall them ever going to a second round of letters, or a third, on non-local issues. Nonetheless, I can't let these defamatory writings be the last impression my neighbors have of Ukraine and Ukrainians.

Stephen Rudyk  
Yorktown Heights, N.Y.

### Pope's new book should be warning

Dear Editor:

If anyone has any doubts as to who is leading the charge against the Ukrainian Church, permit me to quote from the new book on religion by Pope John Paul II. After singing endless praises throughout the book on Poland's "great and demanding heritage," its heroism, its saints, its martyrs, and its "tolerance and openness" toward peoples of all nationalities and religions, the pope states the following:

"Nevertheless, throughout the history of Poland there have been concrete efforts to bring about unity. The Union of Brest-Litovsk in 1596 marks the beginning of the history of the Eastern Church. Today this Church is called the Catholic Church of the Byzantine-Ukrainian Rite, but at that time it was mainly the church of the Russian and Belorussian people." (p. 145)

That erases 1,500 years of Ukrainian Church history, as well as the history of the Eastern Churches.

Further on, the pope writes about recent martyrs and interests his political views: "There were also Catholic martyrs in Russia, Lithuania, in the Baltic countries, in the Balkans, in the Ukraine, in Galicia, Romania, Bulgaria, Albania and in the countries of the former Yugoslavia." (p. 177)

Not only does the pope ignore the official name "Ukraine" by adding the derogatory article "the" but he also separates the

province of Galicia from Ukraine.

This should be a warning to all Ukrainians, but also an impetus to Ukrainians of the Greek-Catholic Church to keep fighting for their rights, regardless of how the pope continues to distort the history of that Church and abuse its right for political and other reasons.

As a whole, the book is a bit of religion mixed with very harmful Polish political propaganda.

Antonina Matkowski  
Philadelphia

### A reaction to Roth interview

Dear Editor:

The interview with David Roth of the AJC (October 30) left me aghast, exasperated and shocked. What in the world is this man babbling about? Mr. Roth's rejoinders to forthright questions were couched in self-serving gobblegook with an irritating amount of accusatory innuendo that left me wondering why you would allocate space to such generic and disingenuous responses.

Unfortunately, Mr. Roth's answers only reinforced, in my view at least, that this seemingly positive dialogue between the Ukrainian and Jewish communities is in reality going nowhere — an ornamental sham.

The infatuation with some hysterically imagined anti-Semitism leaves me bewildered. Historical facts, I say facts, do not bear this out. Mr. Roth is carrying so much faulty historical baggage that he can't bring himself to criticize that which he knows is blatantly false and racist. Not once does Mr. Roth utter a criticism of Morley Safer, CBS, or "60 Minutes." Instead, he backs away from every question and leaves the impression that somehow we must continue to right imaginary wrongs that do not exist.

Give me a break! No matter how many times I reread this interview, my conclusion is the same. As long as Jewish leaders continue this minuet (ad nauseam), there is no point in dialogue.

Talk between our two communities must be as equals; anything else is unacceptable and will be rebuffed.

Rostyslaw Surowy  
Winnipeg

### An acknowledgment of aid to Ukraine

Dear Editor:

This letter is meant to acknowledge humanitarian aid to Ukraine by an American company. Designs for Vision Inc., of Ronkonkoma, N.Y., was founded in 1961 by William Feinbloom O.D. to produce surgical telescopes for precision operations and for microsurgery. This company produces the best and the most commonly used surgical telescopes in the world; they are used by heart surgeons, neurosurgeons, plastic surgeons and others.

Recently, the company's chief operating officer, Peter J. Murphy, donated such magnifying glasses, worth \$1,355, to Prof. Leonid L. Sitar, chief of the Division of Acquired Cardiac Disease at the Cardiovascular Surgery Institute in Kyiv, Ukraine.

It is very important to acknowledge such assistance to the people of Ukraine.

Andrew S. Olearchyk, M.D.  
Cherry Hill, N.J.

### Raffle winners recall experience

Dear Editor:

In one of your 1993 issues of The Ukrainian Weekly, we noticed a raffle sponsored by the Ukrainian airlines in support of the American Ukrainian Exchange Student Program. To support this worthwhile venture we purchased a ticket. Imagine our surprise when a phone call reached us informing us that we were the lucky winners.

Being avid readers of The Ukrainian Weekly, we had read several articles with suggestions of how best to travel and get around in Ukraine. With these suggestions in mind we proceeded to make arrangements for our trip in September of 1994.

Our first contact was Ron Czebinak, president of the Ukrainian-American Education Association. He answered all our inquiries regarding our needs with great patience and enthusiasm, including some suggestions which we found invaluable during our stay in Ukraine. Jim, owner-operator of Hamalia Travel, made all contacts in Kyiv for us to ensure a smooth trip. Upon arrival we were greeted by Dima, Jim's Ukrainian partner, who took us directly to our apartment, which was located on the 11th floor of the building. Stepping out on the balcony we found a beautiful view of the Dnipro River and directly across the river, the gleaming steeples of the Vydybysky Monastery.

The following day we were greeted by sunshine, which stayed with us through the entire week, and the friendly smile of our cook, Vera, who went out of her way to supply us with wonderful original Ukrainian dishes. (Just a little story about how much we enjoyed the food. Neither I or my wife are great lovers of beets, but Vera's borsch was good, so good in fact my wife not only ate it for dinner but proceeded to raid the soup pot in the middle of the night, and I also found her eating it for breakfast. My compliments to the chef.)

Not familiar with Kyiv, and not having used my knowledge of the Ukrainian language in about 50 years, we had hired an English-speaking tour guide and a driver. This was by the suggestion of both Ron and Jim, and turned out to be the best investment we made. Our driver took us safely to the starting point of each day's planned excursion and picked us up at the end of the day — such a convenience at a minimal cost.

Yuliana (or Julie as we called our guide) did a fine job guiding us about town and showing us the sites. Not afraid to do some walking, we spent most days wandering through Kyiv being amazed by its ancient buildings, beautiful churches, lovely parks and other attractions. Kyiv is surely a town worth visiting. If you are planning to make a trip to Ukraine, hiring a tour guide and driver is something we would recommend you consider; it is money well spent.

It was a trip we will never forget, but the best and most enjoyable thing we found were the people we came in contact with. We made many new friends and were welcomed and treated like we belonged to the family, it was heartwarming to feel so welcomed by folks we did not know days before. A bon voyage party given by our cook in her home was the reminder that we had to leave the next day, a good-bye to us that will be long remembered.

There is something I would like to bring to the attention of your readers. We found a lot of situations hard to understand, especially where it concerned the current government and its operation. Many people we spoke with explained. Ukraine has been under Russian rule for a long time and

Ukrainian democracy is very young. Many areas are still ruled the same way as during the years under the Russian government. This is due to a lack of understanding of democracy as we know it. A young democracy needs to find its way into truly free decision-making and this can only be accomplished by new ideas and people with knowledge of how democracy works.

This is why we would like to ask each reader to support the Ukrainian-American Student Exchange program. It is a worthwhile cause, and educating young students about democracy will in years to come help the Ukrainian people to understand freedom and why we, the American people, value our freedoms so highly.

Nick and Irene Stefanowicz  
Astoria, Ore.

### Belarus was first to denuclearize

Dear Editor:

Several of my colleagues and I here at the Belarusian Language Service of Radio Free Europe and Radio Liberty in Munich have been following with interest stories in The Ukrainian Weekly regarding the Ukrainian community's righteous response to the recent "60 Minutes" broadcast titled "The Ugly Face of Freedom."

As Belarusians, we particularly sympathize with our Ukrainian neighbors inasmuch as several years ago "60 Minutes" aired a similarly defamatory piece on Belarus. Unfortunately, at the time, protests to CBS on the part of the Belarusian community fell on deaf ears. We no doubt speak for many Belarusians in saying we applaud your efforts and sincerely hope that this calumny on the Ukrainian nation is rescinded by CBS.

We would, however, also like to take this opportunity to register our displeasure with a point made by the Federation of Ukrainian American Business and Professional Organizations in their letter to Laurence Tisch, et. al. (The Ukrainian Weekly, November 6). The federation avers that "Ukraine is thus far the only country in the world that has agreed to denuclearize" and, in so doing, ignores the fact that Belarus was indeed the first among CIS countries to voluntarily dismantle her nuclear arsenal.

We feel that if members of the federation were unaware of this fact, then it was incumbent upon the editors of The Weekly to enlighten not only them, but also the paper's readers. It would perhaps be useful to keep in mind that while defending yourselves, you may be slighting another — in this case, Ukraine's "blue-eyed sister," Belarus.

Alexander Lukashuk  
Munich

The writer is editor, Belarusian Language Service, Radio Free Europe/Radio Liberty.

### Correction

In our article "The Kuchma Visit: Ukrainian community leaders react" from the December 4 issue of The Weekly, we erred regarding a comment by Askold Lozynskiy, the president of the Ukrainian Congress Committee of America, in one segment of his response. OPIC, which in fact stands for the Overseas Private Investment Corp., is primarily an insurance underwriter for political risk. The significance of the recent agreement between OPIC and Ukraine is not in the insurance side, but rather in a \$100 million investment fund created for Ukraine by OPIC.

# Vatican II and Chicago's Ukrainian Catholics: an analysis

by Myron B. Kuropas

Two major problems have plagued Ukrainian Catholics in Chicago during the past 100 years: recognition and acceptance.

The recognition issue, we believed, was settled by *Orientalium Ecclesiarum*, the "Decree on the Eastern Catholic Churches" promulgated by Vatican II on November 21, 1964. "The Catholic Church values highly the institutions of the Eastern Churches," the decree began, "their liturgical rites, ecclesiastical traditions and their ordering of Christian life...the Catholic Church wishes the traditions of each particular Church or rite to remain whole and entire, and it likewise wishes to adapt its own way of life to the needs of different times and places...All members of the Eastern Churches should be firmly convinced that they can and ought always preserve their own legitimate liturgical rites and ways of life, and that changes are to be introduced only to forward their own organic development...They are to aim always at a more perfect knowledge and practice of their rites, and if they have fallen away due to circumstances of times or persons, they are to strive to return to their ancestral traditions."<sup>1</sup>

For Ukrainian Catholics in Chicago, the Vatican II decree was a godsend. With encouragement from Cardinal Joseph Bernardin, the designation "Ukrainian Catholic" has become more common within recent years, reaching its zenith with the city-wide celebration of the Millennium of Ukrainian Christianity in 1988.

However, acceptance, the second problem with which Ukrainians in Chicago have had to contend, has been more problematic.

Before embarking on a discussion of the reasons for all of this, permit me to present a brief history of our Church, first in the world, and then in Chicago.

Ukraine became a Christian nation in 988 when Prince Volodymyr of Kyiv accepted Christianity and ordered that all his subjects be baptized by the Greek fathers of Byzantium, an empire with which Ukraine had commercial ties.

When the split between Constantinople and Rome occurred in 1054, Ukraine, while never formally severing its ties with Rome, gravitated towards Constantinople. From an ecclesiastical and cultural perspective, Ukraine's Christian Church became identified with Greek Orthodoxy.

By the middle of the 16th century, Constantinople had fallen to the Turks and the Ukrainian nation was divided between two empires: Catholic Poland and Orthodox Russia. As the first step towards ethnolinguistic amalgamation, Poland attempted to convert the Ukrainian population from Orthodoxy to Catholicism. At the same time, Russia, which now claimed that Moscow was the third and final Rome, was attempting to amalgamate the Ukrainian people by having them accept Russian Orthodoxy as the "true" Christian faith. With no state of their own and with Greek Orthodoxy in decline, maintaining the religio-cultural integrity of the Ukrainian Church became increasingly difficult.<sup>2</sup>

Believing that ecclesial recognition by Rome could strengthen their hand against the Muscovites and give them respite from the Poles, a group of Ukrainian bishops approached Rome to present their case. It was a propitiatory moment. Over the years Rome had attempted, albeit unsuccessfully, to reunite the Christian Church by offering concessions to the Orthodox in return for the latter's recognition of the primacy of the bishop of Rome.

From the Roman Catholic perspective, the Ukrainian appeal was a welcome opportunity to demonstrate good faith to the Orthodox world by recognizing the religio-cultural particularity and autonomy of the Ukrainian Church. Thus, in 1596, Pope Clement VIII promulgated a papal bull proclaiming the reception of the Ukrainian Church and nation, and recognizing the ecclesiastical authority of all its bishops and priests, as well as "all sacred rites and ceremonies which they use according to the institutions of the sacred Greek fathers, in the divine offices, the sacrifice of the holy mass, the administration of all sacraments and other sacred functions, as far as these are not in opposition to the truth and doctrine of the Catholic faith and do not exclude communion with the Roman Church." Included was the exemption of the lower clergy from the Latin-rite requirement of clerical celibacy.<sup>3</sup>

Those who accepted this union with Catholicism, the so-called "Union of Brest," came to be called "Uniate" or "Greek-Catholic."

*Remarks delivered by Myron B. Kuropas Ph.D. at "Chicago and the American Catholic Experience: A Conference in Honor of the Chicago Archdiocese Sesquicentennial" on November 5.*

The history of the Ukrainian Catholic Church in the United States began with the arrival of Father Ivan Wolansky in 1884. Because Father Wolansky was married, Archbishop Patrick Ryan of Philadelphia refused to accept him into his diocese, ordering an immediate return to Ukraine. Ignoring the unauthorized demand, Father Wolansky remained in the United States for five years, establishing Eastern-rite parishes from Jersey City to Minneapolis. Bowing to pressure from Rome, Cardinal Sylvester Sembratovych of Lviv recalled Father Wolansky in 1889.

In Minneapolis, meanwhile, Father Alexis Toth, a Catholic priest from Ukraine and a widower, presented his credentials to Bishop John Ireland of St. Paul. He, too, was asked to leave. Incensed by the rebuff, Father Toth converted to Russian Orthodoxy and became a fiery proselytizer for what was then called "The Russian Orthodox Greek-Catholic Church." Arguing that immigrants from Ukraine should return to their "true Orthodox faith," Father Toth initiated a process that led to the conversion of some 20,000 immigrants from Ukraine.<sup>4</sup> Often referred to as the "father of Orthodoxy" in America, Alexis Toth was canonized by the Orthodox Church in America in 1994.

Relations between Ukrainian Catholics and Latin-rite Catholics improved somewhat with Rome's appointment of Bishop Soter Ortynsky, America's first

Lawrence in 1977. The Immaculate Conception parish was founded and a church erected in Palatine in 1963. The Blessed Virgin Mary Parish moved to a new church in Palos Park in 1993.

Over the years Ukrainian Catholic commitment to the traditions of the Greek fathers has remained strong. This fact is best exemplified by the religious controversy which erupted when a group of parishioners at St. Nicholas Cathedral objected to the introduction of the Gregorian calendar in their parish. When the change was supported by Bishop Gabro, the dissidents, choosing to believe that the change was a renewed attempt to undermine their ancient religio-cultural tradition, left the parish and in 1974 erected Ss. Volodymyr and Olha at Oakley and Superior streets. Although animosities between the new parish and the people of St. Nicholas Cathedral have subsided in recent years, there still exists an undercurrent of distrust of Latin-rite Catholics among many parishioners at Ss. Volodymyr and Olha as well as other parishes in Chicago. Much of it is misplaced. Some of it, however, may well be justified.<sup>5</sup>

Misplaced misunderstandings are generally the result of ignorance. Most Latin-rite Catholics in Chicago still haven't a clue regarding the existence of Ukrainian Catholics or any of the other rites within the universal Church. I wish I could count the number of times I have had to explain my brand of Catholicism to an educated

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**... the papal nuncio's message was one more indication that Ukrainian Catholics still are not fully accepted by the universal Church.**

---

Ukrainian Catholic hierarch. By 1913, Bishop Ortynsky was recognized by all other Catholic prelates and had consolidated his authority over most Ukrainian Catholic parishes. Bishop Constantine Bohachevsky, Bishop Ortynsky's successor, however, was less successful. Perceived as a "Latinizer" because of his attempts to introduce certain Western rituals and traditions into the Ukrainian Church, Bishop Bohachevsky was soon under attack by both clergy and laity. The "Committee for the Defense of the Greek Catholic Church," established in 1926, demanded his recall by Rome. Rome refused, of course, and Bishop Bohachevsky later excommunicated some of the malcontents.

Disillusioned by what they perceived was a gross insensitivity to their concerns by the Holy See, a number of Catholic parishes and individuals left the Church and joined the Ukrainian Autocephalous Orthodox Church, which had been established in the United States in 1924. In 1929, in response to continuing pressure from the Latin-rite hierarchy in the United States, Rome promulgated "Cum Data Fuerit," a papal decree mandating celibacy for all Ukrainian Catholic clergy in North America. For many Ukrainian Catholics this was the last straw. That same year a group of former Catholic priests and laity representing 25 Catholic parishes came together to establish the Ukrainian Orthodox Church of America. By 1930, some 70 percent of the membership of both Ukrainian Orthodox Churches in the United States consisted of former Ukrainian Catholics.<sup>6</sup>

In Chicago, meanwhile, a Ukrainian Catholic parish was established in 1905. In 1913, St. Nicholas, considered by some to be the best example of Ukrainian church architecture in the United States, was completed at Rice and Oakley streets.

A second Ukrainian Catholic parish was founded in Burnside in 1907. A church, Ss. Peter and Paul, was completed by 1909. In 1917, a number of parishioners became disillusioned with the pastor and established St. Michael's parish in West Pullman. In 1928, largely as a result of the Bohachevsky imbroglio, the majority of Ss. Peter and Paul parishioners voted to affiliate with the Ukrainian Orthodox Diocese of America. A legal battle ensued and the Orthodox won. The remaining Catholics established St. Basil's Parish, also in Burnside.

In the Back of the Yards area, meanwhile, the Blessed Virgin Mary (BVM) Parish completed a church at 49th and Paulina in 1912.

The Ukrainian Catholic Church in Chicago continued to grow after the influx of new immigrants from Ukraine following World War II. In 1961, the Holy See established an episcopal seat in Chicago. Msgr. Jaroslav Gabro, born and raised in the city, became the first bishop of the new eparchy.

New parishes were also created and churches built. St. Joseph's Ukrainian Catholic Church was founded in 1956 and a new church was erected on Cumberland near

Latin-rite Catholic only to have him or her state, in all innocence, "so actually you're Orthodox." Other examples of ignorance are more painful. During the many years that the Ukrainian Catholic Church was outlawed in Soviet Ukraine and Catholic clergy and laity were keeping the church alive with clandestine services in dark forests, damp basements and dusty attics - all at great risk to life and limb - Latin-rite Catholics in Chicago were scarcely aware of this catacomb Church.

This was especially true of the "peace and justice" types who would often ask for prayers for Bishop Desmond Tutu or the so-called "freedom fighters" of El Salvador, but never for their Catholic brethren in Ukraine. When I met to explain the plight of Ukrainian Catholics to peace and justice coordinators at the Archdiocesan Office, the response was cordial but distant. They had little appreciation for the fact that in Ukraine, Catholic priests preferred to suffer the pain of Siberian exile rather than to convert to Russian Orthodoxy and to enjoy the privileges associated with working for the KGB.

Other misunderstandings between Ukrainian Catholics and Latin-rite Catholics are not the result of ignorance. Most are associated with the Vatican's current policy regarding the newly legalized Ukrainian Catholic Church in Ukraine proper. Our concerns center around the Vatican's apparent reticence to adhere to the dictates of *Orientalium Ecclesiarum*, especially that provision which reads: "Since the patriarchal system is the traditional form of government in the Eastern Churches, the holy ecumenical council wishes, where there is a

(Continued on page 12)

<sup>1</sup> Vatican Council II: The Conciliar and Post Conciliar Documents, 1988 Revised Edition, Austin Flannery, general editor (Grand Rapids, Mich.: William B. Eerdmans Publishing Co., 1988) pp. 441-443.

<sup>2</sup> Subtelny, Orest, "Ukraine: A History" (Toronto: The University of Toronto Press, 1988) pp. 99-102.

<sup>3</sup> Oscar Halecki, "From Florence to Brest, 1493 to 1696" (Rome: Sacrum Polonia Millennium, 1958).

<sup>4</sup> Keith Paul Dyrud, "The Rusin Question in Eastern Europe and America, 1890-World War I" (Ph.D. dissertation, University of Minnesota, 1976) pp. 149-193.

<sup>5</sup> Stephen W. Mamchur, "Nationalism, Religion, and the Problem of Assimilation among Ukrainians in the United States" (Ph.D. dissertation, Yale University, 1942); Myron B. Kuropas, "The Ukrainian Americans: Roots and Aspirations" (Toronto: University of Toronto Press, 1991) pp. 305-322.

<sup>6</sup> Myron B. Kuropas, "Ukrainian Chicago: The Making of a Nationality Group in America," "Ethnic Chicago," edited by Melvin G. Holli and Peter d'A Jones (Grand Rapids: William B. Eerdmans Publishing Company, 1984) pp. 169-213; Silver Jubilee Almanac of the St. Nicholas Diocese for Ukrainians, Michalina Leseiko, et al editors, (Chicago: No publisher listed, 1986).



# Present-day Kyiv scene dotted with Jewish luminaries, haunted by history

by Andrij Wynnyckyj

JERSEY CITY, N.J. — The Kyiv section of the American Jewish Committee's "Project Ukraine Summer Seminar" brought the genesis of the Ukrainian side of the project into clearer focus. This was phase two of an AIC-sponsored joint Ukrainian-Jewish project dedicated to foster greater understanding between the two communities in Ukraine and North America, and, in particular, to establish a permanent non-governmental civic body in Ukraine that would foster the principles of democracy and inter-ethnic harmony. When David Roth came to the Ukrainian capital to take part in the 1991 Babyn Yar commemorations, he met Boris Balan, who was working as a project coordinator for George Soros' Renaissance Foundation, and has since assisted "Project Ukraine" as a senior partner in the Toronto-Kyiv-based Veles Consultants. Mr. Balan was ideally placed to indicate the best contacts in the Ukrainian Jewish community.

As Mr. Balan recounts, no matter where he went, the answer was the same: "You should talk to Leonid Finberg." Mr. Finberg, 46, is not the head of any Jewish organization, but is known in all of them, and throughout the Kyiv intellectual community as well. Since Mr. Finberg proved frustratingly modest, this reporter turned to his wife, Lena, a pediatrician, to arrive at the details of this astonishing man's biography.

Under the Soviet regime, finding the doors to a career in the humanities closed

to all Jews, and the discipline stunted by authoritarian scrutiny, Leonid Finberg became a mechanical engineer, and although he rose to the top echelon in his field, he realized that he had no abiding interest in it. He then became one of the Soviet Union's first and ablest management consultants, and worked for a time on reforming the systems management infrastructure of Ukraine's nuclear power stations in the aftermath of the Chernobyl disaster.

His activism in the Jewish community began in 1982, primarily with watchdog groups monitoring the regime's abuses. In 1990, he began to work with former dissident Iosef Zissels in establishing Jewish civic organizations.

Mr. Zissels' path demands equal respect. Born in Tashkent in 1946, he graduated from Chernivtsi University and joined the local television service. He was expelled from the Komsomol in 1972 for human rights activities, joined the Ukrainian Helsinki Group in 1978, was arrested for the first time in 1979, and served five years in various labor camps. Amnestied in 1987, he set to work in the Ukrainian Helsinki Union and has labored tirelessly to effect Ukrainian-Jewish cooperation.

### Moving history tour

While the delegation's visits to Lviv and Drohobych provided microcosmic glimpses into the workings of present-day Ukrainian-Jewish relations and the effects of history upon them, the group's arrival in Ukraine's capital confronted

the travelers with vast panoramas.

Jewish historian Dmytri Pejsachow did much to provide a broad perspective. Exhaustive bus and walking tours of the city and its perimeter brought group members into direct contact with a thousand years of Jewish history in Kyiv, ranging from the time of the Khazars in the late 9th century (a Turkic tribe that converted to Judaism), and the arrival of Jews fleeing 11th century Crusades in Palestine and persecution in medieval western Europe.

Dr. Pejsachow showed landmarks of the cycles of toleration and expulsion under Kyivian Rus', when the Zhydove (Jewish) district was established and the Zhydivski Vorota (Jewish Gates) were built. He spoke of the waves of Jewish refugees of the 13th-15th centuries, and then the late 16th century, when, under the direct authority of the Polish monarchy, the fatal association with the repressive regime resulted in the traumas suffered during Kozak uprisings.

Dr. Pejsachow described 200 years of banishments and repressions under the Russian empire, when the Pale of Settlement was established on Ukraine's Right Bank (on the empire's fringes), followed by a brief period of liberalism in the mid-19th century that enabled many Jews to establish themselves as industrialists and sugar barons who competed with each other in erecting still larger synagogues and palaces.

He also brought the group to the residence of the turn of the century world-famous writer Sholom Aleichem and

described the flowering of Hasidic philosophy in Ukraine. He also soberly recounted the late 19th and early 20th centuries' descent into pogroms instigated by the state and the fanatical Black Hundreds movement.

Two devastating events that scarred the Jewish and Ukrainian people brought members of the group closer in silent communion during this tour. First, Dr. Pejsachow led the delegation along the long winding path that snakes to the edge of Babyn Yar. There, at the foot of the menorah erected in 1991 to commemorate Jewish and other victims of the slaughter committed there throughout the German occupation of the city. Dr. Pejsachow solemnly recited the mind-numbing statistics about the two-day Nazi operation in 1941, during which more than 30,000 of the city's Jews were systematically stripped of their belongings and clothes and machine-gunned. Then, rabbinical student Lisa Greene offered a Kaddish, a lamenting prayer dedicated to the dead.

Later that day, the group stopped in St. Sophia Square, where the monument to the victims of the famine of 1932-1933 stands near the brick stump of a wall that was formerly St. Michael's Cathedral of the Golden Domes, dynamited by the Bolsheviks in 1935. On site, group member Ivan Danylenko recounted his personal reminiscences of having survived the terrible time when the bones of the Ukrainian peasantry covered fields

(Continued on page 14)

## Project Ukraine's visit to "official" Kyiv confirms positive expectations

by Andrij Wynnyckyj

Meeting with Ivan Dzyuba

JERSEY CITY, N.J. — The agenda of the American Jewish Committee's "Project Ukraine" visit to Ukraine's capital this past summer was a perfect illustration of its stated aim of learning "about Ukraine's economy, democracy, politics, foreign policy, the reconstruction of communal life, relations among the minorities and the state's commitment to protect minority rights," as outlined by David Roth, director of the AJC's Institute for American Pluralism.

In order to gauge the new state's capacity to build a civil society that would tie ethnic groups to the state and strengthen democracy, meetings with senior officials in the Ukrainian government were arranged.

The result of these meetings bore out the expectation that Ukraine was the "logical place" to mount the AJC's program of working with emergent states to ensure their governments honor their commitment to the welfare of the local Jewish community.

The group met with Ivan Dzyuba, then still Ukraine's minister of culture. It was a particularly appropriate meeting because Mr. Dzyuba has been a driving force in Ukrainian-Jewish reconciliation since the late 1960s, when he delivered a famous speech in Babyn Yar concerning the murder of Jews there during the Nazi occupation, and was instrumental in formulating Ukraine's nationalities policy after independence. Many, including Mr. Roth, had met with Mr. Dzyuba on previous occasions, such as the 1992 commemorations of the Jewish victims of Babyn Yar.

Mr. Dzyuba apprised the delegation of Ukrainian concerns over the issue of giving Russian the status of an official language, considering its disproportionate prevalence in Ukraine, and the shaky condition of Ukrainian culture that mirrored the new state's economic and political predicament as a nation emerging from domination.

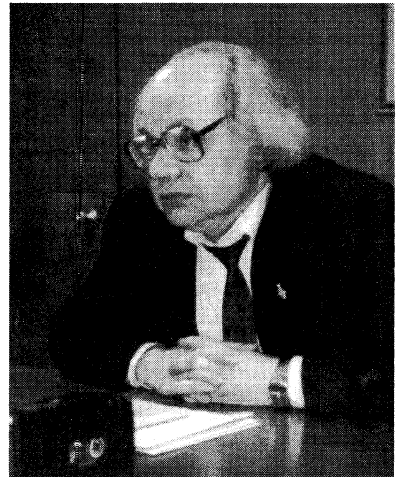
He said it was essential for the state to help bring Ukrainian language and culture out of its crippled state, and due to the country's economic straits, such priorities would necessarily limit assistance to minority efforts. However, he assured those present that the state would do everything in its power to create conditions that would foster the development of minority cultures, such as that of the Jewish community.

Prompted by a question from Ron Weiner, a former president of the AJC's New York chapter, Mr. Dzyuba outlined the legislative and administrative safeguards in place to protect minority groups in the country. Mr. Roth, the group leader, said he appreciated the gravity of the tasks facing Ukraine concerning language, comparing it to Israel's decision to adopt Hebrew as the official language, which has now flowered and become a full-fledged modern tongue.

In conclusion, Mr. Dzyuba said that most North American Jews are unaware of the diversity of Ukrainian Jewish culture, and encouraged them to identify local Jewish art as, in part, a product of its Ukrainian environment. He also mentioned the annual conferences being held each fall since 1992 on Jewish history and culture in Ukraine that will foster Ukrainian Jewish identification.

### The new minister of nationalities

As the group set out, a personnel change in the new Kuchma administration caused consternation among Jewish members of the group. A known positive quanti-



Ivan Drach

ty, Oleksander Yemets, had been replaced by Mykola Shulha as minister of nationalities. As the delegation was soon to learn, the changes were at once greater than expected and yet entailed no substantial shift in policy.

At the outset, Mr. Shulha informed the group that his was a jurisdiction in transition, as the Ministry of Nationalities had been merged with the Ministry of Immigration and Religious Cults. He outlined his credentials as a former member of the parliament's Committee on Nationality Affairs and a past director of the ethnocultural department at the Institute of Sociology. He also said he was aware of the positive record that Mr. Yemets enjoyed, and stressed that the Kuchma administration would build on the gains made and not retreat.

He explained that Ukraine is in a delicate position, not simply because of the large Russian minority, but also because of the return westward of many people displaced by Stalinist policies, including large groups,

(Continued on page 15)



Ivan Dzyuba

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## Olympic gold medalists in "Nutcracker"

by Helen Smindak

NEW YORK – Olympic figure skating champions Oksana Baiul and Viktor Petrenko are touring the United States this month in a Christmas season extravaganza, "Nutcracker on Ice."

The two Ukrainian ice skaters share top billing with Olympic gold medalist Brian Boitano and U.S. Open Professional Champion Rory Flack Burghart in the holiday show, which opened in Hartford, Conn., on December 6. Since then, one-night performances have been given in several U.S. cities and in Ottawa.

Ms. Baiul and Mr. Petrenko are featured in the roles of Clara and the Nutcracker in the show, which boasts spectacular sets, lavish costumes and a large ensemble of skaters.

Based on Tchaikovsky's classic tale, "The Nutcracker," the ice show tells the story of a young girl who receives a Christmas present from her godfather, Drosselmeier. The gift – a nutcracker doll – comes to life in her dreams. The story is told through the eyes of Drosselmeier (Mr. Boitano).

Ms. Baiul skated to victory in the 1993 World Championships at age 15, becoming the youngest woman to win the world

championship since Sonja Henie of Norway won her first world championship at the age of 14. Last winter, the five-foot-three, 95-pound native of Dnipropetrovsk captured the Olympic figure-skating gold medal in Lillehammer, Norway.

Mr. Petrenko, 25, is the reigning European champion in men's figure skating. He won the gold medal in the men's figure skating competition at the 1992 Olympics – the first singles skater from the former Soviet Union to win a gold medal.

This weekend, "Nutcracker on Ice" is scheduled to play at the Target Center in Minneapolis (December 18) and The Spectrum in Philadelphia (December 19).

Other shows are as follows: December 20, Richmond, Va. (Richmond Coliseum); December 22, Detroit (Joe Louis Arena); December 23, Cleveland (Cleveland Convention Center); December 24, Syracuse, N.Y. (ON Center); December 26, Albany, N.Y. (Knickerbocker Arena); December 27, Worcester, Mass. (The Centrum); December 28, Uniondale, N.Y. (Nassau Coliseum); and December 29 and 30, Atlanta (Fox Theater).

"Nutcracker on Ice" will be telecast on NBC-TV on December 31, at 4-6 p.m. Eastern Time.

## Married man...

(Continued from page 4)

explained Bishop Filevich, whose eparchy includes 20,000 Ukrainian Catholics.

He said he chose to ordain the Rev. Nahachewsky in his own eparchy rather than send him to Ukraine, which is normally the pattern, because it made sense. "I'm a bishop just like those in Ukraine,

so why can't I do it here?"

There are four other married priests in the Saskatoon Eparchy. The Rev. Nahachewsky is the first married man to be ordained a priest there and the 12th in Canada; most of the others are in the Toronto eparchy.

The Vatican put a halt to the practice of ordaining married men to the priesthood in Canada two decades ago, when it suspended three Toronto priests. Those suspensions remain in effect.

Bishop Filevich said that although he has six deacons from which to choose future married priests, he doubts there will be further ordinations of married men in Saskatchewan in the near future. "They are school teachers and would have to attend a seminary in order to qualify." The Rev. Nahachewsky completed his theology studies at St. Paul University in Ottawa.

The bishop expects to hear some reaction personally from the Vatican soon, but is confident that his decision to ordain a married man to the priesthood will be supported. "There is an axiom in canon law that states, 'Lex dubium non obligat,' a doubtful law does not oblige. There is another one that suggests that the 'supreme law is the salvation of soul.'"

## Newsbriefs

(Continued from page 2)

has been awarded a \$26 million contract to supply equipment and training for dismantling nuclear weapons in Ukraine. Peoria-based Caterpillar Inc. announced on December 10 that it will supply a package which includes 23 excavators, 18 tractors, two wheel loaders equipped as material handlers and nine motor graders. The equipment will be used to dismantle airplanes, submarines and missile silos. Five pieces of equipment will be used to construct a storage area for radioactive materials. The contracts were awarded by the Defense Nuclear Agency, an arm of the Defense Department. (Associated Press)



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# Canadian Football League round-up

by Ihor Stelmach

## 1994 campaign concludes

The 12 teams in the north-of-the-border professional football league recently completed their 1994 regular season. Team training camps, consisting of exhausting two-a-day workouts, opened in mid-May and lasted some six weeks. Next came two exhibition matches per team in the latter part of June. Actual competition started up after the Fourth of July and the regular season 18-game schedule ran through the first week of November. After a week off, division semifinals and finals were played in mid-November. The 82nd Grey Cup Championship was played in Vancouver on Thanksgiving Sunday.

It wasn't the National Football League, though the CFL has never claimed to be on a direct par with those Cowboys, 49ers, Bills and other NFL Super Bowl aspirants. The Canadian game thrives on speed and quickness. Passing offenses, indeed, wide open aerial attacks, are the reason 30 or more points may be scored in the final five minutes of any given game. With a play clock that allows only 20 seconds, the pace is faster and viewers cannot afford to take their eyes off the field. There are several ways to score in this league that are different from the NFL. This is what makes the CFL game so greatly entertaining and so much fun.

## Rules of the CFL

Number of players - 12 men (extra man in backfield)

Downs - Three downs to make 10 yards.

Scoring - Touchdown (6 pts.), field goal (3 pts.), safety (2 pts.), single or rouge (1 pt.), point after TD (1 pt. by kick) or (2 pts. by pass or run).

Single point - When punt or missed field goal goes into end zone and defensive player recovers and is tackled, or, when punt or missed field goal goes out of bounds in end zone.

Timing - Offensive team given 20 seconds to put ball into play.

Time-outs - One time-out per team in the last three minutes of each half. Referee stops clock for ball out of bounds, substitutions, penalties or whenever he feels it is justified.

Backfield - All players in backfield may be in motion in any direction before the ball is put into play.

Line of scrimmage - Offensive line is at forward point of football. Defensive line must be one yard beyond.

Kickoffs - Ball kicked off from 35-yard line at start of each half and after touchdown. After field goal, team scored against may scrimmage or kick off from own 35-yard line or receive kickoff. After a single, team scored against

scrimmages from own 35-yard line, except in case of a missed field goal, where team has option of taking ball at the point of last scrimmage.

Punt Returns - There is no fair catch, which accounts for an average of 15 punt returns per game. Tacklers must remain outside a five-yard area around returner until he has touched the ball.

Penalties - There are five, 10-, 15- and 25-yard penalties; the 25-yard foul is for rough play or fighting, also bringing with it automatic disqualification.

## CFL profiles

GLENN KULKA  
Defensive Tackle - Ottawa Rough Riders.

Non-Import - Bakersfield College - #68.

6:02, 261 lbs. - Born March 3, 1964, Edmonton.

Years in CFL: nine; Years in Ottawa: five.

Acquired: Free Agent, March 1990.

1993 Season: Kulka started in 16 games last season and continued to display that he is indeed one of the best defensive tackles in the entire league. While creating opportunities and gaps for rushing linebackers and defensive ends, recorded 12 defensive tackles, two sacks, two pass knock downs and a fumble recovery; had a particularly strong performance versus the West, recording three defensive tackles against Calgary on August 6, three defensive tackles versus Edmonton on October 22; crucial fumble recovery against British Columbia on September 4.

Pro Career:  
1992: Started in 17 games for the Ottawa Rough Riders at the nose tackle position after having played two seasons for the Riders at defensive end; adjusted quickly to his new role, registering 19 defensive tackles, two quarterback sacks and six tackles for losses; was an integral member of a defensive line that registered a combined 13 quarterback sacks and 25 tackles for losses.

1991: dressed in 15 games, starting in 13; had three quarterback sacks; named the Rough Rider player of the game against Toronto on September 29; registered 20 defensive tackles and one fumble recovery.

1990: suited up at the defensive end position for 18 consecutive weeks; registered 31 solo tackles; third on the Riders with seven quarterback sacks, two of which came against Hamilton on August 9; season highlight: Put Rickey Foggie out of commission in the Eastern semifinal as his sack forced a fumble which in turn was recovered by a teammate and returned for a touchdown.

1989: played in 16 games with the Toronto Argonauts; recorded 32 tackles and eight quarterback sacks.

1988: selected as an All-Eastern All-Star; averaged 10.5 sacks in both 1987 and 1988; picked up by Toronto in the 1987 dispersal draft.

1986: first saw action in the CFL with the Montreal Alouettes, playing in six games.

PETER PARTCHENKO  
Guard - Toronto Argonauts.  
Non-Import - Michigan State University - #64.

6:04, 285 lbs. Born January 30, 1970, Toronto.

Years in CFL: two; years in Toronto: two.

Acquired: Argos' sixth-round draft choice, 1992.

Partchenko was acquired in 1992 as the Argonauts' sixth-round selection (44th over all) in the CFL College Draft.

# HISTORIC VIDEO DOCUMENTARY of the 1st STATE VISIT OF PRESIDENT KUCHMA to Washington, D.C. on November 21-23, 1994

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## To The Weekly Contributors:

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

- News stories should be sent in not later than 10 days after the occurrence of a given event.
- Information about upcoming events must be received one week before the date of The Weekly edition in which the information is to be published.
- All materials must be typed and double-spaced.
- Newspaper and magazine clippings must be accompanied by the name of the publication and the date of the edition.
- Photographs submitted for publication must be black and white (or color with good contrast). Captions must be provided. Photos will be returned only when so requested and accompanied by a stamped, addressed envelope.
- Full names and their correct English spellings must be provided.
- Persons who submit any materials must provide a phone number where they may be reached during the work day if any additional information is required.

## Final CFL regular season standings

Eastern Division				W	L	T
Winnipeg	13	5	0			
Baltimore	12	6	0			
Toronto	7	11	0			
Ottawa	4	14	0			
Hamilton	4	14	0			
Shreveport	3	15	0			
Western Division				W	L	T
Calgary	15	3	0			
Edmonton	13	5	0			
British Columbia	11	6	1			
Saskatchewan	11	7	0			
Sacramento	9	8	1			
Las Vegas	5	13	0			

(Continued on page 16)



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## Vatican II...

(Continued from page 8)

need, [for] new patriarchates to be set up.<sup>7</sup>

Meeting in Ukraine in May of 1992, the Synod of Ukrainian Bishops petitioned the Holy See for the recognition of a patriarchal system and for the establishment of eparchies in eastern Ukraine. The Vatican shelved the request for a patriarch, and new eparchies were recognized in western Ukraine only.

Why the hesitation regarding a Patriarchate? For years the Vatican held to the position that as long as Ukraine is an occupied country, there was no justification for the establishment of a Patriarchate. Today, however, Ukraine is free and independent, and still the Vatican refuses to budge.

According to Father Andriy Chirovsky, professor of Eastern Catholic theology at St. Paul University in Ottawa, there seem to be three schools of thought within the Vatican regarding the appointment of a Ukrainian patriarch. The first position fully supports such an appointment as soon as possible. We believe Pope John Paul II shares this view.

At the other end of the spectrum is a position held by the so-called ecumenists who argue that the Ukrainian Catholic Church is a serious barrier to achieving unity with the Russian Orthodox Church. They know this because they have been so informed by the Russians, who would love to have Ukraine incorporated into their empire once again. For centuries the Ukrainian Catholic Church was a catalyst for Ukrainian national aspirations and its continued existence, let alone its continued expansion, would be a serious barrier to future Russian amalgamation.

In between these two positions are the "integralists" in the Vatican who believe that only the Latin Church represents the one, true, universal and apostolic Church. Any attempts to win over the Russian Orthodox or to expand the Ukrainian Catholic Church, therefore, can only harm the true Church.<sup>8</sup>

As in the United States, it is the "Russia first" position that seems to be winning the day within the Vatican. The jurisdiction of the Ukrainian Catholic Church in Ukraine has recently been restricted to a "territory" wholly within the Archeparchy of Lviv. Unbelievably, this puts most of Ukraine off limits to the Ukrainian Catholic Church.

The Ukrainian Orthodox and Russian Orthodox churches, meanwhile, have no such territorial limits in Ukraine. Nor, for that matter, were any limits placed upon the expansion of the Latin-rite Church into Ukraine from Poland. The failure of the Vatican to approve an eparchal see for the Ukrainian Catholic Church in Kyiv coupled with the translation of the Latin-rite mass into Ukrainian have only fueled suspicions among Ukrainian Catholics in Chicago that Rome has adopted a policy of benign neglect towards Ukrainian Catholics.

Ukrainian Catholic limits were confirmed by Antonio Franco, the papal nuncio in Kyiv, to the Synod of Ukrainian Bishops in Lviv on February 21. As for the

question of the Patriarchate, the nuncio emphasized: "I am convinced that the holy father can establish a Patriarchate...only if and when he becomes convinced in his heart that it is in accordance with God's will and that it will make a contribution for the good of this particular Church within the context of the good of the entire universal Church which is diligently searching appropriate avenues to achieve the unity of all Christian Churches."<sup>9</sup> For Chicago's Ukrainian Catholics, the papal nuncio's message was one more indication that Ukrainian Catholics still are not fully accepted by the universal Church.

It is truly a sad state of affairs. Quite frankly, we find it incomprehensible that the same Ukrainian Catholic Church that has remained loyal to Rome for 400 years despite centuries of Russian efforts to convert and amalgamate Ukrainian Catholics should now be cast aside in favor of the very people who tried to destroy it.

Although Vatican II went to great lengths to recognize the particularity of the Ukrainian Catholic Church, its dictates have not been implemented. Today, just two years prior to the 400th anniversary of the Union of Brest, Chicago's Catholics believe that the situation in Ukraine is similar to the situation in 1596. After surviving 40 years of brutal suppression under the Soviets, the martyred Ukrainian Catholic Church is once again between a Polish rock and a Russian hard place.

Current Vatican actions, we believe, will lead to disaster. The reality is that the Latin-rite Church will never find a comfortable home in Ukraine because, rightly or wrongly, it is historically associated with Poland, a nation that coveted and dominated Ukraine for centuries. The Vatican policy of appeasing Moscow won't work either. Anyone even vaguely familiar with the history of the Russian Orthodox Church knows that Russians will never recognize the primacy of the pope because they still believe that Moscow is the third and final Rome. What is equally significant is that throughout its history the Russian Orthodox Church has always been the handmaiden of the Russian government.

It is no exaggeration to say that what is happening in Ukraine today is being watched by the Orthodox world outside of Russia. If Rome is seeking rapprochement with the Eastern Church, then it needs to live up to the commitments of the Union of Brest as well as Vatican II. Only then can the Orthodox beyond Moscow believe that the Vatican is sincere in its attempts to unite the Christian world and has not succumbed to some misguided version of realpolitik. And only then will Chicago's Ukrainian Catholics believe that their brand of Catholicism has finally achieved full acceptance within the universal Church.

<sup>7</sup> See Vatican Council II, p. 445.

<sup>8</sup> Remarks by the Rev. Andriy Chirovsky, Immaculate Conception Ukrainian Catholic Church, (September 27, 1993).

<sup>9</sup> The Ukrainian Weekly (August 28, 1994).

## Notice to publishers and authors

It is The Ukrainian Weekly's policy to run news items and/or reviews of newly published books, booklets and reprints, as well as records and premiere issues of periodicals, only after receipt by the editorial offices of a copy of the material in question.

News items sent without a copy of the new release will not be published.

Send new releases and information (where publication may be purchased, cost, etc.) to: The Editor, The Ukrainian Weekly, 30 Montgomery St., Jersey City, NJ 07302.

## Cleveland

(Continued from page 5)

the UNA in the Ukrainian and English languages.

The members of the UNA Centennial Committee were: District Chairman Wasyl Liscynsky; Committee Chairman Taras G. Szmagala Sr. Treasurer and Program Editor Zenon Holubec; Wasyl Ilcyszyn, program booklet; Jennie Bochar and Pamela Mural Kamburoff, decorations; Marie Smith, rep-

resentative of the Parma District Office; Nicholas Bobeczko, Mary S. Bobeczko, Nancy Fedak Cunningham, Mary Kapral, Vera Napora, Jaroslaw Krysztalowych, Bohdan Semkiw, Taras G. Szmagala Jr., Wlademer Wladyka, Genevieve Zerebniak and Hary Zerebniak, members.

The UNA Cleveland District Committee expressed appreciation and gratitude to all friends and guests for taking part in the UNA's 100th anniversary celebration.



The Malvy ensemble: (from left) Anna Keller, Zirka Shokalook and Chrystia Sywyj-Hlabse.

## Ambridge

(Continued from page 5)

of The Ukrainian Weekly and spoke about how informative and educational The Weekly can be, especially for the younger generation.

In his keynote address, UNA Vice-President Nestor Olesnycky commended those in attendance for the remarkable turnout. He also presented a historical perspective of the UNA from its roots in Shamokin, Pa., to its purpose today.

Vice-President Olesnycky went on to address the inaccuracies of the controversial "60 Minutes" program and discussed the UNA's role in challenging this issue, via the reactivation of the Ukrainian Heritage Defense Committee.

Branch Vice-President Peter Sadowy presented long-time and former Branch President Joseph Nadczak with a watch in commemoration of his many years of service to the branch.

Mr. Monzi concluded the banquet by thanking everyone for coming and men-

tioning how the branch's distinguished history should be a cornerstone for its future. The benediction was presented by Msgr. Nestor.

Other UNA Branch 161 officers in attendance were Trustees John Melnyk, Mike Medianowski and Metro Prokopovich, Recording Secretary Leonard Sadowy, and Secretary-Treasurer Nancy Paliani.

Special thanks were expressed to members Eddie Rudakewich for photographing the event and John Oriszko for the flower arrangements.

Officers from two other UNA branches also attended.

UNA Branch 120 in Aliquippa, Pa., was represented by Eli Matiash, secretary; Carl Moskala, president; Ron Evashuk, steward; and John Kowalyk, recording secretary.

UNA Branch 276, which last year merged into Branch 161, was represented by Branch Secretary Steve Evanitsky and Branch President Joe Prokopovich.

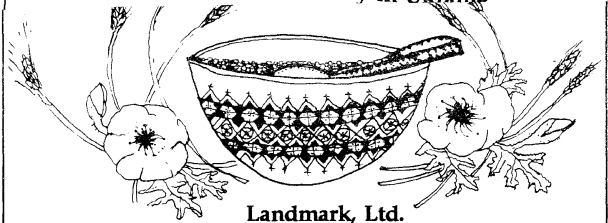
Entertainment was provided by Stetson.



On the dais are: (from left) Peter Sadowy, Joseph Nadczak, Ron Monzi and Nick Diakiwsky.

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### NOTICE TO UNA Secretaries and Organizers

The 1994 Membership Campaign ends December 30, 1994, therefore applications early enough to reach the Home Office by December 30, 1994.

UNA HOME OFFICE

### NOTICE To UNA Members and Branches

Members and Branches of the Ukrainian National Association are hereby notified that with the ending of its fiscal year the Home Office of the UNA must close its accounts and deposit in banks all money received from Branches.

#### No Later Than Noon of DECEMBER 30, 1994

Money received later cannot be credited to 1994. Therefore we appeal to all members of the UNA to pay their dues this month as soon as possible and all Branches to remit their accounts and money in time to be received by the Home Office no later than noon of FRIDAY, DECEMBER 30, 1993.

Notice is hereby given that Branches which send their dues late will be shown as delinquent and in arrears on the annual report.

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## Present day...

(Continued from page 9)

like some ghostly snow.

For all of any scholar's learning, as in any presentation of history given from a particular perspective, myopia is an ever-present danger. However, an incident in the life of the emigrant society demonstrated the emigrant society's ability to rectify it. At Central "Brodsky" (after the sugar baron who built it) Synagogue, Dr. Pejsachow showed the group a copy of the 1926 directive of the Supreme Soviet of the Ukrainian SSR by which all synagogues in the capital were closed and expropriated. Mr. Zissels asked for the document, and read the text, revealing that it was aimed at all shrines, whether Jewish, Christian, Muslim, or any other.

Long the proudly touted home of the Kyiv Puppet Theater, the synagogue now stands as a gnawing reminder of the sacrileges of the Soviet regime, where a small Jewish community has been given a section of the basement for prayer.

#### The third man

At present, the center of Kyiv's religious life is the synagogue on Shechekavytka Street, run by yet another man of spirit, Ukraine's chief rabbi, Yaakov Bleich. Rabbi Bleich's affable nature has made him a cause célèbre in North America, partly on the strength of an article by Robert Cullen, "Report on Ukraine," published by The New Yorker magazine in its January 27, 1992, issue. Although he often vents his feelings of mistrust toward journalists, he is ever willing and ready to deal with them, saying that his cause is more important than any of his personal views on the matter.

Outspoken, yet gracious; dignified, but frank, the 29-year-old Rabbi Bleich is always ready to slip into deadpan Brooklynesque humor (he is a native of its

Williamsburg section). During the visit, Rabbi Bleich told the group that former U.S. Ambassador to Ukraine Roman Popadiuk had read the New Yorker article and, "the day after he came to Ukraine, he arrived at my doorstep and said: 'I've got to see this other Brooklyn boy who made it here.'"

#### Evaluation and wrap-up

On the group's last day in its adopted headquarters, Hotel Rus', project participants gathered to assess the successes and drawbacks of the expedition.

The consensus was that joint trips with people of another ethnic or religious background provide a stimulating blend of points of view, and a knowledge was derived almost in equal parts from those taking part in the trip, as from the people met in Ukraine, since the atmosphere of the group forced individuals to confront their personal assumptions, ideas and stores of fact.

Everyone held high hopes for the future of the project. They gave high marks to the hosts for their ability, resourcefulness and dedication, including Messrs. Finberg and Zissels, Taras Vozniak (in Lviv) and Myroslav Marynovych (in Drohobych).

Most felt overburdened by the schedule, asked for more in-depth backgrounders on the officials and activists met along the way, and bemoaned the lack of quality translators.

In a concluding statement, Mr. Finberg enjoined all participants, in North America and Ukraine, to contribute to shaping the way Ukrainians and Jews think about their history and mutual tolerance. He said the participants must become joint advocates for necessary U.S. government policies, and must work jointly to shape attitudes and understanding of current conditions in Ukraine.

"We should not forget the past," Mr. Finberg said, "but we must not allow our feelings about the past to become the sole arbiter of today's attitudes and policies."

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## Project Ukraine's...

(Continued from page 9)

such as the Crimean Tatars (over 250,000), and the smaller groups, such as Germans (about 2,000). "Thousands of people are returning from the eastern Caucasus and Siberia — this presents us with unique problems."

He said the revival of religious life presents challenges to the new state, such as various sectarian disputes and questions about the apportioning of tax-free land and granting of tax-free status.

Mr. Shulha also warned that ethnic designations are often used to camouflage political problems. "Forces that want to divide Ukraine," the minister said, "exploit such issues for political ends." Skirting the obvious example of the Russian population in the country, he alluded to support that Rusyn separatists in Transcarpathia were receiving from certain quarters in Hungary.

To illustrate the climate of inter-ethnic relations, Mr. Shulha drew the analogy of a bus, filled to capacity. He pointed out that if everyone stands calmly, everything is fine; but if someone shoves you, you have an urge to push back. This is the impulse his ministry will try to minimize, particularly because, as he put it, "Ukraine's bus is traveling on a bumpy road, politically and economically. As a result, it's very important that each of our citizens remain peacefully within their own space," because people will be jostled as it is.

Mr. Shulha said Ukraine's economic woes are obviously the primary concern, because such conditions are apt to foster strife. As a result, the official said that his ministry would be monitoring inter-ethnic relations closely, offering mediation where necessary, in order to ensure harmony.

In answer to questions from Martin

Bresler, an attorney and former AJC executive, Mr. Shulha said that internal passports are still in use in Ukraine, largely for economic reasons, but that codes and specific rubrics identifying a bearer as a member of a particular ethnic group have been eliminated. He stressed that Ukraine is striving to bring itself into line with international norms, which dictate that no such identification be made. He said that such a policy will do much to consolidate Ukraine as a political entity and as a cohesive society.

### Comparative bureaucracy

The meeting with representatives of Ukraine's Foreign Affairs Ministry, held in the grandiose Stalinist curved building at the top of the Andriyivskyi Uzviz, was a lesson in comparative bureaucracy. Both Ihor Kharchenko, director of the ministry's Analytical Department, and Dr. Alexander Potekhin, head of the U.S.A. and Canada Department, stressed the difficulties involved in effecting rapid changes in policy in the face of institutional inertia.

However, the difficulties they focused on were largely those in the U.S. and Russia, both of whose foreign policy agencies were seen as clumsy in their adjustment to post-Soviet reality. Nevertheless, both officials foresaw rapid improvements in relations with the U.S.

They did say that one of the few positive legacies of the USSR was a decreased identification with nationality in the general population, which has made the shift to a tolerant society largely painless.

The officials asserted that positive relations with Israel would continue to be an important element of Ukraine's policy, particularly because a large segment of the Israeli population can trace their ancestry to Ukraine, or were born in Ukraine.

### Head of the Ukraina Society

Ivan Drach, former Rukh leader, deputy and current chairman of the Ukraina Society, met with the group at his new headquarters near the Golden Gates. He stressed that Ukrainian society is interested in reaching out to Jews throughout the world — in Ukraine, in Israel and elsewhere in the world.

Mr. Drach said he derived a specific lesson from his travel to the U.S., where he visited the U.S. Holocaust Memorial Museum, and Israel, where he walked through Yad Vashem's Garden of the Righteous and saw many Ukrainian names. "I am convinced that one reason the Jewish people are strong is that they use the past as an engine for the future."

This led him to join with others in the formation of a research institute to be known as the People's Institute for the Study of Genocide. Four issues of salient interest will be the Famine of 1932-1933 and the extirpation of Ukraine's intelligentsia; the Nazi Holocaust against Jews and Ukrainians; the deportation of Crimean Tatars from Ukraine in the 1940s; and the deportation of ethnic Germans from Ukraine in the 1930s and '40s. He said that according to revised estimates, over the course of the 20th century, more than half of Ukraine's male population and one-quarter of the female population had been killed in wars, the Holocaust, famine and purges.

"At this stage, the general public and the younger generation here know little about these four problems," Mr. Drach said, adding that the political struggle over the refusal of the former Communist apparat to avow Soviet crimes against Ukrainians and other ethnic groups in the country continues.

Mr. Drach concluded by saying that

the period of "mutual accusation and guilt between Ukrainians and Jews is over. Jews set the example for the Ukrainian people by reviving their state and language after centuries of stateless existence." He also said that cooperation between Ukrainians and Jews is a political priority for the Ukrainian state.

### U.S. Ambassador William Miller

The last official briefing was a hastily arranged meeting with William Miller, U.S. ambassador to Ukraine, amid the ongoing construction and renovations at the embassy. As workers popped in and out carrying rolls of wallpaper and tubs of grout, Ambassador Miller demonstrated his considerable grasp of the political, economic and cultural scene in Ukraine.

Mr. Miller predicted that questions of tolerance will not come up, because at present all groups, regardless of ethnicity, are suffering equally. He said most democratic institutions and non-governmental organizations are just getting off the ground, but their effect on society is already there to be seen.

The U.S. ambassador said the portrait of Ukraine drawn by the media is, as always, skewed by the focus on what is most alarming and difficult. Part of the problem, Mr. Miller said, is that as yet there is no continuous coverage, because the correspondents of major newspapers and press agencies, as well as radio and television networks, are located outside the country, in Moscow or Warsaw.

The envoy concluded by saying that Ukraine is "a beautiful but challenging place," adding that it's a miracle how tolerant the society is, both of ethnic diversity and the various hardships, considering that it endured 70 years of Soviet rule. "Ukraine has suffered a lot, and now it deserves a lot," he said.

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## PREVIEW OF EVENTS

**Sunday, December 18**

**NEWARK, N.J.:** St. John the Baptist Ukrainian Catholic School invites the community to a Christmas carol concert presented by the children of St. John's to be held in St. John the Baptist Church, Sanford Avenue and Ivy Street, at 1 p.m.

**Saturday, December 31**

**GLENS FALLS, N.Y.:** The annual Burlaky Plast ski camp will be followed by a New Year's Eve dance to be held at the Queensbury Hotel, with Yuri Hrabec serving as master of ceremonies and DJ. Rooms, at \$60 per night, may be reserved by calling the hotel, (518) 792-1121. For additional information call Taras, (410) 889-2037, or Yuri, (508) 774-3516.

**Saturday, January 14**

**HARTFORD, Conn.:** The Organization for the Defense of Four Freedoms for Ukraine, jointly with the Women's Association for the Defense of Four Freedoms for Ukraine and SUM-A, invite the community to a New Year's Eve dance/malanka, with music by Fata Morgana, to be held at the Ukrainian National Home, 961 Wethersfield Ave., starting at 9 p.m. Tickets: \$20, adults; \$15, students. Evening attire requested. For tickets and table reservations call Ulana Tomaszewsky, (203) 742-6305, or the SUMA Cooperative, (203) 296-6955.

**ONGOING**

**PHOENIX:** International Christmas XIV, an event representing the cultural diversity of the community, features an exhibit of

42 decorated trees showcasing artifacts typical of each group's heritage and celebration of Christmas. Ukraine is represented by a tree decorated by Christine Boyko, on behalf of the Phoenix chapter of the Ukrainian National Women's League of America. The free, indoor exhibit of decorated trees, dolls and carvings of Christmas characters is being held on the concourse at Bank One Center in downtown Phoenix, 8 a.m.-9 p.m. daily through December 30. For additional information call (602) 221-1005.

**ADVANCE NOTICE**

**SILVER SPRING, Md.:** Rare Ukrainian collectibles will be offered by the Ukrainian Philatelic and Numismatic Society at a January 1995 auction, with some 600 lots on sale. The highlight of the sale is a large selection of 1920 Courier Fieldpost issues (currently featured in the society's journal, Ukrainian Philatelist). There is also a large assortment of Rimini Prisoner-of-War Camp stamps and DP Camp stamps. Most of the auction will consist of trident overprinted stamps from many regions. In addition, the sale will offer some three dozen colorful postcards from the turn of the century, which depict scenes from Ukrainian history, culture and architecture. There will also be a limited selection of recent Ukrainian coins, minted in 1992 and 1993 (which probably will not appear for some time until inflation subsides, and if they are released, they will carry the date of that year). To obtain the auction catalogue, send 50 cents in stamps or coins, for postage and handling, to: Val Zabijaka, P.O. Box 3711, Silver Spring, MD 20918.

**PLEASE NOTE:** Preview items must be received one week before desired date of publication. No information will be taken over the phone. Preview items will be published only once (please indicate desired date of publication). All items are published at the discretion of the editorial staff and in accordance with available space.

**PREVIEW OF EVENTS**, a listing of Ukrainian community events open to the public, is a service provided free of charge by The Ukrainian Weekly to the Ukrainian community. To have an event listed in this column, please send information (type of event, date, time, place, admission, sponsor, etc.) — typed and in the English language — along with the phone number of a person who may be reached during daytime hours for additional information, to: Preview of Events, The Ukrainian Weekly, 30 Montgomery St., Jersey City, NJ 07302.

## Spiritual Legacy of Ukraine exhibit seeks American venues

**JERSEY CITY, N.J. —** The organizers of the "Spiritual Legacy of Ukraine" exhibit, which has recently completed a successful cross-country tour of Canada under the aegis of the Embassy of Ukraine in Canada, are seeking American sponsors and venues in order to bring this unique collection of artworks to Ukrainian communities in the U.S. in the coming year.

The exhibit showcases the work of Leonid Mohuchov, 69, a largely self-taught watercolor artist from Chernihiv, who has documented Ukraine's historic and cultural monuments, particularly the tragic fate of its magnificent churches and monasteries, which were ruthlessly destroyed or vandalized over the years by the former Soviet regime in the period 1948-1986.

Because of the subject matter, Mr. Mohuchov's paintings were not fully exhib-

ited until after Ukraine achieved independence. Since then, Mr. Mohuchov's work has been shown in Kyiv at three major shows and subsequently, in 1993-1994, in major cities throughout Canada.

Proceeds from exhibit tours, after expenses, are channeled via the Mohuchov Fund for the restoration of churches in Ukraine. The fund is a non-profit, charitable organization established by the Ukrainian Society for the Preservation of Historic and Cultural Monuments and the Ukrainian Orthodox Church—Kyyiv Patriarchate. The fund's official representative, as well as the exhibit tour coordinator, is Wasyly Bily of Montreal.

Parties interested in further information regarding this project should contact Mr. Bily at: 6811 Molson St., Apt. 1, Montreal, Quebec H1Y 3C6; (514) 374-7128; fax (514) 627-2234.

## Canadian...

(Continued from page 11)

The right to that pick was acquired from the Winnipeg Blue Bombers in exchange for Argonaut slotback Howard Dell.

**Argonauts:** Dressed as the club's back-up offensive lineman in eight games, including three consecutive weeks (#'s 13-15); filled in for tackle Daryle Smith (knee injury) on October 18; saw action as a back-up in the Week #3 Hamilton contest; made his Argonaut debut and dressed as the club's back-up offensive tackle vs. British Columbia in the season opener on July 14.

**College:** A five-year player for the Michigan State Spartans who played his collegiate career as offensive tackle.

1992: played seven games as a reserve left tackle in his fifth year.

1991: saw action as a reserve in games against Notre Dame and Wisconsin.

1990: did not see any regular or post season action.

1989: saw one game of reserve duty on the offensive line and registered three minutes of playing time in his team's 76-14 victory over Northwestern.

**Personal:** Made numerous appearances on behalf of the Argos, including appearances on the Charity Hockey Dream Team; a favorite of the Toronto Children's Aid Society; a solid athlete at Toronto's Michael Power Catholic High School; a football letterman for head coach Sean Allen where he led his squad to a 19-4 record (12-0 in 1986) over his final two seasons.

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Friday, December 30th — Monday, January 2nd

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9:00 PM — ZABAVA — Dance some more to the tunes of the "FATA MORGANA" Orchestra  
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<<< Accommodations for Sunday night upon availability >>>

Please contact Soyuzivka for further information and reservations at:

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