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Citizenship issue stalls bilateral treaty

by Marta Kolomayets
Kyiv Press Bureau

KYIV — Ukraine will not sign the wide-ranging Treaty on Friendship and Cooperation with the Russian Federation if an article stipulating dual citizenship for citizens of both countries is included, said Dmytro Tabachnyk, presidential chief of staff on Wednesday, February 1.

"We will not change our position on this issue," said Mr. Tabachnyk, adding that not only the Ukrainian president, but the minister of foreign affairs have spoken out against the issue of dual citizenship.

His comments come just a few days after Russian President Boris Yeltsin said that Russia cannot sign a full-scale treaty with Ukraine unless it carries a provision on dual citizenship. He made these comments during a visit to Lipetsk in Russia on January 26, just one day after meeting with President Leonid Kuchma.

As The Weekly reported last week, Mr. Kuchma had traveled to Moscow on Tuesday, January 25, to help iron out details of a trade and economic agreement between the two neighboring countries for 1995.

It was during this visit that the two leaders agreed to drop the issue of dual citizen-

ship from the political treaty that is being prepared for signing later this year.

President Yeltsin did not discard the issue altogether, but agreed to drop it from the controversial treaty.

Ukraine's foreign minister, Gennadiy Udovenko, told Interfax-Ukraine that Mr. Yeltsin's statement in Lipetsk was "a departure, to a certain extent, from the position agreed upon in Moscow."

"Dual citizenship is not in Ukraine's interests," said Mr. Udovenko. There is no democracy in the world that has a law to this effect, he noted.

Commenting on Mr. Yeltsin's statements, Oleksander Moroz, chairman of Ukraine's Parliament, told reporters on January 30, "Citizenship is an issue not open to any negotiations with other states."

"The words of a leader of a neighboring country concerning granting citizenship in Ukraine do not have any meaning for our country," he added.

However, he did say that Ukraine and Russia should continue to develop economic relations. He praised documents signed in Kharkiv last week that aim to develop cooperation between border regions of Ukraine and Russia.

Another round of price increases batters consumers in Ukraine

by Marta Kolomayets
Kyiv Press Bureau

KYIV — Another wave of price increases began in Ukraine on Wednesday, February 1, affecting everything from bread to transportation and housing.

The price rises, part of a program of price liberalization introduced by President Leonid Kuchma in October of last year, are intended to help transform a more than 70-year-old command administrative system into a market economy.

Bread is scheduled to go up 1.5 times in price, from 20,000 karbovantsi (about 15 cents) to 50,000 kbv (about 35 cents). This may seem like pennies to most Westerners, but for people who make 1.5 million kbv (\$11 U.S.) a month, currently the minimum wage, this takes a big bite out of their budget.

"President Leonid Kuchma has once again dealt a severe blow against working people," read a joint statement circulated by left-wing movements in Ukraine on January 31, the day before the price increases were to take effect. Price increases "will bring the Ukrainian nation to starvation," read the document, which calls for acts of civil disobedience such as strikes and rallies. "Communism had always guaranteed a roof over one's head and bread on the table," it noted.

Transportation costs have already gone up, with a ride on the Kyiv metro costing 7,000 kbv, up from 1,500 kbv.

"How can one of my engineers afford to feed his family if he brings home 800,000 kbv for two weeks' work and a monthly transportation pass costs 830,000 kbv?" asked Anatoliy Zhylynsky, who works in a local laboratory. Last month the pass cost him 170,000 kbv.

"The inflation rate will probably reach 40 percent in February," predicted the first deputy prime minister in charge of economic reforms, Viktor Pynzenyk.

Deputy Economy Minister Viktor Kalnik told reporters that, according to a government resolution passed last October, the prices of utilities and transport were to meet 40 percent of their real costs by February 1, and 60 percent by July 1 of this year.

According to the resolution, the state will reserve the right to adjust prices for bread, drugs, services and agricultural goods. However, regional prices for bread will be fixed by local authorities. Prices for most food products had been freed last year.

Despite the price increases, Ukraine's state budget will have to continue subsidizing utilities, fuel and housing, according to the Ministry of Economics. About 320 to 360 trillion kbv will be needed from the state budget for these services.

But the worst of the price increases may be over for the citizens of Ukraine, according to the Ministry of the Economy. Last year retail and wholesale prices rose six times; by the end of 1995 they are scheduled to go up no more than 2.5 times.

Ukraine launches mass privatization with opening of first regional center

by Marta Kolomayets
Kyiv Press Bureau

ZHYTOMYR, Ukraine — Showing a commitment to reforms — after more than three years of half-hearted attempts — the Ukrainian government last week launched a mass privatization program that will give each citizen the opportunity to invest in formerly state-run companies, re-introducing the concept of private ownership.

The program, kicked off on January 26, began with the opening of the first regional privatization center in Zhytomyr, 150 kilometers (93 miles) west of Kyiv. The privatization effort, designed and sponsored by the Ukrainian State Property Fund with the assistance of the European Union's Technical Assistance Program to the Commonwealth of Independent States (TACIS) and the U.S. Agency for International Development (AID), distributes certificates to citizens who can then invest these vouchers in companies up for auction, as well as in trust and investment companies.

"Zhytomyr today, Zaporizhzhia tomorrow, Kyiv, Kirovohrad, Khmelnytsky," declared Yuriy Yekhanurov, the head of Ukraine's State Property Fund, reciting a list of regions that will open auction centers over the next two weeks. Ukraine's 22 other regions, including the cities of Kyiv and Sevastopol, are scheduled to join the program by April 15.

Mr. Yekhanurov described the aggressive pace that reforms will take over the next two years: 8,000 enterprises will be privatized in this period. By the end of the program, the Ukrainian government hopes 70 percent of state property will be given over to private ownership.

"We'll work at such a pace that journalists won't even be able to keep up," Mr. Yekhanurov said at a press briefing launching the Zhytomyr auction center.

Opening day: a slow start

But that pace was not evident on the day the Zhytomyr auction center, the first one in Ukraine, opened under this new program. Although the region's leaders boasted that since January 5 local savings banks had distributed 10,000 privatization certificates (printed in the United States), there were no crowds of people at the auction center on the day it opened.

One man, who identified himself only as Petro, was told by local officials to come back after the official ribbon-cutting ceremonies, at which such dignitaries as Mr.



Marta Kolomayets

Valeriy Shepel, head of the regional branch of the State Property Fund, displays a privatization certificate.

Yekhanurov, U.S. Ambassador to Ukraine William Green Miller, and the World Bank representative in Ukraine, Daniel Kaufmann, were present.

Another senior citizen watched the ceremonies from across the street and pondered where he would invest his non-transferable certificate. "I think sugar," he told his neighbor. "I think everyone needs sugar," he added, as he looked over the Zhytomyr enterprises in the first privatization auction, which lists the Korovinetsky sugar mill.

Both Ukrainian and Western officials flocked to Zhytomyr to witness the opening of this center, hailing it as an important step forward on Ukraine's road to reform.

"By taking this step during difficult economic times, we are putting the world on notice that the Ukrainian people are committed to economic reforms and determined to become a member of the international marketplace," said Mr. Yekhanurov.

"The political will is here, with President Leonid Kuchma's radical program of reforms approved by Parliament," he noted.

Over the past year, Ukraine's Parliament had tried to block privatization, putting a moratorium on it in the summer. It was lifted only in December of 1994. There still is a moratorium on privatization in such sectors as transportation, communications and energy. That list of enterprises is scheduled to be reviewed in mid-February by Parliament, but Oleh Taranov, chairman of the Parliament's Economic Policy Committee, recently said that only 80 enterprises will be "blacklisted," that is, not intended for privatization.

Western officials excited

Western officials — especially members of the TACIS and USAID — were

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Ideological differences come to fore in handling of Lukianenko's mandate

by **Marta Kolomayets**
Kyiv Press Bureau

KYYIV — The glaring differences in ideologies that prevail in the current Supreme Council, as well as the lack of a democratic Constitution, were underscored last month in a heated debate concerning newly elected Deputy Levko Lukianenko.

Although Mr. Lukianenko, 67, won over 62 percent of the vote during parliamentary elections in Novovolynsk (Volyn Oblast) on November 20, 1993, Ukraine's Supreme Council has refused to grant him the right to his seat in the legislative chamber.

Left-wing forces in Parliament voted 221-181 on January 18 to deny the former political prisoner, Ukrainian Republican Party leader and ambassador to Canada his seat, claiming he had distributed illegal campaign materials, leaflets that accused his opponents of being "enemies of the state." The debate in Parliament lasted for close to three hours and, in the end, the Communist, Socialist and Agrarian factions succeeded in blocking Mr. Lukianenko's mandate.

However, Ivan Yemets, the chairman of the Central Electoral Commission, told reporters that the CEC has granted Mr. Lukianenko his mandate and that he believes Mr. Lukianenko was unaware of any wrongdoing in his campaign. The matter is out of the hands of the CEC, which has completed its investigation.

It has been handed over to the parliamentary Mandate Committee, which will disclose the results of its investigation during the week of February 6.

National democratic deputies, includ-

ing members of the Rukh, Interregional, Center and Reform factions, rallied to support Mr. Lukianenko, arguing that the citizens of Ukraine had elected Mr. Lukianenko and that a constitutional article (Chapter 12, Article 100, a left-over from the old Constitution), which requires that the Supreme Council grant an elected deputy his rights, is ridiculous.

"It is very strange that deputies approve themselves," said Vyacheslav Chornovil, the head of the Rukh faction in Parliament.

As the leader of the Rukh Party, Mr. Chornovil issued a one-page statement protesting Parliament's action, calling it "another in a series of moves by the Communist-chauvinist majority." He called for the Supreme Council to immediately review the situation and demanded that the Constitution be amended as soon as possible.

Even Parliament Chairman Oleksander Moroz told reporters he had voted to approve Mr. Lukianenko's mandate. "He was my opponent in the last Parliament, but a very honest opponent. I respect him," said Mr. Moroz.

Deputy Hryhoriy Dovhanchyn (Agrarian faction), a member of the Mandate Committee, said he finds himself in an awkward situation when he is compelled to judge his colleagues. "These are issues to be decided by the Central Electoral Commission and a Constitutional Court, which has to be formed in the nearest future," he noted.

Deputy Yuliy Ioffe told reporters that he thinks the Supreme Council of Ukraine is the only legislative body in the world that votes for itself. "It's a ridiculous practice," he underlined.

Ultranationalist group says it will seek release of Ukrainians held in Chechnya

by **Marta Kolomayets**
Kyiv Press Bureau

KYYIV — An ultranationalist political organization has obtained the release of a Russian Army officer of Ukrainian heritage held by the Chechens since December 11 of last year, reported a leader of the Ukrainian National Assembly-Ukrainian National Self Defense during a press conference on Friday afternoon, January 27.

Anatoly Lupynis, the chief political officer of UNA-UNSO, told reporters that his delegation met with President Dzhokhar Dudayev to ask for the release of Capt. Oleksander Olefirenko, a native of Ukraine who holds Russian citizenship.

"It was out of respect to the Ukrainian people that we gained the officer's release," said Mr. Lupynis, who told reporters that he and his delegation were in Chechnya on their fifth humanitarian aid mission since the outbreak of war in December 1994.

Capt. Olefirenko, 28, who was born and raised in Ukraine, is an officer of the Army of the Russian Federation's Ministry of Interior, 3671st regiment, and had been assigned to Dagestan to help deal with a cholera epidemic. In December, the division was sent to Grozny to secure checkpoints surrounding the Chechen republic near the city of Khasavyurt.

Speaking at the news conference, Capt. Olefirenko said his immediate plans were to return to Nyzhnyi Novgorod, to his wife and two sons. In the future he would like to return to

Ukraine, he added.

"I did not shoot at anyone," he said, adding that he had been captured soon after his arrival. "And I will not go back to Grozny to shoot at innocent victims," he said.

Capt. Olefirenko said he was treated well by the Chechen fighters. "When they ate, we ate; when they had water, we had water," he added, saying that he was not subjected to cruel punishment of any sort.

Reports by a European delegation that is currently observing the situation in the war-ravaged region tell of Russia's "disproportionate and indiscriminate" use of military force in Chechnya. A fact-finding mission by the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe has seen the city of Grozny reduced to rubble and has reported beatings of prisoners of war held by the Russians.

Mr. Lupynis told reporters he has learned of several more Ukrainians that are being held by President Dudayev's forces and plans to go back to negotiate their release. He said he could not do anything during this mission because he learned of the captives on the day of his departure. He named one more Russian soldier whose release he hopes to obtain during his next trip to the war zone: Lt. Bryantsev, an ethnic Ukrainian.

On Tuesday evening, January 31, UNA-UNSO members proposed that Ukraine's president and Supreme Council grant political asylum to "sufferers of the conflict in Chechnya on

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NEWSBRIEFS

Ministry condemns USSR reunion effort

KYYIV — The Ukrainian Justice Ministry issued a statement on January 26 saying the initiative to hold a referendum on the restoration of the USSR was a threat to Ukraine's sovereignty. TANJUG reported that a ministry spokesperson said anyone forcefully campaigning to merge Ukraine with a new union of former Soviet republics would risk a seven-year prison term. Leftist forces in the Russified eastern provinces of Ukraine have been collecting signatures to bring the issue of a new political alliance with Russia to a national referendum. Ukrainian leaders have condemned the initiative as a potential catalyst for civil strife. (OMRI Daily Digest)

Chornobyl reactor shut down

KYYIV — Reactor No.3 at the Chornobyl nuclear power plant shut down late on Sunday, January 29, but it remains unclear what caused it. Georgi Veremeychuk, a spokesman for the Nuclear Reactor Protection Ministry, said on January 31 that a control instrument in the cooling system sounded a false alarm, halting operations. On Sunday, Valentyna Parashina, a facility spokesperson, had said that overworked technicians had mistakenly triggered the automatic security system. She said, "Incidents like this occur." However, the chief operator at Ukraine's Nuclear Power Committee, Mykhailo Diachenko, said the same day that the reactor was shut down after workers detected a small leak in the emergency cooling system. It is clear that no radiation was leaked. (The Washington Times, Reuters, Associated Press)

Extremists admit to aiding Chechens

KYYIV — Ukrainian extreme nationalists publicly admitted on January 17 that members were in fact aiding the separatist forces in Chechnya. Dmytro Korchytsky, a leader of the Ukrainian National Assembly, said that up to 100 of his militants, members of the assembly's paramilitary group, the Ukrainian National Defense (UNSO), were in Chechnya, some of them in Chechen President Dzhokhar Dudayev's personal guard. But a week later, UNA leader Oleh Vitovych would only acknowledge that 40 or so UNSO activists were in Chechnya, according to UNIAI, most of whom came to Chechnya on their own initiative and have simply announced their political affiliation with UNA-UNSO once there. The Russian media have accused Ukraine of allowing mercenaries to enter Russia to help the Chechen cause, an allegation that Ukraine's Foreign Minister

Gennadiy Udovenko has called baseless. (Respublika, Reuters)

Kuchma calls for volunteer army

ICHNIA, Ukraine — President Leonid Kravchuk said on January 16 that Ukraine must develop a professional, non-conscripted military force. Speaking at the opening of a Western-funded plant built to dismantle conventional weapons, he said, "I would not like to repeat what is happening in Russia now. This underscores our view that we see our army independently of the whole." He said he was against sending "boys barely out of school and incapable of doing anything" to fight Ukraine's wars. Ukraine has said little regarding Russia's actions in Chechnya, wary of pro-Russian sentiments in the Crimea. (Reuters)

Moscow rejects U.S. mediation

MOSCOW — United States mediation efforts to resolve Ukraine's energy debt to Russia were rejected in a statement issued by the Russian Petroleum Information Agency on January 30. Last year U.S. Ambassador to Russia Thomas Pickering had proposed that his country act as a mediator to help resolve the debt problem. The Russian statement said Ukraine's debt is strictly a bilateral issue. However, Russia does support a plan to use Western credits to help erase it. (OMRI Daily Digest)

EU approves loan for agriculture

KYYIV — The European Union has approved a 5 million ecu credit line for Ukraine to establish a development program for its agricultural sector, reported Interfax on January 25. Ukraine's Ministry of Agriculture said the grant will be used to pay foreign experts to reorganize the management system of the agricultural complex, along with Ukrainian agronomists. The Ukrainian press has routinely criticized the practice of using foreign consultants when foreign aid is received. In 1994, a \$6.5 million EU grant to draw up a food products program for Ukraine largely went to foreign firms. (OMRI Daily Digest)

Housing for soldiers completed

KYYIV — The last of four apartment complexes built by Germany to house Ukrainian soldiers has been completed and was officially opened on January 3, reported Reuters. The \$500 million project was part of a \$5 billion commitment by Germany to build housing for former Soviet troops returning from Eastern Europe. German

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INTERVIEW: Leonid Kravchuk on culture, politics and society

Ukraine's former president, Leonid Kravchuk, arrived at the Ukrainian National Association's headquarters on January 17 to meet with its executive, and after a ceremonial greeting by the staff, held a press conference with 11 members of the editorial staffs of *Svoboda* (the Ukrainian-language daily) and *The Ukrainian Weekly*. The following is the conclusion of a slightly abridged transcript and translation of the session. (Translated by Andriy Wynnycykj)

What do you consider to be the greatest achievement and the greatest failure of your presidency?

Simply, the greatest achievement is that Ukraine appeared in the world. It appeared peacefully, without bloodshed, without major conflicts. The fact that Ukraine gained world recognition will suffice.

The referendum of December 1991 was crucial. Some were against the idea, they feared the outcome. But this made it easy for the entire world to recognize us, to respect the way we achieved our freedom — in peace, calm and harmony. That's enough. Just to get out from under that horrible empire.

The fact that it required a certain degree of courage and mastery produced a euphoria that made facing the arduous task of state-building that much more difficult. I was guilty of it myself.

In a forum for presidential candidates in late fall 1991, when Levko Lukianenko was asked how long it would take for Ukraine to become a prosperous country, he said, "half a year." This is not to blame the man, most of us shared a similar conviction — we had all of this great wealth at our disposal, all we had to do was get organized. It was only when we took up the task at hand that myriad problems became more apparent to us.

Among my failures was that I was not more forceful in exercising my authority. That I did not take greater advantage of the fact that many people in Kyiv are quite prepared to be told that "It's like this that we need to do things."

In retrospect, what would you have done differently?

On August 24, 1991, we declared independence. In September, I sat down with representatives of the democratic faction and proposed to them that, along with the referendum and presidential elections, we also hold a

full round of parliamentary elections on the same day or within a month or two. Deputies of the Supreme Council then in office had been elected still under the Soviet Union, under Soviet law.

Well, [the democrats] said "We'll think about it," then came back a few days later and said, "No, we'll wait." They felt they had a strong bloc of deputies in Parliament, even a majority, and would be able to accomplish much.

That was a great error on their part, and my error of indecisiveness. If we had held elections immediately following the [August anti-Gorbachev] putsch, I think not more than 15 Communists would have been elected.

This would have been good. We would have had a president and a Parliament that thought identically, we wouldn't have had the problem of elections that were forced by expiring terms, and so on. So my indecisiveness is to blame for that.

I rarely trust people. But in this case, I believed [the democrats]. I should have come to Parliament, called for immediate elections, and things would have gone very differently.

Others have suggested that I should have simply dissolved the Parliament, abolished it. But you can't find any provision for such a move in [Ukraine's] Constitution — that would be illegal. That's an example of how the Russian way of doing things makes people restless and fosters strange ideas.

So that's what I would have done differently. I should have been more decisive. More decisive.

I should also have moved much more quickly against those who abused their political positions, who proved incompetent, or those who played both sides.

Why did you lose the elections?

In a transition period, the challenger has the advantage. For example, I made my policies plain, as a president. I set them out in legislation, in official speeches and in various decisions. And so I couldn't go to Luhanske and say, "I'll make two languages official in Ukraine" or "I'll make the borders [between Ukraine and Russia] transparent." I said the same thing in Lviv and in Luhanske.

Their position was much more comfortable.

Since a considerable amount of polling had been con-

ducted to assess popular opinion, the opposition simply tailored their campaign to what they heard.

For two years [Russian TV news service] Ostantinko bombarded Kravchuk over the airwaves. Even now, they can't seem to forget that I exist. They can see that I know them better than they know themselves. Mostly, they don't like what I have to say, about Chechnya, what have you. Russia was also quite active in Ukraine, particularly the intelligence services.

There were obviously a vast array of factors, the main one being that the standard of living fell drastically, and people were dissatisfied.

There were people out there who were promising a hundred dollars to voters, those who said a revolutionary order would be imposed and everything will work out for the better. Well, now they're in office, it hasn't been imposed, and things are not better.

It's easier to talk than to do.

In a recent interview by analyst Stephen Cohen, Mikhail Gorbachev said that Kravchuk and Yeltsin conspired to kill his new union treaty, thus effecting the fall of the Soviet Union. He also claimed that it is now evident that dissolving the USSR was a mistake, and that conditions are now favorable for it to be restored.

Well, that's entirely in the Gorbachev style. Some politicians, even Ukrainian politicians, have claimed that "Kravchuk acted improperly, an agreement should have been reached, and the Soviet Union should have been disassembled in stages."

Well, I told some of them privately, "Look, do you think I could have phoned Gorbachev and said 'Hello, Mikhail Sergeevych, let's get together take the USSR apart in stages.' I told them, 'Either you're children, or politically ignorant.'"

You have to do such things with a revolution, or suddenly, catching them unaware. We were able to do it suddenly. We got together at night, then the next morning we announced the decision, and that evening we telephoned our declaration to the world.

So we lulled them with the proposition that, instead of the Soviet Union, we'll have the Commonwealth of Independent States, which is worthless. But it was mere-

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In Washington, Kravchuk cautions West on inaction over Chechnya

by Yaro Bihun

WASHINGTON — Leonid Kravchuk, Ukraine's first president, says the United States and other Western countries have not been clear enough in the expression of their position on Russia's actions in Chechnya.

And neither has Ukraine, the former president said during a lecture and discussion at the International Club of Washington on January 20, sponsored by The Washington Group, an association of Ukrainian American professionals.

The West should not view events in Chechnya as a local, internal matter, Mr. Kravchuk said. "The West should send clearer signals to Russia that it is not acting as a democratic country and that its actions can become a threat to democracy not only in Russia but in the entire region."

He contrasted the West's weak reaction to the killings in Chechnya at the hands of a "democratic" Russia to what it would have had a similar action been undertaken by the former "totalitarian" Soviet regime.

But he cautioned against cutting back economic aid to Russia, which he said would be counterproductive.

The Ukrainian government should also state clearly that Russia's military actions in Chechnya are in violation of human rights and of the highest right of all, the right to life.

It is in Ukraine's interest that Russia be free and democratic, said the former president. Unfortunately, because of

Chechnya, Russian democracy is being severely tested, and Ukraine is beginning to feel new pressures from Russia.

Similarly, he said, both the West and Ukraine should state their positions more clearly with respect to the expansion of NATO and Russia's relationship to it. He said he is against ceding any "zones of influence" to Russia.

Asked about why there was so little progress in forming Ukraine's economy during his presidency, Mr. Kravchuk said that critics should understand that Ukraine inherited a developed economy that was at the same time a colonial economy: 90 percent of the economy was directed from Moscow; 80 percent of its production was finished elsewhere in the USSR, and a third of its industry was devoted to military production. Such an economy cannot be changed overnight, he said.

Mr. Kravchuk came to Washington as part of a two-week tour of major American cities. His two-day stay in Washington, organized by the Federation of Ukrainian American Professional and Business Organizations, included meetings with several Clinton administration officials, National Security Adviser Anthony Lake, Deputy Secretary of State Strobe Talbott; Deputy Assistant Secretary of Defense Elizabeth Sherwood; congressional leaders, among them Sens. Mitch McConnell (R-Ky.), Richard Lugar (R-Ind.) and Sam Nunn (D-Ga.), and a number of prominent businesspersons.

Kyiv in top 10 — worst, that is...

by Roman Woronowycz

JERSEY CITY, N.J. — Kyiv has achieved a rather dubious distinction. A survey of 118 major cities of the world rates Kyiv as one of the 10 worst cities to live in. Of those surveyed only Algiers, Algeria, ranked below Kyiv.

The survey by the Corporate Research Group (CRG) of Geneva, an information consulting and training company, was conducted for its clients, generally large, multinational corporations.

The CRG survey was completed in November 1994 to help CRG customers determine hardship allowances for their employees, compensation given to personnel stationed in cities where the quality of life is below that to which they are accustomed. In common parlance it is called "combat pay."

Other cities that did not fare well include Moscow and St. Petersburg in Russia, which came fourth and fifth from the bottom, respectively. Chinese cities took three of the worst 10 positions.

Noted among the most livable cities were Geneva, which took the top spot, and four Canadian cities: Vancouver (2), Toronto (4), Ottawa (6) and Montreal (8). The best position a U.S. city could muster was 30th place, which went to Boston.

The survey was completed by company analysts in the various cities and is based on 10 categories, among them crime, pollution, consumer goods, economic and social conditions, environmental conditions and recreation. The analysts were asked to rate 42 separate determinants on a scale of one to 10. Johann Carle, CRG's quality of life analyst, said, "Kyiv scores low in almost everything."

Not surprising, the city was rated lowest for its economic conditions. Mr. Carle cited such factors as inflation, vague banking procedures, housing shortages and scarcity of consumer goods as factors in the low rating. He said environmental conditions are also poor and agreed that the location of Chernobyl so close to the Ukrainian capital influenced the score.

Not all was negative. The city of almost 3 million inhabitants was given good marks for its social and cultural environment and for personal freedom. Yet this was tempered by weak ratings for freedom of the press.

Ten worst cities

A survey by the Corporate Resources Group ranked 118 cities for livability based on crime, pollution and political, economic and social conditions.

1. Algiers, Algeria
2. Kyiv, Ukraine
3. Lagos, Nigeria
4. Moscow, Russia
5. St. Petersburg, Russia
6. Guangzhou, China
7. Shanghai, China
8. Beijing, China
9. Teheran, Iran
10. Lusaka, Zambia

Kravchuk premieres on lecture circuit at Columbia University

by Andrij Wynnyckyj

NEW YORK — In the dusky but majestic rotunda of Columbia University's Low Library, former president Leonid Kravchuk made his first appearance on the U.S. lecture circuit on January 17, hosted by the Harriman Institute. It was attended by about 250 members of the academic community, alumni and the general public.

After Harriman Director Richard Erickson opened the proceedings, Columbia's president, George Rauch, introduced the Ukrainian statesman, briefly welcoming him in Ukrainian. Dr. Rauch then hailed him as "an active patron of education" for his support of the University of Kyiv-Mohyla Academy (with whom the host institutions are forming ever stronger ties), as a world peacemaker for signing the U.S.-Russian-Ukrainian Tripartite Agreement on nuclear arms reduction, and as the man who laid the foundation for a democratic civil society in Ukraine and was part of the country's first peaceful transfer of power.

Mr. Kravchuk's address, in part prepared, in part extemporized, was essentially an exposition of the manner in which conditions that existed prior to Ukraine's independence came to haunt the country throughout the first three years of its political freedom, and how Ukraine's first administration approached the tasks it faced.

The new state's first tasks

The first task, the president said, his Ukrainian translated into English by Marta Skorupsky, was to create, in a former Soviet colony with only formal accoutrements of a state, a system of functioning institutions of power (government) and ensure the country's security. With no false modesty, he declared that a basic reformation of the armed forces, legal institutions and laws was effected in one and a half years, adding a caveat that though this was not a completed process, a foundation had been provided.

The second task undertaken, in light of the multicultural make-up of Ukraine's population, was to assure orderly and harmonious inter-ethnic relations in the country, which made passage of the Law on Nationalities a high priority. He said that Ukraine faces a peculiar situation, in that neither under the USSR nor following Ukrainian independence has its Russian population been treated as a national minority. Their rights and access to education and cultural institutions have always been greater than those of Ukrainians, Mr. Kravchuk noted.

However, he said the policy his administration pursued was not to force a radical shift in the system, but to foster growth in education for all of the country's other ethnic groups, such as Hungarians, Moldovans and others, in order to create a more level playing field.

Mr. Kravchuk expressed confidence in his government's record on this issue, his assurance that the succeeding administration will follow a similar course, and his satisfaction that the current climate of inter-ethnic harmony will make the move out of the country's economic straits somewhat less complex.

Economic past and present

The former president reminded his audience that the entire Soviet Union faced an economic crisis in 1991, and that its political dissolution had been hastened by the disarray of an inefficient system. He also recited a litany of flaws inherent in any colony's economy, such as the lack of control over the means of

production, and the fragmented system of production in which concerns outside the country would complete work begun in Ukraine. These made the newly independent state's effort to stand on its own two feet that much more difficult, the president said.

In addressing the current deepening crisis, he praised President Leonid Kuchma's effort to push reforms through, but had harsh words for the implementation of the International Monetary Fund's stipulations which, he said, were contributing to the country's woes.

Mr. Kravchuk predicted that privatization would continue to proceed slowly, since Ukraine was home to a third of the

ageable because of "external influences."

The Russia factor and Chechnya

"Of course, the most important external factor that will continue to have an impact on Ukraine and its development is the Russian factor, and the quality of relations with Russia will be decisive," Mr. Kravchuk said.

He pointed out that his country is wholly dependent on Russia for energy supplies, as only 12 percent of its needs are provided for locally, and entire sectors of the economy, such as the electro-machine building and chemical industries, are already being compromised by shortages.

Mr. Kravchuk, who had been asked by

their citizens will be living under." He said that, in his opinion, the problems of democracy, of political and economic reform in the countries of the former Soviet Union, are global concerns.

From Crimea to Chernobyl

Following his formal address, Mr. Kravchuk fielded questions from the audience, and the first prompted him to dismiss the possibility of a Chechen scenario developing in the Crimea. He asserted that friction with the autonomous republic had no elements of ethnic conflict, but consisted only in bringing its Constitution and legislation in line with Ukraine's. In addition, Mr. Kravchuk pointed out that Ukrainian policy was tending toward decentralization and increased local authority across the country, and ventured that "if the Black Sea Fleet issue were resolved speedily, the peninsula would be afforded ever greater measures of political and economic autonomy."

In answer to another query, Mr. Kravchuk acknowledged the presence of a movement in favor of holding a referendum on the reconstitution of the USSR, both in Russia and Ukraine. He pointed out that if successful in Moscow, it would not threaten the Russian Federation's independence; however, the mere suggestion is an effort to undermine the Ukrainian state. Mr. Kravchuk said that conducting such a referendum in Ukraine is in the jurisdiction of the Parliament, and he asserted that any proposal to hold one would never gain majority support among deputies.

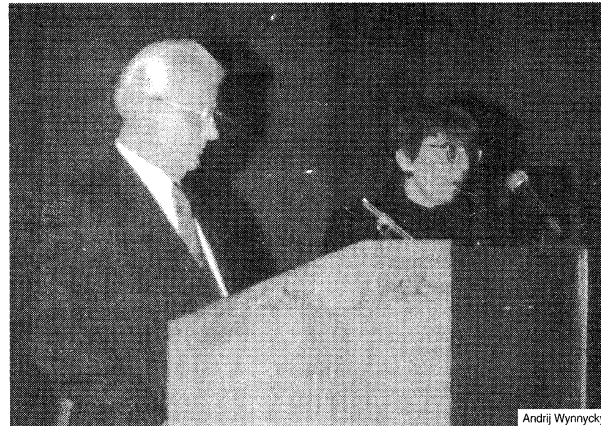
When asked if Ukraine's security had been compromised by trading disarmament for security guarantees, the Tripartite Agreement signatory said he does not overestimate the force of the guarantees Ukraine has been given and, in an apparent contradiction to the current president's position, said, "The best guarantee of Ukraine's security would be membership in NATO."

Mr. Kravchuk also downplayed the value of Ukraine's nuclear arsenal as a deterrent, joking that since Kyiv did not have operational control over it, "The worst we could do was to say, 'Don't attack us or our rockets might explode.'"

After the issue was broached again, Mr. Kravchuk said it would take time for the political inclinations of Ukraine's electorate to crystallize, and for a smaller number of truly representative democratic parties to emerge. The former Communist Party ideologue said the mystique of the "omnipotent Communist Party" has been overcome, but this has not prompted people to join other parties. Also, it is not the only organization to suffer from this kind of hemorrhaging. Rukh, he noted, boasted 600,000 members in 1991; now its rolls are down to 60,000.

Prompted from the floor, Mr. Kravchuk said that only 6 percent of Ukraine's arable land has been privatized, but contended that Ukrainian farmers are not yet ready for private ownership. He said Mr. Kuchma's recent directive ostensibly gave everyone the green light to proceed in this direction, but as of yet there had been no rush of claims. He also stressed that any rural reforms are met with resistance and that the process will take time.

Challenged about his administration's flashes of hostility to the press, and a legacy of government intervention that is being continued under the Kuchma presidency, Mr. Kravchuk responded that he fully supports the principle of a free press, and that "freedom of expression



Former President Leonid Kravchuk speaks at Columbia University. On the right is interpreter Marta Skorupsky.

former USSR's industrial complex, whose heavy industry was low in efficiency, highly energy intensive and wasteful, and technologically backward.

Threats to stability

Mr. Kravchuk emphasized that although Ukraine has managed to maintain domestic calm, there are many forces that could threaten its stability. Echoing a sentiment he expressed the night before at the Ukrainian Institute, the former president warned that governmental authority could be compromised if a new Constitution, in which there is a clear delineation of a power structure, is not adopted.

However, he was pessimistic about the chances for the Supreme Council, in its present form, to ratify such a document. He said that left-wing elements have a vested interest in impeding a process that would drastically reduce their influence. He added that Mr. Kuchma's draft bill on presidential power was a start in the right direction, but only a partial and insufficient solution to the need for a functional and comprehensive constitutional document.

Other forces pulling at the country's unity enumerated by Mr. Kravchuk included those nostalgic for the USSR, the geographic division into eastern Russophone and western Ukrainophone regions, the proliferation of political parties with no clear mandate to rule, and the presence of five major Churches vying strenuously and disruptively for the country's faithful.

However, he expressed confidence that the underpinnings of social harmony had been put in place during the first three years of independence. Mr. Kravchuk added that, paradoxically, common suffering of current economic woes was also a source of solidarity. But he hinted darkly that internal problems might be made more grave and less man-

agement organizations to act as a mediator in the conflict in their republic, said that "we in Ukraine have already felt a change in Russian policy since the worsening of the conflict." He said pressure on matters of contention between Ukraine and Russia, such as the Crimea and the Black Sea Fleet, and the apportioning of former Soviet assets and debt, is intensifying.

Mr. Kravchuk told the audience that "the best outcome of the present crisis for Ukraine would be the stability of Russia." He voiced his disagreement with those of his countrymen who claim that the conflict in Chechnya will ease Russian-Ukrainian tensions. He stressed that "the collapse of Russia would be extremely dangerous for us," and expressed fears that the economic fallout would be disastrous, and a political chain reaction could follow in Ukraine.

The would-be mediator described the situation as "tragic both for Russia and the Chechen people," but said that a turning away from Russia, despite the brutality of the invasion and clear examples of the violation of human rights, would be a great mistake.

Mr. Kravchuk was particularly disturbed by suggestions he'd heard in the West about cutting off aid to Russia. He claimed would only exacerbate matters. He said the Russian people should not be made to pay for the errors made by their leadership, adding that "all political leaderships are temporary, only Russia and Ukraine are eternal."

He called upon the West to assist efforts aimed at reducing tensions throughout the Commonwealth of Independent States.

In conclusion, Mr. Kravchuk sounded the note of global integration. "We all find ourselves on the brink of the third millennium," he said, "and we all must consider how the world will be organized, what regimes will rule the countries of the earth, and what conditions

(Continued on page 14)

Canada announces its intention to deport alleged WWII criminals

OTTAWA – Canada's minister of citizenship and immigration, Sergio Marchi, and the attorney general of Canada and minister of justice, Allan Rock, on January 31 announced a strategy aimed at deporting alleged World War II war criminals living in Canada.

"The government has both a legal and moral commitment to Canadians and the international community to ensure that World War II war crimes and crimes against humanity, regardless of time and place, are addressed. We will ensure that we meet our commitments in this area," said Mr. Rock.

"We have initiated the strategy by notifying four people of the government's intention to revoke citizenship and begin deportation proceedings," Mr. Marchi said.

In all four cases the government is alleging that these individuals misrepresented themselves and their wartime backgrounds when they applied to immigrate to Canada. Three of the four persons against whom the government is proceeding are Canadian citizens. The government's objective is to strip these people of their Canadian citizenship and deport them. The fourth is a permanent resident who will be subject to deportation proceedings alone. All four people have been sent notices of the government's intention.

The identities of the four individuals were not revealed. Their identities will be made public once litigation begins at the Federal Court for citizenship revocation proceedings or the Immigration and Refugee Board for deportation proceed-

ings, noted the Canadian government in an official news release.

"We are sending a message on behalf of all Canadians to war criminals around the world: Canada is not, and will not become a safe haven for these individuals. Known war criminals, like all serious offenders, will be subject to the full extent of the law," Mr. Rock said.

While progress on the initial four cases will be monitored to ensure that Canada meets its moral and legal commitments efficiently and effectively, the government anticipates undertaking at least four cases annually in the second and third years of the strategy. The numbers, however, may vary depending on results. The government said it is committed to completing all outstanding World War II war crimes investigations.

The government's approach does not rule out criminal prosecutions of alleged World War II war crimes. However, a 1994 Supreme Court of Canada decision in the case of Imre Finta makes such prosecutions unlikely.

Mr. Finta, the first person tried under a 1987 law that enabled Canada to try persons accused of committing war crimes outside of its territory, was acquitted of sending 8,617 Jews to concentration camps while a police captain in Hungary. The Supreme Court upheld a lower court ruling on the grounds that Mr. Finta was simply following orders.

The Department of Justice is reviewing areas of possible legislative change to ensure that criminal prosecution is an option for war crimes cases.

UCCLA says government is abandoning "made in Canada" solution to war crimes

KINGSTON, Ontario – The Ukrainian Canadian community has welcomed Ottawa's commitment to bring any alleged war criminals found in Canada to justice, noted the Ukrainian Canadian Civil Liberties Association on January 31.

Since 1984, the position of the Ukrainian Canadian community has been that: any war criminal found in Canada, regardless of that person's ethnic, religious or racial origin, or the period or place in which the crimes were committed, should be brought to trial in Canada under Canadian criminal law.

The government's 1987 announcement of a "made in Canada" solution to deal with war criminals should not be replaced by the "denaturalization and deportation" of suspects. Grave injustices have occurred when this type of procedure was used in the USA. "Canada should not relocate its problem," said J. B. Gregorovich, chairman of the Ukrainian Canadian Civil Liberties Association, a non-partisan organization that has been monitoring government activity on the war criminals issue for over 10 years.

"No Canadian should be denaturalized and deported on the basis of a civil hearing. Any citizen accused of committing a crime against humanity must be tried in Canada, under Canadian criminal law. We must not dilute what is one of our most fundamental legal principles, namely that any Canadian is innocent until proven guilty in a court of law," said Mr. Gregorovich.

"The gravity of the alleged offenses

requires that any individual accused of committing a war crime should be tried in accordance with the higher standard of proof required in a criminal proceeding. Canadian citizens have the right to expect that any allegations against them will be proved beyond a reasonable doubt. The resort to civil proceedings, as opposed to criminal proceedings, dilutes this very basic right," he added.

The Ukrainian Canadian community has also expressed its concern over Ottawa's recent decision to decrease the size of the Justice Ministry's war crimes unit. Persons responsible for atrocities in Rwanda, Somalia, Poland, Cambodia and elsewhere are thought to be hiding in Canada. "We need a viable war crimes unit to locate and bring these people to justice," said Dr. Lubomyr Luciuk, UCCLA's director of research.

"Regrettably, and despite its mandate," he added, "the unit has focused on war crimes committed during the second world war, apparently ignoring other, more recent, war crimes where the evidence trail would be correspondingly much stronger. The rules of evidence are far less stringent in civil proceedings than in criminal cases. Difficulties in securing convictions for crimes alleged to have been committed over 50 years ago should not dictate the procedure for contemporary prosecutions. Unfortunately, given the way the war crimes unit has operated, we are left wondering what its mandate really is," Dr. Luciuk stated.

CIUS's Jacyk Center hosts Lviv historian

TORONTO – The Peter Jacyk Center for Ukrainian Historical Research at the Canadian Institute of Ukrainian Studies organized a recent visit to Toronto by Dr. Yaroslav Hrytsak, director of the Institute for Historical Research, Lviv University. The center sponsored a talk on November 11, 1994, on "Social and National Identities in Western and Eastern Ukraine: A Comparative Analysis" at the University of Toronto in conjunction with the Center for Russian and East European Studies and the Chair of Ukrainian Studies.

Dr. Hrytsak discussed the results of a survey conducted by his institute on political and social attitudes in Lviv and Donetsk. He outlined how the differing history, economy and national composition of the two cities make for opposing views on many issues.

In particular, he discussed findings demonstrating that 45 percent of those surveyed in Donetsk in the spring of 1994 still identified themselves as "Soviet people" rather than as Ukrainians or Russians. He also pointed out that despite the differing views of the two cities' inhabitants on numerous issues, all saw their future as citizens of Ukraine.

In the evening the Jacyk Center organized a lecture on "The State of Historical Studies at Lviv University: The Activity of the Institute for Historical Research" together with the Ukrainian Canadian Research and Documentation Center.

Before the lecture, the executive committee of the Documentation Center hosted Dr. Hrytsak at a dinner at the St. Vladimir Institute. The session was opened by Prof. Wasyl Janischewskyj, director of the Documentation Center. Iroida Wynnyckyj of the center described her observations of the Institute for Historical Research on the basis of her visits to Lviv, as well as joint projects

under way between the Lviv and Toronto institutions. Before introducing the speaker, Dr. Frank E. Sysyn, director of the Jacyk Center, discussed the activities of the Canadian Institute of Ukrainian Studies and the Jacyk Center in supporting scholarly institutions and projects in Ukraine. He asserted that these activities depend on the financial generosity of the Ukrainian community, above all, in establishing endowment funds.

He publicly thanked Petro and Ivanna Stelmach for permitting the income from their endowment fund to support the activities of the Lviv Institute, and he announced that the Stelmachs had decided to supplement their \$50,000 fund with an additional \$25,000.

Dr. Hrytsak outlined the reasons Soviet rule had undermined the traditionally strong school of historical studies at Lviv University. He discussed the Soviet political controls and corruption that had impeded teaching and research in history there. He explained that the democratization movement in Lviv and at the university had resulted in the renewal of the practice of electing a rector in 1990.

The new rector, Prof. Ivan Vakarchuk, a physicist, gave high priority to the improvement of historical studies. In 1992, he approved the establishment of an Institute for Historical Research. Since then the institute has been involved in a number of projects, including a detailed examination of the Ukrainian national movement in 19th-century Galicia, an oral history of the Ukrainian Insurgent Army (UPA), an examination of the social history of the Sambir region, and writing textbooks and reference works on Ukrainian history.

The institute has been especially active in organizing conferences and is closely affiliated with the Democratic Seminar, a group dedicated to the study

of political thought. The institute is founding its own journal and is involved in translation projects of historical and social-science literature. It has cooperated with the Jacyk Center in preparing for publication the collected historical works of Prof. Ivan Lysiak-Rudnytsky. Dr. Hrytsak announced that with the selection of the new dean of the history faculty of Lviv University, Prof. Roman Shust, the institute will be able to take a more active role in pedagogical work.

After his presentation, Dr. Hrytsak announced the results of the first competition for the Petro and Ivanna Stelmach Fellowship. The fellowship is granted to the writers of outstanding undergraduate theses in the faculty of history and permits the winners to take up a year's research position at the institute. The first awardees are Natalia Fedorovych, who wrote on the history of the Prosvita movement in the Galician countryside in the late 19th century, and Myron Kapral, who analyzed the population of Lviv in the 16th century.

Subsequently, Morris Diakowsky, president of the Canadian Foundation for Ukrainian Studies, presented Dr. Hrytsak with a complete set of the Encyclopedia of Ukraine for his institute. The foundation has initiated a program whereby Ukrainian community members can donate \$480, the equivalent of the cost of the last three volumes, while the foundation includes the first two volumes and sends a complete set to a scholarly institution of the donor's choice in Ukraine. Dr. Hrytsak announced that the encyclopedia was so important to the work of his institute that he would take the weighty tomes back to Lviv himself.

A lively discussion ensued, demonstrating the intense interest of the Toronto community in the activities of the Lviv Institute for Historical Research and historical studies in Ukraine in general.

UCC expresses serious concerns about deportations

WINNIPEG – The president of the Ukrainian Canadian Congress (UCC), Oleh Romaniw, voiced serious concerns over the federal government's intentions to revoke citizenship and begin deportation proceedings against alleged World War II war criminals living in Canada. The Ukrainian Canadian Congress representatives were briefed on January 30 in Toronto by officials of the Departments of Justice and Immigration on the Canadian government's actions in regard to this issue.

"The Ukrainian Canadian community has consistently advocated the position that all war criminals found in Canada should be brought to trial in Canadian courts under Canadian criminal law," Mr. Romaniw stated. "The Ukrainian Canadian Congress categorically rejects the deportation of any naturalized Canadian citizen to their country of origin or third countries on the basis of civil-administrative hearings. Denaturalization and deportation proceedings are not a solution to dealing with suspected war criminals in Canada."

Mr. Romaniw indicated that the Canadian government's guiding principle in continuing the investigation and prosecution of possible war crimes should be dealt with here in Canada, and every case must be resolved in a manner consistent with Canadian standards of law and evidence, in accordance with the overriding principles established by the Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms.

If Canada is to seriously contemplate the possibility of bringing war criminals to trial, Mr. Romaniw also stressed the importance of the Canadian government to bring all, not just World War II, war criminals to justice.

UNA execs review organization's status at year-end meeting

JERSEY CITY, N.J. — The Executive Committee of the Ukrainian National Association held its end-of-the-year meeting on Tuesday, December 21, 1994, here at the association's Home Office.

Present at the meeting chaired by President Ulana Diachuk were: Vice-President Nestor Olesnycky, Vice-Presidentess Anya Dydyk-Petrenko, Director for Canada Peter Savaryn, Secretary Martha Lysko and Treasurer Alexander Blahitka. Also present were Stefan Hawrysz of the Auditing Committee and Svoboda Editor-in-Chief Zenon Snylyk. The Ukrainian Weekly's editor-in-chief, Roma Hadzewycz, could not attend due to pressing obligations associated with that newspaper's year-end issue.

At the meeting, UNA officers approved the UNA's 1995 membership campaign and decided that in 1995 the UNA would pay its members dividends totalling \$650,000.

First on the agenda was the delivery of officers' report. The treasurer led off with his report on finances of the UNA and the Ukrainian National Urban Renewal Corp.

Treasurer's report

UNA assets, reported Mr. Blahitka, as of October 31, 1994, were \$73,173,629, as compared to a year earlier when they stood at \$72,769,309. Thus, there was an increase of \$404,320.

Dues and premiums from members were reduced by \$98,554 from a year earlier to \$2,124,540. Annuity sales also declined during the first 10 months of 1994 to \$1,638,081. This is a decrease of approximately 62 percent, or \$2,721,423, as compared with \$4,359,504 in 1993.

"The reasons for this dramatic decrease would be pure conjecture on my part," said Mr. Blahitka, adding, "I feel we have topped out the majority of savings of our known members. We must strive to hit the latest generation of Ukrainian Americans."

During the 10 months ending on October 31, 1994, the UNA paid out to its members and/or beneficiaries \$3,416,326, or \$295,481 more than a year earlier. This brings the total paid out in the first 100 years of the UNA's existence to over \$100 million, he emphasized.

Operating expenses at Soyuzivka were reduced by \$160,364 or 10.75 percent from a year earlier. Reduction in staff was the main reason for this decrease.

The UNA's subsidy of its official publications, i.e. Svoboda and The Ukrainian Weekly, was reduced to \$878,945, a decrease of \$157,057 for the 10-month period ending October 31, 1994, as compared to \$929,420 a year earlier.

Organizing expenses, which include refunds to secretaries, rewards to organizers and special organizers, advertising, etc., for the first 10 months of 1994 amounted to \$685,785 — a decrease of \$18,344, or approximately 3 percent. A decrease in commissions from the sale of annuities is the main cause of this drop, Mr. Blahitka reported.

General expenses increased by \$316,539, mostly due to the triennial examination concluded by the New Jersey Department of Insurance and new computer equipment and service, the treasurer continued.

The UNA's employee benefit plan cost nearly \$500,000 for the first 10 months of 1993 and the same is true in 1994, even though a lower rate was successfully negotiated with Blue Cross/Blue Shield.

UNA convention expenses amounted to \$322,259 with almost everything paid. This is about the same as the 1990 convention and below budget, the treasurer pointed out.

On the whole, the UNA's total expenses are within budgetary guidelines set up and approved by the 33rd UNA Convention in May 1994.

Reporting on the Ukrainian National Urban Renewal Corp., Mr. Blahitka said that for the 10-month period ending October 31, 1994, rent payments received were \$2,693,429, as compared to \$2,405,609 received a year earlier. This shows an increase of \$287,819, or 12 percent, over 1993.

Operating expenses during the first 10 months of 1994 were \$2,132,544, or \$231,871 lower than that reported for 1993 (\$2,364,416). This decrease of approximately 10 percent is mainly due to the decrease in interest paid to promissory note holders from 8 percent to 6 percent and commissions paid for rentals, Mr. Blahitka explained.

The UNA building has approximately 18,000 square feet vacant converted in small footage space on many floors, giving the edifice a 94 percent occupancy rate. However, the treasurer reminded his fellow officers that the UNA occupies about 32,000 square feet in the building without paying rent. That's another 11 percent vacant as far as a prospective buyer would view the situation, he added. In keeping with authorization from the UNA convention, Mr. Blahitka said he has prepared cash flow forecasts for the building to facilitate future planning.

"The market for office space here has been on fire; however, the rate per square foot is lower today than five years ago, and in my estimation will not return to those levels for the foreseeable future," Mr. Blahitka noted. Therefore, he offered his recommendation that the UNA go to the next step and obtain a formal appraisal of the property, a move that, once again, is within the parameters of the convention's recommendation regarding the building's future.

Secretary's report

During the report period, July 1 to November 30, 1994, the transition in the Recording Department from the tenure of Supreme Secretary Walter Sochan to my tenure went well, said Mrs. Lysko. By October new form letters and correspondence to members and secretaries were completely revised and in use.

As promised, the secretary said she also is sending out a semi-monthly newsletter to secretaries to keep them informed of events and changes at the Home Office. Issues of the newsletter were mailed out in July and in October; the next one is scheduled for January. Mrs. Lysko said she had also prepared a questionnaire for secretaries since the last such questionnaire was prepared in 1964. She noted that she wanted to know how long secretaries had been in office, if they hold any insurance licenses and in what organizations besides the UNA they are active. The response has been very good, most secretaries returned a completed questionnaire and included their photos as requested, the secretary reported.

There was a further reduction in staff in the Recording Department. On November 30, 1994, a long-time employee of the department, Lina Danchuk, retired. She will come in once or twice a week to translate reports for Svoboda. The department also let go one of its mail clerks, who will be replaced by a part-timer. No further reductions are planned and we hope to fill a position that has been vacant since May, Mrs. Lysko said.

The secretary continued her report by noting that the UNA is encouraging the merger of branches in order to have a more efficient organization. In 1994, 10 branches were merged based on the above assumptions. Since July, the following mergers occurred: Branches 297 and 63 in Pennsylvania, Branches 342 and 234 in New Jersey, Branches 452 in Indiana and 179 in Missouri, and Branches 36 and 343 in the Rochester, N.Y., area.

The secretary reported also that she had organized a licensing course for secretaries in October. Four people attended these classes. To date, one secretary, Eugene Oscislawski of Branch 234, has obtained his insurance license. The other three people are still in the process of getting licensed. Nick Diakiwsky, a UNA advisor and secretary of Branch 161 in Pennsylvania, also received his insurance license in September. Mrs. Lysko pledged to encourage and work closely with all secretaries wishing to get their insurance licenses.

The secretary continued by reporting that she had attended district meetings in Lehigh, Pa., and Rochester, N.Y., and listened to what UNA branch secretaries had to say about their organizing efforts and other problems. Mrs. Lysko said she explained to them the new forms currently in use in the Home Office and promised to work with them in all areas of their job.

"The observation most often made by the secretaries was: 'I would like to sell more, but I don't know how to reach some of my clients.' Training and a better understanding of our insurance products are the key to greater productivity," Mrs. Lysko underlined.

The secretary represented the UNA at the 40th anniversary benefit banquet of the Vovcha Tropa camp in New York state and at the UNA Centennial Celebration organized by Branch 257 of Los Angeles, where she was the keynote speaker. The Los Angeles banquet was well organized and well attended, and it created a lot of good feeling toward the UNA among the attendees, she said. If the UNA could only have followed it up with a well-planned organizing campaign, it would have been a greater success, Mrs. Lysko added. While in California, the secretary reported she also visited the Ukrainian Center and the Saturday School. She concluded that the Los Angeles area has a very large Ukrainian settlement and that the UNA is greatly under-represented there.

"Since this was the first time I represented the Home Office in any capacity, I formed a distinct opinion of what such travels can or perhaps should accomplish," Mrs. Lysko continued. "First, we are essentially a mail-order business and as such must keep in close contact with our representatives — that is, our secretaries. Second, we should plan each visit well in advance and discuss with the local secretaries and district chairmen the possibility of conducting a massive organizing campaign during our visits. I would like to see such visits conducted with a professional salesperson in attendance and a brief training session for the local secretaries."

The secretary then went on to report on new business from July to November 1994: 427 certificates were issued for \$3,530,488 of insurance coverage. The most successful month in organizing was August, when 123 new certificates were issued. Whole life is the top seller in the adult department, with 39 certificates issued for the total amount of \$260,000. In the juvenile department 20-Payment Life was the best seller with 46 certificates for the amount of \$267,000.

Giving a brief overview of gains for the six-month period, Mrs. Lysko said there were 192 new juvenile certificates, 198 adult and 37 ADD (accidental death and dismemberment) for a total of 427. Losses included 323 cash surrenders, 220 matured endowment certificates, 298 paid-up and 350 deaths.

A look at the statistics on active membership in the UNA reveals that as of July 1, 1994, there were 9,381 juvenile members, 20,402 adults and 5,284 ADD certificate-holders for a total of 35,067. As of November 30, 1994, these figures were: 9,281 juveniles, 19,845 adult and 5,218 ADD for a total of 34,344. The net losses

were: 100 among juveniles, 557 among adults, 66 in the ADD category, for a total decrease of 723 in active membership.

Reports of vice-presidents

Vice-Presidentess Dydyk-Petrenko reported on her participation in the 100th anniversary celebrations of the UNA in Rochester, N.Y., Cleveland (where the UNA's centennial photo exhibit was opened at the Ukrainian Museum), Youngstown, Ohio, Allentown, Pa., and at Soyuzivka. Ms. Dydyk-Petrenko also spoke of her participation in other events as an official representative of the UNA.

She noted as well that during the past four years she had worked without compensation or reimbursement on preparing artistic programs for the summer season at Soyuzivka. Due to her new duties at the Voice of America, however, Ms. Dydyk-Petrenko said she could no longer do this, but would gladly help whoever is engaged to continue this work. UNA President Diachuk took this opportunity to thank Ms. Dydyk-Petrenko for her fine work as program director.

Dr. Savaryn, director for Canada, noted that he had participated in 100th anniversary celebrations of Ukrainian settlement in Canada held in Edmonton. He spoke also of the bilingual schools in Alberta, Manitoba, Ontario and Saskatchewan, and added that the UNA should become interested in this program as it is a potential source of new UNA members in Canada.

Dr. Savaryn, who was elected a UNA executive officer in May 1994, said he had already begun establishing contacts with branch secretaries with the aim of increasing organizing activity in Canada.

Vice-President Olesnycky reported on the work of the special committee created to look into improving Soyuzivka, which he heads, and his participation in UNA 100th anniversary events in Detroit, New Jersey, Cleveland, Philadelphia and Pittsburgh.

Mr. Olesnycky also spoke about the work of the renewed Ukrainian Heritage Defense Committee which he chairs, and its efforts to counter the slander against the Ukrainian nation that was aired by the CBS network on "60 Minutes."

President's report

As of the end of November 1994, 1,157 new members were enrolled into the UNA, insured for a total of \$11,252,988, Mrs. Diachuk reported. Of that number, 120 were ADD certificates, that is, the same people were insured twice. The average face value of certificates sold was \$9,726. The annual organizing quota was filled by 58 percent. During 1994, as compared with 1993, 136 fewer members were enrolled, while the average face value of a policy increased only minimally.

The New Haven District fulfilled its quota by 102 percent and thus stands in first place among districts, said the president. The Newark District, thanks largely to the efforts of Mr. Eugene Oscislawski, has reached 91 percent of its quota. In third place is the Philadelphia District, with 75 percent of its quota filled. The top three organizers, Mrs. Diachuk noted, are: Miron Piliplak, Branch 496, 77 members; Auditor William Pastuszek, Branch 231, 62 members; and Mr. Oscislawski, Branch 234, 42 members.

The UNA's professional insurance salespersons, Mrs. Diachuk reported, had the following organizing results: Joseph Binczak, 17 policies for \$623,000 of insurance; John Danilack, 23 policies, \$457,500; Albert LeDonne, 19 policies, \$697,500; Lon Staruch, 24 policies, \$707,000; Marie Smith, 13 policies, \$633,488; Lou Kirsch, eight policies, \$633,000; Richard McHugh, three policies, \$73,000; and Lester Ulher,

(Continued on page 13)

Ukraine launches...

(Continued from page 1)

excited by the events of the day in Zhytomyr.

"I've worked on this project for three years," said Helen Kryshstalowych, an attorney for Squire, Sanders and Dempsey in Kyiv, which is working in a consortium with TACIS. "Economic reform is finally taking off," she added.

"And once it takes off, there will be such momentum that political forces in Parliament that want to halt these processes will be irrelevant," added a Western diplomat who also participated in the center's launching.

Mr. Yekhanurov and his team hope the Westerners are right. But they understand that the project's most important goal is to change the psychology of the people.

"We have to change their way of thinking," added Mr. Yekhanurov.

One approach is a massive advertising campaign via radio, television, newspapers and billboards, with such Western consultants as Price Waterhouse lending a hand.

Mr. Yekhanurov has noted that despite an aggressive pro-privatization campaign much still needs to be done to convince the public of the benefits of private ownership.

Making privatization easy

Another method is to make privatization easy. And this particular program was designed with the benefit of lessons learned from previous privatization efforts in Ukraine, which over the last three years have succeeded in privatizing only about 5 percent of its economy.

Officially, privatization in Ukraine began in 1991, when the Supreme Council approved a privatization program. However, an awkward mechanism for attracting the population to state property was a major obstacle.

Previously, Ukrainian citizens were

forced to send their privatization accounts through their savings bank to an enterprise that was going private or to a trust company. Then they had to wait for information on the number of shares received for the privatization account.

This new program is modeled in part after Russia's privatization program, which has been more successful than that of its southern neighbor. The program issues certificates at local branches of savings banks. Valid for two years, the certificates can be used to bid for ownership shares in enterprises being privatized. Bids will be accepted by a national network of auction centers, which have been partially funded by the program's international sponsors.

Any citizen can participate in bidding for any enterprise to be privatized by visiting the nearest auction center during the open subscription period. Bids are accepted for one month, and the results will be calculated through a computerized system developed by the State Property Fund in cooperation with international experts. Results will be sent to shareholders within one month of the end of the auction.

Regional centers, located in the capital of each region, will coordinate the program, serve as central subscription points and provide information and free advice to the public. Auctions will be announced well in advance, and the centers will be required to publish detailed information regarding enterprises to be privatized.

A successful bid guarantees auction participants at least one share in an enterprise in return for a certificate. Alternately, citizens can choose to invest their certificate through financial intermediaries, such as trust companies, investment funds and investment companies.

Currently, the State Property Fund is looking for methods to allow foreign participation in this privatization program and establishing "rules of the game" for trusts and investment funds that will be trading in certificates.



U.S. Ambassador to Ukraine William Green Miller, with EU Deputy Ambassador to Ukraine Michael Humphries, Zhytomyr Oblast Chairman Anton Malinovsky and Valery Shepel, chief of the regional branch of the State Property Fund, at the ribbon-cutting ceremonies in Zhytomyr.

Independence Day commemoration addressed by U.N. envoy Zlenko

by Yarema A. Bachynsky

NEW YORK — The Ukrainian American community of Metropolitan New York continued the well-cultivated tradition of annually commemorating the anniversary of a pair of historic events of a bygone era.

On Sunday, January 22, some 200 people gathered at the Ukrainian National Home to mark the 77th and 76th, respectively, anniversaries of the January 22, 1918, proclamation of the independent Ukrainian National Republic and the unification, one year later, of all Ukrainian lands, east and west.

Although recent commemorations of the momentous events of January 22, 1918-1919, may not have been as well attended or highly appraised as those before Ukraine's 1991 proclamation of independence, this particular commemoration turned out to be both a solemn remembrance of the past and an informative glimpse into the future of Ukraine.

The afternoon program began with a reading of the Fourth Universal. This document, proclaiming the establishment of an independent and democratic Ukrainian National Republic, was originally read to Kyivites assembled in St. Sophia Square on January 22, 1918. The establishment of the UNR led to several years of bloody conflict between forces supporting Ukrainian independence and their opponents, Bolshevik Reds, monarchist Whites and the renescent forces of Poland.

Following inspiring renditions of the America and Ukrainian national anthems rendered by the Promin Vocal Ensemble and a short opening speech by Myroslav Shmigel, president of the United Ukrainian American Committee of the Greater New York Area, the podium was turned over to Anatoliy Zlenko, Ukraine's permanent representative at the United Nations.

Where the reading of the Fourth Universal and Dr. Shmigel's speech recounted the deeds of the past, Ambassador Zlenko's address, while paying heed to the past, reminded the audience of the difficulties of the present and the need to focus on Ukraine's future.

Ambassador Zlenko opened his address by noting that in Ukraine there is a growing interest in the study of the events of 1917-1920 and their meaning

and influence on Ukrainian state-building traditions. A clear understanding of the organic links between the events of the past and the present will serve as the strongest guarantor of Ukraine's development as an independent state and a democratic civic society. In accordance with this guiding principle, said Ambassador Zlenko, President Leonid Kuchma has embarked on the current course of economic and political reform.

"The great deeds of 1918 have left an indelible mark on the contemporary development of Ukraine. Today's leaders have drawn appropriate conclusions from the events of those times," remarked Ambassador Zlenko, referring to the disunity within the Ukrainian Central Rada, which was riven with ideological and other conflicts, and ultimately collapsed. "The present Ukrainian government has no intention of allowing a repeat of such disunity. With this in mind, it is crucial that the implementation of the proposed law on power and local self-government proceed without delay," said Ambassador Zlenko.

The ambassador also addressed Ukraine's standing in the world and its foreign policy. Among the achievements of the young Ukrainian state have been the establishment of diplomatic relations with a large number of countries, the steady development of a foreign service and the realignment of the Foreign Ministry along completely new lines.

One of the results of these achievements has been the realization, by other countries, that "Ukraine is a trustworthy and enthusiastic partner, cooperation with whom is both worthy and fruitful," according to Ambassador Zlenko.

Referring to the recent bloody events in Chechnya, where the Russian military's attempt to quell local secession moves by force has resulted in much internal and foreign criticism of President Boris Yeltsin's government, the ambassador restated Ukraine's position that the situation should have been resolved by political dialogue, not military force.

"According to generally accepted international custom, the defense of human rights cannot be considered to be the sole domain of one or another country, a fact which has been stated more

(Continued on page 14)



The Ukraina hosiery factory was privatized — bought out by its workers — in 1992. Today, it has equipment from Italy and exports much of its production.

THE UKRAINIAN WEEKLY

Privatization proceeds

During a press conference at the launching of Ukraine's mass privatization program last month, one Western reporter asked Yuriy Yekhanurov, head of the Ukrainian State Property Fund, whether his pride was hurt that Western institutions and organizations had stepped in with money and assistance for Ukraine's privatization program, in effect taking it under their wing.

"Reforms in Ukraine are carried out by Ukrainians. Reforms are a Ukrainian matter, a Ukrainian's duty and only Ukrainians can make them a reality," he told journalists at the conference.

Mr. Yekhanurov, 46, and most of Ukraine's economic reform team - First Deputy Prime Minister Viktor Pynzenyk, National Bank Chairman Viktor Yushchenko, newly named Deputy Prime Minister in Charge of Foreign Economic Relations Serhiy Osyka, Economics Minister Roman Shek - are forward-thinking people who are supported by the reform-minded President Leonid Kuchma and vice-versa. From their words and actions, it seems clear that they want to see Ukraine as part of the West, an equal partner in the European community.

Even the Supreme Council, where some powerful Communists still hold significant positions, approved President Kuchma's economic reform plan and lifted the ban on privatization in the closing months of 1994.

And, during the last three months, President Kuchma has issued three decrees to speed up small-scale and large-scale privatization. This led Mr. Yekhanurov to comment at a January 19 meeting with representatives from the World Bank, the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development, the International Finance Corporation, as well as USAID and TACIS: "Today, Ukraine has the key elements - political will, a presidential program and enough legislation to conduct reforms."

So, what's the problem? Mr. Yekhanurov seemed to think the only component missing was a simple privatization program that every citizen could follow. With the unveiling of the mass privatization certificate program last week, that seems to have been solved as well.

Unfortunately, it is a bit more complicated than that. And, unfortunately, 1995 is the make-it or break-it year for Ukraine. If economic reforms do not take off, and the privatization program is stillborn, Ukraine will not be welcomed into the Western world, it will not be regarded as a European state, and no foreigners will take chances with investments, except perhaps for exploitation.

The real assignment for these reformers begins now.

Mr. Yekhanurov told a news conference recently: "The discussion stage is over." Now the work begins. And that work is at the grass-roots level. The big cities across Ukraine have been deluged with information; Western-style posters adorn major billboards with such slogans as "Let's care about the new generation" and "Hope is born with private ownership."

The privatization program for 1995, submitted by the Cabinet of Ministers Presidium is grand: 22,700 objects will be privatized, among them 8,000 medium-scale, 1,200 large-scale and 13,500 small-scale enterprises.

But how will the program get the word out to the majority of the Ukrainian population, when at least one-third of this population is of retirement age (55 for women, 60 for men) and one-third lives in rural areas?

The assignment that lies ahead for today's leaders is a tough one to tackle. Not only must Ukraine's citizens be informed about the benefits of a market economy and private ownership, but a psychological barrier formed by more than 70 years of Communist rule must be broken. Only if Ukraine's leaders can prove to every little old pensioner that privatization is the wave of the future will they be able to fulfill the goals they set for themselves in 1995.

With such scandals as the MMM investment fund in Russia still fresh in their memories, not many of the older generation will put their trust in trusts; not many people of the older generation who long for the good old, bad old days will want to invest in a company or enterprise if they are complaining that they have not been able to put meat on their table all winter long. They will want to sell their certificates for something they can use here and now, calculating that they will not be on this earth long enough to reap the benefits of this program.

There are no easy solutions to states in transition, to economies in flux. But there is hope in the younger generations, and thus, in the future of Ukraine.

Judging from the time, money and effort the West has put into the program, it will be around to support Ukraine. Let's hope its citizens take to the task.

COMMENTARY: Rabbi Bleich on "beautiful face of freedom"

Reprinted below is a cover letter sent by the American Jewish Committee's Project Ukraine, whose director is David Roth, to the editors of 115 Jewish American publications. It is followed by a commentary authored by Rabbi Yaakov Dov Bleich, chief rabbi of Ukraine. The article describes Jewish life in Ukraine and was written in reaction to the "60 Minutes" segment titled "The Ugly Face of Freedom," aired by CBS on October 23, 1994.

Dear Editor:

I believe your readers will be interested in the enclosed commentary by Rabbi Yaakov Bleich, chief rabbi of Kyiv and Ukraine. The commentary was triggered by the rabbi's belief that a widely viewed October segment of "60 Minutes" presented a distorted picture of Jewish life in today's Ukraine.

The rabbi was featured prominently in the segment. His brief remarks about an anti-Semitic and anti-democratic movement in Lviv accurately described a problem in that city. But it was not the only story that the rabbi shared with the "60 Minutes" reporter. Unfortunately, it was the only one that "60 Minutes" shared with its viewers. And it was incorporated into the segment in a manner that implied that rampant anti-Semitism and violent social change were on the rise throughout Ukraine. The rabbi's lengthy comments to the "60 Minutes" reporter about the rebirth of organized Jewish life ("A New Jewish Flowering," reported The New York Times in a January 6 story), and the national government's concern for the welfare of Ukraine's Jewish citizens were ignored altogether.

In short, "60 Minutes" took a complex situation and presented it in a way that was a disservice to Ukraine's Jews - the world's fifth largest community - and to a new state struggling with the difficult task of transforming its political, social and economic systems.

There are many reasons to admire "60 Minutes," including its timely inquiries into the condition of Jewish communities around the world. But we Jews have also seen segments on Israel, on Israel's relations with Arab peoples and on Soviet Jewish immigrants accused of importing crime into the U.S. that we regarded as inaccurate and unfair. Of course, we sought to correct the record. We care, and we want the American people to have access to the whole truth. So does Rabbi Bleich.

He has taken this initiative on his own, not at the request of Ukrainian officials. He wants his Jewish people - in Ukraine and in the United States where he was born and reared - to have an accurate picture of Ukraine's Jewish community and the challenges it and the state face. I urge you to print the rabbi's story, which is also the remarkable story of Ukraine's resilient Jewish people.

David G. Roth
Director

by Rabbi Yaakov Dov Bleich

On October 23, 1994, the CBS television network aired a segment of the highly rated "60 Minutes" program titled "The Ugly Face of Freedom" in Ukraine. The segment presented an exaggerated picture of anti-Semitism in contemporary Ukraine which could only have served to distort the public's perception of this strategically significant new nation.

The beautiful face of freedom in

Ukraine is far more prevalent than the ugly one depicted on "60 Minutes." By concentrating on a small minority of anti-Semitic extremists rather than on the majority of Ukrainians, CBS has failed to inform its viewers of the good things that democracy has accomplished for Jews and other minorities since Ukraine became independent.

From the perspective of a Rabbi and the leader of the Jewish community in Ukraine, it should be emphasized that Jews have no interest in being singled out among the national minorities for special treatment in that country. They rather enjoy the democratic experience, in which all are equal.

That having been said, it is only fair to state that the Ukrainian government's policies towards all national minorities, and in particular towards Jews, are very, very positive. These have been Ukraine's policies since the advent of Ukrainian independence in 1991 and since Ukrainian President Leonid Kravchuk formally denounced anti-Semitism, bigotry and all the other forms of xenophobia that currently exist throughout Europe. These same policies are being continued by Ukraine's new president, Leonid Kuchma, who in a historic meeting with American Jewish leaders in New York on November 20, 1994, and again during a visit to the Holocaust Museum in the nation's capital on November 21, repeated his predecessor's condemnation of anti-Semitism and bigotry.

Ukraine's official policy of tolerance and pluralism is not merely one of words. Ukraine has opened a special Ministry for National Minorities, something which is virtually without parallel in Eastern Europe. Despite its catastrophic economic difficulties, Ukraine is providing scores of state-sponsored schools for the children of national minorities, whether they be Jews, Russians, Germans, Poles or Hungarians. These far-sighted measures show to what extent the Ukrainian government finds it important to reassure its national minorities that they have the right to enjoy quiet and calm living in Ukraine. Thank God that, unlike other areas of Europe and the former Soviet Union, independent Ukraine has seen no wars and no ethnic fighting.

Officials of the State Department and White House who met with a delegation from Ukraine last year agreed that Ukraine has the best human rights record in the former Soviet Union - a far cry from the negative picture presented by CBS' "60 Minutes."

Due to a number of factors, including the congenial climate of pluralism, Ukraine has seen one of the fastest growing and most flourishing Jewish communities anywhere in the world. The 50 functioning synagogues in Ukraine today represent a fourfold increase since Ukraine gained independence three years ago. The hundreds of Jewish organizations in Ukraine today, the 12 Jewish day schools, the 20 pulpit Rabbis, the yeshivas throughout Ukraine - all of these facts bear witness to a growth of Jewish life that would have been unimaginable before independence.

It was for this reason that Jews in Ukraine rallied to the cry of independence. It is a little-known fact that, based upon exit polls taken at the time of the 1991 independence referendum, the already high percentage of non-Jewish Ukrainians voting for independence was exceeded by the percentage of Jewish Ukrainians, who correctly foresaw that

(Continued on page 12)

Feb.
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Turning the pages back...

Ukraine joined NATO's new Partnership for Peace Program on February 8, 1994, becoming the first member of the Commonwealth of Independent States to do so.

Foreign Minister Anatoliy Zlenko signed the document formalizing membership in the plan at NATO headquarters in Brussels, calling it a "reasonable and pragmatic alternative to partial and selective NATO enlargement."

"We strongly appreciate the open nature of the ... program and the absence of any intentions to draw new dividing lines in Europe," Mr. Zlenko told the Associated Press in Brussels.

"I think that Ukraine's joining the Partnership for Peace will strengthen our international prestige and give us additional national security guarantees," said Anton Buteyko, President Leonid Kravchuk's chief foreign policy adviser.

President Kravchuk told the Ukrainian Parliament that "an important step has been made in building a European security system, in bringing together Eastern and Western Europe."

(Continued on page 17)

IN THE PRESS: U.S. quotas and Ukraine's wool coats

by James Bovard

The Clinton administration is threatening to impose restrictive quotas on imports of wool coats from Ukraine. This action – championed by Sen. George Mitchell and a handful of uncompetitive Maine factories – would set a new low for U.S. protectionism and would make a mockery of all of Bill Clinton's promises to help Ukraine.

Ukrainian factories that formerly made coats for the Red Army have, as a result of defense conversion, begun making coats for American consumers. Ukrainian coats are proving to be a blessing for moderate-income Americans. Prior to the arrival of the imports, good wool coats routinely cost more than \$200. Now, wool coats are available for under \$100. Matthew Burns, chief executive of the Eastland Woolen Mills of Corinna, Maine, observed that Ukrainian coats are "an excellent garment. It's well-tailored. It's well-manufactured. It's stylish."

Naturally, some U.S. government officials are horrified at the appearance of foreign bargains in American department stores. At an October 12, 1994, meeting in Washington, U.S. federal officials pressured Ukrainian government representatives to agree to restraints on the number of wool coats they could sell to the American people. Thus far, the Ukrainian government has staunchly refused to bow to U.S. demands. U.S. officials have informed the Ukrainians that the U.S. government could unilaterally impose import quotas on them if they do not voluntarily accept restrictions.

Many experts fear that the economic chaos in Ukraine could result in a nuclear civil war. Clothing is one of the few exports in which Ukraine is competitive on world markets. Yet, officials in the U.S. Commerce Department seem obsessed with finding a way to throttle the Ukrainians.

The Ukrainian coat producers already face an extremely tilted playing field here. The U.S. government imposes a 21.5 percent tariff on wool coat imports, thereby giving the U.S. industry a huge competitive advantage over foreign competition. Yet because the Ukrainians have low labor costs, they can still compete and win the votes of U.S. consumers.

President Clinton has loudly promised to help Ukraine. Ukraine is the fourth largest recipient of U.S. foreign aid, scheduled to receive more than \$150 million this year [1994]. President Leonid Kuchma, elected last July, is finally trying to end the country's addiction to communist economic policies.

It would be tragic if at this vital time the U.S. government sent Ukraine a message that made a mockery of America's advocacy of free-market economics. If the United States does impose import quotas, the Ukrainian government will be forced to exercise much more control over its clothing production, dictating which factories are permitted to export how many coats to the United States. This would be like a partial revival of Soviet central planning – the last idea the United States should be championing.

It is surprising that U.S. government officials are even considering slapping quotas on Ukraine. In the first six months of this year, Ukraine exported only \$1.8 million worth of clothing to the United States. This is barely one-tenth of 1 percent of the value of all the clothing the United States imported during that period.

If quotas are placed on Ukrainian imports, a new crusade likely will be launched immediately to demand imposing import quotas on Russian wool coats. The wool clothing industry will never be satisfied unless the U.S. government hedges all of its foreign competition.

On the other hand, if the Clinton administration abstains from imposing quotas, Ukraine could become a magnet for foreign investment for clothing factories. And this could make the difference in helping the Ukrainian economy rise off its death bed.

This looks like one more case of the U.S. textile industry being the tail that wags the dog of U.S. foreign policy. On October 21, 1994, the Committee for the Implementation of Textile Agreements (dominated by the U.S. Commerce Department) imposed quotas on the imports of bathrobes and other clothing from Haiti. At the same time, the United States is spending hundreds of millions of dollars and risking the lives of 20,000 troops to build Haiti. Yet the only thing U.S. textile policy-makers appeared concerned about was erecting new blockades to bathrobes from the hemisphere's poorest nation.

Even without imposing new trade restrictions, textiles are already one of this country's most protected industries. William Cline of the Institute for International Economics estimated that textile tariffs and import quotas cost American consumers as much as \$40 billion a year. The 1989 Economic Report of the President concluded that tariffs and quota restrictions produce an average effective tariff charge of more than 50 percent for clothing imports.

One U.S. textile company executive denounced the Ukrainian imports as "a new Cold War." But there is nothing in the U.S. Constitution that says American consumers must be bound in eternal servitude to the interests of the U.S. textile industry. The wool clothing industry in this nation has been starkly uncompetitive since the 1820s and does not deserve another few hundred years of coddling.

Perhaps it is finally time to require that U.S. textile trade policy-makers be tested for dementia. The Clinton administration should begin practicing the same free trade policies that it recommends to other nations. We should allow the Ukrainians a decent chance to earn an honest buck.

Jim Bovard is the author of "Lost Rights: The Destruction of American Liberty" and "The Fair Trade Fraud," both from St. Martin's Press.

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IMMIGRATION UPDATE

Visa lottery continues for 1996

by Xenia Ponomarenko

UNA Washington Office

WASHINGTON – The 1996 Diversity Immigrant Visa Lottery will accept applications for visas between January 31 and March 1, 1995. The law makes 55,000 permanent resident visas available annually to persons from countries that have low rates of immigration to the United States, including Ukraine.

Under a complex formula, the visas will be apportioned among the following geographic regions: Africa, Asia, Europe, North America, Oceania and South America. For 1996, the ineligible countries are: China, India, the Philippines, Vietnam, South Korea, United Kingdom (except Northern Ireland), Canada, Mexico, Jamaica, El Salvador, Columbia and the Dominican Republic.

Natives of Ukraine are eligible if they have either a high school education or its equivalent, or two years of work experience within the past five years in an occupation requiring at least two years of training or experience. Work experience is based on Department of Labor definitions. Documentary proof of education or experience should not be submitted at this time, but will be required from successful applicants.

There is no fee to apply to the DV-96 lottery program. The steps to apply are simple. Submit only one entry for each applicant during the registration period which is between January 31 and March 31 of this year. If the entry is received before or after these dates, it will be ineligible. If more than one application is submitted for an applicant, the applicant will be disqualified. Husbands and wives can each submit a separate application. Those selected become eligible for a permanent resident visa in fiscal year 1996 (starting October 1, 1995).

There are no special application forms involved. The request for application must furnish the following information on a plain sheet of paper and be typed or clearly printed in the English alphabet:

a) Applicant's full name (last name should be underlined).

Last name (underlined), First Name, Middle Name.

b) Applicant's date and place of birth.

Date: Day, Month, Year

Place: City/Town; District/County/Province; Country

c) Name, date and place of birth of applicant's spouse and children (if any).

The spouse and children of an applicant who is selected for the visa are automatically entitled to the same status. To obtain a visa on the basis of this derivative status, a child must be under 21 and

unmarried. Note: do not list parents, as they are not entitled to derivative status.

d) Applicant's mailing address.

The mailing address must be clear and complete, since that is the address to which the notification and instructions for the person selected for registration will be sent. A telephone number is optional, but useful.

e) Applicant's native country if different from country of birth.

There are no other requirements to submit an entry to register other than what is specified above. No signature is required on the application. The entry should be submitted by regular mail or air mail only. Applications submitted by hand, by fax, messenger, or any means requiring special handling or receipts will not be accepted.

The application must be mailed in a regular or business-size envelope. The envelope should be between 6 inches and 10 inches (approximately 15 cm. to 25 cm.) in length, and between 3-1/2 inches and 4-1/2 inches (approximately 9 cm. to 11 cm.) in width.

Typed or clearly printed in the English alphabet in the upper left hand corner of the front of the envelope must be the applicant's native country, full name and mailing address. This information must give the same name and information as shown on the application sheet. Failure to comply with these requirements will disqualify the application. Use the correct postal zip code for the applicant's region. For native Ukrainians, send the application to the following address: DV-96 Program, National Visa Center, Portsmouth, New Hampshire, 00212 USA.

For purposes of this visa, "native" is defined as the country in which you were born. You may also claim the country of the birth of your spouse, or you may claim the country of the birth of either of your parents if you were born in a country in which neither parent was a native or resident at the time of your birth.

The country of birth is defined by current boundaries and not the country which had political jurisdiction at the time. For example, those born in Kyiv, USSR, are considered natives of Ukraine and not the USSR, or those born in Lviv, Poland (prior to 1939), are considered natives of Ukraine, not Poland.

Successful applicants will be notified by mail, so the mailing address provided must be accurate. Those who are not selected will not be notified. Winners will be instructed on how to apply for an immigrant visa. The spouse and minor children of successful applicants may also apply for immigrant visas. All normal requirements and grounds of ineligibility for an immigrant visa will apply.

Self-Reliance supports UHDC campaign



Bohdan Kékish (second from left), president of the Self-Reliance Federal Credit Union of New York, presents a check for \$5,000 as a donation to the Ukrainian Heritage Defense Committee that functions under the aegis of the Ukrainian National Association. The UHDC was reactivated in the wake of the inflammatory report on Ukraine by "60 Minutes" titled "The Ugly Face of Freedom." The Self-Reliance donation will be used in the UHDC's information/advertising campaign. Also in the photo (from left) are: Nestor Olesnycky, chairman of the UHDC, UNA President Ulana Diachuk and John O. Flis, a member of the Self-Reliance board of directors.

Kravchuk gives thoughts on governmental powers at UIA gathering

by Roman Woronowycz

NEW YORK — Ukraine's first president, Leonid Kravchuk, at a gathering of Ukrainian American leaders on January 16, gave his views on issues ranging from current President Leonid Kuchma's drive for increased presidential powers and a re-structuring of government to Ukraine's prevailing relations with Russia and the former president's new civic organization, "Porozuminnia" (Understanding).

Mr. Kravchuk is on a three-week speaking tour of the United States and Canada at the invitation of the Foundation for an Independent and Democratic Ukraine, a non-profit charitable organization, a trip partially sponsored by the Federation of Professional and Business Associations of the United States.

Speaking without prepared notes before more than 70 community activists gathered at the Ukrainian Institute in New York, the natily dressed ex-president criticized some objectives of the new Kuchma government, expressed solid support for other policies and more than once defended his actions during his presidential tenure.

His most intensive analysis involved the pros and cons of the draft bill on the re-organization of government structures, in which the current president has proposed to increase presidential power, to diminish that of locally elected leaders and to curtail the power of Parliament.

Mr. Kravchuk explained that some changes proposed in the current draft bill, a wide-ranging re-organization of government power, are needed in Ukraine, but today every move towards governmental reform is dangerous, simply due to the serious economic problems. "You can manipulate the numbers, but the problem remains, the situation is serious. The numbers show that the economic situation has not improved. In fact, it has drastically worsened," he said.

Ukraine has merely a 12-day supply of petroleum and a 15-day supply of coal, figures presented by Mr. Kravchuk to explain the depth of Ukraine's energy crisis and over-all economic instability. Shaky economic footing when mixed with radical governmental reform could provoke resistance, conflict and "other negative phenomena" within government, he said.

He emphasized that he wholeheartedly endorses Mr. Kuchma's economic reform

program. He also said he supports the president's initiative to strengthen executive control at local governmental levels, what he called the development of "a strong vertical executive structure."

"First of all, he [President Kuchma] hasn't developed it on the raion level, the oblast level or in the cities, what we call the local government structures. I had government structures more distinctly under my control because I had presidential representatives at the local levels," said Mr. Kravchuk. "He doesn't have such structures.

"Today the heads of the local councils, who were independently elected, lead the local structures and are subordinate to nothing; there are neither constitutional standards nor standards of law that would regulate subordination of authority, demarcation of authority and responsibility before the people who elect the authorities. This is a serious impediment to successful reform of the government. This must be one of his central priorities."

Mr. Kravchuk underscored, however, that the president should not try to do too much. "In the existing dislocation of political forces, it is dangerous and probably impossible to reform the government in its entirety, the legislative, the judicial and the executive, as has been proposed by [President Kuchma's] draft bill," said Mr. Kravchuk. "Extensive governmental reforms must only be made within the framework of a [new] Constitution."

If a constitutional law on governmental powers is passed, Mr. Kravchuk suggested that tens and perhaps hundreds of changes would be needed in existing statutes. Given today's paralysis in Parliament, he called such an undertaking unrealistic.

Should the new law on government structures, the "Petit Constitution" as it is commonly referred to, pass Parliament scrutiny, it would give Ukraine two divergent constitutional bases for governing: "the old [Soviet] Constitution from which [Kuchma] has excluded any concept of a planned economy and which no longer contains provisions on the right of liberty, the right to organize and the right to employment," as Mr. Kravchuk explained, and "a political law on our contemporary government." He added, "A simple question arises. Which will we use, the Constitution or the Law on Government Powers, as the basis for our system of laws?"

He said that fighting among the various



Leonid Kravchuk on his way to a meeting with Ukrainian American leaders at the Ukrainian Institute of America in Manhattan. Accompanying him are UIA President Walter Baranetsky (left), Zinoviy Tkachuk (right) and Ukraine's Ambassador to the United Nations Anatoly Zlenko (in background.)

power structures in Ukraine could erupt over which legal document holds precedence; this combined with Ukraine's precarious economic situation could be calamitous.

Mr. Kravchuk also expressed his disagreement with the president's intention to strip the Parliament of its power to confirm presidential appointments to the Cabinet of Ministers and take the responsibility upon himself. "The Parliament will not go for this," said the ex-president. "I know the situation there. This will be a point of serious contention." Currently, President Kuchma, via the Constitution, has the ability to form or to liquidate ministerial posts and to dismiss all members of his Cabinet except for the prime minister.

Mr. Kravchuk also said that although he is not enthusiastic about the current structure of locally elected councils, which he called "remnants of the Soviet era," he could not envision eliminating 15,000 (local) deputies with a single piece of legislation, which he considered a possible outcome if the Petit Constitution is approved.

Mr. Kravchuk was quick to defend his own attempt at expanding the power of the presidency early last year within the structure of a popular referendum. He said

he finds it ironic that presidential candidates roundly criticized him at the time.

"At the time the Parliament did not accept my proposal, and all the presidential candidates said the power of the president is more than sufficient, and that I simply do not know how to use it," said Mr. Kravchuk. "The ink had not yet dried when some began complaining that they do not have sufficient powers."

Ukraine's former leader concluded that Ukraine must finish formulating a new Constitution to replace the old Soviet document. "We have no other option but to finish work on a Constitution and to approve it in an all-Ukrainian referendum," said Mr. Kravchuk. "Currently, this Parliament has no ability to gather 300 votes [the number needed to pass Constitution-modifying law]."

However, he said that this moment is not the time to proceed towards a referendum on the Constitution because it could destroy Ukraine. He believes that separate local plebiscites on such issues as regional autonomy could provoke separatist tendencies in certain regions. "I am more than convinced that an effort would be made to place the question of the status of the Crimea on the ballot, the bilingual issue, one concerning national symbols, free economic zones; all the controversial issues in Ukraine could make their way onto the ballot, and this is dangerous."

Mr. Kravchuk also had much to say about Russia. He said Ukraine must look at its northern neighbor in an honest light with proper analysis of the situation there.

In veiled reference to Russia, he called on the diaspora to support efforts by Ukraine to maintain a diligence over the threat of "certain countries that do not uphold the well-established agreements of the U.N., the CSCE and the Helsinki Accords." He criticized the West for its lack of understanding of Russia and explained that too often Western perceptions regarding a country are simply based on whether the leader is seen as a person working within the framework of democratic principles.

The West, which perceives Russia's President Boris Yeltsin as a reformer and staunch democrat, looked away as Mr. Yeltsin liquidated the Parliament and then bombed the building, according to Mr. Kravchuk. They reacted mildly when he invaded Chechnya, thinking he would quickly bring this runaway region back into the fold of Russia. He added, "Again he was let off the hook, because, I suppose, he is a democrat, which can



Former President Leonid Kravchuk addresses Ukrainian American community leaders in New York.

(Continued on page 18)

For the record: Kravchuk's remarks on January 22

Following is a summary of remarks by former President Leonid Kravchuk delivered on Sunday, January 22, at the Pittsburgh Athletic Association. The text below was translated and summarized by Marta Pisetska Farley.

The symbolism of this day, January 22, indicates our future cooperation. This day commemorates the "living chain" of our unity. This was the basis of our independence.

In the five years since 1988, since securing an independent Ukraine, we – in peace and with high ideals – dissolved the Soviet Union.

It was difficult to separate millions of strands within the web tying Ukraine and Russia. Those strands no longer bind so tightly. Yet, the ties do exist.

Evil powers wish, for their own benefit, to renew, to strengthen these bonds. Ukraine needs to build growth in our economy, in our political institutions, and in other areas constituting the fabric of everyday life.

Some of our people do not fully understand the concepts of independence, sovereignty and nationhood. This yearning for the past will diminish if and when our economic crisis is relieved. This [situation] is used to prey upon people's discontent and to support the growth of a renewed Bolshevik state; to reunite with the "old," "powerful" Soviet Union.

A citizen who grows of age in his own, free, self-governing country will not easily relinquish his country's independence. Even people who receive a pittance a month do not, by and large, wish a return to the old bankrupt Soviet system.

Evil forces, with their own agenda promulgated by Russia, want a tighter union [between Ukraine and Russia] for their benefit. Today's leaders of Russia view democracy, as always, centered on Russia and its empire. Their use of the word "democracy" is a cloak, a false face. It mocks the ideal of a true democracy. It is a dangerous course for Russian policies. [But] Boris Yeltsin insists on pushing this agenda of Russian power.

The policy in Chechnya exposes this malignant view of democracy. A war on democracy was declared by use of military force. The deaths of thousands of civilians is not "democratic reform," neither for the Russians nor for the Chechens.

There is a movement afoot to push for a union of an "old," "Slavic," [but] "free will" reunion with Russia, annexing again Ukraine as Russian territory. No longer a marginal view – more than 50 percent of the Russian Duma accept it. Action must be taken to halt this expansionist policy.

We must observe [this revisionist action] and act upon this reality in unity. The important goal is to shelter and nurture this, our own new democratic and people's state, independent Ukraine.

And so, January 22, 1918 and August 24, 1991 will be, centuries from now, mutually revered by all Ukrainians.

Pittsburgh welcomes Ukraine's first president



Ukraine's former president, Leonid Kravchuk, addresses the news media and area Ukrainians upon arrival in Pittsburgh.

by Marta Pisetska Farley

PITTSBURGH – The first President of newly independent Ukraine, Leonid Kravchuk, arrived at Pittsburgh International Airport mid-day Sunday, January 22, for a two-day visit. Some 200 persons from the tri-state Ukrainian community welcomed Mr. Kravchuk, marking his arrival with the traditional greeting of bread and salt.

Senior government representatives attended, including the chairman of the County Commissioners of Allegheny County, Thomas Foerster, and the mayor of Pittsburgh, Tom Murphy.

Following the anthems of both the United States and Ukraine, the former president was formally welcomed by Michael Korchynsky on behalf of the Pittsburgh Committee to Aid Ukraine and by Marta Pisetska Farley on behalf of the Ukrainian Technological Society. Both escorted the president during the duration of his visit to western Pennsylvania.

On Sunday afternoon, Mr. Kravchuk addressed members of the tri-state Ukrainian community at the prestigious Pittsburgh Athletic Association. After his remarks, Mr. Kravchuk graciously responded to questions from the overflow audience.

At a reception immediately afterwards, the sponsoring organizations provided an opportunity for each guest to greet Mr. Kravchuk and other Ukrainian dignitaries.

A private dinner honoring Mr. Kravchuk, attended by the tri-state Ukrainian community's leadership, followed in the PAA's Oakland Room. After the dinner and remarks by the guest and hosts, Michael Komichak, chairman of the Ukrainian Nationality Room at the University of Pittsburgh, escorted the president and his party on a private tour of this symbolic re-creation of an 18th century Ukrainian classroom.

The following day, business meetings were conducted with the executive director of the Greater Pittsburgh Airport, Herbert C. Higginbotham II, and the president of the area economic development organization, Penn's Southwest Association's Jay D. Aldridge. Joint economic development activities, including the feasibility of Air Ukraine gaining landing rights at Pittsburgh, were the topic of discussions.

The activities of former President Kravchuk were covered extensively by key tri-state media, including all major radio and television stations and the Pittsburgh Tribune-Review newspaper. The planning committee also arranged private interviews with Mr. Kravchuk, including one with the

senior radio interviewer of the World Affairs Council of Greater Pittsburgh.

The tri-state sponsors of President Kravchuk's visit expressed their appreciation to the Poltava Ukrainian Dance Ensemble, directed by Luba Hlutkowsky, and the Ukrainian Cultural Trust Choir of Western Pennsylvania, directed by Ms. D. Waslo, for their participation in the welcoming ceremonies at Pittsburgh International Airport.

The organizations sponsoring the Pittsburgh visit of Mr. Kravchuk were: Tri-state Committee, Children of Chernobyl Relief Fund; Kyiv Ukrainian Dance Ensemble; League of Ukrainian Catholics of America; Western Pennsylvania Council; Poltava Ukrainian Dance Ensemble; Ridna Shkola of Pittsburgh; Ukrainian Cultural Trust Choir of Western Pennsylvania; Ukrainian Fraternal Association, Branch 5, Ambridge, Pa.; Ukrainian National Women's League of America, Branch 27; Ukrainian Nationality Room Committee; Ukrainian Orthodox League of the USA, Western Pennsylvania Region; Ukrainian Radio Program; Samopomich, Western Pennsylvania Branch; and Ukrainian Self-Reliance of Western Pennsylvania.



At Pittsburgh International Airport (from left) are: Mayor Tom Murphy, Allegheny County Commissioner Tom Foerster, Marta Farley of the Ukrainian Technological Society, interpreter Valentyna Barsom, former President Leonid Kravchuk and Michael Korchynsky of the UTS.

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Rabbi Bleich...

(Continued from page 8)

their Jewish identity would be safeguarded in an independent Ukraine.

Most of the leaders of world Jewry today understand that a strong and independent nation of Ukraine will be beneficial for its Jewish citizens, who constitute the fifth largest Jewish population in the world after the U.S., Israel, Russia and France. They understand the importance of Ukraine - as gateway to the West, the largest country totally in Europe, and at one time the breadbasket of Europe. These are the factors that make everybody in the free world interested in the well-being of Ukraine. Add to this the fact that Ukraine was the birthplace of so many Jewish movements and ideologies, including Hassidism, and of so much Jewish literature and culture, and one begins to understand the importance of Ukraine to world Jewry.

This is not to say that either Ukrainians or Jews should forget the occurrences that have marred their relations in the past. In fact, much can be accomplished by facing history, as was done by Ukraine's first president in his official statements to the Israeli Knesset and the board of governors of the World Jewish Congress in which he apologized for the acts of Ukrainian collaborators with the Nazis. Ukrainians must also be aware that

Symon Petliura is held responsible by Jews for horrible atrocities committed in the turmoil following World War I, and that, in every synagogue each week throughout the world, prayers are said in memory of the Jews massacred by Bohdan Khmelnytsky in 1648 and 1649.

It is difficult to predict what the future holds for Ukraine. What is certain is that Ukraine is going through a time of trial which will have lasting consequences for the future of the entire region. The West must hope that the new president of Ukraine succeeds in the economic reforms he is striving to implement. For this to occur, more than legislative action is required. It will be necessary to rekindle in the people the positive nationalism - the sense of elation and pride in an independent Ukraine - that was present three years ago.

If this occurs and the reforms succeed, there will be a place for all national minorities in a thriving and prosperous Ukraine. As an Israeli envoy to Ukraine recently was heard to remark - and this was an exceptional insight - democracy gives the right to all people to be the same, but also gives them the right to be different. If men and women of good will persevere, the world can look forward to an economically strong Ukraine where all people will enjoy the inestimable privilege of being equal, but at the same time different.

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UNA execs...

(Continued from page 6)

seven policies, \$206,000. In sum, the professional sales force enrolled 109 members for \$4,030,488 of insurance.

During the first 11 months of 1994, 340 annuities were sold, Mrs. Diachuk added.

The UNA's Toronto Office, which has two employees, during the months of October and November 1994 sold 43 certificates for \$2,500,118 (\$18,060 in annual dues). All new members are assigned to existing branches, Mrs. Diachuk explained. She further noted that the official opening of the UNA's Toronto Office is planned for January.

The president pointed out that when one reviews the total amount of life insurance sold, \$11,252,988, and subtracts from that \$600,000 for ADD certificates, it is evident that professional salespersons sold \$6,533,488 or 61 percent of the new insurance coverage provided.

Mrs. Diachuk reported also on the finances of the UNA's publishing house. Subscriptions grew by \$49,000 and that is why the UNA's subsidy decreased by \$45,000. Income from advertisements is the same as in the previous year, and expenses decreased from 1993 to 1994 by \$28,000.

Postage costs for mailing the UNA's newspapers as of January 1 grew by almost 20 percent, despite the UNA's protests to postal authorities, reported Mrs. Diachuk.

The UNA is considering whether to purchase the Kyiv apartment in which the UNA Press Bureau is housed, she reported.

At the UNA's upstate New York resort, a special meeting to discuss how to increase profits was held with the UNA's vice-president, Mr. Olesnycky, and two experts of the younger generation, Mrs. Diachuk continued. It was decided that a new computer program would be purchased for Soyuzivka to keep track of finances. The budget for 1994 foresaw income of \$1,162,600, while during the first 11 months of 1994 income was \$190,000 less. Expenses totalled \$1,589,757, or \$222,155 less than in 1993. Currently the resort is preparing for the new season (1995) with a new price structure and other changes, she added.

The UNA hosted a conference at its headquarters in August 1994 on how to seek grants for assistance to Ukraine, Mrs. Diachuk said. Thirty-nine persons attended the session, which was organized and conducted by Eugene Iwanciw, director of the UNA Washington Office.

In mid-October 1994, the UNA hosted 24 students of the Lviv Institute of Management, and acquainted them with the UNA, its insurance business and fraternal activities. The group is sponsored by the Ukrainian Businesspersons and Professionals of Philadelphia.

Myroslav Kravchuk of Lviv, who was in the U.S. on a SABIT grant, concluded his study tour at the UNA and returned home on September 1, 1994.

Thanks to the UNA's financial support and that of the Soros Foundation, the American Medical Resource Foundation based in Massachusetts completed phase two of its plan to outfit the cardiology unit of the Kyiv Institute of Cardiac Surgery. A group of experts from the foundation installed two hospital beds, 20 monitors and a laboratory, and trained physicians, nurses and biomedical engineers how to use and maintain the equipment.

Vitaliy Tsaran of Drohobych, a blind student at Lviv University, arrived in the U.S. for a stay at the Overbrook School for the Blind in Philadelphia, where during the course of a year he will learn to use specialized computer equipment and later will teach others in Ukraine how to use it. The UNA provided financial assistance of \$7,000 to cover half the costs of the young man's studies and board.

The Sabre-Svitlo Fund, which the UNA Fund for the Rebirth of Ukraine has assisted during the past three years with donations totalling \$20,000, during the first 10 months of 1994 sent 22,050 scholarly books and 3,360 English-language journals to 2,000 libraries and other institutions in 23 oblasts of Ukraine.

Finally, Mrs. Diachuk noted that \$5,000 was allocated to the Ukrainian Archives in Warsaw for publication of the book "Resettlement of Ukrainians from Poland to the Ukrainian SSR, 1944-1946."

Mrs. Diachuk also reported on several new grants given from the UNA Fund for the Rebirth of Ukraine: \$1,282 for video equipment to Americans for Democracy in Ukraine, which places students from Ukraine who study at Siena College, near Albany, N.Y.; and \$525 to assist in the shipment of artifacts from the exhibit of Trypillian culture that were on display in the U.S. and now are to be returned to Ukraine.

Executive Committee decisions

Members of the Executive Committee decided that the 1995 organizing campaign's goal will be 2,000 new members insured for \$20 million, that is 1,700 members insured for \$12 million in the U.S., and 300 members insured for \$8 million in Canada.

As well, the officers decided that the UNA would pay its members dividends totalling \$650,000 during 1995.

Finally, it was decided that the board of directors of the Ukrainian National Urban Renewal Corp. would comprise the three executive officers employed full time at the UNA Home Office, i.e. the president, secretary and treasurer, as well as two advisors, Walter Korchynsky and Alexander Serafyn.

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In 1992 UNA sponsored the publication of 10,000 copies of an economics textbook "Basic Theoretical Elements of the Market System" by Oleh Havrylyshyn. The book teaches the theory of market economy and the fundamental principles of market economy as a whole. This book is designated as a teaching tool for teachers and students of higher education.

If you feel that UNA's active role in the rebirth of Ukraine is effective, then we ask for your support and generous donations in order that we may successfully continue our task.

Please make your checks payable to The Ukrainian National Association - Fund for Rebirth of Ukraine, 30 Montgomery Street, Jersey City, NJ 07303.



Kravchuk premieres...

(Continued from page 4)

and thought are indeed one of the most important features of democracy."

He pointed to the marked difference from the "stifling repression of the press under the Communist regime" in the last three or four years. But he said the main guarantor of a free press could only be "a prosperous country, and a prosperous citizenry, that can afford to pay for the newspapers they read."

He conceded that the present system leaves publications critical of the government vulnerable to pressure via paper supply and access to printing facilities. Mr. Kravchuk jokingly compared the media's predicament in his country to Ukraine being at the mercy of Russia's ability to choke off its oil supply, which drew laughter from the assembly.

The final question concerned the disabled Chernobyl nuclear reactor. Mr. Kravchuk said the stricken site drains 5 percent of the country's annual GNP, and

the zones affected by fallout from the 1986 disaster are populated by about 5 million people. "These are not merely economic problems, but human problems," the former president said.

He asserted that the question of closing the facility is particularly thorny and complex. Ukraine lacks the funds to retool the country's nuclear power infrastructure, and yet, in the face of the dire energy crisis that is shutting entire sectors of the economy, from industrial to agricultural, and entire regions, closure is impossible. "An immediate closure of the site would mean that not only would the station not produce electricity, it would then actually consume electricity," Mr. Kravchuk claimed.

The former president said "without adequate outside and Western aid, our options are severely limited, both in terms of the Chernobyl reactor, and the entire nuclear grid in Ukraine."

A final word of thanks was delivered by Areta Pawlynsky of the Friends of Columbia University Ukrainian Studies, a co-sponsor of the evening.

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Independence Day...

(Continued from page 7)

than once by, among others, the leaders of the Russian Federation. Thus there now is a reassessment by many states of the ongoing events in Chechnya," said Ambassador Zlenko.

At the same time, the Ukrainian government stands for the territorial integrity and existing borders of the Russian Federation. "In assessing the events in Chechnya, we must not be guided by double standards. If we wish the territorial integrity and existing borders of Ukraine to be respected, we must be guided by these principles in regard to other states," said the ambassador.

The recent strengthening of the U.S.-Ukraine relationship is a very positive sign. "The current level of the U.S.-Ukraine relationship is in keeping with Ukrainian national interests, strengthens Ukrainian security and reinforces the rule of law," remarked the ambassador. The Canadian-Ukrainian relationship likewise has developed along positive lines. Here the ambassador mentioned the recent G-7 conference in Winnipeg, which focused on Ukraine.

In summing up Ambassador Zlenko reiterated that the government of Ukraine, keeping in mind the lessons of the past, will continue to guide Ukraine towards a better future. "Our state has immense potential, our people are willing to work, and this, in time, will enable Ukraine to blossom."

Queried later about the most important items on the agenda of Ukraine's Permanent Mission to the United Nations, Ambassador Zlenko stated that the Mission will continue its work in utilizing the United Nations as a guarantor of the territorial integrity, sovereignty and independence of Ukraine. Additionally, the Mission will take an active part in this year's 50th anniversary celebrations at the U.N.

Following Ambassador Zlenko's address, the audience was treated to a varied artistic program, which included renditions of patriotic and folk songs by Promin, a classical vocal performance by Yaroslav Hnatiuk of Ukraine, accompanied on the piano by Svitlana Hnatiuk, and lyrical recitations by Olya Kyrchenko-Shuhan. The afternoon ended with the singing of "Bozhe Velykyi" by all present.

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Shumka Dancers to tour Canada

EDMONTON — The Ukrainian Shumka Dancers, one of the most exciting and technically brilliant dance troupes in Canada today, will be touring the country in February-April with the sponsorship of Royal Bank.

The 1995 tour production features choreography by the Kyiv Ballet's artistic director, Victor Litvinov, and Canadian modern dancer and choreographer Brian Webb. It is set to the score of classical and theatrical music composer Yuri Shevchenko of Kyiv. In a special joint venture, Shumka's Edmonton performances will be accompanied by the full Edmonton Symphony Orchestra.

Under the artistic direction of John Pichlyk, the 50-member Canadian troupe, established in Edmonton in 1959, began as a group made up of members of several Ukrainian folk dance groups. Shumka, which means "whirlwind," quickly developed and established a style that incorporates traditional Ukrainian folk dance, classical ballet, modern dance and dance theater.

The company has performed to audiences as far away as Japan, Hong Kong and Africa, and throughout the United States. In 1990, Shumka performed for the first time in Ukraine and in Moscow. While the company gained new understanding and feeling for the historical and cultural origins of its art, Ukrainian audiences and artists experienced the results of an evolving art form influenced by Canadian contemporary arts and culture. The tour was documented in the award-winning television film, "Return of the Whirlwind."

The tour program comprises: "Cycles of the Sun," which depicts the meaning of seasonal rituals through the integration of the lives of the people and nature's spirit,



A scene from "Cycles of the Sun," the opening act of Shumka Dancers' concert tour program in which the meaning of seasonal rituals is depicted through the integration of the lives of the people and nature's spirit.

and views each season through the diverse dance styles of Ukraine's various geographical regions; "Night of Perun," an artistic interpretation of pre-Christian times, which illustrates the consequences of blind faith, incorporating the lexicon of modern dance, with choreography by Messrs. Webb and Pichlyk and musical score by Mr. Shevchenko; and "Katrusia," a story that encompasses and relates many aspects of Ukrainian culture in a way that emphasizes today's values.

Performance dates and venues are as follows: February 4 — Saskatoon, Saskatoon

Centennial Auditorium; February 5 — Regina, Saskatchewan Center of the Arts; February 11 — Calgary, Southern Alberta Jubilee Auditorium; March 1-4 — Edmonton, Northern Alberta Jubilee Auditorium; March 10-11 — Vancouver, Queen Elizabeth Theater; March 16-18 — Toronto, O'Keefe Centre; March 19 — Windsor, Chrysler Theater, Cleary International Center; April 9 — Winnipeg, Manitoba Centennial Auditorium; April 26 — Ottawa, National Arts Centre Opera; April 27 — Quebec City, Salle Louis Fréchette, Le Grand Theatre du Quebec;

April 28-29 — Montreal, Salle Wilfred Pelletier, Place des Arts.

Apart from the chief sponsor, Royal Bank, the Canadian tour is made possible through the sponsorship of Delta Hotels and Resorts, Gallop+Gallop Advertising/Media Com and Air Canada, as well as the support of the Alberta Foundation for the Arts, the Department of Canadian Heritage, the Allard Foundation, the Clifford E. Lee Foundation, the Edmonton Community Foundation, the Wild Rose Foundation and the Ukrainian Canadian Foundation of Taras Shevchenko.

DETROIT, MICH. DISTRICT COMMITTEE

of the

UKRAINIAN NATIONAL ASSOCIATION

announces that its

ANNUAL DISTRICT COMMITTEE MEETING

will be held on

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 19, 1995 at 3:00 PM

at Ukrainian Nat'l Women's League
27040 Ryan Road, Warren, Michigan

Obligated to attend the annual meeting as voting members are District Committee Officers, Convention Delegates and two delegates from the following Branches:

20, 75, 82, 94, 146, 165, 167, 174, 175, 183, 235, 292,
302, 303, 309, 341, 463, 504

All UNA members are welcome as guests at the meeting.

AGENDA:

1. Opening and acceptance of the Agenda
2. Verification of quorum
3. Election of presidium
4. Minutes of preceding annual meeting
5. Reports of District Committee Officers
6. Discussion on reports and their acceptance
7. Election of District Committee Officers
8. Address by UNA Secretary MARTHA LYSKO
9. Adoption of District activities program for the current year
10. Discussion and Resolutions
11. Adjournment

Meeting will be attended by:

Martha Lysko, UNA Secretary
Alexander Serafyn, UNA Advisor
Roman Kuropas, UNA Advisor

DISTRICT COMMITTEE

Dr. Alexander Serafyn, Chairman
Roman Lazarchuk, Secretary
Jaroslav Baziuk, Treasurer



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ATTENTION ALL MEMBERS OF BRANCH 334

Please be advised that Branch 334 has merged with Branch 358 as of February 1, 1995. All inquiries, monthly payments and requests for changes should be sent to Dr. Z.M. Holubec, Branch Secretary.

Dr. Z.M. Holubec
5691 State Rd.
Suite B
Parma, OH 44134
(216) 888-9995

ATTENTION ALL MEMBERS OF BRANCH 341 IN WINDSOR, ONT.

A general branch meeting will be held in Federation Hall, located at 1033 Ottawa Street in Windsor, Ontario on Sunday, February 12, 1995 at 2 p.m. We urge all members to attend. W. Litynsky, Secretary.

ATTENTION ALL MEMBERS OF BRANCH 435

Please be advised that Branch 435 has merged with Branch 214 as of February 1, 1995. All inquiries, monthly payments and requests for changes should be sent to Mrs. Anna Twardowska, Branch Secretary.

Anna Twardowska
943 Garden St.
Union, NJ 07083
(908) 688-8323

ATTENTION ALL MEMBERS OF BRANCH 460 IN LONDON, ONTARIO

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07

Leonid Kravchuk...

(Continued from page 3)

ly a palliative for those whose mentality needs something to exist in the USSR's place.

Now, the fact that Gorbachev wants a Union to exist, that's not surprising. He's a Russian. I'm a Ukrainian. He has a thousand-year history of empire backing him up; he's a representative of the "Great and Indivisible [Russia]." They're all the same, from Gorbachev to Yeltsin.

By now, I have little patience for all this babbling. I know one thing. There will never again be a Soviet Union. Let Gorbachev make appearances everywhere, not only in the U.S., but all over the world. Nobody is going to take him very seriously.

How would you like your tenure as first president of Ukraine to go down in history? Some say that you are a Ukrainian Gorbachev, that you are both more popular abroad than within your own country and that your time has passed. Would you comment? Still others believe that you might yet vie for a term as the third president.

(Laughs) Well, I'm not so sure that there is any great similarity between us. One thing I do know however, is that in politics, you can never aim directly for confrontation. Not in serious, high stakes politics, when the consequences are huge.

You might use confrontation as a tactic in smaller matters, but in terms of general strategy, it risks to create a situation that is uncontrollable, that will engulf and strangle you. Gorbachev understood this, and all serious politicians understand this.

For example, I would never declare war on my own people. But Yeltsin did. What happened exactly, whether he got up on the wrong side of the bed, I'm not sure.

There are politicians, and there are those who venture into politics by happenstance. Out of a director's chair, out of a circus tent, you have [Crimean President Yuriy] Meshkov leaping into politics, the people believe his lies, they elect people like that and what can you do?

In a complicated transition period such as the one we face, people enter politics who have never had any experience in it. Just as everyone thinks they can play soccer, so people think that anyone can succeed in politics.

In that case, if you measure that true politicians act in a certain way, then maybe the two of us have something in common. Now, you mentioned opinion abroad. Abroad, people measure one's performance with wider categories in mind.

For instance, here they say, "What did Kravchuk do for Ukraine? Well, his name is associated with the creation of an independent Ukraine, and that's enough for history." At home they say, "What did Kravchuk do so that our life would be better? Nothing." And then they ask themselves, "So why did we go this way at all?"

But take Poland and Germany. Find me a Pole who would like to unite with

Germany. A Russian who would like to unite with Japan.

But our lordships, in Ukraine, as soon as difficulties begin, instead of putting themselves to work, begin looking for a master before whom they can prostrate themselves. They look for someone to unite with.

We lack a concept of nation, citizenship, love for the land one is prepared to give everything because it is yours. At every step, there are tests of democratic principles, conscience, dignity, honor, intelligence. In the course of such tests, sometimes conscience, dignity, honor and intelligence are defeated. Boorishness and bestiality triumph. So I have to look at such matters philosophically.

Now, if you look at what is written about me in newspapers, such as [the Kyiv-based daily] Nezavisimost, to weigh the bad and the good, then there will be more of the bad. It's a bizarre characteristic we have: to pull down our fellows, to pull down those who rise higher among us.

It even appears that we are in strange contest to determine who will destroy us faster, will we do it to ourselves, or will somebody do it to us?

How will it be written in history? You have to be ready for everything. We've had many monuments erected in our country. Some made careers out of both erecting and pulling down monuments. Maybe we'll stop the cycle.

It's a complicated question. This year, when I sat down to a New Year's dinner with my family, I told them, "You have to be ready for everything, because every human life is open to all possibilities."

Take [Ukrainian historian and first president Mykhailo] Hrushevsky, how long any memory of him was obscured. Now a monument is being prepared to commemorate him.

But our historical memory, our humanism, our religion, our belief in God, our veneration of the sacred, for the most part are all in their infancy. Therefore, it is still very difficult to say how my deeds will be evaluated. What gives me solace is that I will no longer be around to see it.

So then, will you stand for election as president again?

I'll just say this: today, this is not the most important thing. I can assure you that I have not thought about it, and am not thinking about it. The most important thing I can do, the greatest role I can play, is to do everything so that Ukraine can continue to live. To defend her as a country.

This is not a question of ambition, it's a question of doing everything possible to give substance to your principles. If you think about it, do it.

And I'll tell you another thing that I believe: I believe that a new generation will come, that will think anew, that will have a new knowledge of politics, economics, culture. They will possess a greater understanding, and it will enable them to build on what we have done.

If you believe that, as I do, then you see that it is fruitless to prostrate yourself across the road to progress like a log or just stand there like a brick wall.

TO ALL UNA MEMBERS:

This is to remind all members that in accordance with UNA By-Laws all Branches have to hold an Annual Meeting in the months of January through March at which the officers render their reports for the prior year and new officers are elected.

We urge all members to attend that important meeting. For dates, time and place of the Annual Meeting kindly follow SVOBODA or THE UKRAINIAN WEEKLY, or wait for a notice from your Branch Secretary.

HOME OFFICE OF UNA

THE ART SCENE: Hotz's solo exhibit in Toronto

Turning the pages...

by Nestor Gula

TORONTO — Ukrainian artist Valentina Hotz had her first solo show in Canada — this after having several solo shows in Ukraine, South Africa and Israel.

Ms. Hotz's first solo exhibition in Canada opened at Toronto's Sobot Fine Art Gallery on January 19. Over 100 persons showed up that evening to see the exhibit of Ms. Hotz's 17 paintings.

Ms. Hotz was born in Rivne, Ukraine, and graduated in 1989 from Lviv University with a degree in fine arts and architecture, and had several solo and group exhibitions in both Lviv and Rivne.

In 1990, she and her husband moved to Johannesburg, South Africa. There she had several jobs doing interior design, painting interior murals, making stained glass windows. In 1992, she had her first solo exhibition in Johannesburg. That exhibit, she said, was very well received and, as a result, she was invited by the gallery's curator to exhibit in Israel. "People in Johannesburg were very good to us," said Ms. Hotz. "We came from Ukraine to a foreign country, and many people helped us."

She said that her art changed upon arrival in South Africa. "My impressions of South Africa are of a warm, friendly country. The friendly people, the warm climate." The artists added, "After all the strife and upheaval in Ukraine — it was still part of the Soviet Union when we left — coming to South Africa, for me, was therapeutic."

Ms. Hotz said her art was more "nervous" in Ukraine. In South Africa it



"The Talking" (egg tempera on "Fabriano" board) by Valentina Hotz.

became calmer and more focused. "I really pay no attention to politics, they have no value for me. That is why there are no politics in my work." She said she relies purely on her imagination to influence her work, which imparts a dreamlike quality to all of her paintings.

Ms. Hotz said she came to Canada because her husband, a network engineer, had found a good job here.

Ms. Hotz's exhibit was on view through January 29 at the Sobot Fine Art Gallery, located in the Cumberland Terrace in downtown Toronto.

(Continued from page 8)

"Ukraine's signature in the Partnership for Peace plan will not in any way affect our relations with Russia. Russia itself will have to join...When we will all have signed, then there will be real mutual interaction of all countries."

Ukraine became the sixth nation to join the Partnership for Peace, Hungary also became a member on February 8. They were preceded by Poland, Lithuania, Estonia and Romania.

Mr. Zlenko also said Ukraine would use the partnership program to bring Ukraine's armed forces up to standards, enabling it to eventually join the NATO alliance. The partnership deal was to include joint training, exercises and defense planning, but made no promises regarding membership or security guarantees for East European states.

Originally, the Partnership for Peace was offered as a link to NATO, and thereby the West, for the new democracies of Eastern Europe and the former Soviet Union, including Russia. However, as democracy suffered setbacks in Russia, the program was being portrayed additionally as a protective grouping against Russia if things go wrong in Moscow.

Inviting Russia to participate, while simultaneously assuring Moscow's former satellites that the "partnership" is their access to NATO assistance if Russia turns aggressive, is "the perfect way to hedge this cosmic bet" about Russia's future course, a senior U.S. official recently told The Washington Post.

Source: The Ukrainian Weekly, February 13, 1994.



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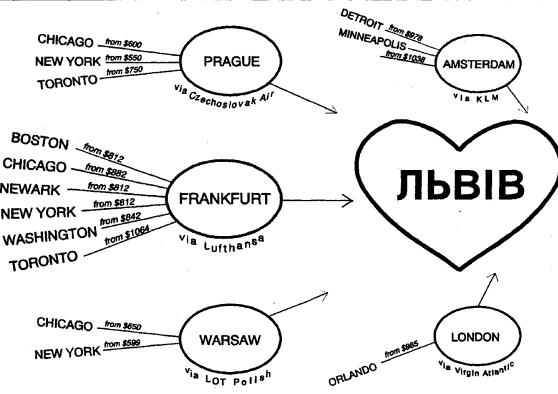
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Kravchuk gives...

(Continued from page 10)

only mean that a democrat has the right to kill and a non-democrat does not." Mr. Kravchuk asserted that if Russian chauvinism is not stopped, other Chechnyas in other Russian regions lay ahead.

In the wake of the Chechnya crisis, Ukraine again could find itself in a precarious situation, said the former president. He presented two scenarios that may develop in Russia. In one, the military, perceiving that it is to be made the scapegoat for the Chechnya fiasco, may attempt a coup d'état.

In the second, President Yeltsin, in what Mr. Kravchuk called "a politician's desire to find a victory on another front after experiencing a defeat," would attempt to force closer ties among the Slavic states (Belarus, Russia, Ukraine). "I doubt that he would be successful, but he may just try. And if, let's say, he should succeed, then the [Russian] people would forgive him all his [political] blunders."

He also offered that the move in Ukraine to gather signatures for a proposed referendum on renewing the Soviet Union is not coincidental but prompted and coordinated by Russian government leaders. "It is not by chance, and from what I understand from my peripheral contacts with Russia, all that is happening in Ukraine is very clearly directed by Russian special forces and related Russian high-level personnel."

said the former president.

He said Ukraine must carefully scrutinize its domestic political activity. Urges to return to Moscow and the Soviet Union must be guarded against. He criticized the Ukrainian people for historically looking for a protector or a savior when times got tough. "I do not know, but I could imagine the reaction in Poland if people began to gather petitions for a return to, let's say, Germany, because the standard of living is higher there. Or the Russians to Japan," said Mr. Kravchuk.

Mr. Kravchuk also discussed his new civic organization, "Porozuminnia." He explained that the political movements of the last few years have resulted in a chasm in society between the left and the right, between nationalist-democrats and those not. "Those political parties that arose have only succeeded in dividing society into two parts," said the president.

He said there are political elements within Ukraine that he wants to coalesce, and called them "patriots." "I know a lot of people who have not signed up with the democrats. They are directors of factories, heads of agricultural firms. I know them well. I meet with them and they tell me, 'I would never vote for the renewal of the Communist Party, even though I was a member at one time. I never want to go back to Russia, I want to be the master of my lands.'"

Mr. Kravchuk wondered aloud how these people could not be considered patriots when they are responsible for providing jobs for people and taxes to the government. He said he wants to unite them with the democratic elements in Ukraine.

Answering questions presented by those gathered after his presentation, he said his civic organization could eventually become a political party. He foresees an eventual consolidation of the fragmented political ideologies that currently are represented by the dozens of political parties existing in Ukraine — many of which can be differentiated only by who leads them. When this happens, he said he could see the transformation of "Porozuminnia."

He also defended his effectiveness as Ukraine's first democratically elected leader and explained why he did not move quickly toward economic reform. "We could not do everything we wanted to do, and, believe me, it will not be accomplished soon," said the ex-president. He explained that his administration had been more concerned with energy issues, with pressures from Russia in the east and from "the West, which looked at us only through nuclear-colored glasses."



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Ultrationalist group...

(Continued from page 2)

either the Russian or Chechen side."

The weekly Ukrainian television program "Vikna" (Windows) announced on Monday evening, January 30, that 27 Ukrainians serving in the Russian Army had perished in the fighting in the break-away republic.

However, Foreign Ministry spokesperson Yuriy Sergeev told reporters at a weekly briefing on Tuesday, January 31, that his office had been informed of the deaths of 13 Ukrainians who had been fighting in the Russian Army in Chechnya. Mr. Sergeev said that Ukraine's Ministry of Defense was investigating this matter and helping to arrange the transport of the bodies as requested by families of the deceased.

"The difference between our work and the government's work is that we want our Ukrainian boys back alive. They also will bring them back to Ukraine, but they'll be coming home in boxes," said

Mr. Lupynis, openly criticizing the Ukrainian ministries of Defense and Foreign Relations.

Mr. Lupynis said he had traveled to the North Caucasus to meet with the Parliament of the Confederations of the People of the Caucasus and plans to sign an accord with this body to coordinate aid to the people of Chechnya.

He also said he knows of Ukrainian volunteers helping the Chechens fight against the Russian Army. Originally the Ministry of Foreign Affairs had estimated there were about 50 Ukrainian volunteers, but Mr. Lupynis, who said he did not know how many Ukrainian citizens were fighting in Chechnya, said he believes the numbers by now are higher.

"These are people who believe it is necessary to fight against Russian-Muscovite imperialism. They think, 'today Chechnya, tomorrow Ukraine.'"

Mr. Lupynis called the war "an outright destruction of Chechnya, the land and the economy with the aim of annihilating the Chechen people."

Newsbriefs

(Continued from page 2)

Finance Minister Theo Waigel, who attended the opening ceremonies, emphasized that Germany would not abandon Ukraine. The country is currently Ukraine's biggest aid donor, providing \$1.7 billion worth of export credits, technical assistance and other projects. (OMRI Daily Digest)

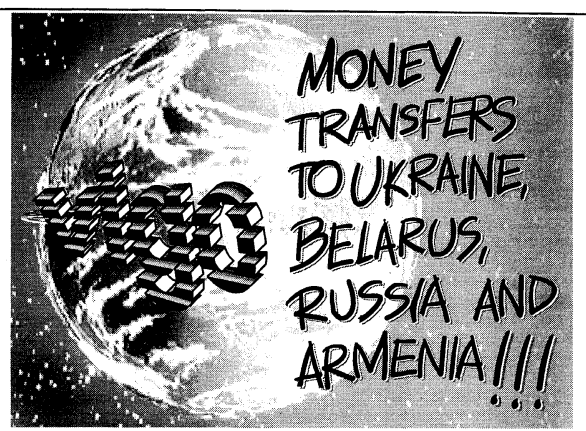
Some kbv notes to go out of circulation

KYYIV — The Cabinet of Ministers and the National Bank of Ukraine have decided to remove 100 kbv and 200 kbv denomination bank notes from circulation beginning March 15. Banks have been directed to accept the bank notes from citizens "without hindrance" and exchange

them for circulating legal tender. The move will leave the 500 kbv note as Ukraine's smallest monetary denomination. (Respublika)

International money needed for imports

DAVOS, Switzerland — Deputy Prime Minister for Economic Reforms Viktor Pynzenyk said at a conference of world business leaders that Ukraine needs sustained international aid for its economic reforms to take hold, reported DPA on January 28. Speaking at the World Economic Forum, he said Ukraine expects to eventually implement reforms without outside help. Until then, he said Ukraine needs international funding to subsidize its major imports, especially its energy needs. (OMRI Daily Report)



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PREVIEW OF EVENTS

Thursday, February 9

TORONTO: The Chair of Ukrainian Studies at the University of Toronto is holding a lecture by Andriy Makuch, editor, Encyclopedia of Ukraine, Canadian Institute of Ukrainian Studies, on "Populist Conviction or Political Convenience? Ukrainians and the United Farmers of Alberta, 1921-1935." The lecture will be held in the Board Room, Multicultural History Society of Ontario, 43 Crescent E., 4-6 p.m.

Sunday, February 12

NEW YORK: The Ukrainian Academy of Sciences in the U.S. invites the public to a lecture by Dr. Natalia Lohvyn, architectural historian and daughter of noted Ukrainian art scholar Hryhoriy Lohvyn, on the topic "Kyyivian Architecture of the 10th to 12th Centuries." The lecture will be held in the academy's building, 206 W. 100 St., at 2 p.m. For additional information call (212) 222-1866.

NEW YORK: Celebrate Valentine's Day at the Chryzanta Gallery, 98 Second Ave. (between fifth and sixth streets), at 1 p.m. with a special Valentine's exhibit and sale featuring jewelry by Liubart Lishchynsky, Tamara Tershakovec and others as well as ceramics, woodcarvings and works of art in various media by well-known and up-and-coming Ukrainian artists. Refreshments will be served. The exhibit will also be open Friday, February 10, 2-8 p.m. and Saturday, February 11, noon-6 p.m. For more information call Chryzanta, (201) 763-9124.

MONTREAL: The Ukrainian Mutual Aid of Montreal is celebrating its 25th anniversary to be held at the Ukrainian Youth Center, 3270 Beaubien E., at 1 p.m. Guest of honor is Alevina Batiouk, wife of the

Ukrainian ambassador to Canada. Among invited guests is Rita Dionne-Marselais, minister of culture of Quebec and deputy for Rosemont. Tickets to the banquet are \$25 per person. For reservations call (514) 729-95540, 10 a.m.-4 p.m.

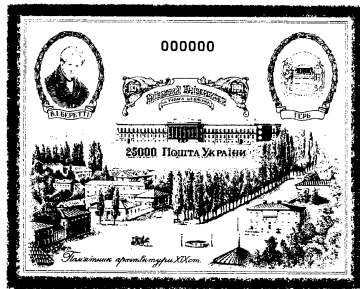
Saturday, February 25

TARRYTOWN, N.Y.: The Ukrainian American Youth Association (SUM-A) will host its annual debutante ball/dinner dance at the Westchester Marriott Hotel. Cocktails, 6:30 p.m.; dinner, 7:30 p.m.; dance, 9 p.m. Music will be by the Crystal band. Dinner: \$75 per person; open bar. Dance: \$25, open bar; \$30 at the door. For special room rates call 1-800-882-1042. For additional information or reservations call Jaroslav Palylyk, (914) 669-8630.

SOUTH BOUND BROOK, N.J.: The Central New Jersey Branch of the Coordinating Committee to Aid Ukraine invites the public to a carnival ball/dinner to benefit Ukrainian Olympians at the 1996 Olympics to be held in Atlanta. The ball will be held at the Ukrainian Cultural Center starting at 6:30 p.m. Music will be by Fata Morgana. Tickets, in advance: \$35 per person, \$25, students with ID; tickets at the door, \$40, \$30 for students. Tickets may be ordered from: St. Andrew's Credit Union, (908) 469-9085; Damian Gecha, (908) 755-8156; the Rev. Ivan Lysyky, (908) 356-5706; and George Mischenko, (908) 671-1914.

CLEVELAND: The Buryverkyh Plast Sorority invites the public to its annual debutante ball to be held at the Cleveland Marriott Society Center, 127 Public Square. Cocktails, 6:30 p.m.; presentation of debutantes, 7:30 p.m.; dinner, 8 p.m. Music by Nove Pokolinnia of Toronto. For further information call Olena Chmilak, (216) 884-6716.

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.



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