

INSIDE:

- Yeltsin decree reveals neo-imperial ambitions — page 2.
- World Junior Hockey Championship — page 3.
- Photo report: Christmas in Kyiv — page 9.

2

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Radio Canada International to cease broadcasts in March

by Andriy Wynnyckyj

TORONTO — In a move met by widespread disapproval, the state-owned Canadian Broadcasting Corp. announced on December 12, 1995, that the last day of operations for this country's global short-wave and satellite radio service, Radio Canada International, would be March 31, 1996.

Under pressure from sharply reduced federal appropriations, CBC President Perrin Beatty has presided over the latest round of drastic cuts to the national television and radio service, with job losses projected in the hundreds.

Mainstream newspapers and journals in Canada, including the *Globe and Mail*, *Montreal's Le Devoir*, the *Toronto Star* and the *Financial Post*, have carried editorials in support of RCI.

Having caught wind of the move in advance, on December 11, 1995, Ukrainian Canadian Congress President Oleh Romaniw fired off a letter of protest addressed to Canadian Prime Minister Jean Chrétien, with copies to Foreign Affairs Minister André Ouellet, members of Parliament and other agencies.

Mr. Romaniw wrote, "The awareness of Canada via RCI and about what it has to offer in the way of products, services and technology cannot be overestimated, particularly in a nation [Ukraine] which offers Canada great market potential."

Maria Szkambara, president of UCC's Toronto branch,

(Continued on page 4)

Stranded sailors homesick in Honolulu

by Roman Woronowycz

JERSEY CITY, N.J. — For 24 sailors stuck in the United States aboard a debilitated merchant vessel from Odessa registered with the Black Sea Shipping Co. (Blasco), home for the holidays was a dream that did not come true.

The ship, the 17,000-ton *Grigoriy Kozinstev*, has been marooned in port in Honolulu since September 23, 1995, when it was towed to the tropical paradise after its main engine broke down four days earlier, 350 nautical miles northeast of the Hawaiian Islands.

It has not been bliss for the mariners, who ran short of food and money long ago and now survive through the generosity of fellow sailors at the seaport, who have rounded up and delivered truckloads of supplies — clothes, canned food, water, cigarettes and at least 12 turkeys, courtesy of marine-oriented firms such as Hawaii Tug and Barge, Hawaii Pilots, Sealand Enterprise and Jardine Shipping Agencies, reported *The Los Angeles Times* on December 11.

The Japanese firm, Marubeni Co., which owns the cargo — 13,000 tons of smelly and highly combustible ground anchovy fish meal — also has taken responsibility for feeding the sailors and maintaining basic on-board operations.

The seamen have wandered the streets of the port with no money, reeking of the foul-smelling cargo and unable to get a proper shower or air con-

(Continued on page 12)

Defense ministers witness demolition of missile silo in Ukraine

by Borys Klymenko
Special to *The Ukrainian Weekly*

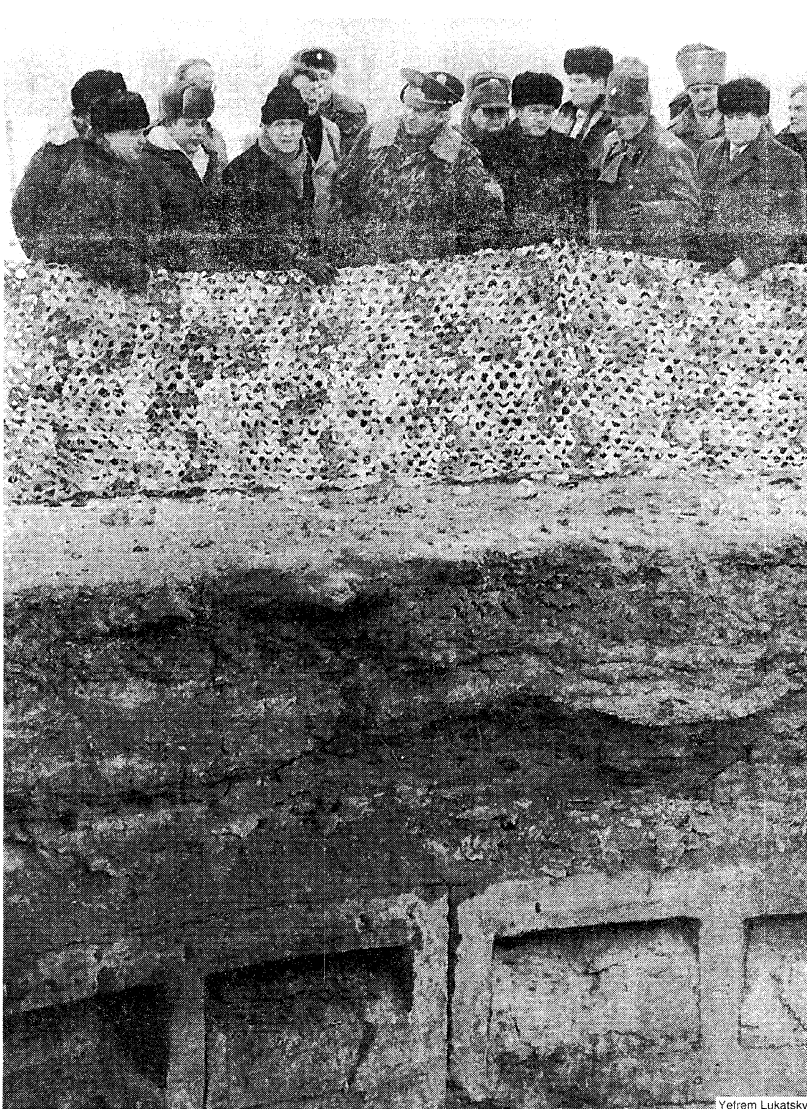
KYIV — The defense ministers of Ukraine and Russia, and the defense secretary of the United States traveled to Pervomaiske, 250 kilometers south of the Ukrainian capital, on January 5 to witness the destruction of an ICBM missile silo — one of 130 that are to be destroyed by November of 1998 in accordance with provisions of the START I disarmament treaty.

The silo was actually the third destroyed by Ukraine;

the first two, one a training site and the other a functioning silo, were destroyed earlier as technology was under development for further destruction of Ukraine's nuclear missile silos.

U.S. Secretary of Defense William Perry and Russian Defense Minister Pavel Grachev had arrived in Ukraine on January 3 for talks with their Ukrainian counterpart, Defense Minister Valeriy Shmarov. The three held meetings among themselves and later met with President

(Continued on page 13)



Yefrem Lukatsky

U.S. Defense Secretary William Perry, Russian Defense Minister Pavel Grachev and Ukrainian Defense Minister Valeriy Shmarov (respectively, third, fourth and fifth from left) stand at the crater of a demolished ICBM silo in Pervomaiske, Ukraine.

ANALYSIS: Decree by Boris Yeltsin reveals Russian imperial ambitions

by Volodymyr Zvighyanich

President Boris Yeltsin on September 14, 1995, issued an edict declaring a program aimed at restoration of the Russian Empire on the territory thus far known as the Commonwealth of Independent States. The program is titled "The Strategic Course of Russia Toward States of the CIS." It consists of several chapters that reflect Russia's hierarchy of strategic priorities on the territory of the former USSR.

The very fact that this document appeared on the eve of parliamentary and presidential elections in Russia reflects important tendencies in Russia's foreign policy toward "the near abroad."

Neo-imperial ambitions

Numerous perspectives on the problem of Russia's relationship to the CIS have periodically come from various presidential and quasi-presidential think-tanks in Russia.

Their primary goal, however, was to check public reaction rather than to serve as guidelines for practical actions.

In contrast to these studies, Presidential Edict No. 940 is a program of official actions and contains directives for state institutions such as the Foreign Ministry and the Ministry on Cooperation with Countries of the CIS. The document refrains from theoretical reflections on the subject of "Russia in a Constellation of Equals" and dots all the "i's" by barring from the text the mere mention of "independence" and "equality." Therefore, the illusion of equality seen in the nascent CIS's documents has given way in Edict No. 940 to an overt and pragmatic description of Russia's understanding of its role in the CIS.

Russia's goals and tasks

The CIS countries are the principal target of Russia's geopolitical ambitions first and foremost because it is there that "our [Russian] vital interests in the domain of economics, defense, security, protection of the rights of Russians, the guarantee of which constitutes the basis of the national security of the country," are concentrated, according to the document.

The war in Chechnya, which put Russia on the brink of disintegration, led the authors of the edict to state that effective collaboration of Russia with the CIS countries is the remedy against centrifugal tendencies within Russia proper. Therefore, the document openly asserts that from now on the preservation of the territorial integrity of Russia is the communal matter of the CIS rather than Russia alone.

The main aim of Russia's policy toward the CIS is the creation of a union of states integrated both economically and politically, and capable of assuming its rightful place in the world community. This, of course, should be conducted under Russia's guidance, in accordance with the principle "Russia's interests first." The document excludes the possibility that Russia, by pursuing its interests, could hamper those of its neighbors.

Addressing the major tasks of Russian policy toward the CIS countries, the document lists a broad range of measures aimed at limiting and eventually eliminating their independence and equality. In particular it presumes the preservation of Russia's leading role in the formation of a new system of interstate political and

economic relations in the post-Soviet space via the creation of political regimes friendly to Russia.

The ways and means

How does Russia intend to attain these goals? In the economic sphere, there would be an expansion of the CIS Customs Union through the involvement of members of the CIS Economic Union (Ukraine is an associate member of the Economic Union). Russia plans also to integrate national economic systems with the help of the Inter-Parliamentary Assembly of the CIS. This assembly is a murky organization created by one-time speaker of the Russian Parliament, Ruslan Khasbulatov, with the aim of uniting supporters of the USSR's restoration and creating opposition to President Yeltsin. For these attempts the Russian Parliament was forcibly dissolved by Mr. Yeltsin in October 1993, and Mr. Khasbulatov wound up in the famous Lefortovo Prison.

Now the very same idea is supported by President Yeltsin himself. Does this mean that its opponents are now expected in Lefortovo? Edict No. 940 leaves them some hope. The model of "multi-speed integration" (a euphemism for the restoration of a "single and undivided" empire) is not obligatory. But the attitude of Russia's partners to this model will determine the volume of its economic, political and military assistance to them.

The edict envisages an enhancement of the Payments Union with the aim of using the ruble as a "reserve" currency. Therefore, Ukraine can no longer delay the introduction of its full-fledged national currency, the hryvnia, if it really wants to create an economic basis for independence and to avoid an eventual demolition of its financial system by its northern neighbor.

Russia also urges the creation of judicial and economic conditions for "joint property" in the CIS countries. If one remembers the zeal with which Russia pursued possession of a chunk of Ukraine's gas processing facilities, one could easily see the ultimate goal of such integrationist moves: control over strategic branches of national industries through the ad hoc Financial-Industrial Groups, those new oligarchies emerging in Russia and scheduled to appear in Ukraine.

The fate of these national FIGs is not hard to predict. Either they will be swallowed by the Russian giants such as Lukoil, Sidanko, Yukos or Gazprom, or they will exist as a temporary cover for the redistribution of "joint property" to the benefit of Russia.

The KGB and the military

Mikhail Barsukov, the recently appointed chief of the Russian Security Service, and Pavel Grachev, Russia's defense minister, have prepared a clear plan for Russia's domination of the CIS countries. It includes several measures:

- 1) creation of a system of collective security on the basis of the Treaty on Mutual Security of the CIS countries of May 15, 1992 (which Ukraine did not join);
- 2) establishment of Russian - Russian only - military bases in the CIS countries;
- 3) creation of a joint system for the CIS's border protection and the legal provisions for the presence of Russian border troops in these countries;
- 4) introduction of joint peacekeeping activities on the territory of the CIS; and
- 5) informing "third parties" and

(Continued on page 12)

NEWSBRIEFS

Ukrainian-Russian oil talks continue

MOSCOW — Russian oil supplies to the Czech Republic and Slovakia are still suspended pending negotiations between Russia and Ukraine over transit fees through Ukraine, Interfax reported on January 9. Oil supplies were halted at the beginning of the year after Ukraine announced it was increasing the price for pumping one ton of oil through 100 kilometers of its territory by 10 percent to \$5.20. Ukraine's State Committee for Oil and Gas said that 39 Russian enterprises and joint ventures have concluded agreements with Ukraine to pump 7 million tons of oil through the Druzhba pipeline at the new rate. But under an agreement on fuel and energy signed in October 1994, transit tariffs can be changed only by agreement reached at government level. Ukraine's State Committee for Oil and Gas has sent a letter to its Russian counterpart expressing its willingness to negotiate the issue. (OMRI Daily Digest)

Ukraine signs agreement with Serbia

BELGRADE — Agreements on cultural and economic cooperation were signed between Serbia and Ukraine following a four-day visit by a Ukrainian delegation to Serbia. Serbian television reported on December 26, 1995. The agreement on economic cooperation calls for joint investments and developing trade relations between the countries. The cultural agreement was directed at cooperation between the universities in Banja Luka — which is on Bosnian Serb territory — and Chernivtsi. Ukrainian Foreign Ministry officials have recently made statements on their readiness to establish ties with Serbia. (OMRI Daily Digest)

Monetary reform possible this year

KYIV — Presidential adviser Volodymyr Kuznetsov has said monetary reform may take place in Ukraine this year, Radio Mayak reported on January 4. Mr. Kuznetsov went on to say that the new national currency, the hryvnia, will not be introduced until inflation falls between 40 to 50 percent annually. He also said that Ukrainian citizens will receive one hryvnia for 10,000 or 100,000 karbovantsi. The largest denomination will be a 200 hryvnia bill. Due to inflation, Ukraine has been printing karbovantsi bills as large as 1 million. (OMRI Daily Digest)

Primakov appointed foreign minister

MOSCOW — President Boris Yeltsin appointed the current director of the Foreign Intelligence Service (SVR), Yevgenii Primakov, as foreign minister

on January 9. Russian and Western agencies reported. Mr. Primakov, 66, is a Middle Eastern expert. He has served as director of the Soviet and then Russian foreign intelligence services since September 1991, when Soviet President Mikhail Gorbachev appointed him to the position. Before 1991, Mr. Primakov served as a foreign policy adviser to then-President Gorbachev, often serving as an advance man in the preparation of summit meetings with Western leaders. He is notorious for his role in Mr. Gorbachev's February 1991 efforts to mediate the Persian Gulf crisis, in which Mr. Primakov tried to make use of his long-standing acquaintance with Iraqi dictator Saddam Hussein. From 1985-89, Mr. Primakov was director of the Institute for World Economy and International Relations and one of the architects of Mr. Gorbachev's "new thinking." Western reaction to Mr. Primakov's appointment has been muted but Vladimir Lukin, chairman of the Russian Duma's International Affairs Committee, welcomed it, saying "he understands what Russia's real priorities are," while independent foreign policy analyst Andrei Kortunov described Mr. Primakov as

(Continued on page 7)

Sevastopol site of action movie

by Marta Kolomayets

Kyiv Press Bureau

KYIV — Jackie Chan, the Chinese American action star, will film scenes for an adventure movie in Sevastopol on January 7-12, Interfax-Ukraine recently reported.

According to the Black Sea Fleet press center, the film tells the story of an international terrorist organization that steals nuclear weapons and threatens the world with destruction. Western special services in close cooperation with Russian counterintelligence intervene to save the global community.

Mr. Chan has the lead role as the agent who deals with the Mafia almost singlehandedly. According to Interfax-Ukraine the most suspense-filled moment is Mr. Chan's parachuteless jump into the Black Sea from a height of 25 to 30 meters.

The Black Sea Fleet press center told Interfax-Ukraine that the fleet's naval experts and its equipment will be used in the film's shooting.

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Ukraine competes in World Junior Hockey Championship

by Andriy Wynnycky

TORONTO — For the second time in two years, Ukraine's national junior hockey team surprised its U.S. counterparts in tournament play, this time with a 4-3 victory at the 1996 World Junior Hockey Championship held in Massachusetts.

The first time came on January 2, 1995 at the 1995 Worlds in Red Deer, Alberta, as Ukraine's Oleksa Lazarenko swept in the U.S. goalie on a breakaway with 13 seconds left to go in the game, and sent the Ukrainian Canadian fans at the arena into orbit.

Unfortunately, just as they'd struggled at the 1995 tournament, the rest of the way at the 1996 championships did not go well either. In round-robin play, Team Ukraine lost all three of its other games and was outscored 9-20, then lost two more in the relegation playoffs.

This year's contingent was made up mostly of players for Sokil Kyiv and its farm team. The tournament marked the return of Sokil goalie Ihor Karpenko, billed in the official program as "little giant" at 5'8" 158 pounds, and an all-star of last year's tournament. He had been picked 185th over-all by the National Hockey League's Anaheim Mighty Ducks in the 1995 draft.

The other NHL draft pick in Team Ukraine's line-up was forward Oleksa Lazarenko, who formerly played for CSKA Moscow and is now with the Chicoutimi team in the Quebec junior league. He was taken 182nd over-all by the New York Rangers in 1994.

The victory

Ukraine's lone win in the championship came on December 27, 1995, the second day of competition. Mr. Karpenko turned away 29 of 32 shots in a see-saw battle at Boston's Matthews Arena.

Ukraine opened the scoring within two minutes of the opening face-off, after U.S.A.'s Erik Rasmussen took an early hooking penalty. The host team took a 2-1 lead into the first intermission, but Ukraine pulled ahead in the second period, thanks to goals by centerman Danylo Didkovsky and left-winger Mykola Yaprntsev.

About five minutes into the third period, the U.S.A. tied it up, but at 6:05, Alex Zinevitch took a pass from Oleksander Yakovenko and zipped it past U.S. netminder Marc Magliarditi to go up 4-3.

The pressure was intense for the remaining 14 minutes, as the home team had three power play opportunities, but the Ukrainians held on for the win.

The round robin

Despite the auspicious beginning, the next day the kids from Kyiv suffered a dispiriting loss to Finland. The Finns hammered Mr. Karpenko with 56 shots. The Ukrainians managed only a single marker, notched by Mr. Zinevitch to create a short-lived 1-1 tie in the first period.

For Ukraine and its fans, the most frustrating game of the tournament was a furious brawl-marred match against fellow cellar-dwelling Switzerland at the New England Sports Center in Marlborough, Mass. on December 30. Over the first two periods, Ukraine outshot the Swiss 23-11, and yet were outscored 4-2.

At 3:21 of the third period, centerman Yuriy Horulko converted a pass from Mr. Lazarenko to bring Ukraine within one, but the Swiss seemed to come out of their defensive shell. They mounted a concerted attack and netted another goal with just over 5 minutes to go.

As the clock ticked down, the game turned ugly. A vicious slash by Swiss forward Sandy Jeannin earned him a penalty with just 20 seconds left, but it also set off a melee, and both sides lost a player to roughing penalties.

Then, as 20:00 appeared on the scoreboard signaling the end of the game, an all-out fist fest erupted. Four players on both sides were given match penalties, an automatic sanction for fighting in international hockey, whose officials consider it to be neither entertainment nor part of "character building" as do certain Canadian TV commentators.

This proved to be a particularly costly lapse in discipline for Ukraine, which lost two forwards, Mr. Lazarenko and Oleh Krykunenko, and two veteran defensemen Serhiy Deshevy and Vasyly Polynsky for two games.

The Canadian juggernaut

On the last day of the old year, (in their last game of the round robin), Ukraine's juniors absorbed an 8-1 shellacking at the hands of the eventual tournament champions, Canada.

The Canadians tied a record of four-straight world golds set by the Soviets, and also won every game they played, extending their unbeaten streak to 20 tournament games.

In the contest with Ukraine, Mr. Karpenko showed once again why he has attracted the hockey world's attention, turning away 23 of 24 shots in the first period alone (usually an entire game's worth), facing a total of 63 that afternoon.

Ukraine barely managed to get on the scoreboard in the third period, when

Mykola Yaprntsev capitalized on a power-play feed from Roman Salmikov and Vladyslav Shevchenko. The Ukrainians threw only 15 shots at back-up Canadian netminder Marc Denis in the game.

Didkovsky a hero

The new year began in vexing fashion, as Ukraine lost 6-3 to Slovakia in the first game of the relegation round on January 2. However, a dramatic moment came when Mr. Didkovsky was hauled down on a breakaway at 3:19 of the second period. A awarded a penalty shot, he swooped in on Slovakia's hapless goalie, Stanislav Petrik, and scored.

A crowd might have gone wild, but only a handful of people and some NHL scouts were at the NES Center for the game. Unfortunately, this was representative of the sparse attendance plaguing this year's junior championships — surprising fan indifference in a state considered to be a U.S. hockey hotbed.

Mr. Didkovsky was Team Ukraine's leading scorer in the tournament, with four goals and two assists, 24th over-all.

Relegation

Going into its final game, against Germany on January 3 at the NES Center, the Ukrainians knew that if they lost, their fate was sealed for the coming year.

Although they'd finished last in the 1995 tournament, they'd avoided relegation to the lesser Pool B because of a temporary rule change. If they didn't win this game, they'd be dropped down to Pool B status for 1996 and would be ineligible to play for the 1997 championship.

They didn't win. The iron nerve of netminder Karpenko seemed to give way. He gave up three goals on only eight shots in the first period, another only 52 seconds into the second period, and then a final tally 5 minutes later.

To save him further torture, Mr. Karpenko was yanked in favor of Valeriy Seredenko. The latter acquitted himself well, stopping all 18 shots he faced, but the Germans went home with a 5-0 win, rarely troubled by an anemic Ukrainian offense.

To get back into Pool A, Team Ukraine will have to win the 1997 Pool B championship. They badly need to upgrade their offensive skills, and with mainstay Mr. Karpenko turning 20 in July and thus graduating to the senior ranks, they face an uphill battle.

But win they can, and against solid opposition. The U.S. team they beat, for the second time, eventually finished fifth in this year's competition.

Kuchma underlines Ukraine's significance during visit to Britain

by Tony Leliw

Special to The Ukrainian Weekly

LONDON — On a three-day visit to Britain, President Leonid Kuchma reaffirmed that a strong, sovereign and independent Ukraine must be an important factor in the stability of Europe.

He told The Weekly that its course would not be deflected by the elections going on in Russia, irrespective of the results.

"I do not expect any instabilities between Ukraine and Russia. We have done a lot with each other to understand what the other side wants: equal partnership and mutual benefit," he said. "President Yeltsin is president of Russia, and I am president of Ukraine," he added.

Hundreds of Ukrainians met President Kuchma at Kensington Town Hall, where community leaders welcomed him, but expressed concern about continued Russification in Ukraine and chauvinist and Communist forces intent on returning Ukraine to Russian rule.

Lubomyr Mazur, leader of the Association of Ukrainians in Great Britain, said, "We are perturbed by the decline of Ukrainian culture and education." These sentiments were echoed by Ostop Czujko, head of the Federation of Ukrainians in Great Britain, who mentioned the decline of the Ukrainian language.

Stefan Terlezki, the first Ukrainian to sit in the British Parliament said, "Rome was not built in one day, but Rome was built. And we will rebuild Ukraine."

President Kuchma informed his audience that the future of Ukraine's rebirth depends on its economic base. "Last year we took radical course on economic reforms, made them a practical reality. These changes have been painful to our society, but today we can see the first results of our work. This year's inflation level compared to 1993 has been reduced by 40 times and we have stabilized our manufacturing industry."

President Kuchma said all these changes had been achieved without bloodshed. "Even in the most complex situations we have not used force. For this the world respects us," he underlined.

The president's agenda included meeting British Prime Minister John Major and the queen at Buckingham Palace. President Kuchma was pleased to announce outside 10 Downing Street that Mr. Major would be visiting Ukraine in the first half of next year.

Later, when asked at a press conference how British-Ukrainian relations were progressing, he said that after officially inviting the queen to Ukraine, he had a definite feeling that Prince Charles will be coming next year. Defense Valeriy Minister Shmarov, meanwhile, would be visiting Britain in February.

President Kuchma stressed that what Ukraine could learn from the British experience was stable conservatism. "I do believe that the most important thing we need as a country is stability," he said.

Among other places on President Kuchma's itinerary were: Westminster Abbey, the Tower of London, and the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development. Mrs. Kuchma was given a tour of the famous British store Harrods and enjoyed a trip to the theater to see "Sunset Boulevard".

Ukraine's hockey Juniors fly home... finally

by Yarema A. Bachynsky

NEW YORK — As if lacerated spleens, missed rendezvous and fierce, relentless competition were not enough, the weather gods deemed it proper to curse Ukraine's Junior Hockey Team with another small inconvenience, namely, three feet of snow and a three day-delay in their departure for Kyiv and home.

The Juniors, having completed their tournament schedule, were packed aboard a bus on Saturday, January 6, to make their way from Boston to John F. Kennedy International Airport on the outskirts of New York City. A squad described by their traveling physician as both physically and mentally drained arrived at the airport in the wee morning hours of Sunday, January 7, hoping

to see the city's sights for at least a short time prior to their flight on Lot Polish Airlines, scheduled for 6:45 that evening. It was not to be.

The blizzard which deposited up to three feet of snow in the space of two days over the New York metropolitan area resulted in closure of all three city airports. Snowdrifts of 20 feet were reported at JFK, which closed early Sunday afternoon. When the Juniors heard the bad news that their flight had been canceled, some hoped to take a trip into Manhattan, perhaps see the Statue of Liberty (which at that time was still closed due to the partial federal government shutdown, something which, when explained to the athletes, left them befuddled). Others, completely drained from the trip's tribulations, became more anxious about just getting home.

The fact that the Lot Airlines check-in area at the American Airlines terminal was empty of Lot representatives until late afternoon that day, sowing further uncertainty in the team's midst, reflected poorly on an airline that has recently become a popular carrier to Ukraine.

As the day wore on with no information available from Lot about alternate flight arrangements, the only bits of good news were the delivery of food and good cheer by Basil Tarasko, coach of Ukraine's national baseball team, courtesy of the East Village and Kurovsky meat markets; and the arrival on the scene of Yevhen Korniychuk from the Ukrainian Consulate, who managed to arrange a bus transfer to Newark

(Continued on page 12)

CIUS protests RCI's closure

EDMONTON — The Canadian Broadcasting Corp. (CBC) announced on December 12, 1995, that it would discontinue funding for Radio Canada International (RCI) as of April 1996. The Department of Foreign Affairs, which provides half of RCI's funding, also said it had no money to continue to pay for an international radio service.

The Canadian Institute of Ukrainian Studies at the University of Alberta noted in a press release that it considers this decision of the government of Canada and of the CBC to be unwise. It also believes that eliminating Canada's presence on the international radio airwaves to save \$16.5 million as a deficit-reduction measure simply does not make sense.

CIUS released the following statement. "If the decision to close RCI is allowed to stand, Canada will lose an important tool of international communication even as globalization becomes an increasingly important factor in our daily lives. The maintenance of a credible presence on the international airwaves is more vital than ever before. Despite new communications breakthroughs, such as the Internet or satellite TV, broadcasting radio is still the most effective and efficient means of reaching the greatest number of people overseas.

"RCI provides a useful service to the Canadian government and citizens. It broadcasts vital information on Canada to Canadians abroad, as well as international news from a Canadian perspective. It generates political benefits and international good will for the Canadian government and its citizens who live abroad. RCI also benefits Canada economically by broadcasting information about Canadian companies and their goods and services.

"It is particularly distressing that the Ukrainian section of RCI should fall victim to the proposed closure of RCI. Broadcasting by Western governments to Ukraine is still very important in the period of Ukraine's transition from communism to democracy. Canada's voice needs to be heard in Ukraine.

"It is ironic that the Ukrainian section of RCI is due to be closed when RCI has finally gained rights from Ukraine's state radio authorities to rebroadcast RCI's Ukrainian section programming on Ukraine's AM state radio on a daily basis — for 45 minutes on weekdays and for one hour on Saturdays and Sundays. Ukraine's AM state radio broadcasts reach every household in Ukraine. The potential audience, then, is 52 million. Through this contract, Canada has gained a wonderful opportunity to inform Ukrainians about our country, people and way of life, including information on Canada's businesses, products and services."

The CIUS added that by closing RCI, including its Ukrainian section, Canada will harm its ability to conduct an effective foreign policy. The proposed closure is thus contrary to Canada's national interest. The CIUS has registered its protest in Ottawa and urges all Canadians, Canadians of Ukrainian descent, as well as those listeners of RCI's Ukrainian program in other countries, to do likewise.

Letters may be written to the following Canadian government authorities: Rt. Hon. Jean Chrétien, Prime Minister, 80 Wellington St., Ottawa, ON K1A 0A2; fax, (613) 941-6900; or Hon. André Ouellet, Minister of Foreign Affairs, Tower A, Lester B. Pearson Building, 125 Sussex Drive, Ottawa, ON K1A 0G2; fax, (613) 996-3546.

Radio Canada...

(Continued from page 1)

sent a strongly worded letter on December 12, 1995, criticizing comments by government officials that "faxes or the Internet" could serve as substitutes for the service. Ms. Szkambara also underscored the essential information service provided to Canadians in peacekeeping roles abroad.

Dr. Dmytro Cipywnyk, president of the Ukrainian World Congress, pointed out in a missive of December 28, 1995, the keen interest in Canada's democratic values, human rights initiatives, fairness in dealing with ethno-cultural minorities that RCI has helped foster.

"Discontinuing the services of RCI would only serve to diminish Canada's status and role as a world leader in advancing humanitarian values and communication," Dr. Cipywnyk wrote, also addressing Heritage Minister Michel Dupuy, who is formally responsible for government communications policy.

According to RCI archivist Maggy Akerblom, both government officials and the RCI itself have been buried in "an absolute avalanche" of support for the service. "There have been thousands of e-mail messages, hundreds of letters," Ms. Akerblom said.

Those whose letters the RCI has on file include the Canadian Export Association, students from universities across Canada, the U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID), senior officials of the BBC World Service, the World Association of Community Radio Broadcasters, Radio Vaticana, the National Film Board of Canada, the Friends of Canada in Moscow, faculty at the University of Kentucky, the University of Quebec in Montreal, the Ukrainian Free University in Munich and the University of Bonn.

Letters also continue to come in from Ukraine, including from the director of Ukraine's National Radio and TV Committee (which recently began a schedule of RCI Ukrainian broadcasts, providing the full service on the air 45 minutes every weekday and an hour on Saturdays and Sundays), Radio Lux in Lviv and Radio Roks in Kyiv.

In Canada, the national UCC headquarters, its provincial councils and branches, the Canadian Institute of Ukrainian Studies, the Canadian Foundation for Ukrainian Studies, the Ukrainian Quebec Business Council, Prof. Petro Potichnyj of McMaster University, have all sent copies of their letters addressing government officials to RCI.

Ms. Olechowska, manager of RCI's Russia and Ukraine section, said sources at the prime minister's office suggested it was being swamped by letters of support for RCI. A press liaison official at the PMO told The Weekly on January 10 that all information concerning correspondence with Mr. Chrétien, including the number of items received and any responses issued (even to open letters), is confidential.

The official also declined to comment on the issue. Ironically, the prime minister himself was abroad, touring various Asian countries with a host of government officials and businesspeople, in order to raise Canada's international profile.

Officials at the CBC declined to comment, providing only the terse statement issued on December 12. Mr. Beatty is quoted as saying, "Given our limited resources, we have no choice but to concentrate on our domestic service."

The document also mentions that "from 1991 to 1995" RCI operated as a

distinct component of CBC, funded by annual grants from the government of Canada. This practice changed with the February 1995 federal budget, which directed CBC to assume costs for RCI starting in 1995-1996.

The background

According to Ms. Olechowska, the dispute dates back to 1990, when the CBC told the federal government of the day it could no longer afford to run the service, after having done so since the mid-1960s.

External Affairs Minister Joe Clark's strong support for RCI landed the broadcaster in his jurisdiction. In March 1991, RCI's annual budget was assumed by External Affairs, but cut from \$20 million to \$13 million (since adjusted to \$16.5 million to account for inflation), halving its staff and its language services, reducing it to seven (English, French, Ukrainian, Russian, Arabic, Spanish, Chinese), with the Ukrainian section surviving. In view of the situation in Haiti, a Creole service has since been added.

According to Canadian columnist Allan Fotheringham, these cuts resulted in a loss of direct access to about 11 million listeners worldwide, although most continued to tune in via satellite and thanks to local stations that picked up the broadcasts.

Ms. Olechowska said subsequent negotiations between government bureaucrats and the CBC resulted in an agreement whereby RCI was given a five-year lease on life through 1996, with a budget supplied by the since-renamed Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

Mr. Romaniw's letter mentions a Standing Senate Committee on Transport and Communications report of June 1994, which recommended that funding for RCI be restored to pre-1991 levels, and guaranteed by a specific appropriation from the government.

Nonetheless, prior to the expiry of this five-year period, in February 1995, Finance Minister Paul Martin's budget statement reminded the CBC of its mandate, stated in Canada's Broadcasting Act, to provide an international service. Thus, the federal government was seeking to absolve itself of responsibility for RCI and threw the funding ball back into the public broadcaster's court.

Ms. Olechowska said that at recent negotiations Foreign Affairs had offered to fund 50 percent of RCI's operations for the six months ending on March 31, with the proviso that the CBC pick up 100 percent of the costs after that date, provoking the present crisis.

Ms. Olechowska put the turf fight into perspective. "The CBC has a billion dollars given to it by the federal government, while we are allotted just over \$16 million, so you can count for yourself what a minute percentage of savings that could provide if we were cut," the section manager said.

Ms. Olechowska was quick to point out that RCI has no quarrel with its parent body. "There is nothing the CBC wants to change, they are ready to run RCI if they get additional money for it," she said.

"The problem is that the CBC has one mandate, and we have another. So, of course, our mandate is not their priority. If they find it difficult to fulfill their domestic mandate, then obviously they wouldn't care less about broadcasting abroad," Ms. Olechowska added.

RCI staff heartened, defiant

Despite the dire threat faced by RCI,

section manager Ms. Olechowska was greatly heartened by the support received. "In 1991, there was very little public awareness or media attention. This time, the quality of reaction and extent of support in the media and the wider public is quite impressive," she said.

Among the most vocal is Wojtek Gwiżdza, announcer-producer for the RCI's English Service, and with the local French CBC network in Montreal, is a spokesman of the Coalition to Restore Full RCI Funding.

According to a press release issued in early January, the coalition is calling on the government "to assure a separate, protected annual budget to guarantee the service's existence."

"Many people are playing political games," Mr. Gwiżdza said, "doing fancy footwork because of the massive positive response the announcement to cut has produced — but all the nice talk in the world doesn't pay the bills."

"Even if we are saved at the level of funding we get, \$16.5 million, we are already a severely damaged service," he added. The coalition spokesman read off some damning statistics. Canada is 44th in the world in terms of hours broadcast, the only G-7 nation not in the top seven in terms of service and support from its government.

"The federal government and Canadians have to decide if we are a nation. One of a nation's responsibilities is to communicate with its neighbors, with others in the world," Mr. Gwiżdza said.

He added, "If mediocre funding impairs our efforts, it's not just RCI's standing that is affected, but Canada's standing in the world. The minute you stop talking about the country, its reputation goes down."

Ms. Olechowska concurred. "It requires political will at the highest level to make a decision whether RCI will continue to exist or not. We have been struggling along with very tight budgets for quite some time."

"This is a creative organization, and if we are going to produce quality programming, we cannot be constantly worried if we're going to be closed down every six months or three months, or one year or what have you," Ms. Olechowska said.

Roman Pitt, one of five announcer-producers in RCI's Ukrainian section, was confident about the role the service plays. "We promote Canada a lot," the announcer added, "and we have a very good reputation in Ukraine, and many people have told us and written us to say they prefer RCI to VOA [Voice of America] or RFE [Radio Free Europe] because there's less politicking," he said.

Mr. Pitt told The Weekly he has grudgingly accepted his role as its "de facto" coalition representative. However, he is not at all reticent about the coalition's aims. "We shouldn't just be restored to pre-1991 levels [of funding], we need a long-term commitment that recognizes the value of what we're doing," Mr. Pitt said.

"They need to stop messing around, telling us that we have a five-year commitment from one level of government that suddenly decides to review everything after three years," the Ukrainian announcer added.

Ms. Olechowska also sounded a note of warning. "Once the service goes down, there is no going back, because you lose the frequency, and then you have no possibility of broadcasting for months, possibly years. There aren't enough frequencies in the world to go around. If you abandon your spot on the waves, it's picked up within weeks."

THE UKRAINIAN NATIONAL ASSOCIATION FORUM

1996 UNA Almanac dedicated to independence and Chornobyl

JERSEY CITY, N.J. — The 1996 Almanac of the Ukrainian National Association is off the presses and on its way via the U.S. Postal Service to all subscribers of Svoboda, the UNA's Ukrainian-language daily newspaper.

The 1996 Almanac — the 86th annual release — is dedicated to the fifth anniversary of Ukraine's newly reclaimed independence and the 10th anniversary of the Chornobyl nuclear accident.

The first theme is covered in submissions by such authors as Ukraine's ambassador to the United Nations, Anatoliy Zlenko, while the second theme features articles in both the Ukrainian and English languages by Dr. Zoreslava Shkiriak-Nyzhnyk, Dr. Iwan Z. Holowinsky, Mykola Ryabchuk and Olha Stawnychy. Poetry by Serhiy Myroniuk, a member of the Svoboda editorial staff, and Mykola Mukhoyid of Ukraine also focus on the world's worst nuclear accident and its aftereffects on the people of Ukraine.

The cover features artwork on the Chornobyl theme by Bohdan Tytla.

Other sections of the volume are dedicated to the 125th anniversary of the birth of Lesia Ukrainka (essays by Yar Slavutych and Andriy D. Solczanyk), and jubilees of the singer Modest Mentsinsky (Halyna Kolessa of the Svoboda editorial staff) and composer Yakiv Yatsynevych (Dr. Taras Filenko).

The 1996 Almanac also contains articles and commentaries by Myroslav Semchyshyn on the decline of the Ukrainian language in Ukraine; Anatole Kurdydyk on his native Ternopil; Dr.



АЛМАНАХ 1996

Serhiy Bilokin on KGB archives; Dr. M. Dymitsky on Servant of God Metropolitan Andrey Sheptytsky; and others.

Materials cover Ukraine's past and present, and the life of Ukrainians in their homeland and abroad; there is coverage of sports, as well as a travelogue about Alaska. Interspersed throughout the almanac is poetry by various authors from Ukraine and the diaspora.

Naturally, the volume also includes a 1996 calendar that lists holy days and feast days according to both the Julian and Gregorian calendars.

The 1996 UNA Almanac is available for \$12 (postage included) from: Svoboda Press, 30 Montgomery St., Jersey City, NJ 07302.

The UNA and you

To buy or to rent

by Stephan Welhasch

Renting offers a lifestyle that's nearly maintenance-free. That may appeal to you, but consider that renting offers you no equity, no tax shelter and no protection against regular rent increases.

Fortunately, buying a home has generally been a winning proposition over time. Besides giving you pride of ownership and a snug place where the family can prosper, owning a home can shelter hard-earned dollars from the tax collector, hedge against the ravages of inflation, build wealth and provide security in retirement.

If your rent averaged \$700 a month for the last 10 years, you've spent \$84,000 with nothing to show for it. Perhaps it's wiser to invest in your own property instead of your landlord's.

Few things can rival home ownership as a good savings discipline. Even if home prices were never to rise, paying down a mortgage creates a nest egg of home equity that can be tapped either for college tuition or income in retirement, or can provide a handsome legacy for heirs.

Sure, owning a home is part of the American dream. But buying into that dream could also prevent you from taking advantage of other more attractive investments. And with all the extra headaches of maintenance, repairs, taxes and a huge mortgage, might you be better off renting instead?

Buying a home is still the dream of millions of Americans. Not everyone can afford this luxury, however. Dreams can come true. If you've saved enough for a good down payment, can qualify for a mortgage and can manage your money well, then you, too, can become a homeowner.

Buying a home is definitely one of the most significant investment decisions you probably will make in your lifetime. When buying a home there is more to consider than just the cost of the house. You will also have to work in the closing costs, real estate taxes, maintenance and repair costs, hazard and mortgage insurance, waste and snow removal costs, just to name a few. Proper budget planning is a must.

No one can guarantee you that your home will gain in value. Many who bought a home in the 1980s, when the prices of some homes were rising more than 20 percent a year, later were shocked to discover that prices can fall sharply, too. Over the last 150 years owning one's own home, even after inflation, has brought a return of about 2.5 percent a year. There were some periods during which home prices literally doubled in a four- to five-year period.

If you are in the process of buying your first home, or if you are deciding on refinancing your current mortgage loan, you want to make the right decision. You should do your research on lending institutions and what they have to offer. You should also consider financing your home through the Ukrainian National Association.

The UNA offers its members financing for owner-occupied one-, two- and three-family homes throughout the United States and Canada. It offers its members rates that are competitive with prevailing rates in your area. The UNA has been providing its members with first mortgage loans and information for many years, in the belief that helping them helps strengthen our community. A jumbo mortgage loan program is also available to Ukrainian churches and organizations.

To find out more about the UNA's First Mortgage Program or about becoming a member and sharing in the many other benefits the UNA has to offer, call 1 (800) 253-9862.

UNA recognizes Ridna Shkola graduates in Detroit



On November 30, 1995, during a banquet held by the local school of Ukrainian studies at the Ukrainian Cultural Center in Warren, Mich., the school's seven graduates were awarded their diplomas. Taking part in the special program to honor the graduates were members of UNA's Detroit District, namely Lesia Lawryn, secretary of Branch 175, who, in her capacity as president of the Ridna Shkola Association, opened the program, and Dr. Alexander Serafyn, chairman of the Detroit District Committee and UNA advisor, who greeted the graduates on behalf of the UNA and distributed monetary awards from the UNA. Pictured in the photo are award recipients (from left) Dennis Petrina, Slavko Chubaty, Lew Ploshchansky, Kateryna Korbiak, Lesia Tatarsky, Natalia Tarnawsky and Petro Lisowsky, with Dr. Serafyn.

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THE UKRAINIAN WEEKLY

Restore RCI

In 1995, Canada's Ministry of Foreign Affairs decided to cut funding to the country's Radio Canada International service in half. In mid-December, this was followed by an announcement by RCI's parent body, the Canadian Broadcasting Corp., that the service would be terminated as of, fittingly, April 1, 1996.

The first wave of cuts hit in 1991, halving RCI's staff and language services and severely compromising its ability to make Canada's voice heard in the world, despite a spirited defense by the then minister of external affairs, Joe Clark.

In February 1995, the federal government ignored an explicit recommendation by a special Senate commission to restore RCI funding to pre-1991 levels, and made the first in a series of moves to end its financial backing.

Given the atmosphere of hysteria generated by the ideology of cutbacks and downsizing sweeping the North American and European public and private sectors, it is no longer surprising when blunders are committed.

But, as Canadian journalist Alan Fotheringham put it when he weighed in on the question in a January 9 column for the Financial Post, "there are stupid things going on in Ottawa, and then there are really stupid things."

What is surprising is that some things are still considered worth fighting for. RCI appears to be one such institution. A groundswell of international support for the station has roused even the normally placid Canadian public and media to attack the move to shut down RCI.

Ever since the December 12 announcement, the government has been reeling under the resentment and ridicule it has generated. The staid Toronto-based "national newspaper" The Globe and Mail has inveighed against it.

Montreal-based Le Devoir publisher Lise Bissonnette asked, "What's more essential: that Radio Canada [the CBC], salivating over ratings, compete with the private sector to produce costly sports, variety and humor programs, or that it maintain an international service that informs, educates and unites millions of listeners around the world?"

Indeed.

Everyone from students to the Canadian Exporters' Association have come out in support of RCI. Even rivals, such as an official of the highly respected BBC World Service, have taken to writing personal letters to Prime Minister Jean Chrétien. The director of Radio Ukraine checked in with a missive, as have the Ukrainian World Congress and virtually every branch of the Ukrainian Canadian Congress.

In 1991, RCI's staff were despondent as the executioner brought down his axe. Public awareness was low, reaction was minimal. Today, with their backs against the wall, led by an employee-run Coalition to Restore Full RCI Funding, they are in fighting trim. And they have many in Canada and around the world behind them.

RCI deserves the Ukrainian community's full support. Pens and pencils out. Targets: Prime Minister Chrétien, Foreign Minister André Ouellet, Heritage Minister Marcel Dupuy, Mr. Chrétien's Parliamentary Secretary Jean Augustine, your local MP and CBC President Perrin Beatty.

Restore RCI.

Jan.
13
1991

Turning the pages back...

Five years ago, on January 13, 1991, The Ukrainian Weekly sent its first staffer to Kyiv to serve as the full-time correspondent of the Ukrainian National Association's Press Bureau.

Associate Editor Marta Kolomayets arrived in the Ukrainian capital that day on a multiple entry/exit visa obtained with the assistance of the Information Department at the Ukrainian SSR Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

Her arrival was the culmination of a resolution passed at the 1990 UNA Convention that urged the Supreme Executive Committee to look into opening a news bureau in Kyiv and/or Lviv. Our efforts to establish the bureau began in earnest in October 1990 when a UNA delegation (composed of Supreme President Ulana Diachuk, Supreme Secretary Walter Sochan, and Supreme Advisors Eugene Iwanciw and Roma Hadzewycz) attending the second congress of Rukh met with officials of the Foreign Ministry. Several months of dealing with red tape followed. But, in the end, our efforts bore fruit.

During the first five months of the bureau's existence, our first Kyiv correspondent lived and worked out of a hotel room. Today, the bureau has a permanent address as the UNA, our publisher, has purchased an apartment off the Khreshchatky, Kyiv's main boulevard. (Another apartment is rented to house the bureau's full-time correspondent.)

The Kyiv Press Bureau's first year was an exciting one for any journalist covering Ukraine. First came the attempted coup in Moscow, which was followed by the Ukrainian Parliament's August 24, 1991, declaration of Ukraine's independence and the December 1, 1991, referendum on independence and the first presidential election. All of this was preceded by the August 1991 visit to Kyiv of President George Bush and his now infamous "Chicken Kiev" speech.

In succeeding years the bureau has covered everything from nukes to the rebirth of Ukrainian Churches, from the work of the Parliament to the baby-selling scandal that has rocked the Lviv region, from visits by U.S. presidents and other officials to relations with Russia.

During the first five years of its existence, the Kyiv Press Bureau demonstrated over and over that the UNA's decision to establish a press presence was wise and far-sighted. The bureau's staffers during that time — Marta Kolomayets, Chrystyna Lapychak, Kristina Lew and Roman Woronowycz — have all served admirably, providing our readers with invaluable information direct from Ukraine.



Journalist's notebook in Ukraine

by Marta Kolomayets
Kyiv Press Bureau

Of psychics, spells and customs

Just a few weeks ago, I attended what was going to be an exorcism of sorts in a new restaurant called Renaissance, scheduled to open for business in the spring in the center of Kyiv.

Let me explain what is a bizarre, beguiling, but true story. Ukrainian artist Ihor Tymchuk, 29, spent an entire year working on an epic Renaissance-inspired mural commissioned by a local businessman for his new eatery in the center of town. As the work neared completion, the talented young artist was told that his greatest life's achievement would be scraped and burned off the walls because it emitted negative energy and would bring misfortune to those around it.

It seems that a psychic — very popular in Ukraine, and in other Eastern European countries and former Soviet republics — had decided that the art works were "dangerous" and had to be destroyed.

Sounds like a great way to get the attention of potential customers, an innovative advertising gimmick, a great ploy to get publicity and attract curiosity seekers before the opening of a restaurant, right? That's probably what Western advertising executives from the likes of Saatchi and Saatchi or Leo Burnett would say.

In Ukraine, however, it didn't even enter the minds of locals that this could be an advertising campaign (and after talking to the businessman, I am convinced that he was not using this incident as a way to attract customers). The culture revolves around so many superstitions, myths and old wives' tales that everyone I spoke to who is a native of this part of the world believed in the evil of the paintings produced by this young and talented artist.

As the Kyiv businessman, Alexander Mitulin, explained to me, in December one of his children fell seriously ill with an undiagnosed disease. After doctors were consulted and the boy's condition did not improve, Mr. Mitulin's wife called in a "babka." In this case, babkas are not the sweet breads baked especially around Eastertime but little old Ukrainian women who live in villages, wear "babushkas" (kerchiefs) and know how to chant, murmuring strange sounds in an even stranger tongue.

People who do not believe in conventional medicine and who don't have time to go the homeopathic route often turn to these women, who do indeed use home remedies, or brews, to effect various cures. (For example, one of my friends, who is a Ph.D. in computer science, or cybernetics, took her son to one of these babky to cure him of his stuttering. My friend claims that the woman, who is 90 years old and lives at the edge of a forest, broke an egg into a bowl of water, saw the forms the yolk took, and interpreted this to mean that there had been a spell cast on the boy. She chanted something

and did some hocus-pocus, claiming to have removed the evil curse. Now the boy no longer stutters.)

Anyway, back to the original story. The psychic, or babka, was brought into Mr. Mitulin's home, where she immediately saw two of Mr. Tymchuk's paintings, which Mr. Mitulin had bought some time ago. She labeled them evil and claimed they were emitting negative energy. She demanded that they be removed from the home if the family hoped to cure their son.

The "extra-sensor" also requested to see a photograph of the artist, after which she proclaimed him evil and said any of his creations would emit negative energy. Her recommendation was to destroy and burn the murals off the walls of the yet-to-be-opened restaurant.

Luckily, Mr. Mitulin, who had always respected Mr. Tymchuk's work and over a one-year period had never objected to the art he was creating on the walls and ceiling of the new restaurant, was a doubting Thomas. He called in a priest to bless the place and remove all evil spirits. But, to add fuel to the fire, the priest (we do not know which Church in Ukraine he represented) refused to bless "entangled naked bodies."

Mr. Tymchuk was told to stop all his work. He was allowed, however, to have a viewing, so that at least some art lovers would enjoy his soon-to-be destroyed masterpiece. A colleague of mine, a Western journalist, publicized this story among her Western friends and planned an "art happening" for a Friday night not long ago. She even convinced an Orthodox priest to come bless the restaurant.

Sure enough, more than 150 people came to the event, most of them Westerners. A poll was conducted, with the main question deciding the fate of this fantastic mural depicting human nudes, mythical birds, horses in cerulean blue, gray, rich brown and deep maroon hues. (See photo accompanying this column)

Needless to say, the people surveyed said it was a crime to destroy the work. The businessman, who had adamantly demanded that the interior be destroyed, started backing off (perhaps this was due to the fact that the scandal had inadvertently brought publicity, support and interest in the young artist's dilemma.) But no matter, the work has been saved and the businessman is looking forward to having a restaurant, scheduled to have a "European menu" catering to both locals and tourists.

Many of the Westerners who attended the event are still debating whether or not the whole thing was a publicity stunt.

I offer this food for thought: this is a country where no one shakes hands or passes goods over a threshold (after all you could be attracting evil spirits into your home); this is a country where sin-

(Continued on page 14)

UNA Fund for the Rebirth of Ukraine



The Home Office of the Ukrainian National Association reports that, as of December 29, the fraternal organization's Fund for the Rebirth of Ukraine has received 20,991 checks from its members with donations totalling \$506,585.07. The contributions include individual members' donations, as well as returns of members' dividend checks and interest payments on promissory notes.

Please make checks payable to:
UNA Fund for the Rebirth of Ukraine.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Support Ukraine, despite problems

Dear Editor:

In his letter to the editor published September 10, 1995, Dr. Bohdan Bodnaruk not only rightly criticized the deterioration in all areas of Ukraine, but also expressed the general opinion of the diaspora regarding assistance to the Ukrainian government. Although the diaspora is disheartened by the current economic, social, cultural and political climate in Ukraine, they still put firm every effort to rebuild Ukraine as an independent nation.

In fact, the diaspora's support was acknowledged by President Leonid Kuchma on August 24, 1995, during the celebration of the fourth anniversary of Ukrainian independence. He said: "...Those who left Ukraine, and their descendants, whom fate dispersed over the continents of the world, have made a significant contribution to the achievement of independence and consolidation of statehood."

However, instead of using this hard-earned money constructively, officials of the Ukrainian government use it for unnecessary trips abroad or, e.g., to pay to the Russian government 18 billion rubles (almost \$4 million) for medals commemorating the 50th anniversary of the Allied victory over Nazi Germany for the Ukrainian veterans of the former

Soviet armed forces, (Roman Serbyin, "Torzhestvo Rossiyskoho Imperializmu," Svoboda, April 29, 1995).

Even worse, some officials stash money in Switzerland or in other countries. This behavior is in keeping with the former apparatchiks' definition of the diaspora as three Ds: "diaspora, dollar and durak" (fool), as Dr. Bodnaruk correctly observed.

We, the diaspora, are certainly no fools! As the Romans used to say: "Est modus in rebus, sunt certi denique fines!" Certainly, Dr. Bodnaruk is right to warn the diaspora about the need to stop aid to the Ukrainian government.

Dr. Myron Kuropas also warns the diaspora in his column "Faces and Places" (September 17, 1995). He writes: "...Now that euphoria surrounding Ukraine's newfound independence has disappeared, our community is befuddled. After spending tens of decades, working and praying for Ukraine, we're not sure we're happy with the result...In our befuddlement, we're slowly turning away from Ukraine..."

Indeed, the situation in Ukraine is very sad. But what is the alternative? Isn't such Ukrainian statehood better than none? There are many Ukrainian patriots who renounce both left- and right-wing radicalism and endure this situation while hoping for improvement. I think that they personally deserve our support, because if we will not support them, who will?

Dr. T. Mackiw
Heidelberg, Germany

URDC continues activity in Canada

Dear Editor:

In The Weekly's lead article of September 24, 1995, Ostop Skrypyk is quoted commenting negatively on how people with the "assistance to Ukraine" agenda have "hijacked" various organizations. Among examples that are given is the Ukrainian Resource and Development Center (URDC) at Grant MacEwan Community College (GMCC) in Edmonton. Although the analysis is interesting, Mr. Skrypyk is wrong when he says that "now virtually all of its (URDC's) projects are based in Ukraine."

It is true that the URDC has been very active in Ukraine since 1990. With financing from the government of Canada we have helped six agricultural "teknikums" to develop new curricula under which several hundred students are now studying agri-business in various regions of Ukraine. We have translated over 600 pages of North American economic self-instructional educational material into Ukrainian, which is now used by teknikums and farmers and cooperatives in Ukraine.

Our college has a permanent office in Kyiv with three local staff located at the National University of Kyiv-Mohyla Academy. Three GMCC divisions in the college - Arts and Science, Business, and Health and Community Studies - have all had project staff visit Ukraine, and the college has provided faculty and training in Edmonton to staff and students from various Ukrainian institutions, particularly the Ministry of Health.

We are very active in Ukraine, but this does not mean that the URDC has stopped programming to the Ukrainian Canadian community. Some of our recent activities include the following:

- The URDC promotes the development of the Ukrainian Canadian community. The URDC was instrumental in launching the Ukrainian centennial celebrations, and the center's director was secretary of the

Alberta Ukrainian Canadian Centennial Committee. One notable effort by the URDC was helping to place the Centennial monument in front of the Alberta Legislature. The URDC continues to promote the sale of monument miniatures to help fund-raise for the Ukrainian Canadian Congress of Alberta.

- The URDC houses resources to meet community needs. For example, the center houses a music library of over 100 volumes of Ukrainian choral and instrumental music that is consulted by musicians from across Canada.

- The URDC provides consultation resources for major Canadian projects initiated by community organizations. Thus the URDC is providing support to the research and development work necessary to launch and develop the Canada-Ukraine Foundation.

- The URDC administers five annual awards for the Ukrainian performing arts, educational exchanges, new writers, film and video arts, and visual and folk arts in Canada.

- The URDC's three staffers in Edmonton contribute a significant amount of volunteer time in leadership roles in the community. The URDC's director is currently president of the Ukrainian Canadian Foundation of Taras Shevchenko, and also a member of the executive of the Ukrainian Canadian Congress of Canada. These roles lead to another set of projects being done with the community (e.g. fund raising, grant distribution, management etc.).

All of the above activities are conducted in Canada, not Ukraine. They provide a balance to the URDC's overseas work and continue to serve our local community's needs. If readers wish to receive further information please write to URDC/GMCC, Box 1796, Edmonton, AB T5P 2P2, or fax (403) 497-4377. Our e-mail address is urdc@bach.cinet.ab.ca.

W. Roman Petryshyn
Edmonton

The writer is director of the Ukrainian Resource and Development Center at Grant MacEwan Community College.

CANADA COURIER

by Christopher Guly



Where there is hope...

OTTAWA - Members of a Ukrainian Orthodox community in Ottawa are raising money to reunite an 88-year-old priest with his two sons believed killed during the second world war 53 years ago.

This summer, the Rev. George Pokrowsky learned that his sons, Constantine, now 57, and Evgenii, now 58, are still alive and living in Ukraine. The last time the retired priest saw them was in 1942, when he was in charge of a railway section in Ukraine.

Thirty-five years old at the time and not yet a priest, the then-engineer was also responsible for a cache of weapons used by Ukrainian partisans during the war. With the Ukrainian police on his tail, Mr. Pokrowsky fled but was later picked up by the German Gestapo, who sent him to a labor camp in the Kiel area, near the Danish border. After the British liberated the camp, Mr. Pokrowsky remained, where he worked on building hydroelectric facilities until 1948.

All the while, he wondered about the fate of his family.

What Mr. Pokrowsky didn't know was that his wife, Natalia, and their two sons and a daughter, Vitalia (then 13), hid in the basement of a building destroyed by the Nazis. But when Mrs. Pokrowsky tried to help a wounded Soviet soldier who had fallen near the entrance to their hiding spot, she was shot dead by a German soldier.

The children survived, thanks to a German soldier who prevented the first one from bludgeoning Evgenii with a rifle butt. The 5-year-old had thrown himself across his mother's body and was moments away from meeting his end.

Meanwhile, Mr. Pokrowsky emigrated to Canada in 1948, where he found work on the construction of a dam on the Ottawa River. A descendant of a long line of priests, he, too, pursued the ministry and was ordained a priest in the Orthodox Church of America in 1958.

Remarried to another woman named Natalia - who died two years ago in Ottawa - the Rev. Pokrowsky served parishes in Montreal and Moose Jaw, Saskatchewan,

before arriving in Ottawa in 1966.

Milly Kutowy, parish secretary of Holy Trinity Bukovynian Orthodox Cathedral in Ottawa, remembers that her father, who served as the first parish council president, tried to get the Rev. Pokrowsky to leave western Canada. "We needed to build a church and heard about this priest in Moose Jaw who was a great builder," she said. "My father finally convinced [former] Bishop Sylvester to send Father Pokrowsky to us."

Two years later, the Ukrainian-born priest built Holy Trinity and served as its pastor until 1983.

But ever since he arrived in Canada, the Rev. Pokrowsky attempted to find his family. As recently as June, the Ukrainian Red Cross wrote to the priest, effectively telling him to give up.

However, that same month, Dr. Tamara Vlasova, a retired Moscow surgeon whom Father Pokrowsky had met in 1994, returned to Russia for a visit. She found the answer to the aging priest's near-lifelong quest.

All three children were located in the former Soviet Union.

"My daughter lives in Petropavlovsk Kamchatsky [in the Russian Far East]," explained the Rev. Pokrowsky in Ukrainian. "My sons live in Voroshylovhrad [now Luhansk]." He also discovered he has three grandchildren and one great-grandchild.

Advanced Parkinson's disease prevents the priest from making the journey to Ukraine for a reunion. As a result, friends are trying to raise money to bring the Rev. Pokrowsky's children to Ottawa.

His wartime mystery is over. And, seemingly, so is his secret.

"We never knew anything about his children," said Ms. Kutowy. "He never talked about them."

Already flagged in The Ottawa Citizen, donations for the Father George (trust) Fund may be sent to: The Treasurer, St. Nicholas Orthodox Cathedral, 55 Clarey Ave., Ottawa, Ontario K1F 2R6.

Newsbriefs

(Continued from page 2)

"pragmatic" but "...not a liberal in the Kozyrev sense." (OMRI Daily Digest)

Nezavisimaya Gazeta's top 100 politicians

MOSCOW - According to a survey of 50 experts published monthly in Nezavisimaya gazeta, President Boris Yeltsin and Prime Minister Viktor Chernomyrdin remained the two most influential Russian politicians in December 1995. Communist Party leader Gennadi Zyuganov was ranked the third most important politician, up from fifth place in November (in a similar experts' poll in February 1995, Mr. Zyuganov was in 27th place). Grigori Yavlinsky was ranked fourth, up from ninth place in November. Vladimir Zhirinovskiy posted the sharpest rise, from 20th in November to sixth in December following his surprise second-place showing in the Duma election. Leaders of the Congress of Russian Communities, which failed to gain 5 percent of the vote in the election, lost influence in the experts' view; Aleksandr Lebed dropped from 10th

place in November to 17th in December, and Yuri Skokov fell from 13th place to 36th. (OMRI Daily Digest)

Ukraine to submit draft border agreement

KYIV - Ukraine plans to submit a draft agreement on its borders at the January 12 meeting of CIS foreign ministers. Deputy Foreign Minister Kostiantyn Hryshchenko said Ukraine finds it "inadmissible" to divide its borders into "internal" and "external" ones. He rejected arguments that this stance would impede integration within the CIS. Russia and the Council of Commanders of CIS Border Guards reportedly oppose Ukraine's position, but Mr. Hryshchenko said a number of other CIS states support it. (OMRI Daily Digest)

Post-privatization centers to be established

KYIV - Two centers supporting newly privatized companies are to be established in Kharkiv and Lviv under the auspices of the European Union, it was reported on January 8. The centers will work with local medium- and large-sized privatized firms to help ensure their revitalization and viability. (Respublika)

Zhukovsky honored for contributions to Ukrainian studies

NEW YORK — Prof. Arkady Zhukovsky of Sarcelles, France, is the 1995 recipient of an award for his contribution to Ukrainian studies. The award, sponsored by the Canadian Foundation for Ukrainian Studies (CFUS), was presented to Prof. Zhukovsky on November 18 during a meeting held in the New York quarters of the Shevchenko Scientific Society.

The occasion was a special event to mark the completed publication of the English-language Encyclopedia of Ukraine of whose editorial board Prof. Zhukovsky is a member. The presentation on behalf of the foundation was made by Peter Savaryn, its former president. The award consists of an appropriately-worded plaque and a modest purse).

Born in the Bukovyna region of western Ukraine, Prof. Zhukovsky holds doctorates from both the Ukrainian Free University (Munich) and the Sorbonne. He was a lecturer at the Institut des Langues et Civilisations Orientales in Paris as well as at the Ukrainian Free University. He has written widely on the history of his native Bukovyna and on the Ukrainian Orthodox Church. A major achievement is his French-language history of Ukraine, which appeared in 1993.

For many years he was on the editorial board of the Ukrainian-language *Entsyklopedia Ukrainoznavstva*, becoming its editor-in-chief after the death in 1985 of Volodymyr Kubijovych. At present he also serves the English-language *Encyclopedia of Ukraine* as author and subject editor of history and religion entries.

An active member of the Shevchenko Scientific Society in Europe, he was first its secretary and later its head.

Prof. Zhukovsky is the seventh recipient of the CFUS award. Previously honored were: Dr. Kubijovych, Manoly Lupul, Yuriy Shevelov, Omeljan Pritsak, Volodymyr Janiw, and Danylo Husar Struk.

The Canadian Foundation for Ukrainian Studies, now entering the 21st year of its activity, provides financial support for Ukrainian studies, particularly at Canadian universities. It has also underwritten the publication costs for the five-volume *Encyclopedia of Ukraine* published in English (1984-1993).

The foundation sponsors the award for contribution to Ukrainian studies as a means of recognizing scholars as well as emphasizing the importance of Ukrainian studies to the community and its members.



Prof. Arkady Zhukovsky (right) with Peter Savaryn (left) and M.J. Diakowsky of the Canadian Foundation for Ukrainian Studies.

Foundation assists 82 grant applicants

WINNIPEG — Eighty-two organizations and individuals received grant support from the Ukrainian Canadian Foundation of Taras Shevchenko in this fiscal year. The total allocated by the Shevchenko Foundation for 1995-1996 was \$226,250.

The board of directors of the Shevchenko Foundation reviews grant applications and approves awards two times each year. At its last meeting on December 3 in Winnipeg the board provided \$57,750 for 30 projects.

Established in 1963, the Shevchenko Foundation benefits the Ukrainian Canadian community by supporting the promotion and advancement of Ukrainian culture in Canada. Over the last 32 years the foundation has provided \$3 million to Ukrainian Canadian artists, writers, filmmakers, dancers, singers, museums, newspapers/magazines, researchers, students, organizations and other worthwhile endeavors.

The current board of directors of the Shevchenko Foundation comprises the following persons: Dr. Roman Petryshyn, president; Dr. Roman Yereniuk, vice-president; Anne Wach, secretary/treasurer; Joe Zubacz, Andrew Hladyshesky and Mychajlo Shepetyk, directors.

The Shevchenko Foundation provides grants from the interest earned on investments. For many years the two deadlines for grant applications have been April 30 and October 31. The foundation board has decided that, beginning in 1996, the grant application deadlines will be April 1 and October 1. The foundation will no longer accept faxed applications. New application forms, together with criteria guidelines, have been developed and will be available in the new year.

Tax receipts are issued to donors wishing to make a contribution to the capital fund of the foundation. For information please write to: Shevchenko Foundation, 456 Main St., Winnipeg, Manitoba R3B 1B6.

Book launch marks release of Lysiak-Rudnytsky's essays

by Halyna Klid

EDMONTON — A book launch was held on November 9, 1995, at the Canadian Institute of Ukrainian Studies (CIUS) in Edmonton to celebrate the publication of the two-volume "Istorychni Ese" (Historical Essays) by the late Ivan Lysiak-Rudnytsky (1919-1984), who taught Ukrainian history at the University of Alberta.

The new book includes more than 60 of Rudnytsky's essays and is the first volume in a new series, "Ukrainian Historiography in the West," published by the Peter Jacyk Center for Ukrainian Historical Research at CIUS.

The editor of "Istorychni Ese" is Dr. Yaroslav Hrytsak, Director of the

Institute for Historical Research at the University of Lviv, whose work on the volumes was sponsored by the Jacyk Center.

"Istorychni Ese" appeared in an edition of 10,000 copies as a joint publication of the Jacyk Center and Osnovy Publishers of Kyiv, with the financial support of the Bureau of Assistance for Central and Eastern Europe, government of Canada, under a program managed by the Canadian Bureau for International Education.

For this collection, all available versions of previously published essays were collated and the most complete texts selected, while essays published in English were translated into Ukrainian. The essays are supplemented by extensive editorial notes and an index.

"In launching this very important work," noted Dr. Zenon E. Kohut, director of the CIUS, in his opening remarks, "the CIUS is also honoring its author, the late Ivan Lysiak-Rudnytsky, who taught in the department of history at this university and was a founder of the Canadian Institute of Ukrainian Studies."

The importance of the publication was noted by other speakers at the book launch: Dr. Frank E. Sysyn, director of the Jacyk Center; Dr. John-Paul Himka, professor in the department of history and classics, University of Alberta; and Dr. Serhii Plokhly, research associate of the Jacyk Center.

Dr. Sysyn pointed out the significance of the publication of "Istorychni Ese" for Ukraine. "As Ukraine sought new political values and a link with suppressed traditions, the works of one of the most brilliant and erudite commentators on Ukrainian political thought were in high demand," said Dr. Sysyn. "Just as he had ensured that the Ukrainian diaspora should be mindful of those traditions of political thought, which were in danger of being lost in the conflict of 20th-century totalitarianisms, so he could fulfill a similar role for Ukraine."

Dr. Plokhly stressed the importance of Lysiak-Rudnytsky's work for Ukrainian intellectual life and for the development of historical studies. Lysiak-Rudnytsky considered Ukrainian problems within the context of European history, especially intellectual history, which was his area of specialization. Most historians in Ukraine, educated in the spirit of official Marxism, are unaccustomed to this approach. Dr. Plokhly noted another important and valuable feature of Lysiak-Rudnytsky's writings: they treat the history of 19th and 20th century Ukraine as an integral whole, tracing the development of one national tradition in political thought, represented by eastern and western figures alike. "And this unity, which is demonstrated in his works and apparent in their every line, is extraordinarily important," he said.

In the words of Dr. Alexandra Chemenko-Rudnytsky, Mr. Lysiak-Rudnytsky's widow, his major contribution was his great attention to the

Pennsylvania college hosts Ukrainian officials



The Pennsylvania College of Optometry recently hosted visiting Ukrainian health care officials following the signing of a formal agreement to provide training in optometric specialties to ophthalmologists in Ukraine. Above Dr. Abraham Gonen (right), the college's director of programs in Europe and the Middle East, describes a testing procedure to Dr. Nikolai Markovich Sergienko, chief ophthalmologist of the Ukrainian Health Ministry, and Dr. Nataliya Borysivna Denysiuk, Ukrainian program coordinator.

(Continued on page 14)

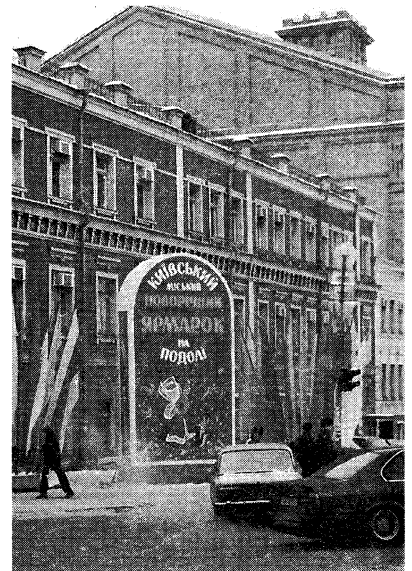
PHOTO REPORT: Scenes of Christmas in Ukraine's capital



Marta Kolomayets

Ukraine's capital was suitably decked out for the Christmas and New Year holidays as the streets of Kyiv were decorated with banners, bunting and Christmas trees. Seen in the photos on this page (clockwise from top right) are: Kyiv's central square, which features a religious display for Christmas; a billboard on the

Khreshchatyk bearing best wishes for 1996 addressed to "Our whole family, our native Ukraine"; a sign inviting visitors to the New Year's Bazaar in the historic Podil section of the city; soldiers offering free hot tea to passers-by; booths at the bazaar; a banner extending holiday greetings from Podil residents.



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NEW RELEASES

Cheremshyna's fifth recording

MONTREAL - Over the past 18 years Cheremshyna has cultivated a dedicated following of listeners of all ages who appreciate the ensemble's presentation of Ukrainian music. Cheremshyna has now completed and released its fifth cassette titled, "Along Paths of a Dream".

The Cheremshyna Ensemble of Montreal has harmonized the musical traditions of the Old World with a distinctive North American tone. Having performed extensively before Ukrainian and non-Ukrainian audiences, the ensemble has demonstrated that the beauty of Ukrainian song speaks to the listener's heart, and thus transcends language barriers.

Cheremshyna has had the honor of performing before such notable dignitaries as the prime minister and the governor-general of Canada, and the Honorable Levko Lukianenko, Ukraine's first ambassador to Canada.

In Illinois, the State Senate adopted a resolution congratulating and commending the members of Cheremshyna for their "energy, talent and dedication to their heritage."

In Edmonton, at the First Contemporary Music Awards held in 1988 to honor two decades of outstanding achievement in the Ukrainian recording industry, Cheremshyna was selected as the "Favorite Ensemble" in North America.

The ensemble's many recordings are heard around the world. In Kyiv, the editor of a Ukrainian cultural journal wrote the following about Cheremshyna: "We are enchanted by the gracefulness, that is to say - the ensemble's delicate interpretation of Ukrainian song - both traditional and contemporary."

The ensemble is made up of a trio of female vocalists: Nadine Zwetkow (soprano), Claudia Melnyk (first alto) and Lydia Ruditch (second alto).

Over the last several years, Cheremshyna has been preparing material for its newest recording. Each song

was carefully selected and crafted to portray through music the many dreams and longings of the heart. The cradle song "Spy Moya Dytyno," for example, was made into a brand new composition by delicately interlacing the threads of three precious and traditional lullabies that express the essence of maternal love.

While preserving the integrity of traditional folk songs, the ensemble gracefully marries the old words to new music. "Ne Spala Ya Seyi Nochi" is one extraordinary example that attests to the success of this effort. Another song, "Oy u Luzi," set within an original contemporary musical score magically captivates young listeners while the words of an old folk song speak to them about the familiar story of family dreams gone awry.

The cassette also includes original songs such as "Smerichka i Kashtan" and "Ukraino" which will add to the rich treasury of Ukrainian music.

Cheremshyna saw the project through from its inception, which included writing and composing some new material and vocally arranging traditional folk songs, right down to singing, recording, manufacturing and distributing the final product.

"Along Paths of a Dream" was recorded at the well-known Studio Victor, reputed to be Montreal's finest recording facility, and manufactured in the United States using state of the art technology equal to the highest standards in the industry.

The musical accompaniment on the recording was prepared by Bill Kinal, a professional musician, arranger and sound engineer, and by Luc Gilbert a well-known Quebec musician, arranger, and composer, who counts among his many credits music written for the world famous "Cirque de Soleil."

The cassette may be purchased from: Cheremshyna, 19 Vendome St., Kirkland, Quebec, H9H 3W4; send \$10 (U.S.) plus \$3 (U.S.) for shipping and handling.



The Cheremshyna trio.

NEW RELEASES

Kerekesha's first solo recording

JERSEY CITY, N.J. - Oleksa Kerekesha, composer and lead singer of the popular group Fata Morgana, recently released his first solo album titled "Ne Zavydui." Blending the haunting words of Taras Shevchenko with modern musical influences is Mr. Kerekesha's trademark, and he doesn't disappoint loyal listeners with this newest release.

Mr. Kerekesha holds a B.A. in music from the Kyiv State Institute of Culture. Influenced by Western pop rock music, particularly groups like Pink Floyd, he began composing at an early age, combining Ukrainian lyricism with modern musical influences.

In 1988, Mr. Kerekesha created a new musical group in Kyiv called Fata Morgana. The group was thrust into the limelight with Mr. Kerekesha's original compositions set to the lyrics of Taras Shevchenko. Greatly

influenced by Shevchenko, Mr. Kerekesha's new music quickly became the trademark of the group. "Hamalia," one of the earliest compositions, was consistently on the "Top 40" charts in Ukraine and has become one of the most popular Ukrainian songs of the decade, both in Ukraine and in North America.

Fata Morgana arrived in the United States in 1991. Since then Mr. Kerekesha's music and the popularity of Fata Morgana has continued to grow. To date, the group has released three albums. "Ne Zavydui" is Mr. Kerekesha's first solo venture.

To order "Ne Zavydui" send \$15 for a CD and \$10 for a cassette, plus \$2.50 shipping and handling (U.S. funds only), to 185 Beacon Ave., No. 5, Jersey City, NJ 07306. For additional information concerning this release or previous releases and performance availability, call (201) 659-0906.



Oleksa Kerekesha

Todaschuk Sisters' second album

WINNIPEG - The Todaschuk Sisters, Rosemarie and Charlene, have recorded their second album, which marks the centennial of Ukrainian settlement in Canada.

Titled "Todaschuk Sisters," the album contains 10 selections - five of them original Ukrainian songs composed and written by or for the Todaschuk Sisters. The other five are traditional and contemporary songs composed and written by Ukrainian artists in Ukraine.

The Todaschuk Sisters' musical arrangers and key instrumentalists are Ron Paley, Andrij Czerny and Alex Tsisserov. Other musicians featured on the album include Alexander Boychouk, Larry Roy, Michael Daher and Roman Karpishka.

Since the release of their first album, the Todaschuk Sisters have performed throughout North America at festivals, concerts and public celebrations. Some of their performances include: the Canadian Heritage Festival in Vancouver and Ontario; Soyuzivka in Kerhonkson, N.Y.; Festival '88 in Edmonton and Vegreville, Alberta; Canada's National Ukrainian


Festival in Dauphin, Manitoba; the Pysanka Festival in Vegreville; Toronto's Caravan; and Winnipeg's Folklorama.

The Todaschuk Sisters, born and raised in Winnipeg, are both graduates of York University in Toronto. From a very young age, Rosemarie and Charlene took ballet and jazz at the Royal Winnipeg Ballet and Ukrainian dancing at the Ukrainian National Federation.


They have been singing the Canadian and American anthems at the Blue Bomber home games for the past few seasons. They also have appeared in television commercials, movies and musical productions. Rosemarie has enjoyed performing in many musical productions at the Hollow Mug, and in "The Wizard of Oz" and "Oklahoma" at Rainbow Stage.

Rosemarie is pursuing a career as a music educator, and Charlene is engaged in the entertainment field.

"Todaschuk Sisters" is available at local Ukrainian bookstores or from: Todaschuk Sisters' Ukrainian Boutique, 508 Selkirk Ave., Winnipeg, Manitoba R2W 2M7; (204) 586-3445.



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Ukraine's hockey...

(Continued from page 3)

International Airport, where the Lot plane on which the team was to fly home had been rerouted.

Consul Korniychuk also checked up on defenseman Oleksander Mukhanov, who had spent several days in a Boston area hospital after taking a hard check during a game and suffering a lacerated spleen. Although nursing his injury, Mr. Mukhanov was in good spirits.

Sunday evening, with the snow coming down with a ferocity last observed, according to meteorologists, in 1888, the Juniors were moved, along with the hundreds of other passengers stranded in the American Airlines terminal, to a secure gate area, where they were to spend one night, prior to their transfer to Newark International. At this point, the local security personnel, barred the team passage through the security checkpoint. Only after special intervention by American Airlines officials and Consul Korniychuk was the problem resolved satisfactorily.

All through Monday, January 8, the Juniors waited at JFK. Naturally, the bus transfer did not take place as scheduled and the team wound up spending another night sleeping, literally on their hockey bags and in the gate area seats. The seemingly endless wait unnerved some on the support staff and at one point, the team was booked on a Miami-Warsaw flight by a travel agent friend-of-a-friend whom the staff had contacted.

Finally, on Tuesday afternoon, January 9, Andrew Lastowicky from the Ukrainian American Coordinating Council informed this writer that the Juniors were on their way to Newark International Airport and had been properly re-booked on a Lot flight the following evening, with connections from Warsaw to Kyiv on Thursday, January 11.

As fate would have it, Newark International opened up on January 9 and, owing to many empty spaces on the evening Lot flight, all but three of Ukraine's Juniors and their coaching and support staff were packed off and sent on their way one day "early." The three unfortunates, among them star goalie Ihor

Karpenko, had stopped off in Brooklyn to visit some acquaintances and now must make their own way home.

The Ukrainian Juniors' unexpectedly lengthened stay in the New York metropolitan area (perhaps, more accurately, their extensive familiarization with two area airports) highlights the recurring problem of cooperation between official Ukrainian structures and the diaspora. In this case, other than a few words dropped to Coach Tarasko several months ago about the upcoming trip, the Ukrainian hockey authorities made no formal request for assistance from the diaspora, to their athlete's serious detriment.

Coach Tarasko had even made preliminary arrangements for a series of exhibition games to be held at West Point (United States Military Academy) and metropolitan area schools. Unfortunately nothing could come of this without reciprocity, which was sorely lacking.

Community organizations, among them the Ukrainian Sports Federation of the United States and Canada (USCAK) and the Ukrainian Sports Club of New York (USK) and the Ukrainian American Coordinating Council lent a helping hand financially and in ensuring that the Juniors would be met at their departure point. However, all this was done on a last-minute ad-hoc basis, with virtually no prior notice of the Junior's arrival.

The January 3 Middlesex News, a Boston-area newspaper, carried a story about the Juniors and their non-attendance at a party thrown for them by local Ukrainian community members. The writer, Sara Hammel, ascribed the no-show to possible language difficulties, politics and/or "a clash of cultures." Yet from this writer's conversations with the Juniors and their coaches, it became apparent that language could not have been the problem, as most members of the team and their accompanying staff speak more than enough Ukrainian to communicate with the Rondick family and other Ukrainian Americans in the Boston area.

What then exactly happened that prevented the Ukrainian communities of Boston and New York from ensuring that Ukraine's Junior hockey talent were properly taken care of?

Stranded sailors...

(Continued from page 1)

ditioning on a ship with no power. With no fuel for refrigeration, their on-board food supply quickly rotted in the 90-degree tropical heat.

Watching Hawaiians prepare for the holidays only made the Ukrainian sailors' stay all the more unbearable. "I dream of (Christmas) every night, but I do not know when I will be getting home," said 49-year-old seaman Mikhail Yevtushenko.

No one is certain when more help will arrive or when the sailors will be able to return to their families. At issue is who is responsible for the ship and the sailors, and who will cough up the needed finances to get the sailors home and the cargo to its destination.

Insurance companies, business owners, from the Black Sea to the South Seas, as well as Hawaii state harbor officials, U.S. Customs agents and immigration officials have been wrangling with no end in sight.

The ship picked up its \$8 million cargo of fish meal in Chile in July and was on its way to Japan when its engine quit. In Panama for refueling, it had to have its already troubled engine repaired. The patch-up job was inadequate, and, according to The Times, marine surveyors in Panama warned that the vessel was unsuitable for voyage. Not able to afford the estimated \$1 million for proper repairs, the vessel and its crew sailed on.

By leaving port the Gregory Kozinstev may also have voided its insurance policy, an issue that was still not clear when the L.A. Times story appeared.

The Japanese cargo owners, after a month searching for any way to get the shipment of fishmeal offloaded and to its customers, finally got results the first week of December, when some partial shipments began.

Another issue that cropped up was to determine who actually held responsibility for the ship. The ship was under contractual charter to the Black Sea Shipping Co.

USA, an independent firm in which Blasco-Odesa, the owner of the vessel, has some financial interest. However, as Stanislav Michajluk, president of the U.S. firm told The Weekly: "The bare boat charter was taken over by Blasco-Odesa on September 24; all responsibility for the crew members and the ship became theirs because the ship owners did not make proper inspection of the ship."

Mr. Michajluk criticized the general condition of the ship, which the Times described as a "500-foot-long black and white vessel — with rust frothing out of the peeling paint on its scuffed hull."

"This is not a ship, this is scrap," said Mr. Michajluk.

Who will eventually finance moving the ship out of Honolulu Harbor and the return of the sailors to Ukraine remains unresolved. Press Secretary of the Ukrainian Embassy Vasyly Zorya said Ukraine's Ministry of Transportation and the Japanese firm are now negotiating a settlement.

He also said the consular offices have done all they can to assure that the sailors have proper visas and that contact is maintained with U.S. Customs. "Right now we cannot say when the sailors will return or when the ship will be back," explained Mr. Zorya.

Ukraine's first consul in New York, Yevhen Korniychuk, said the Foreign Ministry and Ministry of Transportation have been informed about the plight of the sailors, but have not yet responded to their needs. "Nothing has yet taken place, and I say this with deep regret," said Mr. Korniychuk. "The sailors still have not received financial support." He added that two representatives of Blasco were in Honolulu to help.

Meanwhile, as the Times reported, all the sailors wanted was to get home in time for the holidays. The crewmen are angry that their government has not coughed up the money needed for repairs and could not get them home for Christmas. One sailor, Alexander, said, "It hurts to be helpless. This comes from a feeling that the state is not taking care of us."

Decree by Boris...

(Continued from page 2)

international organizations involved in peacekeeping operations that "this region is the zone of Russia's interests."

Therefore, the game-plan is as follows: the Customs Union, "joint property," Russian military bases to ensure its protection, and Russian border troops to combat "foreign influence" with the participation of the Russian Security Service.

The humanitarian issue

This picture of the restoration of the Russian Empire is to be accomplished via a broad program of Russia's penetration of the media (both TV and radio), education, and book markets of the CIS countries.

However, the major task is the "protection of the rights of the Russians ('Rossiyan')." What these "rights" consist of and who are these Russians is not delineated in the document. Therefore, Edict No. 940 deliberately confuses the notions of ethnicity and citizenship, and thus borrows from the policy of Hitler who started war against Czechoslovakia under the pretext of protecting the rights of the Sudeten Germans. Russia's ethnic foreign policy thus challenges the post-World War II system of international and European security.

Challenges to Ukraine

Edict No. 940 challenges Ukraine's efforts to overcome its economic crisis and to build its independent state.

First, Russia now pursues a policy, toward the CIS countries that consists of diktat, and economic and military pressure, ignoring the norms of international

law regarding the rights of national minorities. To conduct an independent economic policy upon such dictates (or their threat) is practically impossible.

Should Russia move to implement this edict, Ukraine will be forced to quit the CIS. Certain pro-nationalist circles in the Russian body politic would applaud such a decision, as it would enable the creation of a Russian-Belarus-Central Asian Customs Union (and other unions) under Russia's unopposed dominance. However, any geopolitical configuration on the territory of the former Soviet Union without Ukraine is virtually impossible. Therefore, one possible scenario would presume the use of Edict No. 940 to continue Ukraine's economic crisis and especially to "flex muscles" before the Russian presidential elections, as the Zhirinovskiy line is now official Russian policy.

Second, the possible increase of Russian pressure on Ukraine in the wake of the edict would compel Ukraine to reconsider its position regarding NATO membership and to revoke its neutral status. To avoid Russia's possible pressure on Ukraine to join the CIS Defense Treaty, should Ukraine revoke its neutral status, the time span between that revocation and its joining NATO should be the shortest possible. Responsible cooperation on the part of Western states should serve this purpose. The alternative is preservation of the existing state of uncertainty and potential crisis in the center of Europe.

On the bright side, however, Edict No. 940, despite its neo-imperialist spirit, could lead Ukraine to a better understanding of its own foreign policy priorities and development of a realistic vision of its future in Europe rather than in Eurasia.



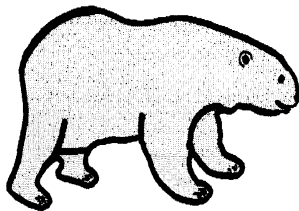
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Defense ministers...

(Continued from page 1)

Leonid Kuchma, reported the Open Media Research Institute.

Messrs. Perry and Shmarov also signed an agreement on closer military cooperation between the United States and Ukraine.

The three defense officials flew from Kyiv to Pervomaiske on January 5, but due to inclement weather their plane was forced to land not at the airport near that city in Mykolayiv Oblast, but on an icy runway in Uman, Cherkasy Oblast. From there the entourage traveled some 90 kilometers by car to the base of the 43rd Strategic Missile Forces.

Demolition of the missile silo at Pervomaiske got under way at 1 p.m., four hours later than scheduled.

Tripartite agreement paved the way

On January 14, 1994, Ukraine had signed a tripartite agreement with the United States and Russia, thus paving the way for Ukraine's disarmament and the destruction of its nuclear arms. At the time, Ukraine possessed 1,300 warheads for intercontinental ballistic missiles and more than 600 cruise missile warheads. It had 176 silos for strategic nuclear missiles: 130 SS-19s and 46 SS-24s. Thus, it was the world's third largest nuclear power.

However, Ukraine had stated in 1990 in its Declaration on State Sovereignty that it would abide by three non-nuclear principles: not to accept, not to provide and not to procure nuclear weapons. Then, in 1993, the Ukrainian Supreme Council ratified START I.

As of the end of 1995, 90 percent of Ukraine's missiles had been deactivated; 70 percent of its warheads had been transferred to Russia, where they are being destroyed under international supervision, including representatives of the Ukrainian military.

Comments by Grachev

Speaking in Kyiv, Defense Minister Grachev proposed that Russia and Ukraine prolong the period of joint control over the Black Sea Fleet, which expired at the beginning of the year. He said the removal of nuclear weapons was proceeding according to plan, with only 26 percent of Ukraine's original nuclear warheads still in the country.

He warned officers at a Ukrainian military college on January 3 that Russians would be "obliged to re-examine our views on the role and place of tactical

nuclear weapons [and] review our treaty obligations in the military sphere" should NATO expand into Eastern Europe.

Respublika reported that Minister Grachev later responded to journalists' questions in Pervomaiske on the expansion of NATO by stating that Russia continues to oppose its eastward expansion. "Let NATO expand westward," he said.

Mr. Perry, meanwhile, said that "NATO does not pose a threat to any country," and underlined that it is a defense organization. He added that, regardless of whether NATO accepts new members, "NATO, Russia and Ukraine should cooperate."

Commenting on President Kuchma's meeting with the three defense officials, Kostiantyn Hryshchenko, Ukraine's deputy minister for foreign affairs, said the meeting followed up on implementation of the 1994 tripartite accord.

He added that Russia, as party to that agreement, is compensating Ukraine for the nuclear warheads transferred to its territory with fuel assemblies for Ukraine's nuclear power stations. He added that the last warheads will be removed from Ukrainian territory when Ukraine receives the final shipment of those fuel assemblies.

Deputy Minister Hryshchenko also commented on meetings of the three defense officials. He reported that Messrs. Shmarov, Perry and Grachev had spoken about European security and the situation in Bosnia, and had discussed the possibility of trilateral military training exercises.

Reaction in Ukraine

People's Deputy Borys Oliynyk, who chairs the Parliament's Committee on Foreign Affairs and Relations with the CIS, noted that he considered the silo destruction a Christmas gift. He said disarmament must proceed, but he added that, despite Ukraine's good will and voluntary renunciation of nuclear weapons, the world has not reacted to territorial claims made against it by Romania (i.e., the territory of Serpent Island, located in the Black Sea).

There was some negative reaction from various groups, including the Ukrainian National Assembly, which released a statement criticizing Ukrainian officials as traitors, and called on Americans and Russians not to meddle in Ukraine's affairs.

Yuri Tyma, a UNA member and a people's deputy from Ternopil, told Reuters that "Satanic forces are preying on the most sacred thing we have — nuclear missiles." He added, "Ukraine needs these rockets to win respect in the world."

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Book launch marks...

(Continued from page 8)

younger generation, often at the cost of his own work. He was the mentor of a whole generation of talented historians now active in the West.

Lysiak-Rudnitsky's book has aroused considerable interest among Ukraine's academic circles, and the volumes are in great demand. In order to promote the influence of his ideas, the CIUS is now working with the University of Kyiv-Mohyla Academy to establish a permanent seminar to be known as the Ivan Lysiak-Rudnitsky Seminar in Ukrainian Liberal Political Thought. This seminar, to be held on a monthly basis, is intended to promote liberal values and critical thought among Ukrainian intellectuals. Speakers will be drawn from all parts of Ukraine and from the CIUS.

"Istorychn Ese" is available for \$29.95 (plus 7 percent GST for Canadian orders and \$3 for postage and handling) from the Canadian Institute of Ukrainian Studies Press, which also published Lysiak-Rudnitsky's English-language "Essays in

Modern Ukrainian History" (\$19.95). Please send orders to: CIUS Press, 352 Athabasca Hall, University of Alberta, Edmonton, Alberta T6G 2E8; telephone, (403) 492-2972, fax, (403) 492-4967.

Of psychics...

(Continued from page 6)

gle people do not sit at the corners of a table for fear they will never get married; this is a country where no one points to his body parts when describing another person's illness (for example, don't point to your thigh when describing an amputee's loss, because the same will happen to you); this is a country where people jingle coins in their pocket (even though there are no coins in this country now) when they see a full moon, so that they may become rich (if you challenge them, they will tell you this is the reason everybody is now poor in Ukraine); and this is a country where, if milk spoils overnight, it means that something connected with the devil is lurking about.

I rest my case.



Ukrainian National Association

Monthly reports

RECORDING DEPARTMENT

MEMBERSHIP REPORT

	JUV.	ADULTS	ADD.	TOTALS
TOTAL AS OF OCTOBER 1995	17,131	38,140	5,038	61,309
GAINS IN NOVEMBER 1995				
New members	21	174	-	195
Reinstated	27	72	-	99
Transferred in	2	15	3	20
Change class in	2	-	-	5
Transferred from Juvenile Dept.	-	-	-	-
TOTAL GAINS	52	264	3	319
LOSSES IN NOVEMBER 1995				
Suspended	16	24	16	56
Transferred out	2	15	3	20
Change of class out	2	3	-	5
Transferred to adults	-	-	-	-
Died	3	75	-	78
Cash surrender	33	33	-	66
Endowment matured	12	36	-	48
Fully paid-up	22	58	-	80
Reduced paid-up	-	2	-	2
Certificate terminated	-	7	4	11
TOTAL LOSSES	90	293	23	366
INACTIVE MEMBERSHIP				
GAINS IN NOVEMBER 1995				
Paid-up	22	58	-	80
Extended Insurance	12	18	-	30
TOTAL GAINS	34	76	-	110
LOSSES IN NOVEMBER 1995				
Died	3	38	-	41
Cash surrender	19	14	-	33
Reinstated	3	38	-	41
Lapsed	-	-	-	-
TOTAL LOSSES	25	90	-	115
TOTAL UNA MEMBERSHIP				
AS OF NOVEMBER 1995	17,102	38,137	5,018	61,257

MARTHA LYSKO
Secretary

FINANCIAL DEPARTMENT

INCOME FOR NOVEMBER 1995

Dues From Members	\$ 213,991.17
Annually Premiums From Members	23,837.37
Income From "Svoboda" Organization	106,692.58
Investment Income:	
Banks	738.60
Bonds	298,737.58
Certificate Loans	364.06
Mortgage Loans	36,611.48
Real Estate	42,960.53
Short Term Investments	2,101.71
Stocks	7,723.26
Total	\$ 389,247.22
Total	\$ 733,788.34
Refunds:	
Employee Hospitalization Plan Premiums	\$ 599.27
General Office Maintenance	78.00
Official Publication "Svoboda"	30,000.00
Operating Expenses Washington Office	43.80
Printing & Stationery	114.00
Rent	220.98
Reward To Special Organizer	1,564.81
Taxes Federal, State & City On Employee Wages	21,867.12
Total	\$ 54,777.96
Miscellaneous:	
Donations To Fraternal Fund	\$ 35.00
Donations To Fund For The Rebirth Of Ukraine	32,122.46
Exchange Account-UNJRC	383,872.36
Sale Of "Ukrainian Encyclopaedia"	520.00
Transfer Account	749,525.69
Transactions Within UNA	2,475.71
Total	\$ 1,153,951.22
Investments:	
Bonds Matured Or Sold	\$ 49,368.01
Certificate Loans Repaid	4,770.61
Mortgages Repaid	26,519.28
Short Term Investments Sold	615,394.33
Total	\$ 696,052.23
Income For November, 1995	\$ 2,637,867.77

DISBURSEMENTS FOR NOVEMBER 1995

Paid To Or For Members:			
Annually Benefits And Partial Withdrawals	\$	63,576.08	
Cash Surrenders		35,421.05	
Death Benefits		65,235.00	
Dividend Accumulations		2,676.81	
Dues And Annually Premiums From Members Returned		900.00	
Endowments Matured		65,552.22	
Indigent Benefits Disbursed		900.00	
Interest On Death Benefits		145.77	
Total	\$	234,405.93	
Operating Expenses:			
Real Estate	\$	68,825.47	
Svoboda Operation		153,811.27	
Washington Office		800.46	
Official Publication-Svoboda		57,340.18	
Organizing Expenses:			
Advertising		9,775.94	
Commissions And Overrides On Universal Life		2,316.07	
Field Conferences		3,153.16	
Medical Inspections		267.50	
Reward To Organizers		965.66	
Reward To Special Organizer		22,674.50	
Travelling Special-Organizers		4,393.89	
Total	\$	43,747.74	
Total	\$	306,325.12	
Payroll, Insurance And Taxes:			
Employee Benefit Plan	\$	16,592.31	
Insurance-General		1,594.59	
Salaries Of Executive Officers		17,470.56	
Salaries Of Office Employees		65,999.78	
Tax On Canadian Investments		1,464.82	
Taxes-Federal, State And City On Employee Wages		24,473.53	
Total	\$	127,601.59	
General Expenses:			
Actuarial And Statistical Expenses	\$	10,287.50	
Bank Charges		903.66	
Books And Periodicals		547.11	
Dues To Fraternal Congresses		50.00	
General Office Maintenance		2,299.25	
Insurance Department Fees		1,767.92	
Legal Expenses-General		848.88	
Postage		1,507.87	
Printing and Stationery		1,343.55	
Rental Of Equipment And Services		1,586.68	
Telephone, Telegraph		4,642.27	
Travelling Expenses-General		1,201.25	
Total	\$	26,965.94	
Miscellaneous:			
Donation From Fund For The Rebirth Of Ukraine	\$	6,503.48	
Donations		1,000.00	
Exchange Account-UNJRC		388,872.36	
Expenses Of Annual Sessions		13,890.30	
Professional Fees		8,340.00	
Rent		2,850.48	
Transfer Account		740,000.00	
Ukrainian Publications		2,351.88	
Total	\$	1,143,908.50	
Investments:			
Certificate Loans	\$	3,905.64	
Mortgages		35,690.00	
Real Estate		1,276.59	
Short Term Investments		483,255.38	
Stock		4,830.27	
Total	\$	528,960.88	
Disbursements For November, 1995	\$	2,368,187.96	
BALANCE			
ASSETS		LIABILITIES	
Cash	\$ 4,594,985.69	Life Insurance	\$ 72,406,389.17
Short Term Investments	333,538.01		
Bonds	45,299,787.52		
Mortgage Loans	7,351,804.26		
Certificate Loan	660,292.58		
Real Estate	3,298,238.69	Accidental D.D.	2,182,971.66
Printing Plant & E.D.P.			
Equipment	714,681.36	Fraternal	0.00
Stocks	1,809,633.82	Orphans	442,538.46
Loan to D.H.-UNA			
Housing Corp.	104,551.04	Old Age Home	0.00
Loan To U.N.U.R.C.	10,827,530.25	Emergency	53,133.91
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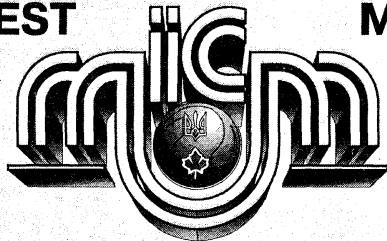
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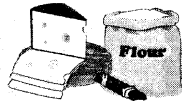
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PREVIEW OF EVENTS

Sunday, January 14

NEW YORK: The film "Assassination," directed by Oles Yanchuk ("Famine-33"), will be premiered at Cinema Village, 22 E. 12th St. (between Fifth Avenue and University Place) at 4 p.m. The film portrays the post-World War II struggle of the Ukrainian Insurgent Army and the events leading up to the assassination of Ukrainian nationalist leader Stepan Bandera. The film is a co-production of the Ukrainian Congress Committee of America and Oles-Film. Tickets, at \$10, may be obtained at the theater or at the UCCA office, 203 Second Ave.

Tickets in advance for the dinner/dance are \$35 per person; \$25 for students with identification. Tickets may be ordered by calling St. Andrew's Credit Union, (908) 469-9085, Damian Gecha, 755-8156, or, George Mischenko, 671-1914.

Sunday, January 14

BLOOMINGDALE, Ill.: A theatrical ensemble for children, teenagers and adults, under the direction of Lubomyr and George Cepynsky, is being organized in the greater Chicago area. An informational meeting and registration will be held at St. Andrew Church Hall, 300 E. Army Trail Road, at 3 p.m. The younger group, age 7-15, will meet at 2 p.m.; the older group, age 16 and up, will meet at 3 p.m. For further information call the ensemble's administrator, Olla Kusyik, (708) 790-1073.

Friday, January 19

WASHINGTON: The Washington Group and The Johns Hopkins School for Advanced International Studies present a Friday Evening Forum with James Rupert, Kyiv correspondent for the Washington Post. The event will be held at Johns Hopkins SAIS, 1619 Massachusetts Ave. Refreshments are at 6:30 p.m., followed by Mr. Rupert's presentation at 7 p.m. Donations are welcome. For more information call George Masiuk, (202) 651-2302.

Saturday, February 3

NEW YORK: The Slavic Heritage Council of America presents "The European Folk Festival" to be held at Alice Tully Hall at Lincoln Center at 7:30 p.m. Among the featured groups are: the Bosilek Bulgarian Folk Dance Company; the Dukati Serbian Folklore Ensemble; the Limbora Slovak Folk Ensemble; the New World Sword Team; the Polish American Folk Dance Company; the Roca O Norte Portugese Folklore Group; the Syzokryli Ukrainian Dancers of New York City; the Tomov Folk Dance Company and the Zenith Russian Folk Musicians. All seats are \$22; senior citizens and children under 12, \$15. Tickets are available at the Alice Tully Hall Box Office.

Saturday, January 20

PHILADELPHIA: The Chermesh Hutzul Association invites the public to a traditional New Year's dance to be held at the Ukrainian Educational and Cultural Center, 700 Cedar Road, at 9 p.m.-2 a.m. Music will be by Tempo. The dance will be preceded by an entertainment program starting at 8:30 p.m. Admission: \$18; \$35, for couples; \$15, students up to age 21. Tables for 10 may be reserved by calling Roxoliana Lutsiv, (215) 635-5109, or Uliana Protsiuk, 235-3709.

Sunday, February 4

SOUTH BOUND BROOK, N.J.: The Ukrainian Orthodox Church of America and the Children of Chornobyl Foundation invite the public to attend the 10th Anniversary of Chornobyl commemorative banquet, to be held at the Ukrainian Cultural Center, 135 Davidson Ave., at 4 p.m. Special guest will be Jack Palance, Academy Award-winning actor and CCF spokesperson. Tickets will be sold in advance at \$100 per person. For tickets and information contact Tania Sawa at CCF, (201) 258-9464.

Saturday, January 27

WHIPPANY, N.J.: The Plast Ukrainian Youth Organization, Newark branch, is holding its debutante ball, with music by Tempo, at the Hanover Marriott, Route 10. Cocktails are at 6:30 p.m., with the presentation of debutantes at 7:30 p.m. Tickets: dinner and dance, \$65; \$40, students under age 23; tickets at the door for dance only: \$40; \$20, students under age 23. For tickets and reservations call Bohdan Porytko, (201) 515-8326.

Saturday, February 10

CHATHAM, N.J.: The Vervoyka Ukrainian National Dance Company at the Taras Shevchenko Opera House in Kyiv will appear in a concert featuring the artistic traditions of Ukrainian dance and choral music at Chatham High School, 255 Lafayette Ave., at 1:30 p.m. Tickets: \$23. For information call (908) 761-7555.

SOUTH BOUND BROOK, N.J.:

The Central New Jersey Branch of the Committee for Aid to Ukraine invites the public to a carnival ball dinner/dance to be held at the Ukrainian Cultural Center starting at 6:30 p.m. Music will be by Fata Morgana. Proceeds from ticket sales will benefit Ukrainian athletes at the Atlanta Olympics.

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