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Russian PM leaves Kyiv empty-handed; status of bilateral relations is questioned

by Marta Kolomayets
Kyiv Press Bureau

KYIV — Despite announcing that he was "highly satisfied" with the outcome of meetings with President Leonid Kuchma and Prime Minister Yevhen Marchuk, Russian Prime Minister Viktor Chernomyrdin departed empty-handed from Kyiv on Thursday evening, May 23, leaving many questioning the status of Ukrainian-Russian relations.

Mr. Chernomyrdin's hasty one-day visit to Ukraine — announced on May 22 — was described by government officials here as one designed to further discuss details pertaining to the on-again-off-again state visit of Russian Federation President Boris Yeltsin to Ukraine, as well as to iron

out various details regarding the bilateral treaty of friendship and cooperation and a trade-economic agreement.

Interfax-Ukraine reported that among the top issues that had been scheduled to be discussed was the division of the Black Sea Fleet, the main obstacle blocking Mr. Yeltsin's visit to Ukraine. Other issues were touched upon during meetings of the two prime ministers and their delegations, including the issue of compensation for the tactical nuclear weapons withdrawn from Ukraine to Russia in 1992 and restructuring Ukraine's gas debt to its northern neighbor.

The third issue examined by a group of experts pertained to trade and economic cooperation between Ukraine and Russia; and the fourth issue was one regarding ownership of Soviet property in foreign countries, i.e. foreign missions and embassies.

Ukrainian officials expected the Chernomyrdin visit to be groundbreaking. Both President Kuchma and Prime Minister Marchuk cut short their trips around the country, rushing back to Kyiv to meet with the Russian prime minister. [Foreign Minister Hennadiy Udoenko told reports that Mr. Chernomyrdin's visit to Kyiv was proposed during the CIS summit in Moscow on May 17.]

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Houses approves Chernobyl resolution

WASHINGTON — Rep. Christopher H. Smith, chairman of the Commission on Security and Cooperation in Europe, spoke on May 22 to the passage of H.Con.Res. 167, which among other things calls for the president of the United States to continue enhanced support for U.S. assistance providing medical relief, humanitarian assistance, social impact planning and hospital development for Ukraine, Belarus and Russia in the aftermath of the Chernobyl nuclear accident. The resolution, which passed 404 to 0, also urges Ukraine to continue its negotiations with the G-7 to implement the December 20, 1995, Memorandum of Understanding (MOU), calling for all nuclear reactors at Chernobyl to be shut down by the year 2000.

The Senate companion bill, S.Con.Res. 67, had passed on the evening of April 25 by unanimous consent.

Rep. Smith said: "H.Con.Res. 167 is an important and timely resolution which recognizes the 10th anniversary of the Chernobyl nuclear disaster — the worst in recorded history — and supports the closing of the remaining reactors in that plant. I recently chaired a Helsinki Commission hearing that examined the devastating consequences of the Chernobyl disaster. Four experts, including the ambassadors of Ukraine and Belarus — the two countries most gravely affected by the disaster — gave sobering accounts of the profound medical, environmental, economic and political consequences of the disaster."

Rep. Smith pointed out that 10 years ago millions of people, including about 1 million children, were exposed to dan-

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Left-wingers prevent Parliament from reviewing draft constitution

by Marta Kolomayets
Kyiv Press Bureau

KYIV — Left-wing forces disrupted the work of the Parliament on Thursday morning, May 23, refusing to register because the final version of the draft constitution was to be presented to the legislature, which was scheduled to examine it in its first reading.

With the Communist, Socialist and Agrarian factions of Parliament refusing to take part in the session, only 248 deputies registered — 53 short of the quorum of 301 needed for the constitutional debate.

Despite three tries by Parliament Deputy Chairman Oleksander Tkachenko to get the morning session started, members of the three factions refused to give into his coaxing, and later walked out during speeches by democratic deputies who lambasted the stubborn left-wingers.

Former President Leonid Kravchuk called the day's events "a parliamentary crisis."

The Presidium of the Supreme Council, meeting on May 22, had decided to present the 161-article draft constitution, prepared by an ad hoc committee of Parliament deputies and reviewed by President Leonid Kuchma.

But the three factions protested this move, stating that the decision by the Presidium to submit the draft constitution

to Parliament on May 23 and May 28 was unlawful.

"This is in conflict with the parliamentary rules of procedure, and bills submitted for examination in Parliament must be circulated among the deputies from six to 14 days before they are examined," said Socialist Deputy Yosyf Vinsky. The parliamentary deputies received the draft constitution on May 21.

This was not the first time — and political observers note, it will not be the last time — that left-wingers in Parliament have caused a delay in examining the draft constitution. Despite the fact that a Constitutional Committee, composed jointly of government officials and parliamentary deputies, had worked on the fundamental law for over a year and adopted a draft on March 11 of this year, Parliament Chairman Oleksander Moroz decided in May to create a "special temporary committee for reconciling the draft constitution."

As noted in last week's news story, hardly had the new committee begun its work, when deputies from the Communist Party walked out, refusing to take part in the constitutional process. The Communist Party wants to present the Constitution of the Ukrainian SSR — with a few new additions — as the fundamental law of the land.

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Ambassador Shcherbak opens L.A. Trade Mission

by Anne Kokawa Prokopovych

LOS ANGELES — Citing the importance of Ukraine's involvement with the advanced technologies and investment capital of the Pacific Rim, Dr. Yuri Shcherbak, Ukraine's ambassador to the U.S., officially opened the West Coast Regional Office of the Trade and Economic Mission here on May 2.

"In my country, we regard the establishment of the L.A. Trade Mission as indisputable evidence of the broadening trade and economic relationship between our two countries," Dr. Shcherbak remarked in his address at the opening ceremony. "This is our fourth trade office, after Washington, New York and Chicago. Ukraine exports to the U.S. twice as much as we import, and we hope to exceed \$1 billion this year."

"Both [Ukraine and California] have many similar economic sectors, namely machine building and metal processing, agriculture and food processing, aerospace and high technology. We are fully confident that our relationship in these sectors will be of mutual benefit. I personally have visited California several times and have seen with my own eyes the high level of industriousness

and the entrepreneurial spirit among businessmen and investors on the West Coast," he added.

Dr. Shcherbak introduced the chief of the West Coast Regional Office, Vadym E. Marchuk: "He is very young, very smart and very capable. The Los Angeles office will develop and prosper under his management."

In recognition of specific contributions to U.S.-Ukraine relations, the ambassador presented Certificates of Honor to five individuals: Herbert Boeckman, president of Galpin Ford, and his wife, Jane Boeckman, chair of World Opportunities, for their efforts to bring \$1.3 million in humanitarian aid to Ukraine in 1995; Boris Sarnoff, president of Sarnoff Art, for his assistance in establishing the L.A. Trade Mission office and with the aforementioned humanitarian aid; Alex Kaminsky, president of AMSystems, and Michael Palmer, senior partner with PBA Public Accountants, for their assistance in establishing the L.A. Trade Mission office and arrangement of a \$25 million investment project for Ukraine.

Furthering community ties

At a luncheon earlier in the day, the

ambassador, his wife, Maria, and the first secretary of the Embassy, Dr. Yaroslav Voitko, met with representatives of local Ukrainian organizations.

In his address Dr. Shcherbak described the opening of the L.A. Trade Mission as a "new page in our international biography," and invited community organizations to become involved with the Trade Mission and to involve the Trade Mission in community activities, following the examples set in Washington, New York and Chicago.

The ambassador noted that after Ukraine became an independent state in 1991, the outpouring of moral and financial support from the diaspora communities provided an invaluable foundation. However, he continued, "The romantic period is behind us. Today we must enter new areas, and we need a different sort of assistance. We need intellectual help; we need advice; we need contacts. The experience of those working in research, in the government, and in business can accelerate the advancement of the

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ANALYSIS: Russia discusses plans to revive (Soviet) union

by Volodymyr Zviglianich

The Russian Council on Foreign and Defense Policy recently released a draft document titled "Will the (Soviet) Union Revive by 2005?" This council works under the direct supervision of President Boris Yeltsin and is headed by Sergei Karaganov, deputy director of the Europe Institute of the Russian Academy of Sciences. Its recommendations constituted the basis of President Yeltsin's Edict No. 940 of September 14, 1995, titled "The Strategic Course of Russia with the States of the CIS," which was analyzed on several occasions by *The Weekly*.

Earlier, Mr. Karaganov and his council had published the document "The Strategy for Russia" in the Russian newspaper *Nezavisimaya Gazeta* (May 27, 1994), which laid the groundwork for the Russian Foreign Intelligence Service's document released on September 20, 1994, under the title "Russia-CIS: Does the Position of the West Need to be Corrected?" In that document the tendency of CIS countries toward "reintegration" was proclaimed as inevitable and objective.

The main practical results of these theoretical exercises have been the recent signing of a treaty between Russia, Kazakhstan, Belarus and Kyrgyzstan, and the Treaty on Creating a Union of Sovereign Republics, signed on April 2 by Belarus and Russia. Having taken into consideration the close contacts of the Council of Foreign and Defense Policy with Yevgeny Primakov, former head of the Russian Foreign Intelligence Service and now Russia's foreign minister, one cannot help but regard any document prepared by this council as most serious — particularly as it directly concerns Ukraine.

Main focus of the "2005" document

The document stresses that the word "Soviet" used in conjunction with the word "union" is used in a non-political sense only for designation of the future state, which is a historical successor to the Soviet Union, and which could emerge in the form of a confederation, union or federation on the territory of the former Soviet Union (FSU). The possibility of such a state's creation is the major focus of the document.

Why 2005? According to the authors, it is intuitively clear that this period will be key in the development of integration processes in the post-Soviet space. After this date the processes of either integration or disintegration will take final shape. The struggle between those two tendencies will last for the next 10 years.

The document stresses that, despite the openly manifested claim of some participants of the recent CIS summit in Moscow about the impossibility of recreating the USSR and objections to the very intentions of such a recreation, these declarations were of a "purely political" nature caused by the results of elections to the Russian State Duma and forthcoming presidential elections in Russia.

Moreover, these claims came from the states "that are only in the stage of creating independent sovereign states from the remnants of the FSU." According to this logic, those states of the CIS (excluding probably, Russia) which capitalized on the impossibility of creating the USSR (first of all, Ukraine) have practically no attributes of their own statehood. Therefore, they should seek reintegration with that political body that

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does possess statehood, i.e., Russia.

The context of the discussion

The question of restoring the USSR in the near future is among the most acute global problems of the contemporary epoch, stresses the document. The context of its discussion is worldwide. It touches Russia and the whole post-Soviet space, Asia, the U.S. and partially Canada, some African countries (Arab countries, first and foremost) and Latin America. Only Australia has escaped this honor.

Factors impeding the revival of the USSR are as follows:

- The liquidation of the USSR was judicially sound and confirmed by national referenda; the former states of the USSR have become members of the U.N. and other international organizations.

- The West has reached "near consensus" concerning the undesirability of restoration of the USSR as a "strong" neighbor. The Western countries are much more stable now than they were when the USSR emerged.

- The current situation practically excludes the use of coercive methods to restore the USSR.

- The economic and political development of countries of the FSU is uneven and different. Russia proper lacks both the political will to resolve this problem and the foreign policy mechanism to pursue this goal.

- In the future, Russia will deal with its own problems of survival and internal restructuring and will be incapable of paying for the restoration, which for most of the population is associated with the return to power of the old Communist nomenclatura and the abolition of private property.

- New national political elites will resist any encroachments on their state sovereignty.

- One of the major obstacles is that the countries of the FSU have acquired all formal and informal attributes of independent statehood, as well as the economic bases for their relatively independent existence.

The "2005" document purports that factors accelerating the revival of the USSR are not as numerous as those impeding the restoration. However, they are more fundamental by nature, and each centrifugal factor has its opposite, centripetal, aspect.

- The act of denunciation of the USSR is illegal, as it was kept secret from the parliaments of the Soviet republics and the acting president.

- The stability of Western states is volatile and the Atlantic model of democracy is withering away. The 21st century could see political instability in these countries.

- The population of the FSU is suffering as a result of the rapid break-up of the USSR. The success of economic reforms in Russia could once again make it the center. The imperial consciousness of certain Russian political elites will gradually decrease and the traditional Russian desire (though arrogant) to make its weaker neighbors happier could increase.

- The Russian diaspora is more technologically advanced and can more rapidly acquire market behavior. The fact that the Russian language is formerly the all-union language could also facilitate restoration of the USSR.

- The U.S. is getting weaker as it is the only existing superpower.

- The Slavic (or historical) unity of Russia, Belarus and Ukraine is a strong centripetal factor.

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NEWSBRIEFS

U.S. warns Russia, Ukraine on nuke sales

WASHINGTON — It would be a "significant mistake" if either Russia or Ukraine were to provide SS-18 strategic missile technology to China, U.S. Secretary of Defense William Perry told reporters at the Pentagon on May 21. Mr. Perry had revealed Chinese interest in the SS-18 in a *Washington Times* interview. The SS-18 is the largest intercontinental ballistic missile in the world. Built at the giant Pivdenmash plant in Ukraine, the SS-18 formed the backbone of the Soviet strategic rocket force. While Russia still deploys 186 of them, they would be eventually banned under the START II treaty, which has not been ratified by the Russian State Duma. Mr. Perry said that other than making the missile's booster available for space launches, any transfer of SS-18 technology would violate the START I treaty and the Missile Technology Control Regime. (OMRI Daily Digest)

Second Belarusian hunger striker let go

MIENSK — The Belarusian authorities on May 21 released Belarusian Popular Front leader Yuriy Khadyka, who had staged a hunger strike for the previous 23 days, Reuters reported. Mr. Khadyka had been protesting his detention on charges of organizing a rally here on April 26 that opposed the pro-Russian and authoritarian policies of Belarusian President Alyaksandr Lukashenka. He went from prison to the Miensk hospital, where his co-hunger striker, Vyachaslau Siuchyuk, has been receiving treatment since May 17. The detention of the two BPF leaders prompted numerous appeals and a demonstration by over 5,000 students and workers in Miensk for their release. The charges against the two have not been dropped, and they could face up to three years' imprisonment if convicted. (OMRI Daily Digest)

Ukraine prepares to abolish death penalty

KYIV — Ukrainian President Leonid Kuchma has created a commission for phasing out the death penalty, international media reported on May 20. The commission, chaired by Minister of Justice Serhiy Holovaty, will draw up a draft document in compliance with Council of Europe guidelines. Parliament, which has expressed support for the death penalty, must still approve the ban. The issue has become controversial in Ukraine following public concern over the recent actions of a serial killer. There have been no executions in more than six months. (OMRI Daily Digest)

Tatars recall deportations, back Chechnya

SEVASTOPOL — Some 15,000 Crimean Tatars massed here on May 18 to recall their mass deportation by Soviet dictator Joseph Stalin 52 years ago and voiced support for rebels fighting Russian troops in Chechnya. Small children from the 250,000-strong Tatar community who have returned to the Crimea since the late 1980s carried small portraits of the dead Chechen President Dzhokhar Dudayev through the dusty streets of Symferopil. Some marchers, sweltering in 95-degree heat, carried huge portraits of Mr. Dudayev, killed by a Russian air strike last month, one inscribed with the epitaph: "Whoever does not fight for his freedom is a slave." One large poster read: "Chechnya, we are with you." The entire Crimean Tatar community of 180,000 was deported en masse with frightening speed and precision in cattle trains on May 18, 1944. Like fellow Muslim Chechens in the Transcaucasus, also deported on baseless accusations of Nazi collaboration, most Crimean Tatars were taken to Uzbekistan

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GM-Avtozaz deal on the rocks

KYIV — General Motors has rejected a 51 percent stake in Zaporizhzhia-based Avtozaz, but says it will provide around \$800 million in investment capital to modernize Ukraine's premier auto maker in return for government guarantees and a clear promise that no other international manufacturer will be brought into the project, Interfax-Ukraine reported on May 17.

According to Stanislav Shcherbin, GM's representative in Ukraine, the U.S. auto giant's management was "unpleasantly surprised" to find that Avtozaz was holding talks with other companies,

among them South Korea's Daewoo. Mr. Shcherbin, president of the joint venture General Motors Ukraine, said GM had declined an invitation to bid for the 51 percent stake, which the State Property Fund of Ukraine is looking to sell to a strategic partner.

Avtozaz, best-known for its now-discontinued twin-cylinder Zaporozhets, had asked GM to invest \$110 million into a project to upgrade its new core model, the Tavia. GM, however, said it would rather invest \$800 million in promising Avtozaz developments for trucks with 1.5- to 4-ton load capacities.

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Ukraine stresses its potential in science and technology

by R.L. Chomiak

WASHINGTON – When the Soviet Union collapsed, Ukraine's economy lost its purpose: 80 percent of it had served the defense needs of the empire. Suddenly there was no empire and no need for much of what was made in Ukraine.

But there was brainpower in the country, said Ukrainian scientists, and while some of it has drained off (an estimated 5,000 scientists left Ukraine in recent years, including about 500 with doctorates), enough has stayed behind to invent and innovate products and systems for the global marketplace.

Ukraine's scientific and technological potential was outlined April 6 in Washington, when The Washington Group (TWG) hosted seven representatives of Ukraine's severely downsized, but far from destroyed military-industrial complex. They were part of a nine-member delegation visiting the United States to meet with colleagues in the scientific community and in technology development firms.

Marta Cehelsky, executive officer of the U.S. National Science Board and TWG member, who chaired the Washington meeting, said Ukrainian science and technology are in a period of profound change. Last February, she continued, a major forum on Ukrainian science set new national objectives.

One of the objectives is to preserve technologies in which Ukraine held leading positions and adapt them to new conditions. The Dnipropetrovske-designed and manufactured space rockets Zenit (Zenith) and Tsyklon (Cyclone) are the best in the world, Ukrainian scientists say, and the agreement signed during President Leonid Kuchma's visit to Washington last February opens the door for Ukraine to enter the international rent-a-rocket business using these launchers.

Closer to earth, there is Ukraine's T-84 tank that toiled around the sands of Abu Dhabi, United Arab Emirates, at last year's military hardware trade exhibition and was judged best in the show.

Then there's a system to reduce vibrations of a space vehicle that may be applied to a car seat – all products of Ukrainian brainpower with potential export-income earnings.

Prof. Victor Pylypenko, head of the Institute of Technical Mechanics in Dnipropetrovske that produced scientists and designs for "the world's biggest rocket factory," or the Pivdenmash complex in that city, recalled that at its height the complex produced 100 strategic rockets per year. By way of comparison, he said the United States at that time needed five

years to produce 60 MX missiles.

In 1991, Prof. Pylypenko's institute employed 1,260 specialists; now only 500. Then contracts covered 75 percent of the work, now they cover 10 percent. But the Dnipropetrovske complex still produces Zenith and Cyclone rockets, and, reflecting the changes of the post-Cold War period, it now also produces trolley buses right along the Zenith assembly line, he said.

But, for a mentor of high-tech designers like Prof. Pylypenko, the preferred form of conversion is something like the vibration-suppression system his institute developed to keep rockets on a steady course. "We have demonstrated that it can be applied to automobiles and sold wherever cars are made," he said.

Prof. Volodymyr Savitsky, another member of the delegation, who heads the Institute of Applied Physics at Lviv University, blamed the precarious situation of Ukraine's economy on the fact that 80 percent of it served the defense needs of the old USSR and because, as he put it, manufacturing in the USSR "was done behind a Chinese Wall," everything was done "locally." The trend now, he said, is to establish priorities ("because we can't do everything"), and look for cooperative arrangements on the global scale by buying some technologies and selling others.

As examples he cited Ukraine's advances in material science, in metallurgy and in geology that could be sold abroad. Ukraine also has good deposits of uranium, gold, zirconium, lithium, sulfur and potassium that could be developed with international partners, he said, adding that there are good but underutilized refineries in Ukraine that need "more than one source of oil" (i.e. Russian). He suggested that Ukraine must look to the Middle East and Central Asia for new sources of crude.

There are revolutionary changes going on in Ukraine, said Prof. Savitsky. Many factories just aren't needed anymore. Revolutionary changes, he contended, "require careful thinking about where to put the money, what to fund that can be taken into the marketplace."

The Lviv professor said he felt "the bottom has been reached" in Ukraine's disrupted economy, and there is a tendency now to stabilize it, but he cautioned that it was too soon yet to talk about growth.

Two members of the delegation, Prof. Volodymyr Andreev and Prof. Oleksandr Slobodyanyuk, both physicists and both members of the six-year-old Ukrainian Physical Society, talked about the society's international contacts, including its new home page on the Internet (www.ups.kiev.ua).

Prof. Andreev talked about Ukraine's world-class capabilities in telecommunications technology, demonstrated at a recent NATO-funded workshop on this subject. (He was a co-chairman of the workshop, along with a representative of the American Physical Society.)

He also talked about 10 international summer schools and seven domestic ones that the society had organized; about a Ukrainian-Polish workshop; and about Ukraine's participation in a European conference on plasma physics, which he characterized as "very productive."

International contacts are vital for the health of Ukraine's technological potential, said Prof. Andreev. A visit to Ukraine by just one American colleague, he said, may offer a chance for him or her to meet 100 Ukrainian physicists, spend time in

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Presidential decree attempts to counter payments crisis

by Marta Kolomayets

Kyiv Press Bureau

KYIV – In order to help resolve the payments crisis that has forced state employees such as doctors, teachers and military personal to go without wages for months, President Leonid Kuchma issued a decree on May 14 – cracking down on frivolous spending in the government sector and threatening to dismiss ministers and state enterprise directors who fail to pay salaries on time.

According to Prime Minister Yevhen Marchuk, the state owes more than 177 trillion karbovantsi (\$700 million U.S.) to pensioners and workers in the state sector.

The 12-point decree, which went into effect immediately, was hailed by reformers in Parliament. It not only puts a moratorium on major office repairs, forbids the purchase of new vehicles, office furniture and equipment, bans foreign business trips and holiday-related expenses until after the debts are paid, but also holds officials criminally responsible if they do not pay out overdue wages.

The decree gives central and local government officials a two-week period during which the executive power bodies have to take steps to repay wages and social assistance.

President Kuchma has instructed the Cabinet of Ministers to prepare by June 1 a draft proposal that holds officials both administratively and criminally responsible for wage arrears. And by July 1, the Cabinet is to prepare a draft proposal that will guarantee the timely issuance of salaries, pensions, social benefits and scholarships.

An ad-hoc committee comprising all of Ukraine's deputy prime ministers and headed by Prime Minister Marchuk has been set up to check on the measures

being taken to pay out back wages and pensions. They – along with representatives of the Finance Ministry and tax control authorities and auditors – are to travel to the regions to investigate the causes for wage arrears and report to the Cabinet on May 30.

Prime Minister Marchuk told Interfax-Ukraine that the problems of payment can be found "in the provinces," explaining that he will check out that funds are "correctly" channeled from local budgets to the national one and that the issue of overdue payments can be resolved. He said the main causes behind the overdue wages is the decline in production, the rise in volume of unsold products and violations of budgetary discipline.

Despite these measures, however, it remained unclear where the Ukrainian government was going to get the money to pay back overdue wages, pensions and grants. Addressing the Parliament on May 21, Prime Minister Marchuk said the government plans to use foreign currency reserves for three payments of overdue wages, pensions and grants.

During a meeting of the presidium of the Cabinet of Ministers on May 13, President Kuchma called the practice on non-payment of wages "inadmissible." The presidium recommended that President Kuchma dismiss Yevhen Dovzhok, chairman of the State Committee for Oil, Gas and Oil Refining, for failure to comply with the revenues of the national budget. It also recommended that the president reprimand Viktor Malev, the minister of machine-building and the military-industrial complex, Valeriy Mazur, the

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Two members of Parliament killed in automobile accident

by Marta Kolomayets

Kyiv Press Bureau

KYIV — Two parliamentary deputies from Odessa died tragically in an automobile accident late in the evening of May 16, reported Interfax-Ukraine.

Serhiy Drahomaretsky, 41, (Illychivsky district) and Mykhailo Miaskovsky, 52, (Velykomykhailivsky District) – members of the Communist faction in the Supreme Council – and their driver were killed instantly as their car swerved off the road to avoid an oncoming vehicle and slammed into a tree near the village of Ocheretnia, Mykolayiv Oblast, along the Kyiv-Odessa highway.

Mr. Drahomaretsky had been at the wheel of the Nyva vehicle, relieving his tired driver of his responsibilities. He and the driver, who was in the front passenger seat, died on the spot, while Mr. Miaskovsky died at the regional hospital a few hours later, having never regained consciousness.

Both Messrs. Drahomaretsky and Miaskovsky had a tough day in the unruly Parliament on May 16, engaging in a heated debate about the new Ukrainian constitution, and had decided to leave Parliament early in order to be present at an Odessa City Council meeting.

There were altercations between the Communists and the democrats in the Supreme Council, with Serhiy Sobolev of the Reforms faction engaging in a

pushing match with the left-wingers.

Also on that day, Mr. Drahomaretsky had repeatedly accused People's Deputy Les Taniuk (Rukh faction) of being a KGB agent, reported the Rukh Insider. After delivering a warning to Mr. Drahomaretsky to desist, which went unheeded, Mr. Taniuk punched him. The Communists continued their assault, shouting: "Banderites, we will hang you by your ties from the highest trees," and the national democrats responded with such slogans as "You, rotten Communists, you've stolen enough and you want more."

Following the altercation, Mr. Drahomaretsky phoned the Odessa Oblast Committee of the Communist Party to send a driver up to Kyiv. As soon as the driver arrived, they left immediately for Odessa.

On May 17, the Supreme Council formed a special committee headed by Parliament Vice-Chairman Oleksander Tkachenko to investigate the accident.

Mr. Drahomaretsky had been the chairman of the Parliament's Auditing Committee on Privatization and the deputy chairman of the Committee on Economic Issues.

Mr. Miaskovsky had been a member of the Parliament Committee on Foreign Affairs and Relations of the CIS and a member of the Auditing Committee on Privatization. He was also a leader of the Odessa regional Communist Party.

Errata

In the May 19 issue, the story about the funeral of Archbishop-Metropolitan Emeritus Maxim Hermaniuk incorrectly stated that Bishop Lubomyr Husar was born in the U.S. In fact, he was born in Lviv, Ukraine.

Regarding a story that appeared in the April 28 issue of The Weekly about the U.S. Court of Appeals agreeing to hear the case of petitions rejected by the Federal Communications Commission: the attorney of record for Oleg Nikolyszyn of Rhode Island continues to be Bohdanna Pochoday. Also, the Ukrainian Congress Committee of America has a petition that the U.S. Court of Appeals will review along with Mr. Serafyn's and Mr. Nikolyszyn's.

Harvard's Richard Pipes speaks about Russia's past and future

by Taras Myhal
and Andriy Wynnyckyj

TORONTO — Richard Pipes, the Baird Professor of Russian History at Harvard University and the former director for East European and Soviet affairs of the National Security Council under U.S. President Ronald Reagan in 1981-1982, delivered the second annual Barbara Frum Lecture at the University of Toronto Medical Sciences Auditorium on April 24-25.

The two-part lecture and seminar is sponsored by the Frum family, the Canadian Broadcasting Corp. (where Ms. Frum established herself as an icon of broadcast journalism while with the "As It Happens" program on CBC radio and "The Journal" on CBC-TV), Random House, Saturday Night magazine and the host university's department of history.

"Russia's Past and Russia's Future: The Burden of History" was an hourlong excursion down the bumpy road of Russian history, in which the Polish-born Dr. Pipes touched on a variety of elements that shaped it. He maintained that, to really understand this history, a strong appreciation of the eccentricities of Russian politics is necessary, rather than a familiarity with the mysteries of "Russian-ness" or a grasp of deterministic sociological imperatives.

Dr. Pipes, after all, should know. He was one of the few Western historians who forecast the USSR's demise because of its repressive policies towards the nationalities it controlled, while many of his colleagues were left stunned, surprised and bewildered when it happened.

Beginning his survey in the Medieval period, Dr. Pipes posited that the ascendancy of a brutish and backward Moscow over the politically more progressive and sophisticated Novgorod as the chief-city state colored much of Russia's subsequent development, and left it with a doleful, regressive polity.

With its persistent autocracy that stunted legal/political institutions and dwarfed civic culture, Muscovy, then the Russian empire, lagged behind the West even as it grew to control prodigious amounts of territory, Dr. Pipes said. He said that an absence of a concept of private property and of law "superior to both sovereign and subjects" has kept and still keeps Russia behind.

The half-hearted emancipation of serfs did not come until 1861, and whatever democratic institutions existed, such as the Duma formed after the revolution of 1905, were artificial and largely ineffective constructs, copied from the West.

Prof. Pipes commented on the polarizing tug of war between Europe and Asia for Russia's soul, saying that Russians have an unresolved concept of self and identity.

He outlined the tensions in Russian thinking, between Peter I's drive to catch up to the West (replicated in the early days following the 1917 revolution by the Bolsheviks), and the conviction held by the Orthodox clergy that Russia was unique and superior (reasserted by Stalin and his successors).

Prof. Pipes claimed that Russia's autocracy established an intimate link between Russia's status as a great power and its internal stability. "Nothing troubles present-day Russians so much, not even declining living standards or the prevalence of crime, as the recent precipitous loss of status... In Russia, the sense of ethnic identity was always indissolubly linked with that of empire; its loss has produced bewilderment and anguish," he said.

Prof. Pipes added "there is a universal pining for great-power status, be it among nationalists or democrats, Westernizers or Slavophiles," and the present appeal of the "red-brown" (Communist-neo-fascist) coalition is based on its promises to restore the glories of Soviet might.

Despite the dangers posed by Russia's chronic identity crisis, Dr. Pipes expressed doubts that calls to reconstitute the empire would amount to anything more than rhetoric. He said the "post-colonial elites" of the newly independent states would make it impossible without all-out war ("Too many clerks have become ministers, and too many sergeants have become generals for the clock to be turned back," quipped the historian), adding that the present conflict in Chechnya proves Russia is incapable of managing one successfully.

Speaking on the day that Chechen leader Dzhokhar Dudaev was killed by the Russian military, Dr. Pipes did not give ground to his largely academic audience on his skepticism about the prospects of Russia's evolution into a stable, market-oriented democracy.

He referred to a poll showing that 60 percent of Russia's citizenry believe Western aid is meant to destabilize rather than to assist their country's economy.

While dubious about Russia's progress towards a genuinely open society, Dr. Pipes was certain it would not revert to the extremes of Stalinist totalitarianism. The reasons he gave for his relative aplomb: on the economic front, privatization had advanced too far; while on the political front, nobody has the stomach for a terror campaign of the scale necessary.

Many of the formal lecture's themes were revisited in a seminar and question-and-answer session held at the U of T's Governing Council Chambers on the following afternoon.

Dr. Pipes was mischievous in forecasting the political weather in Russia. He opined that a Mussolini-type fascism could well be established, adding wryly to the audience's dismay: "Italian fascism wasn't all that bad," he said. "I lived there — there was lots of operetta and bad architecture, but it wasn't much worse than the Poland I'd left in 1940." He pointed out the howling irony that Chilean dictator Augusto Pinochet (once reviled by the Soviet regime) is currently a popular figure in Russia.

Prof. Pipes admitted reverting to a more pessimistic view of Russia's possibilities in recent months. "My initial optimism rested on parallels I saw with Japan and Israel — two nations that underwent such a trauma that change was made possible."

Dr. Pipes explained that Japan, a formerly highly militaristic, conservative nation, moved toward a totally pacifistic, democratic culture that, while corrupt, was still a far cry from its antecedent. Israel, whose people had eschewed armed conflict for 2,000 years was galvanized by the Holocaust into forming one of the most effective armed forces of the century and its society was almost totally militarized.

Dr. Pipes said the events of late 1991 and early 1992 suggested to him that Russia was the brink of a dramatic transformation, but the democratic reform movement had failed abjectly in selling the Russian people on the ideas of representative democracy and the benefits of property and the rule of law.

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University of Rochester program assists medical schools in Ukraine and Russia

ROCHESTER, N.Y. — Thirteen high-level administrators and faculty from three Russian and two Ukrainian medical schools attended the Innovations in Medical Education Conference held by the University of Rochester USAID Medical Education Partnership and Training Project from February 26 through March 8.

The goal of the conference was to introduce officials from the partnership medical schools to the U.S. medical education system with a focus on clinical teaching models, curricular reform and the evaluation process.

This meeting provided a unique opportunity for the project partners from Russian medical schools in Chelyabinsk, Kazan, and Ekaterinburg and from Ukrainian medical schools in Kyiv and Dnipropetrovske to observe clinical training settings and basic science classes in the mornings and to meet in the afternoons for presentations on specific topics and for round-table discussions.

Conference attendees gathered an immense variety of impressions while observing Attending Rounds in Internal Medicine, Grand Rounds in Internal Medicine and in Neurology, touring the Emergency Medicine Department, the Cancer Center, Research Laboratories, Pathology Laboratories for Microbiology, Cytology, and virology, and the Edward G. Miner Library.

In the Department of Anesthesiology they observed a demonstration of the electronic human patient simulator, and in the department of Pediatrics, they listened to the noon conference discussions. Outside of the U. of Rochester School of Medicine and Dentistry and Strong Memorial Hospital, the Russian and Ukrainian visitors observed clinical teaching in progress at Genesee Hospital.

At the Monroe County Department of Health, Dr. Yuri Voronenko, head of the Board for Medical Education and Science at the National Ministry of Health in Kyiv, conferred with the director of health.

Dr. Ralph F. Jozefowicz, principal investigator for the USAID Partnership Project and associate professor of neurology, led the afternoon conference sessions. Numerous University of Rochester administrators and faculty contributed through presentations in their areas of expertise, such as medical education in the U.S., the curricular reform process, the integration of basic science and clinical science for case-based learning, the role of residents in medical education, the U.S. academic medical center, differ-

ences between Russian, Ukrainian and U.S. medical education, the financing of medical education, the evaluation process in U.S. medical schools, and advances in dental education. Daily information handouts in English and in Russian met with enthusiastic appreciation.

Although traditional formality prevailed at first, the Russian and Ukrainian conference participants soon engaged in friendly networking and in mutually supportive plans for the second year of the partnership project. Afternoon discussions yielded much information for all of the partnership representatives, and American faculty learned a lot about the Russian and Ukrainian medical education systems. While the Russians and Ukrainians partners said they expect to adopt the very best features of U.S. medical education and training for changes in their systems, we anticipate incorporating some of their different but practical approaches to patient care into our system. Evaluation comments acclaimed the Introduction to Health and Human Illness course and the Ward Team System of Clinical Teaching, both based on case presentations, as the most popular components.

The two-week Innovations in Medical Education Conference at the University of Rochester Medical Center will be followed by several workshops, in both Russia and Ukraine, that will focus on curriculum development and on standardized assessment of medical knowledge, the main goals of the USAID Medical Education Partnership and Training Project with Russia and Ukraine.

Two University of Rochester physicians, Edgar Black, M.D., and John Hansen, Ph.D., traveled in May to Ukraine and Russia to conduct three-day workshops on the integration of clinical and basic science teaching.

The first goal of these Curriculum Development Workshops is to introduce the U.S. ward team, including construction and responsibility of the different members, to a group of Ukrainian and Russian faculty engaged in the process of initiating curricular reform, and to help the faculty participants to determine ways the ward team approach can be modified to fit effectively into their medical education systems. The second goal is to provide a forum for each partnership institution to present the pilot reform projects it is developing as a result of the partnership project and to encourage the

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Dr. Marianna Shershneva (second from left) of Kyiv and Dr. Anatoly Yastrebov (center) of Ekaterinburg, Russia, visit with colleagues at the University of Rochester School of Medicine and Dentistry.

Canadian Institute of Ukrainian Studies receives grant for legislative education

EDMONTON – Canadian Cabinet Minister Anne McLellan announced on April 12 that the Canadian Institute of Ukrainian Studies (CIUS) at the University of Alberta would receive a total of \$2.2 million as the Canadian agency responsible for planning and implementing the Canada-Ukraine Legislative Education Project. The funding will be delivered through the Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA).

At a press conference held at the University of Alberta in Edmonton, Minister McLellan remarked that the CULE Project “is intended to support continuing economic and democratic reform in Ukraine by strengthening the decision-making capacity of that country’s legislative and executive institutions” in order to develop “effective reform-oriented legislation and policies.”

During the three-and-a-half-year term of the project, customized educational programs in six policy- or legislative-related areas will be organized for up to 120 Ukrainian legislators and government officials. The minister noted that the governments of the three prairie provinces, Alberta, Saskatchewan and Manitoba, as well as the Speaker’s Office of Canada’s House of Commons, support the project and will participate in organizing workshops for the Ukrainian officials, among whom are members of Ukraine’s Parliament and Cabinet of Ministers, members of their staffs, legal experts and local government officials.

The educational programs will be organized around policy or legislative themes indicated as priorities by Ukrainian participants in areas where Canada can make specific contributions. Training in two policy- or legislative-related thematic areas will be undertaken each year. A total of six training programs will be conducted over the project’s lifetime.

The project originated with the recognition that democratic and market reforms in Ukraine would depend in large part on the policies followed by the Ukrainian government and the types of laws passed by Ukraine’s Parliament, the Supreme Council. Much reform legislation still remains to be developed in order to support the development of a democratic, law-based state and market economy in Ukraine.

For instance, in the area of economic legislation, many laws remain to be passed that would stimulate economic activity in Ukraine, including foreign investment. Minister McLellan noted at the press conference that “the legislative and structural weaknesses within Ukraine’s economic sector are cited time and again by Canadian firms as major barriers to economic investment in that country.”

In Ukraine, CIUS’s partner in managing the project will be the International Center for Policy Studies (ICPS). The ICPS, whose board of directors is chaired by Dr. Bohdan Krawchenko, former director of CIUS, is an independent, non-profit organization that was established by presidential decree in 1993 to assist the Ukrainian government in developing and implementing a market economic reform program. In its management duties, the ICPS will work closely with the Council of Advisors (COA) to the Parliament of Ukraine, whose board of directors is chaired by Dr. Bohdan Hawrylyshyn, professor emeritus and former director of the International Management Institute in Geneva, Switzerland.

The COA, which was created by the Presidium of the Supreme Council in March 1991, comprises 11 international personalities from Canada, Germany, Great Britain, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland and the United States, who advise Ukraine’s Parliament on legal and economic matters as well as on international politics.

The total cost of the CULE Project is estimated at \$4 million, of which the largest part – \$2.2 million – will be contributed by CIDA. The balance of \$1.8 million will be raised through the support of individuals, corporations and foundations, as well as through in-kind contributions from the Canadian Institute of Ukrainian Studies, University of Alberta, Ukrainian partners, the governments of Alberta, Saskatchewan and Manitoba, as well as the Canadian Parliament’s Speaker’s Office and non-governmental bodies.

The project was developed by CIUS with input and support from provincial and federal politicians. Laurence Decore, MLA for Edmonton-Glengarry, the chair of the board of directors that will advise the CIUS on the project as well as facilitate contacts between government, community organizations and private-sector institutions that may wish to participate in the project, noted that the successful culmination of the preparatory work on the project required high levels of cooperation across party lines in Canada.

The board of directors includes Liberals, Conservatives, New Democrats

(Continued on page 17)

Scholarly institutions continue bilateral exchange programs

MONTREAL – The Royal Society of Canada has announced that Prof. André Bandrauk will be the first lecturer to visit Ukraine under the Royal Society of Canada – Ukrainian National Academy of Sciences Cooperation Agreement.

This is a follow-up to the visit of the inaugural Royal Society – Ukrainian Academy exchange lecturer, Dr. Anatolij Zagorodny, who came from Kyiv to tour Canada in March 1995.

Dr. Bandrauk is a distinguished chemical physicist, who is in the department of chemistry at the University of Sherbrooke in Sherbrooke, Quebec. Dr. Bandrauk is also a member of the governing Council of the Academy of Science.

He will visit Ukraine on October 5-19, and will give lectures on his specialty, lasers and computational chemistry, in Kyiv, Kharkiv, Lviv and Odessa. In addition, while visiting the aforementioned centers, Dr. Bandrauk also will address public organizations about science and education in Canada.

The travel costs to Ukraine are being funded from donations to the Royal Society of Canada – Ukraine Exchange Fund. The fund-raising committee for this fund is co-chaired by Jurij Darewych, professor of physics at York University, Toronto, who is also a foreign member of the Ukrainian National Academy of Sciences, and Lawrence A. Mysak, professor of atmospheric and oceanic sciences at McGill University (Montreal).

A major donation to this fund has



Prof. André Bandrauk

come from the Ukrainian Canadian Foundation of Taras Shevchenko. A tax-deductible donation to the Royal Society of Canada – Ukraine Exchange Fund may be sent to Sandy Jackson, financial coordinator, Royal Society of Canada, Suite 308, 225 Metcalfe St., Ottawa, Ontario K2P 1P9; telephone, (613) 991-6990; fax, (613) 991-6996.

Canada has new vehicle to coordinate aid to Ukraine

WINNIPEG – The Ukrainian community in Canada now has a vehicle to coordinate and provide assistance to Ukraine, as the inaugural meeting of the 14 founding member, organizations of the Canada-Ukraine Foundation (CUF) was held on the weekend of March 23-24 in Winnipeg.

The establishment of the Canada-Ukraine Foundation (CUF) was first announced during the state visit to Canada by the president of Ukraine, Leonid Kuchma, in October of 1994. The next year and a half have been spent putting together the major pieces of the puzzle.

The CUF was created by a steering committee of the Ukrainian Canadian Congress (UCC) headquarters and received its Letters Patent under the Canada Corporations Act on August 28, 1995.

The 14 representatives who attended the inaugural meeting comprise CUF’s founding board of directors. The CUF board elected Dr. Jaroslaw Barwinsky of Winnipeg as president. Dr. Barwinsky is a noted heart surgeon, a professor in the faculty of medicine at the University of Manitoba and an active supporter of many community causes.

The other members of the CUF executive are: Stefan Franko (Saskatoon), vice-president; Anne Wach (Winnipeg), secretary; Halyna Holowka (Montreal), treasurer; Dr. Orest Talpash (Edmonton), Myroslava Pidhirnyj (Winnipeg), Maria Komarnycky (Toronto) and Ihor Broda (Edmonton), members at large.

The Canada-Ukraine Foundation is a charitable foundation dedicated to providing effective assistance to Ukraine. It accomplishes its mission by raising funds which will be allocated to sustainable and cost-effective projects that respond to the needs of Ukraine and its people.

The Ukrainian Canadian community is currently working on providing assistance

to Ukraine in a number of areas. The CUF will work to assist community efforts in the following areas: 1) social well-being; 2) Canada-Ukraine Student Exchange Program (CUSEP); 3) education (textbooks); 4) religion; 5) youth and sport; 6) art/culture; and 7) health (technology). It will do so by facilitating, promoting and coordinating community activities and liaising with governments.

An immediate priority for the CUF is to raise money to establish a solid capital fund base. As 1996 marks the fifth anniversary of Ukraine’s independence, the CUF has proclaimed that its goal is to raise a target amount of \$1 million in its first year of operation. The CUF plans to mount an aggressive campaign to gener-

ate funds from memberships and donations.

There are four membership categories in the CUF. The initial membership fee is \$10,000 from corporations, \$5,000 from UCC member-organizations, \$2,500 from non-member organizations and \$1,000 from individuals. There is also an annual membership fee equal to 10 percent of the initial membership fee for all categories to remain a member of the CUF in good standing.

The CUF will be providing updates on its activities and the status of its membership and fund-raising drive.

For further information contact Dr. Jaroslaw Barwinsky, CUF president (204) 942-4627.



The executive of the Canada-Ukraine Foundation: (front row, from left) Anne Wach, Stefan Franko, Dr. Jaroslaw Barwinsky, Halyna Holowka, (back row) Dr. Orest Talpash, Maria Komarnycky, Myroslava Pidhirnyj and Ihor Broda.

THE UKRAINIAN WEEKLY

Time to act

"... We appeal to the people of the world to unite their efforts in assisting us in overcoming Chornobyl's consequences. Despite major efforts on the national and international levels, including several U.N. resolutions, there is still very much to be done. New vigorous international efforts are needed to help address victims suffering in Belarus, Ukraine and Russia through provision of humanitarian and medical assistance, and increased scientific cooperation." — From the trilateral statement issued in Washington on the occasion of the 10th anniversary of the Chornobyl nuclear accident by Ambassador of the Republic of Belarus Serguei N. Martynov, Ambassador of the Russian Federation Yuli M. Vorontsov and Ambassador of Ukraine Yuri M. Shcherbak.

Observances of the 10th anniversary of the Chornobyl nuclear disaster, for the most part, are now over. Many moving speeches have been given, many noble sentiments have been expressed. Many promises have been made.

Among the most moving events was the commemoration of the tragic decennial hosted at the White House by First Lady Hillary Rodham Clinton, assisted by Vice President Al Gore, to focus attention on the continuing devastating effects of the disaster. All the right words were spoken and references were made to a panoply of issues, from the ailing victims to alternate energy sources. "...let's not forget that humanitarian assistance is not a short-term investment. The people and nations of Ukraine, Belarus and Russia are struggling to build the infrastructure and institutions needed to sustain democracy and repair the human spirit after harsh decades of totalitarianism. It is our duty, it is our moral responsibility, as believers in freedom and democracy, to help them," the first lady emphasized.

There were fine words from Congress, too. The presumptive Republican candidate for president, Robert Dole, while still a senator spoke on April 24 in support of a concurrent resolution on Chornobyl: "Just as the United States joined with the Ukrainian people to defeat communism, we must work in partnership to overcome the tragic consequences of Chornobyl." His colleague on the other side of the political aisle, Sen. Frank Lautenberg, added his voice in support of the resolution: "At this very delicate time in Ukraine's history, the United States should support Ukraine's efforts to rebuild its infrastructure and to secure the alternative energy sources it needs to close Chornobyl in a safe and expeditious manner." In the House Rep. Chris Smith spoke for passage of the resolution, underlining that "continued and enhanced international cooperation is vital to address the suffering of millions."

The resolution itself, which passed in the Senate on April 25 and in the House on May 22, calls on the president to "support continued and enhanced United States assistance to provide medical relief, humanitarian assistance, social impact planning and hospital development for Ukraine, Belarus, Russia and other nations most heavily afflicted by Chornobyl's aftermath," as well as to encourage national and international health organizations to expand the scope of research into the disaster's public health consequences, and to support to the closing of the plant and broadening of regional energy sources.

Again, the right words were invoked.

At the same time, however, other activists report that there is a decrease in U.S. funding for such matters. Dr. Daniel Hryhorczuk reported at Yale University conference on Chornobyl that the Ukrainian Environmental Health Project that he directs as a joint U.S.-Ukrainian study of thyroid cancers, has now stalled due to a lack of commitment at the highest levels of the U.S. government, both its legislative and executive branches. He is seeking a renewed commitment to this public health project.

Other activists are seeking support for new and much-needed initiatives. Dr. Wladimir Wartecki, chairman of the department of medical genetics at the University of South Alabama Medical School, has submitted a proposal to Office of International Health Programs at the U.S. Department of Energy to support a symposium on Chornobyl's genetic implications that will be organized to take place during the International Congress of Human Genetics in Rio De Janeiro in August. Dr. Wartecki is also in the process of presenting a proposal to USAID to establish a U.S.-Ukraine partnership to monitor birth defects, a vital project since genetic mutations have already been observed in children of parents exposed to Chornobyl's radiation, as reported in the prestigious journal *Nature*.

Now comes the time to consider whether words will lead to action. Chornobyl is not just an event to be recalled and then forgotten until the next anniversary. Its effects are far-reaching; its victims are real people. We expect that the world's leaders, including our government officials in the United States, will keep their word.

May
31
1880

Turning the pages back...

Oleksandra Smyrnova, born on May 31, 1880, in Pereyaslav, Poltava gubernia, studied at the Montpellier University in France, graduating in 1905, then returned to

Ukraine to teach at the Higher Medical Courses for Women (1908-1920), the Kyiv Medical Institute (until 1930).

In 1931, she was accepted into the Ukrainian SSR Academy of Sciences, taught at the Institute of Clinical Physiology, and became a department head in 1938, a position she filled until 1953. In 1933-1941, Smyrnova also served in the Department of Pathological Anatomy at the Second Kyiv Medical Institute.

In 1953, Smyrnova assumed the post of chief of the morphology laboratory at the Academy of Sciences Institute of Physiology.

Of her scholarly works, the most important were studies of the pathological anatomy of radiation sickness, infectious diseases and the origin of tumors.

She died in Kyiv on September 22, 1962.

Source: "Smyrnova-Zamkova, Oleksandra" *Encyclopedia of Ukraine* (Toronto: University of Toronto Press, 1993).

ANALYSIS: Did the Bible predict the Chornobyl nuclear disaster?

by Victor Lychyk

The burning star

The April 26 anniversary of the world's worst nuclear power plant accident at the Chornobyl power station in Ukraine has drawn attention to the massive amount of problems that remain or are even growing 10 years after the explosion and fire occurred. At conferences and lectures, as well as in the mass media, the catastrophic ecological, medical and economic consequences of the accident have been examined.

Some have suggested the accident and its far-reaching and deadly effects could have been predicted and, therefore, avoided. For example, on March 27, 1986, exactly one month before reactor No. 4 exploded, an article appeared in the weekly newspaper *Literaturna Ukraina* that described in detail numerous problems that had besieged the plant during the construction, then in progress, of reactor No. 5. They included errors in planning, shortages and defects in construction materials, and low worker morale.

Author Liubov Kovalevska, then editor of the Prypiat newspaper *Trybuna Enerhetyky*, did not limit herself to problems surrounding the fifth reactor. Rather, she pointed out that "the problems of the first energy block were passed on to the second, the second to the third, and so on. And together with this they expanded...and there were a huge number of unsolved problems." While at the time Ms. Kovalevska was reproached and demoted by local officials for writing this piece, her article came to be cited by many both in Ukraine and the West as a warning that should have been heeded in order to avert the disaster that would occur just one month later.

Was the accident prophesied?

Is it possible, however, that the Chornobyl disaster could have been predicted or, more precisely, prophesied much earlier, nearly 2,000 years ago in the Bible?

To answer this question, let us first examine what the word "chornobyl," after which the town and nuclear plant are named, means in Ukrainian.

The term "chornobyl" refers to a plant that belongs to the genus *Artemisia* and the species *vulgaris*. It is described as a "perennial herbaceous plant with a brownish-black stem used in medicine; a variety of wormwood." In fact, all plants of the genus *Artemisia* are commonly referred to as wormwood. Wormwood is noted for its strong fragrance and bitter taste. Its extract is used for making alcoholic beverages such as wormwood wine or vermouth. Medicinally, it has been used to expel worms from the body and received its name because of this function.

The Bible contains several references to wormwood. The one that concerns us here occurs in the last book of the New Testament, *Revelations*. In this book the apostle John describes the vision he received of the Apocalypse that will occur at the end of the world. In *Revelation 8* he writes:

"And the third angel sounded, and there fell a great star from heaven, burning as it were a lamp, and it fell upon the third part of the rivers, and upon the fountains of water. And the name of the star is called Wormwood: and the third part of the waters became wormwood; and many men died of the waters because they were made bitter."

Victor Lychyk, Ph. D., is a Slavic linguist, who works as a translator and independent researcher. He has contributed to Canadian Slavonic Papers and the Journal of Ukrainian Studies.

In this passage, wormwood is clearly a harbinger of great misfortune. If the images presented here are interpreted in terms of the disaster at Chornobyl, then the great burning star could symbolize the explosions and fire at the plant. The fire lasted for 10 days and was marked by heroic efforts of numerous clean-up workers, or "liquidators." Ultimately, hundreds of thousands of liquidators were dispatched to the forbidden zone in the months following the accident. Many of them have since died or have fallen ill as a result of the massive doses of radiation that they received.

The rivers and fountains of water

Another aspect of the misfortune described in these verses is the deadly contamination of a great amount of water. If we look at the location of Chornobyl on the map, we find that it is situated on the Prypiat River, not far from where it flows into the Dniro River's Kyiv Reservoir, the third largest reservoir in Ukraine, with a surface area of 922 square kilometers. One of the major uses of this reservoir is to store drinking water.

Immediately after the reactor explosion, researchers noted radioactive contamination of the Dniro, Prypiat and other rivers. During the past 10 years, the overall level of radioactive contamination of river water itself has fallen, though it should be noted that radionuclides tend to settle on the bottom of the river.

So the potential for future contamination remains. According to a recent report in *The Washington Post*, "the immediate hazard" is that the sarcophagus, the structure that houses destroyed reactor No. 4, is deteriorating and "leaching radiation into the ground water that slowly is making its way to the nearby Dniro River. Radioactive contamination of the Dniro would threaten drinking water for Kyiv, just downstream, and many other Ukrainian cities."

According to Ukrainian physician, medical researcher and Ukraine's current Ambassador to the U.S. Yuri Shcherbak, it is not only radiation from the decaying sarcophagus, but also from hundreds of hastily made "burial sites" filled with radioactive waste in the 30-kilometer exclusion zone around Chornobyl that "may account for the substantial contamination of the sediments of the Dniro River and its tributary, the Prypiat, which supply water for 30 million people." These repositories of radioactivity must be removed if further contamination is to be prevented.

Returning to the passage from *Revelations*, it is possible that the rivers referred to are the Prypiat and Dniro (among others), and that the "fountains of water" are the Kyiv Reservoir and other affected sources of drinking water.

The source of contamination: wormwood

It is understandable why the apostle John uses wormwood as a symbol for the substance that makes the water bitter and contaminates it. As noted above, wormwood is proverbial for the bitter taste of its extract. Yet the bitterness of wormwood is to be understood not only literally, in terms of its flavor, but also figuratively, in terms of a bitter experience. After all, we see in this passage that the water it poisoned caused the deaths of many.

This figurative usage of wormwood goes as far back as the Old Testament. In the Book of Amos, for example, the author-prophet writes "You have turned justice into poison, and righteousness into wormwood" (7:12). The author of

(Continued on page 14)

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

D.C. community deserves kudos

Dear Editor:

Kudos to the Washington community!

The Ukrainian community of the Washington area did an outstanding job in commemorating the 10th anniversary of the Chernobyl catastrophe. The events started on March 31 with a moleben and concert/silent auction, organized by the local Chernobyl Committee with the assistance of the Ukrainian American Community Network, at St. Andrew Ukrainian Orthodox Cathedral. On April 25 an annual commemorative service was held at the Chernobyl Tree in Lafayette Park, across from the White House. During the following week, a concert at the Kennedy Center featured the Odessa Philharmonic Orchestra, and the aftermath of the 1986 disaster was explored at a Capitol Hill hearing.

The culmination of this year's commemorative activities was the May interfaith memorial service, held at the church of the presidents, St. John's Episcopal at Lafayette Square, under the auspices of the Ukrainian Embassy and co-sponsored by Washington's Ukrainian parishes and organizations. Organized by the Very Rev. Stefan Zencuch, the new rector of St. Andrew's, and master of ceremonies Michael Sawkiw Jr., director of the UNIS office, the service was celebrated by Christian, Jewish, Hindu, Muslim and other representatives of the Interfaith Conference of Washington. Choral responses were sung by the St. Andrew Ukrainian Orthodox Cathedral Choir, under the direction of Dr. Ihor Masnyk.

In addition to remarks by the Ukrainian ambassador, Dr. Yuri Shcherbak, the congregation was addressed by Melanne Verveer, deputy assistant to the president and deputy chief of staff to the first lady, and Ambassador Designate Richard Morningstar, special advisor to the president and secretary of state on assistance to the NIS. Also in attendance were other dignitaries, including the ambassador from Belarus, Serguei Martynov. Rep. Sander Levin (D-Mich.) delivered a stirring call to "never forget Chernobyl," and 11-year-old survivor Volodymyr Malofienko read a moving Chernobyl poem. The service concluded with a candlelight procession to the Chernobyl Tree across Lafayette Square.

This year's commemoration was particularly noteworthy in light of the leadership provided by the Ukrainian Embassy. All of the participants are to be commended for their united effort to raise and maintain awareness of Chernobyl's legacy.

Dr. Victoria Dziuba Malick
Great Falls, Va.

Clinton's remark must be questioned

Dear Editor:

I was stunned by what President Bill Clinton said in Russia during his visit. I understand that President Clinton wants to get elected at any cost, but his recent statement should be questioned. Naturally, the dominant media did not report this news event.

President Clinton said, "Abraham Lincoln gave his life for the proposition that no state had a right to withdraw from our union. And so, the United States has taken the position that Chechnya is a part of Russia" (Associated Press, April 22).

How can Clinton compare the war in Chechnya to the Civil War? There is no

comparison. The statement can cause dire consequences, however. Does this mean that Ukraine's independence is invalid? Does this mean that we fought against communism and the Soviet Union, only to wish for its re-emergence? Does this mean that the Baltic states must give up their freedom? How about the other newly formed nation-states? How would the U.S. respond if Russian tanks rolled into Ukraine? Just another "internal" matter?

History lessons should be given in the White House, and statements such as these should be considered as to their long-term ramifications. During my visit to Eastern Europe a former Communist tried to convince me that the United States and the Soviet Union are the same. Wrong comrade, nothing can be further from the truth. Read and understand history.

Roman G. Golash
Schaumburg, Ill.

Children reveal their compassion

Dear Editor:

First, let me congratulate you and your staff for the excellent coverage on Chernobyl, and the anniversary thereof. The Weekly is an excellent source of information about Ukraine and should be read by all Ukrainian Americans (others, too).

Second, I am enclosing an article which I hope you will be able to include in a future issue. The article is of special significance since it was a project entirely initiated by third-graders without any adult suggestion. The children are not of Ukrainian background – just "typical American kids."

We all know that children can be cruel at times, but they also can be kind and compassionate, and this article [published on page 8 of this issue – ed.] proves the latter.

Olga Prychka
Stratford, N.J.

About the ghosts of communism

Dear Editor:

God Bless Myron Kuropas for his column "The ghosts of communism." I agree that it is long overdue that Ukraine should put on trial those Russian Communists and their supporters who committed war crimes against Ukraine and their people.

A great American once said a "house divided cannot stand." This statement most certainly can be applied to Ukraine. How much longer should the loyal Ukrainian people tolerate the Russian fifth column that tries to control the so-called Ukrainian Parliament? Hasn't Ukraine suffered enough from the Russian imperialists who would like to enslave Ukraine? We should adopt the Jewish slogan "Never Again!"

It is a proven fact that you cannot coexist with snakes! Ukraine should adopt a program to export those people who originally came from Russia as occupiers and still prefer Russia over Ukraine. This is not an easy task and will take years to complete; but in order for Ukraine to survive this must be accomplished as soon as possible. Also, we must work on a project to retrieve the millions of Ukrainians who were forced out of Ukraine and used as slave labor in Siberia and elsewhere. The children and their children, of these expelled Ukrainians, should be given the opportunity to return to help build a new independent Ukraine.

Markian Solonyuka
Matawan, N.J.

Faces and Places

by Myron B. Kuropas



Ghostbusting in Ukraine

A funny thing. No sooner does my commentary on Communist ghosts appear in The Ukrainian Weekly than Ukraine responds.

Any connection? In your dreams, Kuropas.

But it's reassuring to learn that 68 democrats in Ukraine's Parliament have neither forgiven nor forgotten the ethnocide perpetrated by the Bolsheviks against the Ukrainian people.

Led by Lev Lukianenko, Yevhen Proniuk and Les Taniuk, the 68 parliamentarians have established Nuremberg II. The purpose, reports Chrystyna Lapychak in a May 6 story carried by the service UNIAR press, is to organize a symbolic international trial on crimes committed by the former Communist Party of the Soviet Union and the Communist Party of Ukraine. "The legislators plan to use the caucus to collect evidence, hold public hearings and conferences, and maintain links with parliaments of other former Soviet republics," reads the release.

It's a brilliant move. Since it's probably unrealistic to assume that, given the present dominance of the Communist nomenclatura, Ukraine will soon, if ever, bring anyone to trial, it is at least possible to document Ukraine's Bolshevik barbarism.

Ukraine needs to authenticate these historical antecedents in some formal way. The recent past needs to be recorded in its entirety for three major reasons: 1) to expose the bestial Bolshevik abominations in all their horror in the hope that they will never be repeated (communism won't go away unless a silver spike is driven through its wretched heart); 2) academics, both in Ukraine and elsewhere, seem to be shying away from writing the truth about Ukraine's Bolshevik past; 3) Ukraine can no longer pretend that what transpired between 1920 and 1991 was a mere aberration in a long history. It wasn't. Before Ukraine can be whole again, past realities, as painful as they may be, must be addressed.

We in North America can assist Ukraine's ghostbusters in a number of ways. Dr. Lev Dobriansky's proposal to establish a Holocaust-type museum that could serve as a reminder of Communist malevolence is an idea worthy of our support.

Another way the diaspora can help is through conferences dedicated to a particular aspect of the Bolshevism. An excellent theme for one of Prof. Dmytro Shtohryn's weeklong, annual academic conferences at the University of Illinois could easily be on Bolshevism in Ukraine.

Publications in the English language are another way we in North America can help. There are countless areas that could use the light of truth. We could begin with the story behind the Russian Bolshevik invasion of Ukraine, its forced incorporation into the USSR, and the subsequent annihilation of hundreds of Ukraine's own nationally oriented Bolsheviks as well as thousands of scholars, editors, teachers and others whose loyalty to Ukraine superseded loyalty to Lenin and Stalin.

Let the chips fall where they may. The inordinate role played by Jews in bringing Bolshevism to power is certainly a topic worthy of further exploration.

Another aspect of this early Bolshevik period was the total destruction of the Ukrainian Autocephalous Orthodox

Church, which resulted in Siberian exile or death for thousands of priests and prelates. This history has yet to be written.

The famine, of course, also requires further research. Yes, there already are excellent publications on the famine, but we need more. There are hundreds of books on the Jewish Holocaust. There should also be hundreds of books on the Ukrainian famine, a malefaction that has no equal in world history.

There are some excellent books on the killing fields of Vinnytsia as well, but more documentation is required. We know that in 1943, approximately 9,000 Soviet citizens were found buried in mass graves in the Ukrainian city of Vinnytsia. It was later established that they were executed by the Bolsheviks during the years 1937 and 1938. Significantly, none of the persons killed had been sentenced to death. "In cases where an official conviction could be linked to a victim," writes Ihor Kamenetsky in "The Tragedy of Vinnytsia," "either through documentary evidence or on the basis of the testimony by relatives, the maximum sentence was a term of 10 years' confinement in a labor camp with the denial of the right to correspondence."

There is also testimony available regarding Soviet butchery of Ukrainian nationalists as the Germans were approaching the city of Lviv in June of 1941. Unable to evacuate the thousands of prisoners incarcerated following the Soviet occupation of Galicia, thousands of Ukrainians were simply massacred in their cells.

The destruction of the Ukrainian Catholic Church by Soviet authorities and the murder and deportation of thousands of Ukrainian clergy and laity is still another subject requiring more research. Members of the underground Church are still alive and could provide excellent testimony.

There are other crimes, some hardly known or mentioned, that need to be exposed by Nuremberg II and by others. We can't pretend that Bolshevism was one, big, misguided but well-intentioned error. "Mistakes" were made, we are told by devotees of socialism, but the goal was an honorable one. This is the kind of spin the Left in America is already putting on the collapse of the Soviet Union.

In an article titled "Socialism Would Strengthen the Republic's Economies," for example, Mike Davidow argues that it was not socialism that destroyed the Soviet empire but "retrogression," which was largely the result of "ideological disorientation." Socialism in the USSR "constituted a higher state in the progress of mankind," he writes. Mr. Davidow mourns the Soviet demise because the Bolsheviks played "a progressive role on the world scene for seven decades" and had "a positive influence on social development." Mr. Davidow and others like him are one more reason for setting the record straight.

Once again our community has an obligation to remind the world that no people, not even the Jews, suffered more during the 20th century than the Ukrainians. And we must do this time and time again. Constantly. Repeatedly. In every possible way, on every conceivable occasion. We must do this because the world has a short attention span.

Like our brethren in Ukraine, we, too, must become committed ghostbusters. Like the Jews, our motto must be "never again."

COMMUNITY COMMEMORATIONS OF THE CHORNOBYL ANNIVERSARY

Port Republic, N.J.

PORT REPUBLIC, N.J. – It was the latter part of April when the third grade in Port Republic School was observing Earth Day and Arbor Day. During their discussion about pollution and saving the environment, a newspaper article in the Atlantic City Press came to their attention.

The article, titled "After 10 Years, Chernobyl's Full Effect Remains Unknown," included a photograph of a 5-year-old boy suffering from leukemia. His bald head was marked with lines for coming medical procedures.

The third graders, 8-and 9-year-old children, were extremely sympathetic and upset, wanting to help the stricken child and other children as well. Ideas

and suggestions were offered, excitement for the project swelled, and after discussing their plan with the school principal, the project was announced: a cupcake sale in the school cafeteria on Thursday and Friday, April 25 and 26.

Signs were made and posted. The kids visited each classroom to announce the coming sale. Each pupil brought in homemade cupcakes to sell.

The project netted \$100, which was donated to the Children of Chernobyl Relief Fund. The third graders experienced satisfaction knowing they had offered some aid to children far less fortunate than they.

A job well done – and entirely thought of and executed by sympathetic youngsters under the guidance of their teacher, Mary Prychka.



Third-graders in the Port Republic School sell cupcakes to help children of Chernobyl.

Toronto

by Yakiv Krekhovetsky

TORONTO – The Ukrainian Association of Visual Artists of Canada (USOM), based in Toronto, held an auction of its works and those of some well-known artists of the previous generation for the Children of Chernobyl Canadian Fund. The fund was the beneficiary of \$5,300 in net earnings when the two-hour auction was over.

Before the auction there was an excited buzz of anticipation as over 100 works of art at bargain starting bids were viewed on April 21 at the Ukrainian Canadian Art Foundation, which offered the use of the gallery cost-free, a gesture of support by Jaroslava Szafraniuk, founder, and its board of directors. Then Andrij Babytsch, president of USOM, opened the auction with some official remarks.

The main moderator and ad-hoc auctioneer, Luba Goy, noted comedian of Royal Canadian Air Farce and other stage fame, offered the creative works to the audience. Assisting her was Renata Duma-Jaciw, hostess of the Svitohliad TV program and talented choir director. The two gracious auc-

tioners extolled the art, encouraged the audience, engaged in pleasant banter, and sold, sold, sold for the children of Chernobyl.

Other people in active assistance on the scene were artist Zenon Fedory in his beret and artistic attire, and Ruslana Wrzesnewskyj, vice-president of the Children of Chernobyl Canadian Fund, who coordinated the hospitality team for the day. Also on hand were many artists of USOM, displaying, recording and joining in the excitement of the day.

But perhaps the greatest motivating force was the audience, who made it all a success. It participated in a real spirit of generosity and with a sense of purpose. Every now and then one heard a spontaneous comment in the crowd, like: "Good, it's for the children."

This first USOM auction also had some superb prizes for two lucky lottery ticket holders at the end of the afternoon. An exquisite rendering of Maria Styranka's well-known theme, "Flowers in the Morning Mist," was won by Eugene and Renata Romanchukewych, while an elegant oil painting by Mr. Babytsch, "Still Life with Fruit," went to the home of Halyna Semanyshyn. Both paintings were the generous dona-



Auctioneers Luba Goy (left) and Renata Duma-Jaciw at a fund-raiser for the Children of Chernobyl.

tions of the artists.

The afternoon ended with a feeling of accomplishment by all concerned, and with pleasant socializing over coffee and dessert.

fee and dessert.

USOM has become quite active in the last two years through a series of exhibits in Toronto and one in New York.

Parma, Ohio

PARMA, Ohio – On Friday, April 26, the date of the 10th anniversary of the nuclear disaster in Chernobyl, Ukraine, special services were conducted here at St. Vladimir's Ukrainian Orthodox Cathedral.

At 10 a.m. the Revs. Stephen Hankavich and John Nakonachny of St. Vladimir's, the Rev. Dennis Kristof of St. Nicholas Ukrainian Orthodox Pro Cathedral in Lakewood, Ohio, and the Rev. John Chirovsky of St. Pokrova Ukrainian Catholic Church in Parma served a moleben for the health of the victims suffering the effects of radiation. Sermons were given by the Rev. Chirovsky in Ukrainian and the Rev. Kristof in English.

Following the moleben, all proceeded outdoors to the Famine Monument, where a memorial service was held for those who perished in the disaster. Irene Pavlyshyn and Helen Dmytrewycz, chairpersons of the Chernobyl Fund Committee of the 60+ Club, placed a wreath of blue and yellow flowers at the base of the monument.

Following the services, a documentary on the tragedy was shown in the parish center.

Over the last two months, parish organizations and parishioners of St. Vladimir's have donated over \$15,000 to mark this sad anniversary.



The Revs. Dennis Kristof, John Chirovsky, Stephen Hankavich and John Nakonachny serve a memorial service at St. Vladimir Ukrainian Orthodox Cathedral in Parma, Ohio, on the occasion of the 10th anniversary of the Chernobyl disaster.

COMMUNITY COMMEMORATIONS OF THE CHORNOBYL ANNIVERSARY

Cambridge, Mass.

CAMBRIDGE, Mass. – The Harvard Ukrainian Research Institute and the Harvard University Committee on Environment sponsored two days of events, April 24 and April 25, to commemorate the 10th anniversary of the Chernobyl tragedy.

The importance of the commemoration was dramatically emphasized by the fires in the 30-kilometer zone at the Chernobyl plant and the radiation leak that occurred the week of the anniversary, so that the Harvard events were widely publicized in the Boston area and mentioned nationally by the AP wire service. A broad spectrum of the Boston community attended all three sections of the commemoration.

Eyewitnesses to the Disaster

On Wednesday evening, April 24, the focus was on eyewitness perspectives to the tragedy. Dr. Lubomyr Hajda, associate director of the Ukrainian Research Institute, opened the session with general remarks about Chernobyl and its tragic legacy. Lt. Gen. (retired Ukrainian militia) Volodymyr Korniychuk then spoke to a large audience about his experiences coordinating the original emergency response (he was responsible for internal affairs for Kyiv Oblast at the time), including the bureaucratic nightmares, the indifference of the Moscow Party bosses (including Communist Party General Secretary Mikhail Gorbachev), the incredible lies that were told to all involved, the total lack of compassion for the civilian population by the Soviet center, the heroism of the firefighters and the liquidators.

Ltd. Gen. Korniychuk's address was emotionally charged and sparked responses during the question and answer period, especially with regard to the fact that the Communist Party allowed the May Day parade to take place in Kyiv. He had no answer to one pointed question about why it was not possible for anyone who knew about it to have spread the word in Kyiv and elsewhere. (At the time of the parade, he himself was still engaged in containment at the accident site.)

A stunning visual perspective of the tragedy was given by the Kyiv-based filmmaker Volodymyr Kuznetsov, who has devoted a significant portion of his professional career to documenting Chernobyl and its aftermath. His works were shown on several Boston-area television stations during the week, and he took part, with other symposium participants, in a televised roundtable discussion on the local PBS station, WGBH.

Mr. Kuznetsov's address on Wednesday riveted the audience – even more so his films, "The Chernobyl Accident: A Chronicle of the Sarcophagus Construction" (1996) and "While We Still Live..." (excerpts) (1992). The images of the destruction and the interior of the sarcophagus were haunting, but it was the images of the children affected by Chernobyl that left the audience most deeply moved and shaken.

The long-term effects: specialists' perspectives

The session on Thursday afternoon, 25 dealt with the longer-term effects of Chernobyl for Ukraine. Prof. George Grabowicz, director of the Ukrainian Research Institute, made introductory remarks. Among the most vivid images he evoked while explaining the importance of Chernobyl for Ukraine was of remote villages in Polissia that had escaped World War II – not even knowing that it had taken place – only to be unable to escape the lethal effects of radiation. Chernobyl

summarily cleared the ethnogenetic homeland of the Slavs of all human life.

John Dillon, a Vermont-based journalist and Knight Science Fellow at MIT who has written extensively on Ukrainian environmental issues and nuclear issues in the former Soviet Union, followed with an expansive overview of Chernobyl, especially concentrating on the future for ecological concerns surrounding it. His general conclusions were grim, given the state of the Ukrainian economy and its dependence on nuclear energy.

Sergei Skokov, an eco-businessman from Kharkiv and current Muskie fellow at MIT, then talked about the state of the nuclear industry and structural problems in avoiding another Chernobyl. He stressed the necessity for adherence to international conventions on nuclear safety and liability, which are regularly flouted by signatory states.

In his comments and the questions and answers that followed, disdain for the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) was clear, especially in its handling of the Soviet response to the accident, which, as characterized by Mr. Skokov, was: "Okay. Be good boys. Do what you need to do." What the Soviet government did was to lie about every aspect of the accident, which hampered accurate assessments of the accident and consequences for years to come.

The question of energy diversity and alternatives to nuclear power were raised by the audience. Messrs. Skokov and Dillon both admitted that alternative energy diversification in Ukraine is a dead issue at present. One scholar in the audience noted that the Ukrainian government had put up so many bureaucratic obstacles that Western alternative-energy companies had pulled out of such Ukrainian projects as the windmill field in the Crimea.

Hydro power remains the most viable alternative to nuclear energy. However, the greatest savings will be gained through conservation – Ukrainian industry uses 11 times more energy per unit production than in the West, one of the worst ratios in world. This situation is the product of a pernicious cycle: an inefficient industrial base that cannot generate the capital necessary to update itself to become profitable and more energy efficient so that Ukraine is less dependent on nuclear energy and energy transfers from Russia. Western aid seems to be the only way out of the crisis, all agreed.

The second session continued with Prof. Jane Dawson of Wellesley College speaking on environmentalism and nationalism; Dr. Natalia Lakiza-Sachuk, head of President Leonid Kuchma's Committee on Problems of Women, Children and Family and a visiting scholar at Georgetown University, speaking on the socio-demographic effects of Chernobyl; and Dr. Anna Klimina of the Institute of Economics, National Academy of Sciences of Ukraine and a visiting fellow at the Ukrainian Research Institute at Harvard, addressing the economic burden. Dr. Lakiza-Sachuk's views have been reported in *The Weekly* in previous issues.

She and Dr. Klimina engaged in an emotionally charged debate with a Ukrainian audience member who had taken part in the May Day parade as a young student about the resolve of the Ukrainian government to close Chernobyl. The questioner, Hlib Nechaev, who has studied economics and urban affairs at MIT, noted that the government could shut down the station if it had the will to do so and cut funds from other sources.

In the ensuing debate, Dr. Klimina argued that economic consequences would be too harsh for Ukraine to bear alone and Dr. Lakiza-Sachuk agreed, saying the

socio-psychological harm from the the economic repercussions could not be tolerated. When pressed on a "basement" figure for what Ukraine needs from the West in aid for Chernobyl, Dr. Klimina answered not less than \$4 billion.

The Anti-Nuclear Movement and Ukrainian National Aspirations

Prof. Dawson pointed out the political importance of Chernobyl in sparking the anti-nuclear movements in Ukraine, Lithuania and Armenia. She noted that Ukraine differs from Lithuania and Armenia in that within these countries the anti-nuclear movements were the focal points for nationalist, anti-Soviet movements that eventually took them over. Upon achieving independence, the anti-nuclear movements died in Lithuania and Armenia; indeed, many of those who had been anti-nuclear activists before the fall of the Soviet Union became pro-nuclear afterward, when it became clear that Lithuania and Armenia would need nuclear power to remain independent.

The situation in Ukraine, though, was different. The Ukrainian anti-nuclear movement that began two years following Chernobyl fostered groups that sought Ukrainian autonomy, but were distinct from them and never completely subsumed by them. In Ukraine, anti-nuclear groups have continued into the present, even though the independent government reversed its initial decision against the expansion of nuclear power in Ukraine (as happened in Lithuania and Armenia) and nuclear power is important to Ukraine's independence in the energy sector.

Another telling fact that she has documented is that the anti-nuclear movements in Lithuania and Armenia were ethnically exclusive and anti-Russian in a hostile way, while the movement in Ukraine embraced all ethnicities, including Russians, and was profoundly anti-Soviet, rather than anti-Russian. These results are significant because they show that the early predictions by Western pundits about the impossibility of inter-ethnic unity in Ukraine were deeply mistaken. The ability of Ukrainians of all ethnic backgrounds to come together over Chernobyl foresaw their ability to forge a united, independent Ukrainian state.

The view from a senior scientist

Prof. Richard Wilson, Harvard's Mallinckrodt Professor of Physics, gave a keynote lecture on Thursday evening which formed the third part of the commemoration. Professor Wilson was the first Western scientist to be admitted into the Chernobyl area for study and was one of the first to devote long-range study to the problem. He had senior contacts with all scientists involved on the Soviet and Western sides, and continues to work with scientists from Ukraine, Belarus and Russia to chart the consequences of the disaster.

His lecture focused on the controversy in the scientific community over what actually happened at the time of the explosion, radionuclide deposition patterns, the total amount of radiation released, and the lasting health effects of ionizing radiation. His views have most recently been expressed in *Science* and several national talk shows; he steered a middle course in the health debates and agreed with Dr. Alexander Sich's assessments about the radiation release.

As a longtime researcher (he turned 70 last week and has been involved in nuclear issues as long as there have been nuclear issues), he expressed extreme indignation at the Soviet government's handling of Chernobyl and confided to the audience that many senior former Soviet scientists and officials have come to him privately in the years afterward to apologize for the lies they perpetuated earlier. He told the crowd that he simply replies "tell it to the people who were contaminated needlessly."

He ended his lecture by drawing a parallel to the war that struck the same area over 50 years ago – its brutality to the innocent, its indifference to human life, the callousness with which bureaucrats at the top conducted it. He hoped that neither military war nor the just as insidious radiation war waged on the innocent in the aftermath of Chernobyl would ever happen again. A silent "amen" hung over the audience in conclusion.

The two-day commemorative event was made possible through the sponsorship of the Ukrainian Studies Fund, the Institute for Sustainable Communities of Montpelier, Vt., the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency and the Chernobyl Challenge '96 Coalition.



Some of the 60 people who gathered at the House of Nations in Balboa Park, San Diego, for a candlelight vigil commemorating the Chernobyl tragedy. Following the vigil and a Ukrainian-style dinner, Andrew Kytasty, the renowned bandurist, performed on the bandura. The event raised \$2,500 for Chernobyl Challenge '96 and was sponsored by the House of Ukraine. Two local TV stations and two San Diego newspapers covered the commemoration.

New culturological journal addresses issue of Ukraine's identity, then and now

by Mark Andryczyk

Special to *The Ukrainian Weekly*

LVIV – As the five-year anniversary of Ukraine's independence approaches, the country is still in the process of defining its identity. Is Ukraine a European country? Should it look east to Russia? This ambiguity is largely due to a historical existence under a multitude of different regimes that have laid claim to and ruled over lands traditionally inhabited by Ukrainians. In examining its identity, Ukraine must look back into its history and trace the paths of influence that have intersected over its lands.

With the inception of the culturological journal *Yi*, a group of contemporary Ukrainian intellectuals has set out to address this issue. *Yi* is a collection of essays written by an international panel of writers. Most of the essays have appeared previously in other journals, and were not written specifically for inclusion in *Yi*. Grouped together in *Yi*, however, they reveal their common merit of providing glimpses into Ukraine's make-up and personality.

The goal of *Yi* is not so much to answer the questions of identity, but instead, to stimulate a discussion on this topic. Often the questions asked are more important and revealing than the answers found. The creators of *Yi* hope to provide Ukrainian readers with a tool that can expand their intellectual curiosities regarding Ukrainian matters.

Yi is the brainchild of Taras Vozniak, a deputy to the Lviv City Council and an essayist on literature and philosophy. The journal is published out of Lviv by Gerdan Publishers with a run of 1,500 copies. The plan is to publish a new issue of *Yi* every six months or so, for a total of four issues. Each of the four issues will concentrate on a particular influence on Ukraine: issue No. 1 is concerned with Ukraine's ties to Western Europe, issue No. 2 with Russia and the post-Byzantine world, issue No. 3 with Jewish roots and contributions to

Ukraine, and issue No. 4 with Ukraine's relationship with the Islamic world, especially Turkey.

An interesting feature of *Yi* is that each issue will be multilingual. Although most of the journal will be in Ukrainian, *Yi* will also include essays written in the language corresponding on the issue's theme. For example, issue No. 1 includes an article written in English, issue No. 4 will have essays written in Turkish, etc.

This progressive approach to assembling the journal is indicative of its overall innovative character. Another example of this is *Yi*'s aesthetic presentation. Each page of the journal is bisected horizontally to create one page with two different essays. Each article is printed in a different font, which prevents confusion for the reader and adds to the journal's eye-catching design.

Yi is also unique in that each issue includes original graphic art works (not copies) pasted into and scattered throughout the journal. The first issue features the artwork of Lviv artist Yevhen Ravsky.

Issue No. 1 was published in September 1995. Its purple cover features the grinning face of Emperor Francis Joseph I. As one flips past the Habsburg emperor's portrait, one will find 14 articles discussing Ukraine's position as a European country. Some of the essays were written almost 100 years ago, some are contemporary.

Yi includes a fragment of Mykola Shlemkevych's essay, "Halychanstvo," which compares the emotional, spiritual striving of eastern Ukraine and Taras Shevchenko with the pragmatic realism of western Ukraine and Ivan Franko.

Anna-Halia Horbach offers a biographical sketch of the life of Lviv-born writer Leopold Sacher Masoch. Count Masoch has been immortalized in the literary world by his novel "Venus in Furs" (the fame of which has brought the term "masochism" into the English language). Few readers know, however, that he also wrote several novels that described the life and folklore



Cover of the first issue of the journal *Yi*.

of 19th century Ruthenians in his native Galicia. It is this side of Count Masoch that Ms. Horbach explores.

Yi contains an essay by Czech writer Milan Kundera on "The Tragedy of Central Europe" and two literary sketches by Austrian writer Joseph Roth titled "Mandrivka po Halychyni." Mr. Kundera reveals the irony of the diverse Eastern European nationalities living in the shadow of a centralized, singular entity such as Russia. Mr. Roth designates Lemberg (Lviv) as the last outpost on the European front before Russia.

Two fascinating essays are included by 1920s Drohobych-born prose writer and artist Bruno Schultz. "Vulytsia Krokodyliv" and "Druha Osin," are both from a recently published translation of his works from Polish into Ukrainian.

Among other contributors to issue No. 1 of *Yi* are Cardinal Franz Konig, Alkis Kontos and Jean-Marie Domenak.

Issue No. 2, discussing Ukraine's relation to Russia, is illustrated by Lviv avant-garde artist Vlodko Kostyrko. It has just been published and is currently available in Lviv and Kyiv.

The international selection of essayists truly raises the sophistication of the journal to a higher level. Also, the aesthetic appeal of *Yi* cannot be overemphasized. That a journal with such a broad, internationally respected array of writers looks as interesting as a top-notch New York art magazine is truly an important achievement; that it emanates from Ukraine is all the more noteworthy. In their search for a historical identity, the creators of *Yi* have simultaneously helped paint Ukraine's present-day portrait.

Photographer documents life and people of Hutsul region

PHILADELPHIA – Many photographers who visit or work overseas tend to take pictures unobtrusively, photographing from a "safe" observer's distance.

But when Lida Suchy set out recently to photograph in a village in western Ukraine, she had a far more deliberate, interactive process in mind. Working with an unusual, large-format 8-by-10 camera, she deliberately chose a painstakingly slow process. Making just a few exposures with this cumbersome, bulky apparatus took her as long as two hours, requiring participation and patience on both sides of the lens. Instead of unobtrusive observation, Ms. Suchy's process created a deliberate meeting point between her and the people she photographed.

Her memorable photographs were on display through May 3 in La Salle University's Chapel, College Hall, on the university's campus in Northwest Philadelphia.

Today, a noticeable cultural revival is taking place in the Hutsul region that Ms. Suchy photographed. "Denied by authorities but not forgotten by the people, customs and traditions are emerging again," she noted.

The Carpathian region depicted in her photos has special meaning for Ms. Suchy. It gave birth to her father, Dr.

Zenon Mychajluk. "Though living far removed from this region for more than 50 years, my father still refers to this region as home," Ms. Suchy said. Fleeing the oppressive Soviet system, Ms. Suchy's parents lived in displaced persons camps in the 1940s before immigrating to the United States.

"When my father arrived in America, he saw a postage stamp of a mountain goat in Montana, and that is where my family moved," Ms. Suchy said. Her father began American life as a veterinarian's assistant not on Montana's mountains, however, but on the prairies. The couple later moved to North Dakota, where Ms. Suchy was born, then to Rochester, N.Y., where she now lives.

Early in her career, Ms. Suchy practiced editorial photography, studied anthropology and earned a master's degree in communication. In 1992 she earned a master's in fine arts at Yale University.

In the summer of 1992, with the arrival of Ukrainian independence, she and her father returned to the Carpathian region he had known as a young man. The photographer's most vivid memories of her first visit include discovery of the modest house where her dad had been born in 1909, and the intensely moving experience of redis-



Vasyl Mykolayovych Zelenchuk and Vasylyna Dmytrivna on their wedding day in Kryvorivnia, Ukraine, as photographed in 1993 by Lida Suchy.

(Continued on page 19)

Project to publish music of Artem Vedel

by Veronica J. Chuchman

EDMONTON – Artem Vedel (1767-1808) is one of the most prominent Ukrainian composers of the 18th century. His sacred choir compositions are jewels of Ukrainian music, which have up to this time remained undiscovered. Vedel's music is inextricably bound with Ukraine, and better reflects Ukrainian musical tradition of that period than compositions by his contemporaries.

Together with Maksym Berezovsky (1745-1777) and Dmytro Bortniansky (1751-1825), Vedel is recognized as one of the "big three" composers of the period. The political climate of Ukraine of the time made it virtually impossible to carry on the deep-rooted and rich Ukrainian musical tradition.

Berezovsky, who studied in Italy, returned to Ukraine only to be overwhelmed by intrigue and the constant persecution of the Russian Potemkin government; he committed suicide at the age of 32.

Bortniansky, who resided in St. Petersburg, watched his work swallowed up by the Russian musical world.

Of the three, only Vedel lived, worked and created in Ukraine.

Vedel's masterpieces are deeply religious works, inextricably bound to the Ukrainian people and their traditions. His lyrical style captures the tragic fate of Ukraine, while awakening the deep-rooted national pride of the Ukrainian people. Vedel and his works were viewed as an absolute threat to the Russian state, thus, he was arrested on the basis of false accusations. In prison, Vedel was isolated and forbidden to write. Tragically, he died a young, broken man.

The censorship of the Russian government continued long after Vedel's death. The regime kept Vedel's works locked away, far from human eyes, doing its best to erase the memory of Vedel's life and work. It was only at the beginning of the 20th century that some of Vedel's works were published under the watchful eye and "guidance" of Russian censors.

The musical legacy of Artem Vedel includes approximately 20 four-part religious concerti, two two-choir concerti, a liturgy and sacred music to complement the liturgy. There is no way of determining if, or how many, of the composer's works have been lost to the world forever during the two centuries of continued denial of Vedel and his compositions.

The influence of Vedel the composer and Vedel the performer (violinist and singer) was far-reaching, despite attempts to exclude him from the collective memory of the musical world. Efforts to uncover original manuscripts, or general information about Vedel himself have met with very limited success. For this reason, the recent discovery of some of Vedel's original manuscripts was greeted with great excitement within the global musical village.

Maestro Volodymyr Kolesnyk has initiated a project to publish the works of Vedel, the original manuscripts of which are housed at the Central Library of the Academy of Sciences of Ukraine in Kyiv. The focal point of the manuscripts are Vedel's liturgy and 12 sacred concerti. Maestro Kolesnyk, together with composer Zenon Lawryshyn, have taken on the task of editing the complete liturgy and concerti, making them accessible to today's performers and musicians, while retaining the authenticity of the original work. The Ukrainian Music Society of Alberta (UMSA) has undertaken administrative tasks in terms of the publication process itself.

It is believed by those involved in the project that the publication of Vedel's work will give performers and researchers access to this invaluable music, and bring to light and further promote the richness, depth and beauty of the Ukrainian musical tradition, while promoting the work of Artem Vedel and allowing his musical talent to take its rightful place within the global musical tradition.

It is further hoped that this project will assist in the rebirth of a nation and its culture, by bringing to light the works of its masters that have been purposefully undermined and hidden from public view for many decades.

Although the UMSA has taken on the administrative role in this project, the assistance of dedicated persons across Canada has been graciously offered to bring this project to its completion. The comprehensive project is estimated to carry a total figure of close to \$54,000. Donations will be acknowledged within the completed collection "Masterpieces of Ukrainian Classical Spiritual Music: Artem Vedel 1767-1808" as follows: donor, up to \$1,000; patron, \$1,000-\$5,000; benefactor, over \$5,000.

Income tax receipts will be issued for all donations of

(Continued on page 18)

Cairo Opera House seeks out Ukraine's musicians

by Oksana Zakydalsky

CAIRO – Although Cairo is only a three-hour flight from Kyiv, it was a surprise to find out that one-half of the members of the Cairo Opera House Orchestra are musicians from Ukraine. I learned this interesting fact from Mykhailo Voinalovitch, first flute with the Opera House Orchestra, who has been working in Cairo since the orchestra was formed in August 1994.

The Cairo Opera House was built 10 years ago – a gift to Egypt from Japan after the old opera house burned down – but it was only in 1994 that it acquired its own orchestra. In forming the orchestra, Dr. Moustafa Naguib, musical director of the Cairo Opera, turned to Ukraine for musicians.

This was not the first time that Egypt had gone to Eastern Europe for musicians. Beginning in 1984, Poland supplied a large number of musicians for the Cairo Symphony Orchestra, most of whom now have returned home and have been replaced by Bulgarians.

The main reason for this movement of musicians is, of course, economic. Egypt does not have a sufficient number of musicians trained in Western classical music, and the Egyptian government, which funds most cultural initiatives, does not have a lot of money to spend on importing musicians. Musicians of the former Soviet Union are well trained, have a good professional reputation and do not expect high salaries. Mr. Voinalovitch is paid \$500 a month and, as the first flute, he receives more than the average orchestra member. He added that for him this is a very good salary.

The Opera House Orchestra has about 60 players, the minimum size for such an orchestra, and is run on a tight budget. There are only three flutes, Mr. Voinalovitch said, "and no back-up for me. There should be four flutes. If I get sick, there is no first flute."

The musicians from Ukraine are in Egypt on individual one-year contracts, with the possibility of renewal for a second year. The contracts were organized through a Kyiv firm, which auditioned the musicians in Kyiv and which received 5 percent of the pay for each contract. The Kyiv firm has since encountered some legal problems, and the musicians have not been paying any commission for the second year of their contracts. Mr. Voinalovitch said he is grateful to the firm for providing this opportunity to work abroad.

Mr. Voinalovitch is married and has a 17-year-old daughter. Both his wife, a pianist, and his daughter, a student of foreign languages, have remained in Kyiv. Why did he come to Cairo? Primarily, he said, for the chance to earn money. But, he added, also for the professional opportunity to learn an opera repertoire. In the last few years in Kyiv Mr. Voinalovitch had played in various ensembles; he said it is typical for a musician in Ukraine today to run around seeking whatever kind of work is available to earn enough money to survive.

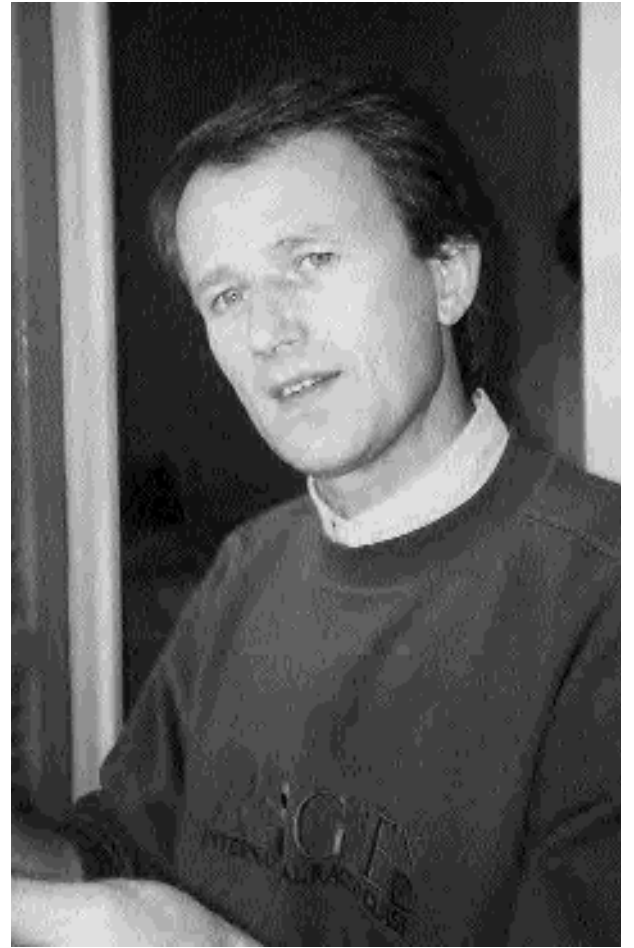
Born in Zhytomyr Oblast 43 years ago, Mr. Voinalovitch began his musical education early, enrolling in a music school. Drafted into the army, he spent 1971-1973 in Lviv playing in the army orchestra. After his army service, he bought a flute with money provided by his father and was accepted into the Kyiv Conservatory, where he studied for five years.

After completing his studies, he played in various collectives, several times even touring outside Ukraine. His last permanent position, before coming to Cairo, was with the Operetta Theater Orchestra in Kyiv.

What does he think of the Cairo Opera House Orchestra and of music in Cairo in general? Mr. Voinalovitch said that, in his opinion, orchestras in Ukraine are more professional and musicians in Ukraine are better trained than those in Egypt. Although Egypt is the front-runner in the Arab world as far as support of the arts is concerned, it lacks a musical tradition. For example, the Cairo Opera House is rarely full. Only occasionally, when a grand event is held, do musical performances attract wide support and lots of attention.

One such event took place in April 1995, when the opera "Aida" was staged at Karnak Temple in Luxor, and both the Cairo Symphony and the Cairo Opera House Orchestra took part. While I was in Cairo, a gala concert featuring soprano Montserrat Caballe was held at the Cairo Opera House with the Opera House Orchestra, in full strength, accompanying the international star.

The house was sold out. From the front seats of the second balcony we tried to spot the Ukrainian musicians in the orchestra. This wasn't easy, as everyone was similarly dressed in requisite black. Except for a few swarthy complexions and jet black hair, it was hard to tell the Egyptians and the Ukrainians apart. Mr.



Mykhailo Voinalovitch, formerly of Kyiv, now of Cairo.

Voinalovitch was easy to spot as a flute solo led many of the soprano's songs.

According to Mr. Voinalovitch, most of the musicians who have come to play in Cairo intend to go home – some at the end of the two years; others hope to stay longer. The majority of the musicians have brought their families with them. Being alone, Mr. Voinalovitch tries to save as much money as possible to send to his family in Kyiv. In addition to his orchestra job, he has several students for private lessons.

The orchestra does not take up all of Mr. Voinalovitch's time – he had two months off in the summer which he spent back home in Ukraine. The month of Ramadan was coming up and, as Muslim Egyptians would fast during the day, the musical schedule for the month was very light. Mr. Voinalovitch was awaiting a visit by his wife and daughter.

Embassy in Egypt receives memorial gift

by Oksana Zakydalsky

CAIRO – The Embassy of Ukraine in Egypt has received a gift of books on Ukraine in memory of Adrian Hromiak, a Ukrainian American who worked in Egypt for more than 10 years. Mr. Hromiak, who died in August 1994, in Chicago, was employed by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers on projects throughout the Middle East.

Born in Ukraine in 1937, Mr. Hromiak was a civil engineering graduate of the University of Illinois. His first job after graduation was with the U.S. Department of Defense in Turkey, and he subsequently worked on engineering projects, both for the U.S. government and private companies, in Italy, Saudi Arabia, Iran and Egypt. He spent two tours of duty with the U.S. Army Corps in Egypt – the first time from 1981 to 1987 and the second time from 1989 until his death.

When the Embassy of Ukraine was opened in Cairo in the fall of 1993, Mr. Hromiak became friends with the ambassador, Viktor Nahaichouk, and a frequent visitor to the Embassy. When Mr. Hromiak died, his friends collected funds in his memory that were used for the purchase of books, such as the complete set of the Encyclopedia of Ukraine, Orest Subtelny's "Ukraine: A History" and other English-language reference books on Ukraine, and donated them to the Cairo Embassy. The books now form the basis of an embassy reference library, and the donation is acknowledged with an engraved copper plaque.

Ambassador Shcherbak...

(Continued from page 1)

Ukrainian nation, domestically and internationally."

Chornobyl's aftermath

The extent of the immediate and lingering tragedy of the 1986 disaster at the Chornobyl nuclear power station is immense, and places a staggering financial burden on the struggling Ukrainian economy. However, Chornobyl still generates about 7 percent of total electricity in Ukraine and cannot easily be shut down and replaced, Ambassador Shcherbak explained.

The severe winter that has just passed placed additional burdens on energy resources. The ambassador remarked that the extreme and extended cold weather necessitated depletion of all fuel reserves and that electrical stations were generating "with their last breath." Now that winter is over, he said, "We have no fuel. Under such circumstances, we are forced to keep Chornobyl running."

At the time of the disaster, Dr. Shcherbak was on the staff of the Kyiv Epidemiological Institute. His initial interest was professional, but the extent of human suffering and the magnitude of radiation leakage in the face of secrecy and denial by the Soviet government led to his role as a political activist. A founding member of the Green World environmental movement and later the Green Party of Ukraine, he became an outspoken critic of Soviet policy and openly laid blame for the disaster on the Soviet government.

After striving for these past 10 years for international acknowledgment and

assistance to deal with the aftereffects of Chornobyl, Dr. Shcherbak said he is surprised and heartened at the positive high-level support recently expressed by U.S. officials. The House and Senate passed a joint resolution recognizing the 10th anniversary and calling on the president to provide support to Ukraine in the disaster's aftermath.

On May 1, First Lady Hillary Rodham Clinton and Vice-President Al Gore hosted a White House ceremony where they both spoke about Chornobyl. The ambassador observed that "they did more than promise, they actually 'vowed' to do everything to help compensate for Chornobyl's losses and to stabilize Ukraine's energy situation." Mrs. Clinton has also agreed to be the honorary chairperson for Chornobyl Challenge '96.

Individual efforts cited

While concerted efforts in the nearly five years since independence have resulted in a number of significant diplomatic and economic achievements, Ambassador Shcherbak also spoke warmly about the efforts of many individuals from the U.S. and around the world who are assisting in building the Ukrainian state.

"This is wonderful, because you bring not only the romantic spirit of independent Ukraine, which you have safeguarded for all these years, but the ideals of our freedom and the will to fight for our freedom," Dr. Shcherbak remarked, address the diaspora in particular.

"You bring the knowledge of American pragmatic life, the understanding of how to build an economy and social life. You see Ukraine through different eyes, as we see Ukraine through different eyes, too,



Ambassador Shcherbak presents a Certificate of Honor to Dr. Michael and Roxolana Yarymovych for their efforts to improve U.S.-Ukrainian relations.

after we have seen life here. This is very important to Ukraine: your knowledge, your patriotism and especially your understanding that Ukraine needs your attention," he noted.

As a gesture to underscore his encouragement of community involvement to further the diplomatic and economic interests of Ukraine, the ambassador presented Certificates of Honor to several local individuals. Recipients included Zenon Zachariasevych, president of the California Association to Aid Ukraine (CAAU); Anne Shalauta, events director of CAAU; Arkady Mulak, chair of CAAU; Bohdan Stus, former longtime president of the

Ukrainian Culture Center; and Dr. Michael and Roxolana Yarymovych, for their assistance to the Embassy with diplomatic relations with the U.S. and NATO, including the development of a commercial satellite launching program between Ukraine and the U.S. (Dr. Yarymovych is a senior vice-president of Rockwell Corp).

* * *

The Embassy of Ukraine Trade and Economic Mission West Coast Regional Office is located at 739 Swarthmore Ave., Pacific Palisades, CA 90272; telephone, (310) 230-0375; fax, (310) 230-1292; e-mal, vmar@aol.com.

Russia discusses...

(Continued from page 2)

- The threat of disintegration of the new independent states, as well as the problem of "unnatural borders" and "disputed territories" could also push for the restoration.

- New local conflicts are almost unavoidable in Central Asia; the fall of the political regime in Tajikistan will inevitably push Kazakhstan toward Moscow.

- The expansion of NATO via Poland to the borders of the FSU almost instantly puts Belarus under Russia's protectorate. This heralds the restoration of the USSR. The pressure on Ukraine will inevitably increase.

- Many of the problems currently unresolved (e.g., the Crimea, Transdnistria, eastern Ukraine, the Black Sea Fleet, Kaliningrad) could be resolved upon restoration of the union.

- One has a feeling that some of the new independent states are not very interested in becoming truly sovereign (or, objectively, cannot do this). Thus, they could either voluntarily unite with Russia or be absorbed by other states.

Therefore, according to the document, the coming decade will be decisive in answering the question "Will the (Soviet) Union revive in the near future?" If the answer is not found by the year 2005, it will never be found at all. Within this decade, the next five years are crucial in addressing two main points: Will there be an economic upturn in Russia? Will the West commit some major mistake causing the revival of the USSR?

The document purports that by the year 2000 a new federation will emerge. It rates the chances of newly independent states joining that body as follows: Russia, Belarus, Kazakhstan, Armenia - very likely; Ukraine - wholly or in part; Georgia, Kirgizia - with great, but not decisive likelihood; Uzbekistan, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan - even smaller

likelihood; Moldova and Azerbaijan, and the fate of - the destiny of these states, respectively, will depend on Ukraine and the situation in the Caucasus; Latvia - less likely, but possible; Estonia and Lithuania - practically unlikely.

Having recognized that a single answer to the question of restoration does not exist, the authors nonetheless propose a long-term strategy aimed at revival of the USSR which is beneficial to Russia. They propose a series of steps:

- to reform the Russian foreign policy mechanism, namely, to create inside the Foreign Ministry a special "ministry" in charge of the CIS and the FSU (i.e., of the Baltic states);

- to elaborate a set of directives on Russia's policy toward each country of the CIS as well as the FSU;

- to shift the focus of activities within the CIS from signing treaties to elaborating projects in the economic, social and economic spheres. A special role in this regard is given to the Russian language and its usage on the territory of the FSU.

The document capitalizes on further reinforcement of Russia relative to the rest of the CIS, and stresses the necessity of creating a wide network of both formal and informal contacts with political, economic and cultural elites of the CIS. To this end, the establishment of the semi-governmental CIS Fund as well as a CIS Institute is foreseen.

The results of the forthcoming presidential elections in Russia could be crucial in determining whether the idea of recreating the USSR is revived or is allowed to wither away.

The strategy for Ukraine

The "2005" document continues the move toward reintegration of the CIS countries, which since October 1993 (at the time of the forcible dissolution of the Russian Parliament) has become a dominant theme of both the Kremlin and the opposition. Previous documents, howev-

er, did not raise the possibility of restoring the USSR, instead they spoke more about integrating different forms of governmental institutions.

The new document, having paid lip service to the possibility of preserving the independent status of CIS countries, openly proclaims the task of restoration by the year 2005. It stresses that economic and cultural means will play the crucial role in Moscow's forthcoming efforts of "gathering lands."

Ukraine is seen in the second tier of countries constituting the new confederation (a prologue to a union) by the year 2000. The likelihood of its joining the confederation is evaluated by the authors as very high. Nor do they exclude the scenario of Ukraine's disintegration, as a result of which one part (probably eastern Ukraine) would join the confederation.

Russia is very interested in this scenario, as it would provide an opportunity (as stated in the document) to resolve the problem of the Black Sea Fleet (i.e., to put Sevastopol under its jurisdiction) and the Crimea, regarding it as a testing ground for eventual secession based on language and cultural factors. Eastern Ukraine, where the major part of the Ukrainian economic potential is concentrated, is a juicy morsel for rapidly expanding Russian companies and financial-industrial groups. As a preliminary step to this expansion and the eventual annexation of eastern Ukraine, the document foresees the development of debt-property agreements (the Russian monopoly Gazprom acquired parts of Belarusian gas processing facilities to cover debts), establishment of a customs union and the opening of Ukrainian markets to penetration by Russian goods unable to compete internationally.

The loss of Ukraine's economic sovereignty is considered by the Russian strategists as a key prerequisite of the "Belarus" scenario. Since Ukraine stands as a major factor in any attempts by Russia to restore

the union, all efforts will be concentrated to further increase Ukraine's economic dependence on Russia, with corresponding language and cultural expansion.

Ukraine now faces the choice of either following the path of Eastern European countries, which managed to reduce their dependence on Russia, reorient their trade to the West and are looking now for integration with the EU and NATO, or following the path of Belarus - this quasi-comic/quasitragic example of colonization at the end of the 20th century.

To counter the latter tendency, so fraught with the loss of political independence, Ukraine would be compelled to study and implement the experience on decolonization acquired by such countries as Poland, the Czech Republic, Hungary, Slovenia and even Albania. All these countries have a level of direct foreign investment per capita that exceeds Ukraine's by dozens of times (e.g. while it is \$300-\$350 in Hungary; it is \$12-\$15 in Ukraine).

This means that the place of Western economic advisers in Ukraine, who do not understand the post-Soviet mentality, should be taken by experts on decolonization from Eastern European countries or from the Baltic states who know perfectly well the psychological peculiarities of market forms in post-totalitarian countries. They could elaborate a successful strategy for gradual transition of Ukraine, first to the level of the most advanced Eastern European countries and then - within 10 to 15 years - to the level of Greece and Spain. Any attempt to replicate the model of Russian economic reform would inevitably lead Ukrainian Communists to power with all consequences to follow.

The intensity of efforts by Russian strategic planners regarding restoration of the (Soviet) union by the year 2005 or confederation by 2000 present Ukraine with the necessity of re-evaluating its major strategic priorities in economic and foreign policy.

Left-wingers prevent...

(Continued from page 1)

Mr. Moroz, who is also the head of the Socialist Party, has called this version of the constitution more democratic than the new draft, because it allows state, collective and private property.

When the special committee finished working on the draft constitution, it presented the document to President Kuchma for his approval on May 20.

Oleksander Lavrynovych, a member of the Rukh faction in Parliament who worked on this special committee, told reporters on May 20, the "president has given the go-ahead to 100 percent of the committee's proposals."

Oleksander Yemets, recently named prime minister for political and legal issues, said President Kuchma "displayed such a degree of flexibility for the sake of peace and concord in society."

The new draft constitution, finalized by the ad hoc Supreme Council committee, envisions a few changes, including a unicameral Parliament, to be called the People's Council of Ukraine (Narodna Rada), instead of a bicameral Parliament (comprising a House of Deputies and Senate) proposed by the Constitutional Committee.

The new draft contains only one change concerning the powers of the Parliament: the legislature will have the right to nominate one-third of the members of the Constitutional Court of Ukraine.

The Parliament will also consent to the nomination and dismissal of the head of the Anti-Monopoly Committee and the chairman of the State Property Fund.

The new draft also notes that the national monetary unit will be called the hryvnia.

It also states that the president has the power to call early elections to the People's Council and that the president, together with the Parliament, will come up with a candidate for the office of prime minister. Together the two branches will also decide on the prime minister's suspension of powers or his resignation.

In the new 63-page draft, the Cabinet of Ministers is termed the "supreme executive body," subordinated to the president and accountable to the Parliament.

In the chapter dealing with justice, the draft constitution represents the concept of a jury, and it also provides for establishment of a new body, the Council of Magistrates.

Regarding the Crimea, the new draft calls it the Autonomous Republic of the Crimea, whereas the previous draft termed the territory the Autonomy of the Crimea. Neither drafts call for a constitution of the Crimea, proposing instead a charter for the territory, which is referred to as an "integral component part of Ukraine."

At present the Parliament is scheduled to review the draft at plenary meetings on May 28 and June 4.

Ukraine stresses...

(Continued from page 3)

their laboratories, watch work in progress, "and that's how cooperation with scientists in Ukraine begins."

No small achievement of the Ukrainian Physical Society, noted Prof. Slobodyanyuk, was that the society's first president (Prof. Victor Baryakhtar, vice-president of the National Academy of Sciences), was replaced at the end of the first term by another physicist, because the by-laws of the society call for rotation of the leadership. Under the old Soviet system, he explained, persons in such positions would never be removed by democratic means.

He commended Prof. Baryakhtar for not holding on to the office despite his great stature, and for not resigning from the society when he ceased being its head. (Prof. Baryakhtar led the nine-member delegation, but was not at the TWG meeting, because he had another out-of-town appointment at the time.)

An interesting perspective on Ukraine's military-industrial complex was provided by Maj. Gen. Mykola Honcharenko, chief of the Verification Center of the Armed Forces, which is responsible for facilitating visits of foreign inspection teams that come to Ukraine to check on its compliance with arms limitation treaties.

He talked about the continuing reduction of Ukraine's armed forces towards the goal of only 350,000 troops – not an easy task for Ukraine, because jobs and housing has to be found for demobilized military people. He also talked about Ukraine's T-84 tank, the star of the Abu Dhabi show, and about artificial barriers set up by other countries to keep Ukraine's armaments from world markets.

Mykolayiv, he said, is the site of one of the best shipyards in the world, and vessels built there are being bought, but such countries as Japan, Sweden, Denmark work actively to keep Mykolayiv products off the market because they compete with the produc-

tion of those countries.

Fulfilling the obligations of various arms limitations agreements – treaties such as START, Conventional Forces in Europe, Intermediate Range Nuclear Forces, Open Skies – is no small burden for Ukraine, said Gen. Honcharenko. One nine-hour inspection by a foreign team costs Ukraine \$8,000, according to the general, and since 1992, "we have received 400 such inspection teams – all this just to prove that Ukraine is complying with the agreements" made by the superpowers back when the USSR was one.

Gen. Honcharenko made these points not to complain about Ukraine's lot, but to cite some of the difficulties the military-industrial complex faces. He emphasized, however, that it was "up to us, ourselves, to come out of the situation in which Ukraine finds itself," and implied that they are up to it.

Also at the TWG meeting were Prof. Serhiy Doroguntsov, a member of the National Council on the Study of Productive Forces of Ukraine and president of the Environmental Academy of Ukraine, and Prof. Vitaliy Pokhodenko, head of the Institute of Physical Chemistry in Kyiv.

Prof. Stanislav Konyukhov, who heads the Dnipropetrovske Design Bureau, like Prof. Baryakhtar, had another appointment and didn't make the TWG function.

The delegation's visit to the United States to meet with colleagues and potential collaborators was arranged by Dr. Cehelsky, who had visited Ukraine last October at the invitation of the State Committee on Industrial Policy. Dr. George Gamota, who had done a study of Ukraine's scientific and technological potential, also helped in the arrangements, as did Natalie Sluzar, TWG's first president, whose firm, Science Applications International Corporation (SAIC), hosted the delegation for part of its stay in Washington.

Earlier that day the Ukrainian scientists gave a briefing at the Embassy of Ukraine to summarize the research done to date on the effects of the Chernobyl disaster.

Russian PM leaves...

(Continued from page 1)

Although Mr. Chernomyrdin mentioned in early afternoon meetings that perhaps President Yeltsin would come to Kyiv on June 2, by the end of the day he told reporters the visit would depend on the president's schedule.

"I believe that the presidents will settle that issue," he said without commenting on whether this visit would take place before or after the Russian elections on June 16.

During a CIS summit in Moscow on May 17, President Yeltsin said he would go to Kyiv only if disputed issues between the two countries are resolved.

"I will not go on a sightseeing trip to Kyiv. I have repeatedly visited Ukraine. I am not interested in sightseeing, but in a political, full-scale visit with the signing of a full-scale treaty between Russia and Ukraine, which does not exist so far," said Mr. Yeltsin in Moscow last week.

It was also in Moscow that Prime Minister Chernomyrdin and President Kuchma reached agreement on compensation for tactical nuclear weapons withdrawn from Ukraine in 1992.

Russia had agreed, in principle, to pay \$450 million (U.S.) for the tactical weapons, and Ukraine's debt to Russia

was to be cut by that sum.

It was expected that Mr. Chernomyrdin had come to Kyiv to sign this agreement on compensation. Although he told reporters on May 23 that it was "99.9 percent ready to be signed," he left Ukraine only with promises that the agreement will be signed "as soon as the opportunity presents itself."

There was hope that some headway could have been made in the settling of the Black Sea Fleet issue, but one Ukrainian government source told The Weekly that matters have remained the same, with Ukraine sticking to its position, which includes the leasing of bases to the Russian fleet in Sevastopol for no more than three to five years.

The Russian side has agreed to leasing, but for 10 to 25 years; and it has not specified how much it is willing to pay for the rental of the bases. The Russians also have a problem with the Ukrainian Navy basin in two bays in Sevastopol (Striletska and Karantinna). The Russians regard Sevastopol as the home port of the Black Sea Fleet, while the Ukrainians are willing only to let the Russians lease a base in the Ukrainian city of Sevastopol.

Among those leading BSF negotiations for the Russians was Deputy Foreign Minister Yuri Dubinin, who was recently named ambassador to Ukraine.

tion with the government's efforts to settle the payments crisis, and suggested that the Parliament should put the performance of Deputy Prime Ministers Viktor Pynzenyk and Roman Shepek, and Finance Minister Petro Hermanchuk to a vote of no confidence.

The Parliament has also proposed that \$200 million from the state foreign currency reserves be used to repay the delayed wages to civil servants.

During a briefing at the presidential administration on May 15, Minister of the Economy Vasyl Hureyev blamed the wage delays on declining production and lack of budget discipline at state enterprises and tax evasion.

Presidential Chief of Staff Dmytro Tabachnyk told reporters that the presidential decree is politically "tough and of paramount significance."

Houses approves...

(Continued from page 1)

gerously high levels of radiation and that since then children, in particular, have experienced alarming increases in thyroid cancer and other conditions, including early childhood diabetes, anemia and illnesses associated with general fatigue. He cited one World Health Organization expert's recent forecast that the total number of thyroid cancers among children in the contaminated zones may ultimately reach 10,000, that these trends have accelerated since the disaster and are expected to increase well into the future.

Thus, H.Con.Res. 167 calls upon the president to encourage national and international organizations to expand the scope of research into the public health consequences of Chernobyl.

While urging Ukraine to continue negotiating with the G-7 to implement the December 20, 1995, MOU, the resolution also calls upon the president to support the process of closing Chernobyl as envisioned by the MOU, while recognizing the tremendous costs involved and its impact on a country undergoing the unbelievably difficult transition from communism to a market-oriented democracy. Finally, the resolution supports the broadening of Ukraine's regional energy sources to reduce its dependence on any individual country.

Rep. Smith concluded, "The international community, including the U.S. government and many American non-governmental organizations, are

responding to the consequences of Chernobyl. But more needs to be done, especially as Ukraine and Belarus – the countries which bore the brunt of Chernobyl – are undergoing an extremely difficult transition period and which continue to spend substantial portions of their budgets on dealing with its effects.

"Continued and enhanced international cooperation is vital to address the suffering of millions, to constrain the dissipation of the radiation released a decade ago, and to prevent future disasters similar to Chernobyl," said Rep. Smith.

Newsbriefs

(Continued from page 2)

and other parts of then-Soviet Central Asia. Tens of thousands perished. At the rally, Tatar leader Refat Chubarov told those assembled that "The genocide against Crimean Tatars is still going on; the effects of Stalinist repression remain. Russian chauvinism is on the rise. So is anti-Tatar sentiment among some Ukrainian figures." Masud Khushbarov, a senior representative of the new Chechen President Zelimkhan Yandarbiyev, told those gathered to huge applause: "We have no mercenaries in our army. Others who fight alongside us are our brothers." On the eve of the deportation's anniversary, the Ukrainian government appropriated a fresh \$20 million to boost resettlement programs, but government figures insist that other ex-Soviet states should share the costs of relocating the Tatars. (Reuters)

Presidential decree...

(Continued from page 3)

minister of industry, Pavlo Haydutsky, the minister of agriculture and food consumption; Ivan Dankevych, transport minister; and Serhiy Polyakov, coal industry minister; for failing to meet revenue targets and exceeding spending limits in the 1996 budget.

"I have warned all the ministers: if this continues to go as it has to this day, these ministers and this Cabinet will not be needed by the nation," said President Kuchma.

On May 23, the Parliament was reviewing the possibility of using International Monetary Fund credits to help pay back wages. After listening to Prime Minister Marchuk's report in Parliament on May 21, some deputies expressed dissatisfac-

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Did the Bible...

(Continued from page 6)

Lamentations bemoans the fact that "He hath filled me with bitterness, he hath made me drunken with wormwood" (3:15) and also writes about "Remembering mine affliction and my misery, the wormwood and the gall" (3:19).

This meaning of the word has survived through the ages up to modern times and is found in many cultures and languages, including English. In the Oxford English Dictionary, for example, the second meaning of wormwood is an "emblem or type of what is bitter and grievous to the soul."

This meaning is echoed in other lexicographic references and in literature. In Shakespeare's "Hamlet" (Act III, Scene 2), the title character uses this word in an aside to the audience. In mid-19th century America, Harriet Beecher Stowe wrote in "Uncle Tom's Cabin" that "My life is bitter as wormwood."

And the name of the star...

While the connection between wormwood and bitterness may be clear, one can still ask why John chose to name a star after this plant. The answer may lie in taking a closer look at the wormwood plants themselves. We already know that wormwoods comprise the genus Artemisia. According to the botanic system of classification, Artemisia belongs to the family Asteraceae, which belongs to the order Asterales which, in turn, belongs to the subclass Asteridae. What the family, order and subclass name all have in common is their root, namely, aster, which is the Greek and Latin root meaning "star".

The root aster is in all likelihood used to describe the numerous plants in these groups because their shape in some way resembles that of a star. If we think of plants that belong to the other Asterales, such as asters, marigolds, daisies and sunflowers, the resemblance to the star shape

becomes clear. The very word sunflower suggests a star-like appearance because the sun is, of course, a star. While the flowers of the wormwood may not be as obviously reminiscent of a star as the sunflower or the aster, it may be possible that something about the wormwood's appearance, in addition to its taste and meaning, caused John to choose it as the name for the star in the quoted passage.

Prophecy or coincidence?

It has been suggested that there are numerous similarities between the events described in Rev. 8:10-11 and the Chernobyl nuclear power plant disaster. The burning star recalls the explosion and fire, the poisoned rivers and fountains of water in the Bible bring to mind the contaminated rivers and water reservoirs affected by the Chernobyl plant's unleashed radioactivity, the name of the Biblical star Wormwood has the same meaning as the name of the Ukrainian town where the disaster occurred.

Do the similarities between the tragedy at Chernobyl and Revelations 8:10-11 imply that this Biblical passage contains a prophecy that has been fulfilled, or are they merely a coincidence? This is a decision that everyone will have to make individually.

However one answers this question on this, the 10th anniversary of the Chernobyl disaster, everything must be done to ensure that the destroyed but still dangerous reactor is safely sealed, the present situation is contained, those people affected by the explosion receive the care they deserve, and all necessary precautions are taken so that no such nuclear catastrophe occurs in the future.

If one accepts Rev. 8:10-11 as prophecy, then at least such measures would ensure that these verses represent a prophecy that has already been fulfilled, and do not contain the prophecy of a worse disaster yet to come, a prophecy to be fulfilled if the appropriate measures are not taken.

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TENNIS UPDATE

Davis Cup

Ukraine, which belongs to Zone 1 of the Euro-Africa Group in Davis Cup competition, was recently pitted against Croatia in group play, with matches held in Dubrovnik, and the former Yugoslavian republic emerged victorious, 3-0.

In the first match, Croatia's Goran Ivanisevic, sixth in the world, met Andriy Rybalko, 613th in the world, and a surprisingly hard-fought encounter resulted, ending in a 6-0, 7-6 (7-5), 6-7 (4-7), 6-3 result in favor of the Croatian.

In the other singles match, Dmytriy Poliakov, ranked 497th in the world, lost 6-2, 6-0, 6-3 to Sasha Hirszon (382nd). The above-mentioned players paired up for a doubles match, and the Croatians came out on top again, 7-6 (7-2), 6-3, 6-2.

Rusedski drops in ranking

Given that he bolted from his native land in search of ratings, British tennis officials should not be surprised by former Canadian (still Ukrainian) Greg Rusedski's recent musing not to represent the U.K. at the 1996 Summer Olympics in Atlanta.

If they're upset, they're hiding it well. Richard Lewis of the Lawn Tennis Association was quoted in an Associated Press report of March 21 saying that "Greg has been having amicable discussions with us about what will be the best for him, not only so far as the Olympics are concerned, but also our revived men's international world series tournament ... in September."

Meanwhile, Mr. Rusedski is finding the going tougher in March, dropping to 46th in the world men's Associated Tennis Professionals tour rankings after a couple of early round exits at the Lipton Championships in Key Biscayne, Fla., (March 11-17), and the Newsweek Champions Cup in Indian Wells, Calif. (March 18-31).

Seeded a high 13th at the Japan Open in held in Tokyo April 15-21, the former Montrealer beat Germany's Carl Uwe-

Steeb 6-2, 6-1 in the first round, then took local hero and Hong Kong Open semi-finalist Shuzo Matsuoka, 6-7 (5-7), 7-5, 6-4, but lost in the third round to the surging Thomas Enqvist of Sweden (now eighth in the world), 6-7 (6-4), 1-6.

Still in Asia the following week at the Korean Open in Seoul, he garnered a high seed (second). It paid off only marginally. After a breezy first two rounds, he was beaten in the quarterfinals by (eventual finalist) Martin Damm of the Czech Republic, 6-4, 6-7 (5-7), 7-5.

Andrei drops down, too

Since his higher stature in tennis (15th in the world), earns him byes, Andrei Medvedev has made further headway into tournaments, but not as far as he'd like. In the Lipton tournament, he got past Frenchmen Guillaume Raoux (6-4, 6-4) and Cédric Pioline (6-2, 6-2) in impressive fashion, but bowed out in the fourth round to Croatia's Goran Ivanisevic, 7-6, (7-4), 6-4.

At the Monte Carlo Open, April 22-28, Mr. Medvedev was the 12th seed. He began by handling Spain's Alberto Berasategui, 6-4, 6-4, then crushing Australian teenager Mark Philippoussis (who shocked Pete Sampras at the Australian Open) 6-0, 6-2. Unfortunately, after a good first set for the Kyiv native, he was knocked out by Mr. Pioline, 6-4, 0-6, 2-6.

Women's tour

Meanwhile, on the women's tour, Natalia Medvedeva benefited from Italy's Silvia Farina withdrawal due to injury at the April 8-14 Bausch & Lomb Championship in Amelia Island, Fla. Ms. Medvedeva had taken the first set 6-2, and had dropped the next, 4-6, when Ms. Farina withdrew. Ms. Medvedeva lost to Janette Husarova of Slovakia, 6-4, 7-6, in the next round.

Although ranked about 30 positions higher, Larisa Neiland (nee Savchenko), who plays for Latvia, also lost in the second round of the B&L tourney. Having bested Alexandra Fusai of France, 7-5, 6-1, she was knocked out by Wiltrud Probst of Germany, 7-5, 6-2.



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University of Rochester...

(Continued from page 4)

partners to work collaboratively to find solutions for problems experienced to date. The third goal of the workshops is to enhance the basic science curriculum by introducing clinical correlations and case-based learning. Drs. Black and Hansen will incorporate lectures, videotaped demonstrations of ward-rounds and bedside teaching conducted at the University of Rochester and plenty of large-and small-group discussions to make the Curriculum Development Workshops a success.

Excluding administrative visits by project staff, Drs. Black and Hansen will be the seventh and eight UR physicians to travel to Russia and Ukraine as part of this project to demonstrate and discuss teaching methodologies used in U.S. medical schools.

The university reported that it continues to receive positive feedback regarding the February conference. The faculty and administrators who participated in the conference returned to their universities in Ukraine filled with increased enthusiasm for the project and a better understanding of the medical education system in the U.S.

After returning home, they immediately began instituting several new innovations based on information received at UR. They also increased their efforts to share information about the partnership project with faculty and students who might be interested in becoming involved in one or more components of the wide-

reaching project in the future.

The Ukrainian Ministry of Health is also demonstrating considerable interest in the curricula and teaching methods introduced in the February conference. Dr. Yuri Voronenko, the Ministry of Health representative who attended the conference, returned to Ukraine with plans to introduce several significant changes in the prescribed medical curricula; he has been working with materials brought home from Rochester to prepare the reports with which he will initiate these reforms.

Among the positive comments concerning the medical education conference, participants repeatedly expressed appreciation for the hospitality extended to them by the Rochester-Ukrainian community. University officials said they are certain that the warm welcome and the weekend activities arranged by this community played a significant role in the participants' final assessment of their time spent in Rochester. Realizing that community involvement can add to the success of the Partnership Project, the university will be encouraging Rochester-Ukrainians to continue and increase their involvement.


* * *

For additional information about the University of Rochester School of Medicine and Dentistry USAID Medical Education Partnership and Training Project With Russia and Ukraine, please contact: Waltraut Dube, Ph.D., Project Coordinator, University of Rochester Medical Center, 601 Elmwood Ave., Box 601, Rochester, N.Y. 14642; phone (716) 275-8859; fax, (716) 273-1016

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(Continued from page 5)

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For more information on the project contact: CULE Project, Canadian Institute of Ukrainian Studies, University of Alberta, Edmonton, AB T6G 2E8; (403) 492-4341 or 492-2972; fax: (403) 492-4967; e-mail: cius@gpu.srv.ualberta.ca.



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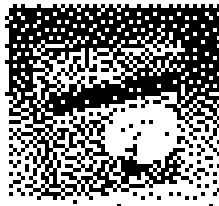
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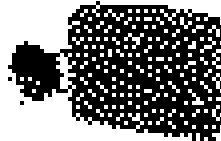
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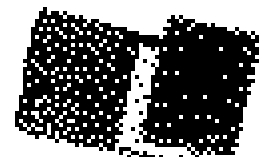
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Harvard's...

(Continued from page 4)

Asked whether the continuing presence of Lenin's body in the Red Square mausoleum was a symbol of this ambivalence, he replied: "What we have seen is a half-hearted revolution." Compared to the Bolshevik Revolution of 1917, when "virtually all traces of the tsarist regime disappeared in a matter of months," Dr. Pipes said, "hammers and sickles still abound" as do toponyms such as "Leningradskaya Oblast" and "Sverdlovsk."

"There was a chance in 1991 to get rid of these symbols, when the Communist Party was banned, but now it's probably too late," the Harvard historian added, "now that [Russian President Boris] Yeltsin is appealing to the nostalgia of provincial voters."

In response to a question, Prof. Pipes cautioned against complacency about the seeming collapse of Russian military might. "As a result of Germany's physical and psychological trauma following 1945, there was a conscious decision not to rearm," Dr. Pipes said, "but in Russia's case the example is rather more similar to Germany's situation following World War I."

As if to temper the frightening echoes of this scenario, Prof. Pipes added that "you can't rouse Russians like Hitler roused the Germans," and that while Communist Party leader Gennadiy Zyuganov is a canny politician, he is not a galvanizing tyrant like Hitler or Stalin.

Prompted from the audience, the former National Security Council advisor cautioned that an expansion of NATO at this point would be completely counter-productive and only feed Russian para-

noia. He said he believes in Western political and economic engagement with Russia, coupled with insistent pressure to reveal and moderate any build-ups in military capability.

Dr. Pipes also said that there now is a chance to settle Russia's identity crisis. "In 1917, the population of what was known as Russia was 40-45 percent non-Russian," he asserted. "Now about 80 to 85 percent of the Russian Federation's population is either Russian or completely Russified," he claimed.

Prompted by a question from McMaster University historian Prof. Petro Potichnyj, Dr. Pipes said recent moves reintegrating Belarus with Russia "can't be duplicated" with Ukraine or any of the other newly independent states.

The lecture and discussions were broadcast in an abridged form on CBC Radio's "Ideas" program on May 7.

Project...

(Continued from page 11)

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Photographer documents life...

(Continued from page 10)



Lida Suchy

Ivan Ivanovych Slovak carries bread from the store in Kryvorivnia, Ukraine, 1993.

covering the family's burial plot containing the graves of her aunt and great-grandfather. The graves had become overgrown with vines, and finding them involved a considerable search. Her father's old house had become an abandoned ruin. "The visit was sometimes a sad and bittersweet experience for my dad," recalled Ms. Suchy.

During that visit, a Hutsul family invited her to stay. Her 10-month return to the rugged Carpathian region with its severe winter climate produced a series of portraits of village people.

"I am trying to create a collective portrait of this rural community through individual portraits of its members," Ms. Suchy said. "It is also a way to confront the image of this place I built up from my father's recollections and stories with an image of my own."

In the process, Ms. Suchy and her large camera became so well-known in the village that "when I hitchhiked to get to the place where I lived, even people I had never before met knew exactly where to drop me off."

A tour of Ms. Suchy's painstakingly created pictures reveals much of the character of a people seldom visible to the outside world. Her photos hang in galleries and museums in Europe and the United States. They also hold a place of honor on the pic-

ture walls of many village households.

"The pictures are not a folklore documentary, nor are they a travelogue," she explained. "Despite their photographic verity, they perhaps reveal more about the photographer's own subjective vision than they do about the world they depict."

At present, Ms. Suchy is developing a parallel photographic series of Ukrainian Americans.

A second photographic series also recently displayed at La Salle consisted of portraits of religious practitioners from the Ukrainian Greek-Catholic Church, photographed during Ms. Suchy's 1993-1994 residency in Ukraine as a Yale University

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We feel it is necessary to notify our subscribers that The Weekly is mailed out Friday mornings (before the Sunday date of issue) via second-class mail.

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5th Anniversary of Ukraine's Independence

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PREVIEW OF EVENTS

Friday, May 31 - Sunday, June 9
NEW YORK: Commemorating the 50th anniversary of the death of renowned Ukrainian artist Wasyli Diadnyuk, the Ukrainian Institute of America presents an exhibition of the artist's works depicting historical Ukrainian "knyazi" (princes) and "hetman" (hetmans). Mr. Diadnyuk studied and was influenced by such renowned artists as Oleksa Novakivsky and Petro Cholodny. Over 40 works will be on display at the institute's exhibit. The opening is on Friday, May 31, at 6-9 p.m. Gallery hours: Saturday, June 1 - Sunday, June 2, 2-6 p.m.; Monday, June 3 - Sunday, June 9, by appointment only. The institute is at 2 E. 79th St., near Central Park. For more information call (212) 288-8660.

Saturday, June 1
NEWARK, N.J.: St. John the Baptist Ukrainian Catholic School will hold its annual parish dance in the school gymnasium at 746 Sandford Ave. The fun begins at 9 p.m. Music provided by Tempo; special performance by vocalist Zirka. Tickets: adults, \$15; students, \$7. Ukrainian attire optional. Prizes will be awarded for best Uke outfits. For table reservations call the rectory, (201) 371-1356.

PASSAIC, N.J.: The Passaic branches of the Ukrainian American Youth Association (SUM-A) and the Organization for Defense of Four Freedoms for Ukraine (ODFFU) invite everyone to a dance/zabava featuring the energetic new band Zolota Bulava from Montreal. The dancing starts at 9 p.m. at the Ukrainian Center, 240 Hope Ave. For table reservations and further information call (201) 772-3344.

Saturday, June 22
UNIONDALE, N.Y.: An all-day workshop in the singing of baptismal, matrimonial and parastas ceremonies will be held at the parish center of St. Vladimir Ukrainian Catholic Church, 9:30 a.m. - 5:30 p.m. Prof. Joseph Roll of St. Basil Seminary in Stamford, Conn., will conduct the workshop. Texts of melodies will be provided in both Ukrainian and English; Ukrainian reading ability is required. Class size is limited, and reservations will be accepted on a first come, first served basis; registration deadline is Saturday, June 15. To secure a place, call Maria Olync, (516) 488-4823, or George Drance, (516) 328-6165.

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