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\$1/\$2 in Ukraine

Last of Ukraine's "Ukraine without Kuchma" protests intensify

Tu-160 bombers is dismantled

by Roman Woronowycz
Kyiv Press Bureau

PRYLUKY, Ukraine — Using a giant scissor-like tool, a U.S.-made Caterpillar excavator took all of 15 minutes on February 3 to snip through the metal skin of the last of the Ukrainian-owned Tu-160 strategic nuclear bombers — in its time probably the most feared piece of military equipment in the old Soviet arsenal.

As a crowd of some 100 military officials from the United States and Ukraine looked on, the nose of the aircraft, which had already been gutted of salvageable equipment, first sagged forward and then, slowly at first, plunged to the ground of this wide-open, snow-swept airfield, landing with a thud.

At a press conference after the display, the two ranking officials from each side, Deputy Commander of the Ukrainian Air Force Lt. Gen. Leonid Fursa, and Deputy Assistant to the U.S. Secretary of Defense Brig. Gen. Thomas Kuenning (Ret.) both acknowledged that it was difficult to watch the destruction of a perfectly good high-tech aircraft. Lt. Gen. Fursa explained that the reasons for the project, however, are sound and clear.

"As difficult as it is to watch this type of equipment being destroyed, we must understand that it is being done for world peace, for our future and the future of our children," said the Ukrainian Air Force official.

During its heyday in the 1970s and 1980s, the Tu-160 strategic aircraft, known to the U.S. military as the Blackjack, carried Soviet nuclear warheads and cruise missiles, and had the ability to travel 15 hours without refueling at speeds that exceeded 1,300 mph. It could carry up to 24 cruise missiles in its two bays. Its primary targets: major U.S. cities.

Since the disintegration of the Soviet Union nearly 10 years ago, the bombers have sat idle here and at several other airbases scattered throughout Ukraine awaiting their designation to the scrap heap.

In a trilateral pact signed by Kyiv, Washington and Moscow in January 1994, Ukraine agreed to the condition of the START I nuclear disarmament treaty that called on it to destroy its nuclear warheads and missiles along with the strategic bomber fleet it inherited from the Soviet Union.

In December 1997 the United States offered financial and technical assistance in the destruction of the Tu-160 and its sister, the Tu-95MS heavy bomber as part of the Cooperative Threat Reduction Program, commonly known as the Nunn-Lugar Act. Raytheon Technical Services Co. won a

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AP/ Viktor Pobedinsky

Protesters in Kyiv on February 6 carry a poster of President Leonid Kuchma with his face crossed out and the message "Kuchma Kaput!"

by Roman Woronowycz
Kyiv Press Bureau

KYIV — More than 10,000 people from many regions of Ukraine marched through this capital city on February 6 waving the blue-yellow national emblem and chanting "Kuchma Out" and "Ukraine without Kuchma" before holding a mass rally at which leaders of various political stripes called for the resignation of President Leonid Kuchma. The politicians and demonstrators charged that the president is involved in the disappearance of a Ukrainian journalist and the ensuing cover-up.

The demonstration was marred by scuffles between local militia, Communists who tried to disrupt the rally and paramilitary youth who took part in the protests, as well as an attack by about 300 other youths from a heretofore unknown organization called the Anarchist Syndicate on a tent city re-erected in the city center.

The demonstrations were another in a series of actions organized by a coalition of political groups active under the aegis of "Ukraine without Kuchma," a movement that has gained further momentum in the last week as new audio recordings have surfaced of alleged conversations between President Leonid Kuchma and various subordinates outlining or implying criminal conspiracies and behavior by Ukrainian officials at the highest levels.

The daylong demonstrations began early in the morning as columns of marchers entered Kyiv from various regions by train, bus and car. Some

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Medvid meets with U.S. legislators who supported him in 1985

Ukrainian National Information Service

WASHINGTON — The name is recognizable to most: Myroslav Medvid. The time was in October 1985 when a Ukrainian sailor dove off the Soviet freighter Marshal Koniev in the port of New Orleans to seek political asylum in the United States.

Now, almost 16 years later the Rev. Myroslav Medvid was here in the United States on the invitation of the Ukrainian Congress Committee of America (UCCA). He visited various communities and came to Washington to tell his story to his supporters in the U.S. Congress.

On Tuesday, January 30, the Rev. Medvid — who in 1990 was ordained a priest of the Ukrainian Greek-Catholic Church — met with several members of Congress who had played an instrumental role on his behalf and supported his desire to seek political asylum in the United States.

In a meeting with Sen. Jesse Helms (R-N.C.), chairman of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee, the Rev. Medvid personally thanked the senator for his efforts in 1985. The senator mentioned his role in defending Mr. Medvid's decision to defect to the United States, which included issuing a subpoena for Mr. Medvid to appear before the Senate Agricultural Committee, which he chaired. The Rev. Medvid acknowledged that he didn't learn of the senator's or other government officials' support until he viewed videotapes of the incident once back in the United States.

Flanked by the senator's staffers — Staff Director Steve

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Sen. Jesse Helms with the Rev. Myroslav Medvid.

FOR THE RECORD

RFE/RL releases transcripts of interviews with Melnychenko

RFE/RL Poland, Belarus and Ukraine Report

On December 29, 2000, and January 9, RFE/RL's Ukrainian Service broadcast live interviews with Mykola Melnychenko, a major in the reserve of the Ukrainian Security Service and a former presidential bodyguard, who provoked a political scandal in Ukraine by publicizing the tapes that allegedly show President Leonid Kuchma's complicity in the disappearance of independent journalist Heorhii Gongadze.

On both occasions, Mr. Melnychenko contacted the Prague-based studio of RFE/RL's Ukrainian Service of his own choice and spoke by telephone on the live program called "Vechirnia Svoboda" (Evening Radio Liberty).

Following are excerpts of the interviews with Mr. Melnychenko translated from the transcripts that were published in the Internet newsletter *Ukrainska Pravda* (<http://www.pravda.com.ua>) and on the RFE/RL's Ukrainian Service Internet site (<http://www.rferl.org/bd/uk/ukrainian/>).

PART II: JANUARY INTERVIEW

There was a link between the studios of RFE/RL's Ukrainian Service in Prague and Kyiv during Melnychenko's interview. The Kyiv studio hosted lawmaker Serhiy Holovaty and independent journalist Iryna Pohorelova during the program. The program was moderated by Oleksa Boyarko in Prague.

Boyarko: Mr. Melnychenko, 10 days ago you touched upon last spring's plan in the Ukrainian president's office "to destroy Viktor Yushchenko," according to Leonid Kuchma's words you quoted. This passage has stirred particular interest in the Ukrainian media, and not only in the media. What else can you say about how the prime minister's lot was discussed in the presidential office?

Melnychenko: The plan was discussed with the Donetsk Oblast chairman, and there were the words: "Yushchenko wants me to sack him. I will not sack him, I will destroy him once and for all." And then those steps were made to destroy Yushchenko politically.

Boyarko: Do your tapes not contain the information that the president subsequently gave up that plan?

Melnychenko: No, there is no such [recording]. There were time frames mentioned that he [Yushchenko] should work only until the end of 2000, while in the beginning of 2001 he should be replaced.

Boyarko: Replaced by whom, please?

Melnychenko: There were different names, one of the most ... Azarov, the head of Ukraine's Tax Administration.

Boyarko: Were there other names mentioned?

Melnychenko: This is not essential.

Boyarko: Mr. Melnychenko, the first tape, which was made public by Oleksander Moroz, mentions Radio Liberty. The point is that the situation around Radio Liberty is rather strange. Over a long time, we have been noticing the activity of special services around Radio Liberty. It is not connected only with the fact that you, Mr. Melnychenko, contacted us, it started earlier. Special services seek direct contacts with RFE/RL's Ukrainian Service employees. As people say, [the secret service] "sounded out" Service Director Roman Kupchinsky in the first place. A special service representative came to Prague for a "heart-to-heart" talk and openly said that the service is rather disliked by the presidential administration and personally the president. And he warned [Kupchinsky] that unless the tone of our programs changes, "softens," those at the top will make every effort to drive

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ANALYSIS

Just what did the Procurator General's Office say?

RFE/RL Poland, Belarus and Ukraine Report

The Procurator General's Office issued quite an enigmatic statement on the most resonant political scandal in independent Ukraine's history: the alleged complicity of President Leonid Kuchma and high-ranking state officials in the disappearance of independent journalist Heorhii Gongadze.

In December, Procurator General Mykhailo Potebenko told the Parliament that the audiotapes provided by former presidential bodyguard Mykola Melnychenko – allegedly including Mr. Kuchma's words that urge state official to get rid of Mr. Gongadze – were doctored, since it was impossible to eavesdrop on the president's office. The February 2 statement modifies that official stance on the Gongadze case to some extent, although it remains to be seen to what extent exactly.

The Procurator General's Office says the Mr. Gongadze criminal case (which includes both his disappearance and the identification of a corpse that is believed to be his) is being conducted at "an appropriate professional level in accordance with the requirements of national legislation, thoroughly and objectively." The office simultaneously protests the pressure on prosecutors from "interested political forces."

The office says the Melnychenko audio recordings were "compiled from separate

words and fragments, which is essentially a falsification." According to experts involved in the investigation, it is impossible to identify whether the taped voices belong to high-ranking state officials.

Now comes the most interesting part of the statement. The office admits that the above-mentioned "words and fragments" were actually taken from "conversations of the president of Ukraine," including those taped in secret when Mr. Kuchma was briefed by law enforcement officials on the crime situation in the country.

Then come a number of obscure suppositions about the ulterior motives behind the tape scandal:

"Individual political forces, including some lawmakers, while pursuing their own interests, are trying to make the public accept illusion instead of the reality. For this goal, they use primarily *Tovarysh*, the Socialist Party's newspaper, which continues to publish materials that do not conform to reality.

"In order to achieve their goal, those individuals use international organizations, including the Council of Europe. Fearing that Mr. Melnychenko may give true testimony of his and their inadmissible actions, which entail responsibility under the legislation in force, they use all possible and impossible [sic] means to prevent his extra-

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NEWSBRIEFS

EU expresses concern over media freedom

KYIV – "The European Union wishes to repeat its concerns about the continuing problematic environment for the media in Ukraine and wants to stress to the Ukrainian authorities the need to ensure a safe, secure, and harassment-free environment for journalists to operate in," the EU's Swedish presidency said in a statement released on February 6. The statement also called on the Ukrainian authorities to conduct a thorough and transparent investigation into the disappearance of Heorhii Gongadze. Ukraine's Foreign Affairs Ministry spokesman Ihor Hrushko reacted to the EU statement by saying that it is "a biased opinion, a hasty measure that does not agree quite fittingly with what the initiators of this statement actually have in mind," Interfax reported. (RFE/RL Newswire)

Kuchma shrugs off ouster demand

KYIV – "The president, who has been elected by the majority of Ukrainian residents, 16 million people, will not yield to the resignation demand of 2,000," presidential spokesman Oleksander Martynenko told the Ekho Moskvyy radio station the same day. National Deputy Serhii Kurkin told Interfax that President Leonid Kuchma voiced a similar argument the previous day during a meeting with Ukraine's delegation to the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe. According to Mr. Kurkin, President Kuchma said the 16 million votes cast for him in 1999 constitute "the credit of trust on which I am leaning." Meanwhile, Socialist Party leader Oleksander Moroz appealed to members of Parliament to pass legislation that would regulate the procedure for the president's impeachment. (RFE/RL Newswire)

Pro-presidential forum convenes

KYIV – Some 1,000 people convened for a pro-presidential "assembly of political parties and public organizations" in Kyiv on February 5, Interfax reported. They claimed to represent some 170 parties and organizations, including the Social Democratic Party (United), the Democratic Union, Labor Ukraine, the National Democratic Party and the Agrarian Party. The assembly pledged to unite efforts to preserve political stability in the country and to support the president in implementing his "strategy of national development." The forum simultaneously demanded that President Leonid Kuchma take all lawful measures "to prevent social confrontation and a violent scenario in the development of events." (RFE/RL Newswire)

Procurator general goes on leave

KYIV – Ukraine's Procurator General Mykhailo Potebenko on January 5 went on leave, Interfax reported. Opponents of President Leonid Kuchma accuse Mr. Potebenko of delaying the investigation of the Gongadze case in order to protect the president. National Deputy Hryhorii Omelchenko told the agency that Mr. Potebenko took a 45-day leave, adding that President Kuchma will most likely dismiss the procurator general because of "health reasons." (RFE/RL Newswire)

IMF official urges more reforms

KYIV – John Odling-Smee, head of the International Monetary Fund's Second European Department, said in Kyiv on February 5 that Ukraine should preserve and even reinforce the policy of reforms it embarked on last year, Interfax reported. Mr. Odling-Smee said Kyiv should continue its budgetary reform and launch reforms of the pension system, education and health care. He added that Ukraine should continue the privatization of large enterprises and stop state interference in the agricultural sector. According to Mr. Odling-Smee, Ukraine's transition economy faces typical problems resulting from the merger of interests of state officials and big oligarchic clans. He said a "new nomenklatura," which wants to maintain its monopoly on some markets in Ukraine, hinders the country's development, particularly in the private economic sector. (RFE/RL Newswire)

Ukrainian Parliament begins session

KYIV – The third convocation of Ukraine's Verkhovna Rada on February 7 opened its seventh session, which will last until mid-July, Interfax reported. Rada Chairman Ivan Pliusch said lawmakers are to consider 470 legislative issues, including the adoption of civil, economic, criminal, tax, customs, budget and land codes. (RFE/RL Newswire)

OSCE to meet on Transdnister conflict

CHISINAU – William Hill, head of the OSCE's permanent mission to Moldova, on February 2 told journalists in Chisinau that the mediators in the Transdnister conflict – Russia, Ukraine, Portugal and the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe – had ended a meeting in Kyiv to prepare for a meeting in Bratislava at the end of the month with the sides involved in the conflict. Mr. Hill said the mediators discussed the Russian proposals for the conflict's resolution presented by the delegation headed by Yevgenii Primakov. He said those proposals will serve as "a basis for negotiations" in Bratislava, with the sides

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Kuchma names young industrialist to newly created super-ministerial post

by Roman Woronowycz
Kyiv Press Bureau

KYIV – President Leonid Kuchma appointed young industrialist Oleh Dubyna to the newly created super-ministerial post of vice prime minister of industrial policy on January 26.

The appointment came with the approval of Prime Minister Viktor Yushenko, who is said also to have had Mr. Dubyna high on his preferred list, although some press sources have said Mr. Yushenko was pushing the appointment of the chairman of Zaporizhia Oblast, Oleksii Kucherenko.

Mr. Dubyna was the general director of Kryvorizhstal, Ukraine's largest steel manufacturing plant, until the appointment to his new post, which will essentially make him Ukraine's industrial policy tsar. He has a spotless record in taking bankrupt companies into the black.

After assuming the general directorship of Kryvorizhstal in November 1999, it took him about a year to put the plant on its feet and show a 1 billion hryv profit in 2000. President Kuchma was so taken by Mr. Dubyna's accomplishments at Kryvorizhstal that he personally removed it from the list of plants that were targeted for privatization in 2001. Prior to that Mr. Dubyna worked his

wonders at the Alchevsk Metallurgical Complex, where he also returned a bankrupt operation to profitability.

Mr. Dubyna is a political independent, which fulfills one of the two characteristics both the president and the prime minister were seeking in the person who would fill the post. The other requirement was that the individual preferably would hail from the regions and not the capital.

Mr. Dubyna, 41, replaces Yulia Tymoshenko, who was fired by the president on January 19 after becoming the subject of an investigation by the Procurator General's Office into charges of forgery, smuggling and embezzlement. Ms. Tymoshenko was vice prime minister of energy, a portfolio that President Kuchma expanded to include all industrial policy when he appointed Mr. Dubyna.

Prime Minister Yushenko said on January 27 that he has full confidence that his new vice prime minister will continue to pursue the policies begun by Mrs. Tymoshenko, including enforcement of timely payments by large energy consumers to government coffers. He also said he believes that Mr. Dubyna would continue energy sector reorganizations as recently approved by the Cabinet of Ministers.

Medvid meets...

(Continued from page 1)

Biegen and Staff Associate Ian Brzezinski – from the Senate Foreign Relations Committee and media personnel, the Rev. Medvid was accompanied to the meeting by UCCA President Michael Sawkiw Jr., UCCA Vice-President Orest Baranyk, and Ukrainian National Information Service (UNIS) Administrative Assistant Natalie Kemska, who served as translator.

During the course of the conversation with Sen. Helms, the Rev. Medvid became emotional as he reconstructed those ill-fated days in October 1985. The senator and his staff were intrigued at the treatment the sailor received at the hands of both American and Soviet authorities. Sen. Helms quoted several articles from various news publications in 1985 that had branded him as "grandstanding," especially in light of the upcoming U.S.-Soviet summit in Geneva, Switzerland, that took place a week after the incident began in New Orleans.

The senator was equally interested in the Rev. Medvid's current function as a priest of the Ukrainian Greek-Catholic Church. The Rev. Medvid expressed his love for his Church and country, stating that he feels he must work on behalf of both to strengthen the newly independent Ukrainian state. He also expressed concern about the current situation in Ukraine, and underlined that the Western world needs to focus more attention toward Ukraine.

The 20-minute meeting ended with best wishes from Sen. Helms, who requested that the Rev. Medvid deliver a benediction. The Rev. Medvid recited the "Our Father" in Ukrainian and blessed those in attendance. Before departing, the Rev. Medvid presented Sen. Helms with a videotape compilation of news stories from the 1985 incident, as well as an icon replica of the famous appearance of the Mother of God in Hrushiv, Ukraine.

Later that day, the Rev. Medvid was also met former Pennsylvania Rep. Dan

Ritter. Held in the Rayburn Room of the U.S. Capitol, the meeting was another opportunity for the Rev. Medvid to thank his supporters for their outspoken defense of his case in 1985. Former Rep. Ritter was said to have been honored to meet the Rev. Medvid, and expressed interest in his treatment by both U.S. and Soviet officials. The congressman reiterated many of the same facts cited by Sen. Helms about congressional support for Seaman Medvid despite the official INS ruling to send him back to the Soviet Union.

Once again the topic about the current situation in Ukraine was raised. The former congressman voiced dismay at how many former Communist societies have taken so long to rid themselves of former and present corrupt behavior. Seeing the defector-turned-clergyman in good health and full of enthusiasm in his priestly duties, former Rep. Ritter jokingly commented that "you, Myroslav Medvid, outlived the Soviet Union."

During the Rev. Medvid's stay in the United States, he has had the opportunity to visit Ukrainian communities in Philadelphia, Newark, New York, Chicago, Cleveland and Buffalo, as well as the Ukrainian Catholic diocese in Stamford, Conn. Upon the invitation of the UCCA, the Rev. Medvid's first appearance was at St. Patrick's Cathedral on November 18, 2000, as the main speaker during a solemn commemoration of the 1932-1933 Famine-Genocide in Ukraine. Each community he subsequently visited warmly welcomed the former would-be defector to the United States, and local media provided news coverage.

When asked by UCCA President Sawkiw about his reflections on being back in a country that had returned him to the Soviet Union nearly 16 years ago, the Rev. Medvid stated: "God had intended it to be that way. I am grateful, however, to have met many people who supported my actions back then. Thank you for your support."

The Rev. Medvid is set to return to Ukraine, where he will work on his memoirs of the 1985 incident.

Three deputies die in Ukraine

by Yarema A. Bachynsky
Special to The Ukrainian Weekly

KYIV – Two national deputies and one oblast council deputy have died suddenly within the past 10 days in Ukraine. The deaths of National Deputies Yurii Kononenko and Oleksander Yemets, and Kharkiv Oblast Council Deputy Valerii Zozulia are all under criminal investigation at this time.

Mr. Kononenko, a prominent Kharkiv businessman-turned-national legislator died on January 22 from a rifle wound in what law enforcement officials have tentatively termed a suicide.

That day, at approximately 10 a.m., Mr. Kononenko entered his office at Losk, the highly successful manufacturer of automobile windshields and auto parts, with his personal semi-automatic hunting rifle, and ordered his employees not to disturb him, said the oblast procurator's office.

Towards evening, concerned that Mr. Kononenko had been cooped up in his office all day, employees entered and found him lying on the floor, the apparent victim of a self-inflicted rifle wound.

Following discovery of the body, a criminal investigation was initiated by the oblast procurator. Law enforcement officials said at a press conference on January 23 that Mr. Kononenko had been under possible psychological and emotional pressure immediately prior to his death.

National Deputy Mykhailo Brodskii of the Yabluko faction said on January 22 that he does not believe Mr. Kononenko committed suicide. Mr. Brodskii cited the fact that Mr. Kononenko had quit the pro-presidential National Democratic Party faction on October 19, 2000, and joined Yabluko, only to reverse himself a week later and return to the NDP fold. "Because of this I am quite doubtful that he committed suicide," said Mr. Brodskii.

Oleksander Karpov, coordinator of the increasingly shaky center-right parliamentary majority in the Verkhovna Rada and NDP fraction member, said following Mr. Kononenko's death that there was no reason to doubt its nature. Observers of the Kharkiv political scene have commented that Mr. Kononenko's business affairs took a turn for the worse following the appointment of former presidential administration head Yevhen Kushnariov as governor of Kharkiv Oblast. Losk, which in addition to its manufacturing activities, runs one of the largest used car markets in Ukraine, was subjected to numerous tax inspections, and Mr. Kononenko became increasingly more troubled.

Following his death, the Internet site expert.org released what it said was a letter written by Mr. Kononenko to former Prime Minister and NDP Chairman Valerii Pustovoitenko in which the businessman asked forgiveness for his display of disloyalty to the PDP. The Kyiv Post wrote on January 25 that it was uncertain whether the letter was ever sent to Mr. Pustovoitenko.

The investigation into the 45 year-old Mr. Kononenko's death continues.

On January 28, the chairman of the Reforms and Order Party (PRP) and National Deputy Oleksander Yemets died after an automobile accident on the Zaporizhia-Kirovohrad highway. At approximately 8:30 p.m. that day, according to PRP parliamentary faction leader Viktor Pynzenyk, the driver of Mr. Yemets' Mercedes lost control of the vehicle, which sped off the rain-soaked road, slid into a ditch and rammed a nearby tree. Mr. Yemets' driver and assistant, Ruslan Zaichenko, was saved by his airbag, but Mr. Yemets, who sustained heavy injuries, including major head trauma and a broken hip, died shortly after being admitted to a hospital in the nearby town of Apostolove.



Oleksander Yemets in a 1994 photo.

"Everyone considers it an accident. Nobody here is presently saying that the nature [of the accident] is deliberate," said PRP press secretary Myroslava Gongadze to Ukrainian News, adding that the party and the Reforms-Congress parliamentary faction was calling for a thorough investigation of the mishap's cause. Vice Minister of Internal Affairs Petro Koliada has since been appointed to lead the Yemets inquiry.

Born in 1959 in Khmelnytskyi Oblast, Mr. Yemets was an attorney and law enforcement professional. He was elected to the Parliament in 1998 as a member of the NDP party list, but left that party to become vice-chairman of the PRP in June 1999. Prior to his election to the Verkhovna Rada, Mr. Yemets served as minister for nationalities and migration in 1993-1994 and as vice-prime minister for political and legal matters from March to August 1996. In 1997 he served as a legal advisor to President Leonid Kuchma.

Mr. Yemets was buried at Baikove Cemetery in Kyiv on January 31. According to korrespondent.net, some 5,000 persons, including President Kuchma, Prime Minister Viktor Yushenko, Minister of Internal Affairs Yurii Kravchenko and other top officials paid their last respects to Mr. Yemets, who leaves behind two sons.

Mr. Yemets' death brought to 10 the number of national deputies who have died in office since the 1998 parliamentary elections. Among the deceased are former political dissident and Rukh leader Vyacheslav Chornovil, who died under questionable circumstances in a car accident near Boryspil in March 1999.

On January 24, Mr. Zozulia, a deputy of the Kharkiv Oblast Council and businessman, was shot and killed as he left his home in the village of Rzhavchyk, reported national and local media. One of Mr. Zozulia's employees discovered his body, as well as the bodies of his wife and mother-in-law, after coming to the house that morning.

Law enforcement officials quickly ruled out the possibility of a political motive behind Mr. Zozulia's death, and on January 27 arrested two locals in the matter. Local media reported that the duo apparently killed the deputy because he had stiffed them on a land deal. Mr. Zozulia headed the Rzhavchyk Agricultural Company, a former collective farm, and had allegedly short-changed the two individuals implicated in the multiple shooting.

Police were able to track down the alleged killers quickly because they had dropped the presumed murder weapon in a nearby well, said the Kharkiv Oblast Procurator's Office following the arrests. The suspects have been charged with aggravated premeditated homicide, and authorities charge they had also stolen gold from the Zozulia household.

THE UKRAINIAN NATIONAL ASSOCIATION FORUM

ORGANIZING RESULTS BY MEMBERSHIP FOR 2000

Organizer Name (Branch)	Members Organized	Amount of Insurance
Pylypiak Myron (496)	62	\$526,000.00
Streletsky Lubov (10)	29	\$502,000.00
Hawryluk Joseph (360)	27	\$697,000.00
Hawryluk Stephanie (88)	24	\$179,900.00
Oscislowski Eugene (234)	15	\$391,650.00
Chabon Joseph (242)	14	\$170,000.00
Kuzio Myron (277)	13	\$183,000.00
Hardink Leon (206)	12	\$390,000.00
Darmograj Yuri (127)	10	\$95,000.00
Trytjak Oksana (25)	10	\$205,000.00
Diakivsky Nicholas (161)	9	\$53,000.00
Matiash Eli (120)	9	\$45,000.00
Staruch Longin (371)	9	\$234,000.00
Boland Genet (409)	8	\$100,000.00
Hawryshkiw George (283)	8	\$65,000.00
Worobec Andre (70, 168, 76)	8	\$572,000.00
Kotch Joyce (39)	7	\$120,000.00
Turko Michael (63)	7	\$50,000.00
Banit Vira (473)	6	\$30,000.00
Galonzka Dmytro (307)	6	\$30,000.00
Haras Anna (47)	6	\$40,000.00
Koczarski Jacek (777)	6	\$125,000.00
Krywulch Walter (266)	6	\$75,000.00
Paschuk Larisa R. (325)	6	\$60,000.00
Bachynsky Barbara (184)	5	\$83,000.00
Felenchak Michael (271)	5	\$125,000.00
Fil Nicholas (13)	5	\$40,000.00
Odezynskyj Bohdan (216)	5	\$25,000.00
Tatarsky Helen (94)	5	\$35,000.00
Bilchuk Nina (777)	4	\$234,999.00
Chomko John (42)	4	\$40,000.00
Doboszczak Bohdan (59)	4	\$50,000.00
Dolnycky Alexandra (434)	4	\$110,000.00
Fedorijczuk George (162)	4	\$64,000.00
Haluszczak Maria (70)	4	\$20,000.00
Hentosh Marguerite (305)	4	\$30,000.00
Horbaty Gloria (414)	4	\$62,000.00
Maruszczak Olga (82)	4	\$20,000.00
Maryniuk Andrew (388)	4	\$60,000.00
Home Office	4	\$90,000.00
Brodyn Christine (27)	3	\$135,000.00
Fenchak Paul (320)	3	\$10,000.00
Guglik Julie (259)	3	\$15,000.00
Kapral Mary (112)	3	\$11,000.00
Kozak Christine (777, 155)	3	\$15,000.00
Liteplo Olga (361)	3	\$9,000.00
Napora Vera (291)	3	\$15,000.00
Nazarewycz Irene (352)	3	\$15,000.00
Shewchuk Paul (13)	3	\$5,000.00
Zaviysky Yaroslav (155)	2	\$25,000.00
Bilyk Michael (323)	2	\$10,000.00
Cybriwsky Ilko (417)	2	\$20,000.00
Duda Teodor (163)	2	\$15,000.00
Godfrey Rodney (142)	2	\$10,000.00
Hawrysz Stefan (83)	2	\$25,000.00
Hryshchysyn Bohdan (264)	2	\$10,000.00
Karachewsky Helen (221)	2	\$8,000.00
Kujdych Ivan (331)	2	\$35,000.00
Kulczycky Maria (8)	2	\$10,000.00
Kuropas Stefko (176)	2	\$30,000.00
Lawrin Alexandra (175)	2	\$28,000.00
Lonyszyn Sophie (372)	2	\$10,000.00
Milnichik Janice (147)	2	\$60,000.00
Moroz Tekla (465)	2	\$10,000.00
Nedilsky Maureen Anne (171)	2	\$200,000.00
Pishko Olga (338)	2	\$20,000.00
Platosz Adam (254)	2	\$10,000.00
Scholtis Bonnie L. (164)	2	\$10,000.00
Serba Peter (173)	2	\$10,000.00
Skyba Andrij (399)	2	\$50,000.00
Slovik Helen (7)	2	\$15,000.00
Stefuryn Gizelia (169)	2	\$10,000.00
Stuban Frank (67)	2	\$15,000.00
Tymkiv Petro (458)	2	\$10,000.00
Vasylyk Galina (399)	2	\$50,000.00
Woch Steven (777)	2	\$180,000.00
Banach Joseph (171)	1	\$25,000.00
Bardell Janet (241)	1	\$3,000.00
Bilyk Wolodymyr (170)	1	\$5,000.00
Bodnar Lew (131)	1	\$5,000.00
Borovitcky Annabelle (230)	1	\$3,000.00
Butrej Tymko (164)	1	\$5,000.00
Choma Mychajlo (290)	1	\$5,000.00

(Continued on page 15)

UNA releases organizing results, recognizes top organizers for 2000

by Martha Lysko
UNA National Secretary

The Ukrainian National Association is a membership organization and as such depends largely for its existence and growth on its members. For many years the key people in organizing new members have been our branch secretaries. They still continue to be promoters of the UNA and builders of our organization.

Their role changed somewhat from what it was in the last century. With today's technological advances and the ever-changing Ukrainian community, these changes were inevitable. In January of this year, when the entire UNA went from branch billing to direct billing, we simply responded to the demands of the time and circumstances. This change liberated the branch secretary from the mundane task of premium collection and presented the more challenging task of organizing members by promoting the UNA through fraternal branch activities.

Despite the many difficulties faced by our secretaries and organizers, the UNA finished the year with 526 new members for the total amount of insurance \$7,903,549. In addition there were 13 annuities sold for the amount of \$778,479. One hundred thirty-four secretaries, member organizers and licensed agents participated in this effort. Ten branches produced 10 or more policies during year 2000. Nine out of 27 Districts achieved 50 percent or more of their annual quota. The highest quotas by districts were attained by: Various Branches - 172 percent, the Woonsocket District - 130 percent, and the Buffalo, Albany and Connecticut Districts - 95 percent. More than half of districts did not meet their organizing quotas.

The three best organizers for the year by the number of policies and premium dollars due were: Myron Pylypiak, Branch 496, who organized 62 members with \$14,688.44 in annual premiums; in second place is Lubov Streletsky, Branch 10, 29 members and \$13,264 in premiums; in third place is Joseph Hawryluk, Branch 360, 27 members and premiums of \$9,642.47.

These are the stars among our secretaries and serve as an example to all. They face the same difficulties as every other branch in the UNA, but they surpass the difficulties and achieve brilliant results. These three people have been in the forefront of our organizing efforts for several years and the UNA is grateful to them. We hope others will follow in their footsteps.

The UNA faces the new century with many challenges, but none as important as the growth of membership in our organization. Whether we have a professional sales force, branch secretaries or paid organizers, the challenge still remains the same. We can blame people, economic conditions, assimilation or lack of interest for our failures, but each one of us can contribute to the success of organizing by bringing in just one member during the year. If every member organized one other person we would double our membership in one year.



Myron Pylypiak



Joseph Hawryluk



Lubov Streletsky

Mission Statement

The Ukrainian National Association exists:

- to promote the principles of fraternalism;
- to preserve the Ukrainian, Ukrainian American and Ukrainian Canadian heritage and culture; and
- to provide quality financial services and products to its members.

As a fraternal insurance society, the Ukrainian National Association reinvests its earnings for the benefit of its members and the Ukrainian community.

THE UKRAINIAN NATIONAL ASSOCIATION FORUM

MEMBERSHIP QUALIFICATIONS FOR ALL DISTRICTS 2000

	District quota	New members	Percentage attained
1 Various	50	86	172.00%
2 Woonsocket	10	13	130.00%
3 Buffalo	40	38	95.00%
4 Albany	40	38	95.00%
5 Connecticut District	35	30	85.71%
6 Boston	10	7	70.00%
7 Wilkes Barre	20	13	65.00%
8 Syracuse	35	21	60.00%
9 Montreal	25	13	52.00%
10 Shamokin	45	21	46.67%
11 Pittsburgh	70	32	45.71%
12 Philadelphia	135	54	40.00%
13 Northern New Jersey	165	64	38.79%
14 Niagara	15	4	26.67%
15 Allentown	30	8	26.67%
16 Baltimore	20	5	25.00%
17 New York	95	21	22.11%
18 Central New Jersey	45	9	20.00%
19 Central	10	2	20.00%
20 Cleveland	60	11	18.33%
21 Detroit	80	13	16.25%
22 Chicago	95	15	15.79%
23 Youngstown	10	1	10.00%
24 Winnipeg	10	1	10.00%
25 Rochester	40	4	10.00%
26 Toronto	50	2	4.00%
27 Minneapolis	10	0	0.00%
TOTAL	1,250	526	42.08%

2000 BEST ORGANIZER (by annual premium)

Name	Branch	Annual premium
Myron Pylypiak	62	\$14,688.44
Lubov Streletsky	29	\$13,264.60
Joseph Hawryluk	27	\$9,642.47
Barbara Bachynsky	5	\$4,056.80
Longin Staruch	9	\$3,447.73
Yuri Darmograj	10	\$3,282.81
Stephanie Hawryluk	24	\$3,061.35
Myron Kuzio	13	\$2,830.27
Eugene Oscislawski	15	\$2,472.41
Paul Fuga	1	\$2,265.00
Helen Karachewsky	2	\$2,120.00

2000 BEST ORGANIZER (by annual premium)

Name	Branch	Members	Insurance amount
Pylypiak Myron	496	62	\$526,000.00
Streletsky Lubov	10	29	\$502,000.00
Hawryluk Joseph	360	27	\$697,000.00
Hawryluk Stephanie	88	24	\$179,900.00
Oscislawski Eugene	234	15	\$391,650.00
Chabon Joseph	242	14	\$170,000.00
Kuzio Myron	277	13	\$183,000.00
Hardink Leon	206	12	\$390,000.00
Darmograj Yuri	127	10	\$95,000.00
Trytjak Oksana	25	10	\$205,000.00
Diakowsky Nicholas	161	9	\$53,000.00
Matiash Eli	120	9	\$45,000.00
Staruch Longin	371	9	\$234,000.00
Boland Genet	409	8	\$100,000.00
Hawryshkiw George	283	8	\$65,000.00
Worobec Andre	76	8	\$572,000.00
Kotch Joyce	39	7	\$120,000.00
Turko Michael	63	7	\$50,000.00
Banit Vira	473	6	\$30,000.00
Galonzka Dmytro	307	6	\$30,000.00
Haras Anna	47	6	\$40,000.00
Koczarski Jacek	777	6	\$120,000.00
Krywulych Walter	266	6	\$75,000.00
Paschuk Larisa R.	325	6	\$60,000.00
Bachynsky Barbara	184	5	\$83,000.00
Felenchak Michael	271	5	\$125,000.00
Fil Nicholas	13	5	\$40,000.00
Odezynskij Bohdan	216	5	\$25,000.00
Tatarsky Helen	94	5	\$35,000.00

*Those who organized less than five members are not included in the above list.

2000 "CLUB OF EXCEPTIONAL ORGANIZERS" (for enrollment of 50 or more new members)

Branch	Name	Members	Insurance amount
496	Pylypiak Myron	62	\$526,000.00

2000 "CLUB OF OUTSTANDING ORGANIZERS" (for enrollment of 25 to 49 new members)

Branch	Name	Members	Insurance amount
10	Streletsky Lubov	29	\$502,000.00
360	Hawryluk Joseph	27	\$697,000.00

2000 "CLUB OF UNA BUILDERS" (for enrollment of 10 to 24 new members)

Branch	Name	Members	Insurance amount
88	Hawryluk Stephanie	24	\$179,900.00
234	Oscislawski Eugene	15	\$391,650.00
242	Chabon Joseph	14	\$170,000.00
277	Kuzio Myron	13	\$183,000.00
206	Hardink Leon	12	\$390,000.00
127	Darmograj Yuri	10	\$95,000.00
25	Trytjak Oksana	10	\$205,000.00

2000 "CLUB OF DEDICATED UNA'ers" (For enrollment of 5 to 9 new members)

Branch	Name	Members	Insurance amount
161	Diakowsky Nicholas	9	\$53,000.00
120	Matiash Eli	9	\$45,000.00
371	Staruch Longin	9	\$234,000.00
409	Boland Genet	8	\$100,000.00
283	Hawryshkiw George	8	\$65,000.00
76	Worobec Andre	8	\$572,000.00
39	Kotch Joyce	7	\$120,000.00
63	Turko Michael	7	\$50,000.00
473	Banit Vira	6	\$30,000.00
307	Galonzka Dmytro	6	\$30,000.00
47	Haras Anna	6	\$40,000.00
777	Koczarski Jacek	6	\$120,000.00
266	Krywulych Walter	6	\$75,000.00
325	Paschuk Larisa R.	6	\$60,000.00
184	Bachynsky Barbara	5	\$83,000.00
271	Felenchak Michael	5	\$125,000.00
13	Fil Nicholas	5	\$40,000.00
216	Odezynskij Bohdan	5	\$25,000.00
94	Tatarsky Helen	5	\$35,000.00

UNA BRANCHES THAT HAVE ATTAINED 10 OR MORE NEW MEMBERS AS OF DECEMBER 28, 2000

Branch	Name	Members	Insurance amount
496	62	Pylypiak Myron	Various
10	29	Streletsky Lubov	Philadelphia
360	27	Hawryluk Joseph	Buffalo
88	24	Hawryluk Stephanie	Albany
234	15	Oscislawski Eugene	Northern New Jersey
242	14	Chabon Joseph	Shamokin
277	13	Kuzio Myron	Connecticut
206	12	Hardink Leon	Woonsocket
127	10	Darmograj Yuri	Buffalo
25	10	Trytjak Oksana	Northern New Jersey

ANNOUNCEMENT

Minutes and Reports of the 34th Convention of the Ukrainian National Association held in Toronto in 1998 have been published and are now being sent to all General Assembly members, District Chairpersons, UNA Branch Secretaries and Delegates of the 34th Convention.

Any UNA member may receive a copy of this publication upon request. The Home Office can be contacted at (973) 292-9800. Please leave a message with the receptionist.

THE UKRAINIAN WEEKLY

Medvid returns

There was a measure of justice in the arrival here for a personal visit – indeed, a pilgrimage – of the Rev. Myroslav Medvid, who made headlines more than 15 years ago as a young Soviet seaman who sought freedom in the United States by jumping ship near the port of New Orleans.

The defection of the Soviet sailor in 1985 became the Medvid affair as it escalated in importance due to an upcoming U.S.-Soviet summit between President Ronald Reagan and Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev. Though Ukrainian Americans, others of like mind and several members of the U.S. Congress fought on behalf of Mr. Medvid, he was returned to the Soviet freighter Marshal Koniev.

When *The Weekly* on June 4, 2000, became the first Western publication to obtain an exclusive interview with the Rev. Medvid, we reported that he was alive and well, a clergyman of the Ukrainian Greek-Catholic Church who had been changed by the years and his ordeal, but a man who tried to harbor no ill will against those who returned him to the hands of the Soviets or against the Soviet henchmen who beat him, drugged him, sent him to a psychiatric institution and hounded him for years.

During an interview with Roman Woronowycz of our Kyiv Press Bureau, he stated: "I am thankful to everybody, from both sides. I pray for them daily. What I lived through was my first step to the Lord." He said what happened to him in New Orleans changed his life – for the better. He turned to the Church, he said, to "show [the KGB] that I was not one of them, but a person of nature, a man of God, of the Church ..."

Fifteen years after his ordeal, he wanted to return to the U.S., where he wished to celebrate liturgy with those who had supported him in those dark days. "They probably saved my life," he explained, referring to the Ukrainian Americans who demonstrated against his return to the USSR, as well as the politicians who supported them, in the face of an intransigent U.S. government. He wanted, desperately, to be in the U.S. on October 24, exactly 15 years to the day he jumped into the Mississippi.

Our Kyiv Press Bureau wanted to help the Rev. Medvid realize his dream, and the Ukrainian Congress Committee of America agreed to issue an official invitation. Nonetheless, he was rejected for a visitor's visa by U.S. consular officials in Kyiv because, in their opinion, he had failed to demonstrate that he was not a potential immigrant to the U.S. "Medvid denied, again," was the title of our editorial about yet another shameful episode. "On October 11 of this year America again rejected a request by Myroslav Medvid to enter the country. This time all he wanted to do was visit. Today the Rev. Medvid is a parish priest in good standing in a village near Lviv, but in October 1985 he was a Soviet sailor whose plea for political asylum went unheeded after he twice escaped a Soviet grain trawler," we wrote, hoping that his case would be reconsidered.

The Rev. Medvid ultimately was issued a visa and he arrived in the U.S. in mid-November. He visited several Ukrainian communities and met with many of those who had defended him. Perhaps his most significant stop was in Washington, where he met with Sen. Jesse Helms who in 1985 chaired the Senate Agriculture Committee and today is the chairman of the powerful Senate Foreign Relations Committee. He also met with former Rep. Don Ritter, who also spoke on his behalf.

As his U.S. sojourn was coming to a close, the Rev. Medvid stated of his life's path: "God had intended it to be that way. I am grateful, however, to have met many people who supported my actions back then."

We wish the Rev. Medvid well (and we look forward to reading his memoirs).

Feb.
10
1994

Turning the pages back...

Seven years ago, on February 10, 1994, President Bill Clinton met with leaders of the Ukrainian American community to discuss U.S.-Ukrainian relations. Also at the White House meeting were Vice-President Al Gore, National Security Advisor Anthony

Lake and Ambassador Strobe Talbott, whose nomination for deputy secretary of state was then pending in the Senate.

Stating that "the relationships between the United States and Ukraine are at their strongest point since 1991," the president outlined the progress in economic, political and military relations between the two nations, pointing out that the U.S. had already approved and provided \$175 million in assistance to facilitate the dismantling of the nuclear weapons. President Clinton stated that he expects "to almost double that amount when President [Leonid] Kravchuk is here [in March]." He also announced that "we had decided to double our bilateral economic assistance to Ukraine this year to more than \$300 million."

The Ukrainian delegation, numbering about 20, included representatives of the Ukrainian Congress Committee of America, Ukrainian American Coordinating Council, Ukrainian National Association, Ukrainian Fraternal Association, Ukrainian Catholic and Orthodox Churches, Ukrainian National Women's League of America and Ukrainian American Bar Association.

Julian Kulas, chairman of the Ukrainian Americans for Clinton/Gore Committee in 1992, pointed out that the community can be a bridge to Ukraine. He stressed the community's great concern for the security of Ukraine, pointing out that "nations in Eastern Europe look to Ukraine as a stabilizing influence." Noting that "time is short," he urged that U.S. assistance be delivered to Ukraine as quickly as possible. Mr. Kulas presented the administration officials with a four-page position paper drafted by the community leadership.

Commenting on the meeting, Ulana Diachuk, president of both the UNA and the UACC, stated: "The meeting was a positive first step in the development of working relations between the Clinton administration and our community. We are looking forward to continuing this dialogue. Obviously, the positive steps that the administration has taken toward Ukraine are welcome, especially in light of the administration's focus on Russia only for the past year."

Source: "Ukrainian Americans meet with Clinton; discuss United States-Ukraine relations," *The Ukrainian Weekly*, February 20, 1994, Vol. LXII, No. 8.

COMMENTARY

The Moscow Patriarchate's attempt to stall the pope's visit to Ukraine

by Archimandrite Serge Keleher

The letter of Metropolitan Volodymyr (Sabodan) of the Ukrainian Orthodox Church – Moscow Patriarchate requesting that Pope John Paul II's trip to Ukraine be postponed is an interesting document, and that for several reasons.

The Ukrainian Orthodox Church – Moscow Patriarchate (UOC-MP) is not a direct participant in any ecumenical activities outside Ukraine, nor, for that matter, does this body participate in ecumenical activities within Ukraine to any significant degree. In all ecumenical relations the Moscow Patriarchate speaks for its Ukrainian subsidiary.

Metropolitan Volodymyr's letter to Pope John Paul II may well be the first attempt of this unusual ecclesiastical judicatory to step into the international ecumenical arena. Or it may be an attempt by Moscow to hide behind Moscow's own creation in Ukraine.

The text of the letter twice appeals to discussions and agreements between the Moscow Patriarchate and the Vatican, and gives no hint of any discussions between the Vatican and the judicatory which Metropolitan Volodymyr heads.

One way or the other, then, this letter is certainly an innovation. If the 42 bishops headed by Metropolitan Volodymyr wish to be taken seriously, they would be well-advised to follow up this letter with consistent efforts to be represented in the ecumenical movement, and not permit the Moscow Patriarchate to act for them. We shall see.

We are also aware that there have been serious Greek-Catholic efforts, on many occasions, to reach out to the Ukrainian Orthodox Church – Moscow Patriarchate and to build the sort of peaceful relations which the letter seems to consider desirable. These efforts invariably, have been rebuffed. Letters have gone unanswered, appointments have not been kept. The conclusion is inescapable: either the UOC-MP is unable to carry on an ecumenical relationship, or else this judicatory simply does not wish to do so. The practical result is the same.

One also notes with interest that the letter is written in Ukrainian. This is laudable, but it is not representative of the ordinary practice of the UOC-MP in general, nor of the Kyivan Caves Monastery in particular. Metropolitan Volodymyr himself speaks fluent, classical Ukrainian, but the same cannot be said of most of his entourage; Russian reigns supreme.

The UOC-MP supposedly permits the use of Ukrainian for liturgical purposes, but any of its clergy who wish to serve in Ukrainian must either employ Ukrainian Greek-Catholic translations or Ukrainian translations published by the very "schismatic groups" whose existence the letter so vehemently deplors. All this might lead one to consider the

possibility that the exceptional use of the Ukrainian language in this particular letter is an attempt to present a not entirely accurate image of the Ukrainian Orthodox Church – Moscow Patriarchate. Those who are familiar with the history of the Russian Orthodox in Ukraine are accustomed to this sort of thing.

The request that the holy father should "postpone" his visit to Ukraine is an unsuccessful attempt to disguise the real import of the letter: the Ukrainian Orthodox Church – Moscow Patriarchate is notifying the pope that they do not want him in Ukraine at all, ever. Suggesting that a man of the holy father's age and health should "postpone" such a trip is sheer cynicism, and unworthy of Christian writing. Whatever language they care to write it, they could at least say what they mean.

Relations between the Moscow Patriarchate's jurisdiction in western Ukraine and the Greek-Catholics are certainly unfriendly; no informed person could deny that. But what has the UOC-MP done to improve those relations? Bishop Augustine of Lviv and Drohobych loses no opportunity to claim that he and his adherents alone possess any divine grace in the territory of his diocese. Bishop Augustine continues to insist that St. George Greek-Catholic Cathedral morally belongs to him. Such constantly reiterated public utterances have exhausted everyone's patience. The Pochaiv Lavra is today a bastion of "Russianism" in an entirely Ukrainian ethnic region; is it any wonder that the Ukrainian population of that region is unimpressed by the claims of the UOC-MP? Can the 42 hierarchs who agreed upon this letter not find 42 Ukrainian-speaking monks to staff the Pochaiv Lavra?

As every informed person, including Metropolitan Volodymyr, is well aware, there were not even half a dozen Ukrainian Orthodox church edifices in western Ukraine prior to 1946; in that year the Soviet government criminalized the Greek-Catholic Church and confiscated all its buildings, diverting some to secular use and giving most of them to the Moscow Patriarchate. When the Greek-Catholics regained legal rights in December 1989, they naturally repossessed their church buildings.

Metropolitan Volodymyr and the 42 hierarchs are also aware that the great majority of Ukrainian Orthodox parishes in western Ukraine adhere to the Ukrainian Orthodox judicatories which are unconnected either with the Greek-Catholic Church or with the Moscow Patriarchate; the quarrel between these judicatories and the Moscow Patriarchate has nothing to do with the Catholic Church.

The letter threatens (not to mince words) that if the pope's visit goes ahead as planned, Metropolitan Volodymyr and the 42 hierarchs will not meet the holy father, and none of their clergy will take part in the program of the visit. Well, that is their privilege. The pope certainly cannot dictate to them in this regard. But neither can they dictate to the pope. They are entitled to determine their own social lives, public and private – and so is the holy father. Ignoring this principle, the letter attempts to forbid the pope to meet with anybody representing either

(Continued on page 19)

Archimandrite Serge Keleher is editor of *Eastern Churches Journal* and serves the Greek-Catholic congregation in Dublin, Ireland. He is the author of "Passion and Resurrection: The Greek-Catholic Church in Soviet Ukraine" and has translated the biography of Metropolitan Andrey Sheptytsky into English. He is an associate of the Chair of Ukrainian Studies, University of Toronto, and the Keston Institute, Oxford.

NEWS AND VIEWS: St. Andrew's Cathedral dedicates mosaic

by Eugene M. Iwanciw

SILVER SPRING, Md. – The celebration of the Feast Day of St. Andrew by the Ukrainian Orthodox Cathedral of St. Andrew the First-Called Apostle had an added dimension on December 10, 2000. The parish witnessed the blessing of the mosaic of St. Andrew that graces the facade of the cathedral. Created by artist Sviatoslav Makarenko, the mosaic was funded by the Petrenko family in memory of Orest Petrenko.

The blessing of the mosaic took place after the divine liturgy and was followed by a lunch and program. The parishioners and guests were greeted by the president of the Parish Council, Dr. Peter Chopivsky. The children of the Church School then provided a short skit for the audience. The entertainment also included a narrative of St. Andrew hosted by Lydia Chopivsky Benson and a musical program by Laryssa Pastuchiv Martin. The Very Rev. Stefan Zencuch of the parish led the prayers.

Anya Dydyk-Petrenko, sister-in-law of the late Orest, addressed the parishioners and guests on behalf of the Petrenko family. She thanked everyone who contributed to the fund, with "Very special thanks to the Bingo family, our sisterhood and choir, and Orest's friends – Eugene Iwanciw, Andre Filipov, Roman Stelmach, Hanja Cherniak and Orest's godsister, Dr. Inia Tunstall, and her husband, Brian, for their very generous contributions in memory of Orest."

"The mosaic is truly spectacular," she continued, "whether the gold glistens in the morning sun, or the colors of the stones are picked up by afternoon rays or its splendor is dramatically accented by spotlights against the backdrop of a star-studded evening sky, or in the snow, as we witnessed today. Everyone who sees it is struck by its majesty."

Ms. Dydyk-Petrenko concluded:



The mosaic created by Sviatoslav Makarenko and funded by the Petrenko family in memory of Orest Petrenko graces the facade of the Ukrainian Orthodox Cathedral of St. Andrew the First-Called Apostle in Silver Spring, Md.

"May this mosaic always remind us of our faith in God and dedication to our Church, and may the memory of Orest live in our hearts always."

Also addressing the gathering of parishioners and friends was Orest's mother, who reiterated the commitment of the family to making the mosaic a lasting tribute to her late son, a parishioner of St. Andrew's.

While the blessing ceremony and program were enjoyed by all, a trace of sadness about the passing of Orest Petrenko

a little more than two years ago at the age of 46 was evident among those assembled. Many in the room had known Orest from his youth and had watched him grow. Others had become friends with Mr. Petrenko during or after college days. All knew him as a person who was friendly, funny, caring, dedicated and always ready to help others. He contributed a great deal of time and effort to his Church, as well as to other Ukrainian organizations. But his real legacy is the legion of friends he left behind in the

community, among his colleagues at work and in society as a whole.

Throughout the recent Christmas season the movie "A Wonderful Life" no doubt was shown many times. In the movie, Bedford Falls would have been a dismal place had George Bailey not lived and touched so many people in so many wonderful ways. People who knew Orest feel like the population of Bedford Falls; they are richer in spirit for having known and been touched by Orest Petrenko.

NOTEWORTHY UKRAINIANS: Inventing time and the Ukrainian connection

by Inger Kuzych

The Christian world recently celebrated the 2000th anniversary of Jesus' birth. But have you ever asked yourself: How do we know that it has been exactly two millennia anyway? Or, just who was responsible for coming up with the designations A.D. and B.C. anyhow? Well, in large part, the credit can go to a little recognized scholar who hailed from territory that today is Ukraine. Here is his story.

The calculation of the Christian Era is generally attributed to Dionysius Exiguus, (c. 470-540) that is, Denis the Little (or Dennis the Short), a surname he himself humbly adopted. Born in Scythia (the territory of present-day Ukraine), Dionysius was an abbot who came to Rome about the time of the death (496) of Pope St. Gelasius I, who had summoned him to organize the pontifical archives. He spent the rest of his life in Rome, earning a reputation as a scholar of outstanding acumen.

Well-versed in astronomy and mathematics as well as theology, he was recognized as an eminent canonist quite apart from his efforts in calendar reorganization, which he completed by request of Pope John I in about 525.

When Dionysius initiated his cycle of the Christian era he designated March 25, the date of the Annunciation or the conception of Christ, as the first day of the year. This date for the new year had been in common use since early Christian times. December 25, nine months after the Annunciation, was set as the date of Christ's birth. The reorganization of the calendar by Pope Gregory in 1582

changed the beginning of the new year to January 1, since this date was simply more convenient than starting the year in the middle of the month.

Dionysius' reckoning of the year 1 A.D. is now generally held to be from four to seven years late, but even so it is the year that we use today for the beginning of the Christian era. All history is thus divided into two comprehensive periods, one of which is designated in English by the initials B.C., the other by the initials A.D. B.C. is an abbreviation of the English term "Before Christ," while A.D. refers to the Latin expression "Anno Domini," in the year of Our Lord.

Interestingly, Dionysius thought so little of his new dating scheme and the designation A.D. that he himself did not use it (he continued to date his letters from the "Indiction," multiples of the 15-year period of imperial tax assessment dating from the accession of Emperor Constantine in 312). Nevertheless, his proposal gradually did catch on over the next few centuries.

The earliest known example of our present system of dating is the following: "Scriptum per manus Joannis Scrimarii Anno VII Domini Nostri Zachariae Datum II Nomas Novembris Imperante Constantino Indictione V Anno DCCXLVI-II," which translates as: "Written by the hand of Joannis Scrimarius dated in the seventh year of Our Lord Zacharias [the pope], the second day before the Nones of November, the fifth year of the Indiction of the Emperor Constantine, in the year 748."

The term "Anno Domini" came into use quite late. Its first recorded use is in a document of allegiance by King Reginald of

the Isle of Man to the pope which is dated "Anno Domini Millesimo ducentissimo decimo nono," or A.D. 1219. Not until the 17th century did scholars begin to use B.C., counting years backwards from the year of Christ's birth.

Only gradually did the entire Christian world come to accept one calendar. For example, the Spanish recognized a Christian era that dated from 38 A.D. until it was abolished by the Council of Tarragona in 1180. In Portugal, use of this calendar continued until the early years of the 15th century. Similarly the Greeks did not adopt the universal designation of the Christian era until the 15th century.

It is interesting to note that the first year of the Christian era is called 1 A.D. instead of 0 A.D. This happened because the Roman notation was used in Dionysius' calculations and the Romans had no symbol for zero. The year preceding 1 A.D., therefore, is generally called 1 B.C.

It is for this reason also that the year 2000 is the last year of the second millennium. The first year of the 21st century (and the third millennium) really begins on January 1, 2001.

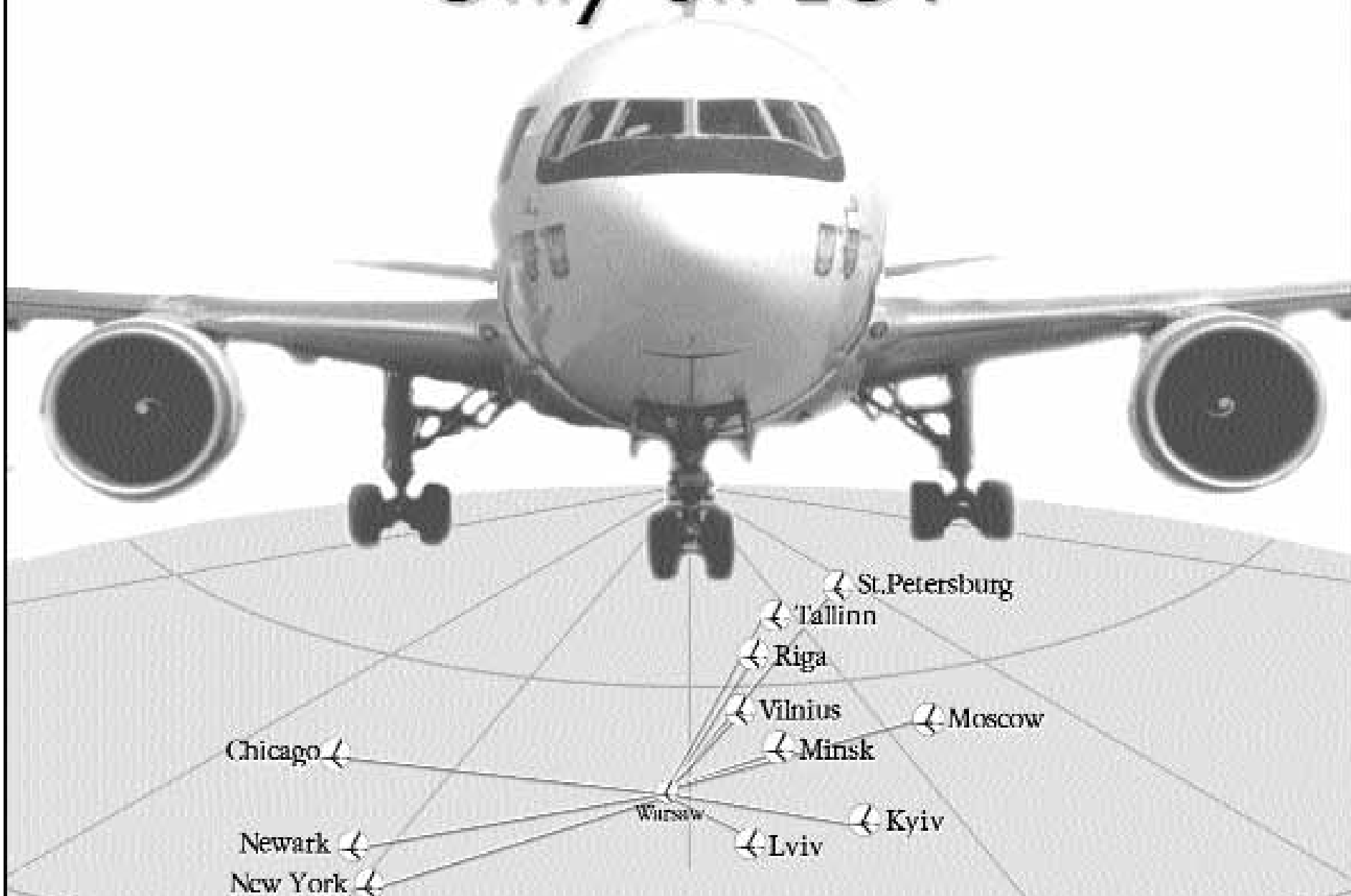
Dr. Inger Kuzych may be contacted at P.O. Box 3, Springfield VA 22150, or at his new e-mail address, ingert@starpower.net.

To The Weekly Contributors:

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

- ✦ News stories should be sent in **not later than 10 days** after the occurrence of a given event.
- ✦ All materials must be typed (or legibly hand-printed) and double-spaced.
- ✦ Photographs (originals only, **no photocopies or computer printouts**) submitted for publication must be accompanied by captions. Photos will be returned only when so requested and accompanied by a stamped, addressed envelope.
- ✦ Full names (i.e., no initials) and their correct English spellings must be provided.
- ✦ Newspaper and magazine clippings must be accompanied by the name of the publication and the date of the edition.
- ✦ Information about upcoming events must be received one week before the date of The Weekly edition in which the information is to be published.
- ✦ Persons who submit any materials must **provide a daytime phone number** where they may be reached if any additional information is required.
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OBITUARY: Sir Harry Polche, 82, Knight of St. Gregory the Great

by Mary E. Pressey

NEW YORK – A dedicated community leader and stalwart citizen, Sir Harry Polche, Knight of St. Gregory the Great, died on December 18, 2000, at the age of 82. To most of his friends and colleagues it was a loss felt deeply as Harry Polche was a man of deep loyalty and assistance toward his fellow men.

Mr. Polche was born in New York City to immigrant parents from Ukraine and almost from his toddler days acquired a love for the St. George Ukrainian Catholic Church, where he was baptized, received his first communion, married Rosalie Chuma, and devoted, at every opportunity, precious hours to the parish's activities and responsibilities.

He was perhaps best known in the parish for his decades of "setting up" of the communion breakfasts in the church and later the annual Lenten communion luncheons for the Catholic War Veterans. Additionally, he served on many committees, including the school and new church committees, the committee that organized the first Church festival on Seventh Street in 1976 and the committee instrumental in renaming Hall Place as Shevchenko Place – all of major significance to the Ukrainian community.

Mr. Polche was a graduate of DeWitt Clinton High School and City College, where he was elected to the international honor society Phi Theta Kappa. He attended Ukrainian classes on weekends to gain knowledge of his parents' language and cultural background. He participated in the Ukrainian Youth Chorus, the renowned Avramenko Dance Group, the production of "Echoes of Ukraine" sponsored by the Ukrainian Youth League of North America at Carnegie Hall (in which he acted as bishop) and many other activities available to Ukrainian youth.

Following his college education, he opted for police training and graduated from the Police Academy. In 1943 he was drafted into the U.S. Army and served in the Military Police Platoon with the 65th Infantry Division under Gen. Patton's 3rd Army in the European Theater of



Sir Harry Polche

Operations. Stationed in Germany he came to the aid of Ukrainian refugees who were housed in Ingolstadt at the war's end.

Upon his honorable discharge from the army, Mr. Polche returned to New York to rejoin the New York Police Department, which he served for 38 years, retiring with the rank of lieutenant. In his capacity as a lieutenant, he was able to use his expertise in advising and helping Ukrainians at their parades, processions and festivals, served as an escort to Patriarch Josyf Slipyj during his first visit to the United States and assisted in other dignitaries' visits.

As a veteran, Mr. Polche continued his involvement with veterans' affairs after the war and served as commander of the St. George Ukrainian Post 401 of the Catholic War Veterans on two occasions. He was a past national commander of the Ukrainian American Veterans, a member of the Veterans of Foreign Wars and served as president of the Ukrainian American Veterans Coordinating Committee.

Additionally, his community interest encompassed support and memberships in The Ukrainian Museum, Ukrainian Institute of America and a host of other American societies and associations, among them: the Lieutenants Benevolent Association, Superior Officers Council, Pulaski Society and Emerald Society.

On December 29, 1996, in recognition of his faithful and dedicated service to his church, his community and his country, Mr. Polche was installed at St. George Ukrainian Catholic Church Knight of St. Gregory the Great conferred upon him by Pope John Paul II, an honor conferred only on persons who are distinguished for personal character, reputation and notable accomplishments.

With a lifetime interest in creative art Mr. Polche indulged in another gratifying venture after his retirement. He enrolled in classes at LaGuardia Community College to study art history, drawing, painting and sculpture, earning an associate of arts degree in 1991.

While there, Mr. Polche and his wife, Rosalie, formed PHASE II, a club for the older students which meets monthly to socialize and hear speakers on education, the arts, health and other topics. Mr. Polche's art work and sculptures were so impressive that numerous articles were written about him and his works in several local papers. To the delight of his friends and colleagues, his paintings and wood sculptures are on exhibit throughout the college and his works were the first shown at the art in public exhibit at the TWA Terminal at LaGuardia Airport.

Husar appoints press director

LVIV – Prior to his election as archbishop major, Bishop Lubomyr Husar, then apostolic administrator of the Ukrainian Greek-Catholic Church, appointed the Rev. Kenneth Nowakowski as director of the UGCC Press Office in Ukraine in advance of the visit of Pope John Paul II.

The Rev. Nowakowski has been appointed to this position in addition to his duties as president of Caritas Ukraine.

A graduate of the Pontifical University of St. Thomas Aquinas in Rome, the Rev. Nowakowski began working for the Church in Ukraine with his appointment as vice-chancellor of the Archeparchy of Lviv by Cardinal Myroslav Ivan Lubachivsky in June 1990. When Cardinal Lubachivsky returned to Ukraine in March 1991, the Rev. Nowakowski was a member of his staff; he has remained in Ukraine since that time.

In his newly expanded role, the Rev. Nowakowski will be responsible for re-establishing the Press Office of the Ukrainian Greek Catholic Church and ensuring that timely and accurate information both about the pontiff's upcoming visit and the Ukrainian Greek-Catholic Church in Ukraine is disseminated and distributed.

DISTRICT COMMITTEE OF UNA BRANCHES of NORTHERN NEW JERSEY

announces that

ANNUAL DISTRICT COMMITTEE MEETING

will be held on

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 23, 2001, at 2:00 p.m.

at the UNA Home Office
2200 Route 10, Parsippany, NJ 07054

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

25, 27, 37, 42, 70, 76, 133, 134, 142, 170, 171, 172, 182, 214,
234, 286, 287, 322, 340, 371, 490.

All UNA members are welcome as guests at the meeting.

MEETING WILL BE ATTENDED BY:

UNA Executive Committee
UNA Advisors: Andre Worobec, Eugene Oscislawski, Roma Hadzewycz
Walter Sochan, Honorary Member of the UNA General Assembly

DISTRICT COMMITTEE

Eugene Oscislawski, District Chairman
Mark Datzkiwsky, Secretary
Andre Worobec, Treasurer
Honorary District Chairmen: Volodymyr Bilyk, John Chomko

New York, NY, DISTRICT COMMITTEE of the

UKRAINIAN NATIONAL ASSOCIATION

announces that its

ANNUAL DISTRICT COMMITTEE MEETING

will be held on

FRIDAY, MARCH 2, 2001, at 6:00 p.m.

at "Selfreliance" Association,
98 Second Ave., New York, NY

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

5, 6, 8, 16, 86, 130, 184, 194, 204, 205, 256,
267, 293, 325, 327, 361, 450, 489

All UNA members are welcome as guests at the meeting.

MEETING WILL BE ATTENDED BY:

Stefan Kaczaraj, UNA Treasurer
Barbara Bachynsky, UNA Advisor
Dr. Vasyl Luchkiv, UNA Advisor

Honorary Members of the UNA General Assembly:
Dr. John O. Flis, Joseph Lesawyer, Mary Dushnyk

DISTRICT COMMITTEE

Barbara Bachynsky, District Chairman
John Choma, Treasurer

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"Ukraine without Kuchma" ...

(Continued from page 1)

protesters accused law enforcement officials of harassing them on the way to the capital by deflating bus tires and delaying passenger trains, allegations the state militia has denied.

After gathering in the city center, where approximately three dozen pup tents had sprung up in the last week manned by an eclectic mix of members of leftist parties and far-right paramilitary outfits, the crowd, which grew to about 7,000 by lunch time, marched through the main streets of the city, passing by the Verkhovna Rada building and the presidential administration building before returning to the city's main thoroughfare, the Khreschatyk.

While they were marching, about 300 members of the Anarchist Syndicate, many clad in black and wearing masks and arm bands, descended on the tent city, where several dozen of the anti-Kuchma demonstrators remained. The first wave of anarchists passed near the tents hooting and hollering protests against the tent city inhabitants, while carrying black banners bereft of inscriptions. As they moved away, a second wave quickly followed, swinging at people and tents with the poles of their banners, leveling several of each, before dispersing when more paramilitary personnel raced to the scene.

Viktor Haiduk, a member of one of the paramilitary organizations, the UNA-UNSO, and a witness to the event, said he recognized several individuals as being students at the local police academy. That allegation, however, is yet to be verified.

"The anarchists came through and began pushing old ladies and then took down some tents," explained Mr. Haiduk. He alleged that some of the so-called anarchists were carrying pistols.

The anti-Kuchma demonstrators also scuffled with Communists, several hundred mostly middle-aged and pension-aged men who tried to join the rally only to be blocked by the paramilitary types. Local militia separated the two sides while roughing up several of the younger anti-Kuchma demonstrators.

The "Ukraine without Kuchma" demonstrators included representatives of many center and rightist political parties, but for the most part consisted of supporters of the Socialist Party, Batkivschyna Party, Ukrainian National Rukh Party and the Sobor Party, as well as three paramilitary organizations, Schyt Batkivschyny, (Shield of the Fatherland), UNA-UNSO and the Tryzub organization.

The thousands of protesters listened to speakers from across the Ukrainian political spectrum, from Communist Party leader Petro Symonenko to Stepan Khmara of the Republican Conservative Party, call for a new president and a new system, but were most taken by an appearance by the mother of the journalist whose disappearance has brought Ukraine to the brink of chaos.

In a voice breaking with emotion, Lesia Gongadze tearfully told the throng, which responded to her appearance with a rousing cheer, that they must stand together.

"If we don't support one another, if we don't stick together, one by one they will destroy us, as they did my son," said Mrs. Gongadze.

The audio and video recordings which have become the central focus of the allegations that the Ukrainian president is at the center of the Gongadze affair and have given the impetus for the "Ukraine without Kuchma" movement, are currently in Vienna for expert evaluation at the International Press Institute.

President Kuchma and his law enforcement officials have changed tactics in recent days and have increasingly indicated that they acknowledge as authentic the various digital recordings supposedly made by a presidential bodyguard, Mykola

Melnichenko, who is believed to be in hiding somewhere in Europe.

Lawmaker Serhii Holovatyi said on February 6 that President Kuchma told him during a private meeting the day before that he acknowledges that his office was bugged and conversations recorded.

"He told me, 'I admit that Major Melnychenko recorded me in this office,'" explained Mr. Holovatyi. After divulging Mr. Kuchma's revelation, Mr. Holovatyi told The Weekly's correspondent that he had no desire to comment further on president's remark. He said he would simply report the statement to the Ukrainian Parliament's ad hoc committee investigating what the press is referring to as "Tapegate."

On February 2 the Procurator General's Office had officially changed a position that it had maintained for weeks - that the tape recordings allegedly made by Mr. Melnychenko are complete fabrications - and issued a press release that acknowledged the voices are authentic. However, officials continued to maintain that the tapes still are a fabrication because the conversations had been manipulated.

"As has been determined through an investigation, which was sustained by a court-ordered expert examination done by highly qualified foreign experts, the audio recordings of conversations representing government officials were composed from individual words and fragments, which in itself makes them falsifications," stated the press release.

The revelation regarding the authenticity of the voices, if not the conversations, has only further shrouded in mystery to what extent, if at all, the president is implicated in the disappearance and apparent death of journalist Heorhii Gongadze. Mr. Gongadze disappeared in September 16, 2000, after leaving the apartment of the editor-in-chief of the Internet newspaper he founded several months earlier, which had published much information critical of the Kuchma administration and various politicians close to the president.

Nearly two months later a body was found in a shallow grave near the town of Tarascha outside Kyiv, which was subsequently identified through DNA analysis as having a 99.6 probability of belonging to the missing journalist. Nonetheless, Ukraine's Procurator General Mykhailo Potebenko has refused to officially acknowledge the body as that of the journalist, citing the minuscule possibility that it is not.

There have been calls for the resignation of all of the country's chief law enforcement officials, but mostly for the removal of Mr. Potebenko, who many in the opposition believe is either manipulating evidence or simply bumbling the highly public investigation. In the latest accusation of manipulation and intimidation, Mr. Holovatyi told journalists on January 31 that Ukrainian officials at the Ukrainian Consulate in Munich had harassed Ihor Stelmach, the person whom he had asked to handle a German DNA analysis of the body found at Tarascha, after he had been ordered to appear for a visa check. Mr. Holovatyi said Mr. Stelmach was told that German authorities wanted to question him about a drug smuggling case in which he allegedly is a suspect.

When Mr. Stelmach, who appeared at the Consulate with a German citizen, asked who the German authorities were and why they hadn't contacted him themselves, he was hustled about a room and told he was to be questioned by Ukrainian prosecutors into his part in the tape scandal. Mr. Holovatyi said the student then grabbed the order that the Consulate representative held and ran for the door, where his German associate waited to aid the escape. The order that Mr. Stelmach made off with was a request from the Ukrainian Procurator General's Office to the Security Service of

Ukraine to find Mr. Stelmach in Germany.

On February 5, officials at the Procurator General's Office clarified rumors that Mr. Potebenko had been relieved of his duties and stated he was on vacation until January 16. The officials denied that the leave of absence was actually for 45 days and that it would be followed by Mr. Potebenko's resignation. Coincidentally or not, the procurator general was scheduled to report to the Parliament at some point that week on the current state of the Gongadze investigation. Many of Mr. Potebenko's prime critics are lawmakers.

Also on February 5, as columns of protesters from Cherkasy, Zhytomyr and Rivne marched toward Kyiv, Ukraine's Minister of Defense Oleksander Kuzmuk told a government television interviewer that he has until now and in the future will continue to defend the president, the coun-

try and the nation, in what seemed a subtle attempt to remind those who might have been planning widespread civil disorder that Ukraine still has a military force.

Also that day, the first crack may have appeared in what until now has been an impenetrable facade of pro-Kuchma support by the most prominent lawmakers and politicians, when former President Leonid Kravchuk, a leading figure in the Parliament's majority coalition, as well as in the powerful Social-Democratic Party (United), told an assembly of representatives of 41 parties who had backed President Kuchma's re-election in 1999 that the president must listen to the advice of others, not simply that which comes from subordinates who have pledged loyalty to him or his office.

"Those who have pledged loyalty to him could just as quickly pledge loyalty to someone else," said Mr. Kravchuk.

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Ukrainian international film festival announces prize-winners

by Ihor Vynnychenko

KYIV – The Ukrainian international film festival, “Our Blossom – Across the World,” announced at the end of 2000 that a film on the struggle for ethnic survival of the Kuban Kozaks had taken the grand prize at its first annual video contest. The video documentary was chosen from among 15 videotape projects submitted by professionals and amateurs in Canada, the United States, Lithuania, Russia and Ukraine. The festival jury also handed out five runner-up prizes for four documentary pieces and one animated film project.

The film festival, initiated by the Institute of Diaspora Studies of the Ukraina Society and chaired by Vice Prime Minister Mykola Zhulynskyi, is an attempt to deepen relations between Ukrainians and their countrymen living abroad. Festival organizers hope to increase the country’s awareness of the accomplishments of Ukrainians scattered across the globe with their annual contest.

The winner of the inaugural grand prize is “The Kuban Kozaks. Already 200 years...” which was created by documentary filmmaker Valentyn Sperkach. The film is an attempt to analyze the complex and traumatic circumstances surrounding

the loss of national self-identity. During the reign of Catherine II, the Zaporozhian Kozaks were forcibly removed to the Kuban region – historically Ukrainian territory, which had been annexed to Russia – ostensibly to protect the southern flank of the empire.

Beginning then and continuing during 70 years of Soviet communism, the Kuban Kozaks increasingly lost their collective historical memory as they suffered Russification and forced assimilation. Today the ancestors of these Kozaks do not know who they are, Russians or Ukrainians; they do not speak any literary language fluently.

In contrast, director Oleksii Naumenko, winner of one of the runner-up prizes for his “Distant Native Land” uses a straightforward reporting style in developing a story on how national self-identity became the instrument of survival for Ukrainians who migrated to Australia a half century ago. Although somewhat paradoxical, it turns out that the historical traditions accented by this group in its effort to preserve the Ukrainian community there also helped the new immigrants in the daily struggle for survival.

Another runner-up, “Appia Antica” by

broadcast journalist Viktor Chernyshuk, tries to show how the Ukrainian Greek-Catholic Church – which tied its destiny to Rome four centuries ago – in fighting to retain the culture of the Church also helped to maintain the spiritual health of the nation. The Church had a far-reaching influence on the nation, forstoring a strong sense of religious self-awareness and a fiercely independent sense of the right of worship that ultimately was extended to other democratic rights. It is not surprising that the UGCC actively supported the Ukrainian national independence movement.

Lviv director Eduard Zaniuk took a runner-up prize for his “The Stone Cross of Peter Jacyk,” a cinematographic portrait of the renowned Ukrainian Canadian businessman/philanthropist.

Mr. Jacyk, a native of the village of Synevidsko Vyzhnie in Halychyna, decided while still a youth to overcome poverty and embrace generosity. That decision allowed him to become not only a talented Canadian businessman, but also a dedicated philanthropist. Mr. Jacyk’s experience demonstrates that even in a distant, alien world, pragmatism works best when it is driven by an idealistic goal – in this case, to return Ukraine its rightful history by underwriting the publication of Mykhailo Hrushevsky’s “History of Ukraine-Rus’ ” and Ukrainian studies programs, and to help renew Ukraine’s culture.

“The Never-Changing Face of Plast,” the last of the documentaries cited as a runner-up, is a collective audio-visual portrait of the well-known Ukrainian youth organization, which was made in 1999 on the 50th anniversary jubilee of the organization’s founding in the United States. The filmmakers (co-directors Zenia Brozyna, Adia Fedash and Xenia Piaseckyj and producer Vlodko Artymyshyn) present much information on the tradition of Plast camps: oaths, rituals, excursions, athletic competitions, etc. For members, Plast Ukrainian Scouting Organization is a way of life and a model of behavior.

To add a lighter touch to what is otherwise a series of very serious themes, the judges decided to award one more runner-up prize for the animated video film “Lira,” produced by the Kyiv studio Zerna, and artistic director Oleksander

Mukhin. This “Chumak fairy tale” concisely and specifically draws together in an electronic format all those themes that constitute life in today’s Ukraine, and presents the idea that on the road of life one should not be afraid of the single most important encounter that may take place: the encounter with oneself.

The video expresses the necessity to be able to look at oneself and at one’s surroundings with irony and humor, which, more than the loudest political rhetoric, is the mark of a healthy nation.

While the Kyiv television channel STB has agreed to broadcast the works by this year’s laureates, which will give them a national, as well as international venue (STB’s signal is received in foreign countries, as well), the festival organizers expect that the winning films will get a viewing in their home countries as well.

The end of this year’s judging marks the beginning of the next festival cycle, which will coincide with 10th anniversary celebrations of Ukraine’s independence. Last year’s winners, along with those that will be named this year, will be presented at the Third All-Ukrainian Forum to be held in Kyiv in August 2001.

Those who wish to submit entries for this year’s contest should do so on VHS videotape or on Betacam SP in the PAL system. The video submission should be no longer than 30 minutes with voiceovers in the Ukrainian language. Please include the names of the authors, along with a telephone number, fax or e-mail address.

Intertrans, a state-run company, and Golden Telekom GSM, a private firm, currently are providing financial and organizational assistance. Their support, however, covers only a portion of what is needed. Festival organizers expressed their hope that more assistance will be forthcoming from those who are not indifferent to Ukraine’s past and future. A list of contributors will be published in the press, while sponsors will be acknowledged at the next prize ceremony.

For more information on the festival go to the website at ukrsvit.kiev.ua. The festival’s organizing committee may be contacted at: Kyiv 01034; a/c 507; telephone, (380-44) 244-2911; fax, (380-44) 513-7132; e-mail, ukr-svit@iptelecom.net.ua.

Olympic Champion Viktor Petrenko to host charity ice show for CCRF

SIMSBURY, Conn. – World and Olympic Champion Viktor Petrenko is teaming up with the International Skating Center of Connecticut (ISCC) to host a charity ice show, “Viktor-y for Kids.”

The ice show will benefit the Children of Chernobyl Relief Fund (CCRF) and provide aid to victims of the Chernobyl nuclear disaster. Funds raised from “Viktor-y for Kids” will be allocated towards the creation of the Viktor Petrenko Neonatal Intensive Care Clinic in Mr. Petrenko’s hometown of Odesa, Ukraine.

“Viktor-y for Kids” will include two performances at the ISCC, Mr. Petrenko’s home ice, on Friday, March 2, and Saturday, March 3. Both performances begin at 7:30 p.m.

CCRF is a humanitarian organization committed to protect and save the lives of children confronting the human legacy of the Chernobyl environmental disaster. In its short history, CCRF has spearheaded 26 airlifts and nine sea shipments resulting in the delivery of 1,300 tons of medical supplies and technology. CCRF’s efforts have dramatically reduced infant mortality rate in several of its partner hospitals.

Mr. Petrenko has rallied his friends in the skating world to help him champion this cause. Joining Mr. Petrenko in the two-day show is World and Olympic Champion Brian Boitano, current Olympic Pairs Champions Oksana Kazakova and Artur Dmitrev, French National Champion Phillippe Candeloro, U.S. National Champion for 2001 Tim Goeble, two-time U.S. Dance Champions Naomi Lang and Peter Tchernyshev, Ukrainian National and European Champion Viacheslav Zahorodniuk, Swiss Champion Lucinda Ruh, Italian National Champion Silvia Fontana, Israeli National Champion Michael Shmerkin, U.S. Silver Medalist Sasha Cohen, the Ukrainian Daredevil Acrobats Alexei and Vladimir, and more.

Connecticut Governor and Mrs. John Rowland will serve as honorary chairs.

“I am happy to have the opportunity to work with CCRF and offer assistance to the children who are still suffering from this tragic disaster. With the aid of medical supplies and cutting-edge technology, a big difference can be made. The tragedy of Chernobyl occurred years ago, but the consequences are still being felt,” said Mr. Petrenko.

Tickets are \$39.95 (on-ice seating) and \$29.95 (stadium seating). Tickets may be purchased at ISCC, through ticketmaster by calling (860) 525-4500, or online at <http://www.iscc-skate.com> www.isccskate.com.

To make a donation to “Viktor-y for Kids,” contact the CCRF office at (203) 387-0507. For more information about the event, call the ISCC at (860) 651-5400.

ISCC is the training home for Target Stars on Ice, World and Olympic Champions Ekaterina Gordeeva and Viktor Petrenko, and is the host of the NHL All-Star Kevin Dineen Hockey School of Excellence.



Viktor Petrenko

“The Undefeated” to premiere in New York City

Ukrainian Congress Committee of America

NEW YORK – The Ukrainian Congress Committee of America, Oles Film, the Dovzhenko National Film Studio and Ukraine’s Ministry of Culture present the New York City premiere of the long-awaited feature film “The Undefeated.”

The two-hour film in Ukrainian with English subtitles, depicts the life of Ukrainian Insurgent Army (UPA) Gen. Taras Chuprynka – Roman Shukhevych.

The film will make its American debut on Sunday, March 11 at 2 p.m. and 4:30 p.m. at the New York University Cantor Film Center located at 36 Eighth St. (between Broadway and University Place). Due to limited seating, ticket sales are on a first-come-first-serve basis at \$10 per ticket.

“The Undefeated” is the true story of Gen. Roman Shukhevych, a genteel family man forced by brutal circumstances and his own sense of honor and duty, to lead the fight to deliver the Ukrainian people from the savageries of both the Nazis and the Soviets.

Producer and director Oles Yanchuk, hailed by both The New York Times and Time Magazine for his heart-wrenching film “Famine 33,” delivers an internationally renowned team of filmmakers and artists to bring to the screen the epic story of

Roman Shukhevych.

Against the backdrop of an underground war, Mr. Yanchuk explores the complex character of Shukhevych, his childhood revulsion at ethnic discrimination, his love of music and his genius in combat. The film also reveals the passion of the protagonist and imbues the viewer with the unquenchable flame of freedom Shukhevych fueled in his countrymen.

Filmed on location in the Carpathian Mountains, Odesa, Kyiv and Lviv, “The Undefeated” is a movie filled with explosive action and suspense. It is both a personal story of faith and commitment, and a chronicle of the victory of freedom over tyranny.

Mr. Yanchuk and Gregory Hlady, who stars in the lead role of Gen. Shukhevych, will make special guest appearances at the March 11 premiere at the NYU Cantor Film Center.

Following the premiere in New York City, the film will be screened in various cities throughout the United States. A full schedule with dates and times will be listed in the Ukrainian American press in the near future. For further information, contact the UCCA National Office, (212) 228-6840.

The film’s tour is sponsored by Western Union Money Transfer.

A MUSICAL TRAVELOGUE: Trip to Korea proves to be unique experience

by Adrian Bryttan

When I was asked in mid-November of last year to conduct an opera concert in Korea with the Seoul Philharmonic I could not anticipate what a unique and exhilarating experience it would prove to be. This was the "comeback recital" of internationally renowned Korean soprano Jung Ae Lee, who now had returned to her home city after a successful career in the United States and Europe. The performance was set for December in Seoul's most modern hall, the LG Auditorium – so named after the Lucky Gold Star Company, a leader in South Korea's economic success.

The 14-hour time difference was only one of the problems during the planning stages. In any concert the pacing and flow are of crucial importance; I always try to put together the best sequence from the audience's point of view. And it's very important not to make it too long! The final result was a succession of vocal and orchestral showpieces leading up to the quartet from "La Bohème" in the first half and the great love duet from "Madama Butterfly" in the second half. I also programmed Myroslav Skoryk's lovely "Melodiya" (Melody) and the 1928 "Ukrainian Suite for String Orchestra" by Quincy Porter. This delightful piece is a personal favorite that I have conducted numerous times, including its first performance in Ukraine with the Lviv Philharmonic.

But, aside from the music, to travel halfway around the world to a country that was virtually isolated from the West up until 100 years ago – this offered many opportunities too good to pass up. I read several books and also learned some simple phrases from the Korean grocers in New York. In contrast to most European languages, no word roots are recognizable to us. However, I found the sounds very melodious and pleasing (although several opera singers told me that translations into Korean are awkward to sing). What really fascinated me was their phonetic (unlike Chinese and Japanese) alphabet; it was also something I could possibly learn quickly.

The 13-hour flight to Tokyo (four consecutive movies including "Gladiator"!) gave me a chance to pester several fellow passengers regarding writing and pronunciation. Later, while exploring Seoul, it became fun to practice reading license plates and shop signs. But for now, the stopover in Tokyo was an indication of things to come when I noticed in the gift shops some very strange creatures in vacuum-packed and freeze-dried bags – sea creatures with long legs or tentacles ... and I wondered what reception they would meet with in my Westernized digestive tract.

As the plane approached Seoul, my first view of the city was at night. It is surrounded by mountains and for a brief moment, the vast expanse of flickering lights below reminded me of Los Angeles. Pollution is also a big problem here. Seoul is among the 10 most populated cities in the world, and it certainly appeared to me that every inch had been put to some use. A row of stores near my hotel included everything from pharmacies and bakeries to video rentals and

Adrian Bryttan is a professional conductor, violinist and faculty member at the Manhattan School of Music. The publication Wagner Notes (December 2000) carried a review and interview with Mr. Bryttan on the occasion of the performance of Lorin Maazel's "The Rings Without Words," a voiceless symphonic synthesis of music from Wagner's "Ring," with the New York Philharmonic.

even a high-class 7-11 with rice rolls wrapped in seaweed.

I spent a few days in a "Korean style" room with no chairs or tables. There is a mat for sleeping, which you roll out onto the heated floor. The small pillow was filled with pine chips which crunched when you moved but was surprisingly comfortable to sleep on.

The next night we went "downtown" to watch the four big movie billboards announcing our concert. (All the expensive advertising and concert costs were underwritten by the LG Company.) With its tall business buildings and wide streets this section is very similar to areas in mid-Manhattan. I would later learn how their rush hour traffic rivals the worst to be found in American cities.

Local television announced snow in Vladivostok and warned of a "cold front moving in from Manchuria." American movies obviously are very popular, interspersed with soccer, ping-pong and badminton coverage. There seemed to be many shows for teenagers hosted by teenagers – in Korean, and also some in Chinese and Japanese. Much like the Russians in Ukraine, the Japanese occupied Korea for many years at the beginning of the 20th century and attempted to forcefully establish Japanese language and culture. Many older Koreans still hate the Japanese and are quick to point out that the Korean culture is 4,000 years old and that the Chinese and Japanese are mere upstarts in comparison.

King Sejong is revered not just as a political ruler but as the inventor of the phonetic alphabet. Under his reign the world's first celestial observatory was constructed from exactly 365 stones and the first metal, movable-type printing press was created – many years before Gutenberg. General Li constructed the world's first ironclad ships in 1592, defeating the Japanese navy centuries before the Monitor and Merrimac.

My daily trips with my little Korean phrase book amused the grocery store owners because of all the hand signals I was still forced to use. You can find most familiar items, but prices are as high as here. However, there were things in the freezer section that literally looked like flattened roadkill – vacuum-packed flesh with a few bones – I had no idea if it once swam in the sea, hopped on all fours, or was shot down from the sky.

My hotel had a pool and extensive sauna, complete with barber and masseurs. One must wear a bathing cap and most swimmers put on goggles as well. While all Koreans have jet black hair on their heads, some consider it trendy to dye it lighter. Here also I realized the luck of chromosomes: I was the only man with chest hair!

By now, piano rehearsals were in full swing. Because the accompanist had worked for several years in Austria, I was able to speak German with him and also Italian with two of the other singers. And then the first rehearsal with the Seoul Philharmonic finally arrived. Their principal cellist recognized me from our days together in the South Bend Symphony, where I worked as concertmaster.

The orchestra is all Korean, although many have studied abroad, especially in New York conservatories. The program content, with many selections and styles, was difficult for an orchestra that does not do much vocal accompanying. So my work was really cut out for me with only three rehearsals to get things ship shape. In addition I had to devote several evenings with score paper, scissors and tape correcting mistakes in the parts and changing the orchestration.

After our final rehearsal, the Korean TV crews started setting up mikes and



Adrian Bryttan (second from right), guest conductor of the Seoul Philharmonic, after the opera concert held in December 2000 in the LG Auditorium featuring renowned soprano Jung Ae Lee (center) and American tenor Drew Alan Slatton (far right). Pictured with the performers are Ukrainian Consul Dmytro Renkas (far left) and Korean Assemblyman Youn Jin Kim (second from left).

cameras in the hall. LG Auditorium seats 1,200 and has very fine acoustics. (Kathleen Battle had opened its first season this year, and we had seen a production of "All That Jazz" a few days earlier.) We had a full house, and the audience was most receptive. The variety of composers from Mozart to Berlioz and Verdi to Puccini captivated the public. American tenor Drew Alan Slatton was also in great form singing "Nessun dorma." The orchestral pieces that drew the best response were the two Ukrainian selections and also the rarely performed "Intermezzo" from Mascagni's "L'Amico Fritz."

As we walked out for the encores following a standing ovation, I borrowed the concertmaster's violin and played "O Holy Night" with the soprano, tenor and harp. This was very warmly received since Seoul is more than 50 percent Christian; at night you see lit-up church crosses every few blocks. Following a second encore, which was a patriotic Korean song of yearning for reunification, we ended the evening with the rousing toast "Libiamo" from "La Traviata."

The post-concert reception was done

on a grand scale. The tables were laden with seafood, fruit and canapés as well as Korean specialties. Several hundred people heard the Italian ambassador praise the concert and performers. I was happy to see the Ukrainian consul, Dmytro Renkas, whom I had invited to attend.

Recently a children's choir from Odesa had performed in Seoul. Consul Renkas introduced me to a member of the National Assembly, Young Jin Kim, who heads the Korean-Ukrainian Friendship Committee and is also the chairman of the World Christian Parliamentarians Association.

After the official reception, we celebrated far into the morning at a night club, taking turns singing Neapolitan songs and Elvis hits with the small band.

Before my trip I had heard about the politeness and grace of the Koreans. But there is something deeper than merely bowing or taking off your shoes when entering a home. On numerous occasions I would see subtle signs of respect not only from employees and servants but among everyone as well. Rarely could

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Adrian Bryttan with cellist Do Wannyo, family members and a student at a mountain retreat near the coastal city of Dong Hae.

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RFE/RL releases...

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Radio Liberty out of Ukraine's broadcasting sphere ... Mr. Melnychenko, you have touched upon this issue, [haven't you?]

Melnychenko: I think I can clearly demonstrate to you the attitude of the president to Radio Liberty. I am switching on... [ed. note: a tape is being played] Could you hear?

Boyarko: The audibility was rather poor, could you retell [the recording] to our listeners?

Melnychenko: The president phones the committee responsible for frequencies and says: "Who is responsible for frequencies in your [committee]? This committee ... Tell me, how much do the BBC and Radio Liberty pay for using our frequencies compared to world [prices]? Prepare me an official memo. We need to bring pressure on them [expletives], don't we?" These were President Kuchma's words.

Pohorelova: ...[Some believe] that following your [December 29] interview with Radio Liberty, or even before it, you were found by representatives of the Security Service of Ukraine and they set some conditions for you, and you complied with them. But later you changed your mind and had the interview with Radio Liberty, and therefore a criminal case was opened against you [for slander]. Can you explain your reasons [for publicizing the tapes] in a detailed way? There is a comment in "Zerkalo nedeli" that you left [Ukraine] because of family circumstances...your child's illness. And that [this disease] is allegedly the reason for your step that you made against the state for money. ...Everybody in Ukraine wants to know who is behind you...

Melnychenko: I understood your question. My choice was prompted by my conscience. There are no political forces or oligarchs behind me. Why was a criminal case opened after the interview with Radio Liberty? I have not had any particular contacts with the Security Service of Ukraine (SBU), but I have information that many people have been sent and large sums allocated to find and prevent me from entering Ukraine. Following that interview where I said "yes, I'm coming back to Ukraine," and some time frames were determined, a criminal case was opened to prevent me from coming and becoming a witness.

Boyarko: Mr. Holovaty, do you support Mykola Melnychenko's intention to come back to Ukraine in the near future? Will this [return] produce any results, and is it realistic?

Holovaty: I would not like Mr. Melnychenko to come back to Ukraine right now, because there is a system in Ukraine for destroying people who tell the truth. Mr. Melnychenko belongs to those who made public the truth about Kuchma, [Internal Affairs Minister Yurii] Kravchenko, [SBU chief Leonid] Derkach, and other criminals, about [Procurator General Mykhailo] Potebenko, who is a collaborator in crimes in Ukraine. Therefore, after Mr. Melnychenko appears in Ukraine, they will put him into a solitary confinement cell, break his limbs, put out his eyes, or skin him, as they skinned the body they found near Tarashcha... [Ed. note: according to genetic tests, Gongadze's body with a probability of 99.6 percent.]

Boyarko: We tried to contact politicians in the Verkhovna Rada who are [Kuchma's] supporters. ... Our correspondent Maya Nahorniak spoke with Kateryna Vaschuk, a representative of the pro-presidential caucus Revival of Regions.

Vashchuk: (from a tape): Why should we believe Melnychenko unambiguously and disbelieve the president? Why should we disbelieve the law enforcement bodies today? ... I was in the president's office three times during that period [covered by Melnychenko's recordings]. During the three visits I discussed problems of the

agrarian sector. Let [Melnychenko] give me an excerpt of my conversations if it was recorded. I will know then if his tape is authentic ...

Melnychenko: I have recordings of conversations of Ms. Vaschuk with the president, and I would like to ask the [parliamentary] committee and Mr. Holovaty [to attest] the authenticity [of those recordings]. If Kateryna Vaschuk agrees - do you understand what I'm saying? - to take a sample of the president's voice from his conversations with Kateryna Vaschuk. ... Let Kateryna Vaschuk listen to her conversations and say "yes, this is my voice, and this is the president's." And then let the commission [headed by Oleksander] Lavrynovych take this sample of the president's voice and compare it with the sample where he gave instructions [to get rid of Gongadze]. I propose this way ...

Boyarko: Very well, then Kateryna Vaschuk can become a witness in this case.

Melnychenko: Not only Kateryna Vaschuk. Dozens of people who were within the last year in the president's office can become witnesses. ... There were a lot of people's deputies in the president's office, journalists who were there and now present themselves in public as Gongadze's friends... [Lawmaker] Taras Chornovil can confirm [my words]. ... He was in the president's office. ... They discussed political issues about Rukh, about the split and unification of Rukh...

[Ed. note: In a statement sent to RFE/RL's Ukrainian Service, Taras Chornovil confirmed that he discussed the above-mentioned issues with Kuchma in the latter's office.]

Boyarko: As you know, Mr. Melnychenko, the Procurator General's Office has [recently] opened a case against Vice Prime Minister Yulia Tymoshenko. Do you have recordings confirming that this [case] was planned earlier?

Melnychenko: Yes, I have. I can also prove that this [case] was fabricated to make Yuschenko do what Kuchma needs. This is a peculiar sort of blackmail and pressure on Yuschenko. There are recordings [documenting] how that was being handled, worked out, and why that was done...

Boyarko: Excuse me, Mr. Melnychenko, but don't you have Kuchma's conversations with Putin?

Melnychenko: This is a state secret that I cannot reveal.

Just what did...

(Continued from page 2)

dition to Ukraine.

"Cynically taking advantage of the situation, which has been artificially created around Mr. Gongadze's disappearance, they are seeking to make a kind of hero of a man who committed a crime [ed. note: Melnychenko]. They even go as far as to dictate to the investigators how and what investigative actions should be conducted, thus intentionally pushing the Procurator's Office to violate the law."

The statement ends with an appeal to the president to take urgent measures to seek the extradition of Mr. Melnychenko "who should be made accountable on the territory of Ukraine" where he committed his crime.

The Internet newsletter Ukrainska Pravda commented that the statement actually confirms, first, that the president's office was bugged, and second, that the voices on the audiotapes are authentic. "Prior to this [statement], international experts concluded that there was no doctoring within separate episodes [of Melnychenko's tapes]. In fact, the Procurator General's Office, against its own will, put an end to the problem of the authenticity of Mr. Melnychenko tapes," Ukrainska Pravda concluded. Other Ukrainian sources have so far remained silent on this matter.

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Trip to Korea...

(Continued from page 13)

one see outbursts of anger or shows of hostility that are almost taken for granted here. For example, it was refreshing to see construction workers calmly studying blueprints and carrying out their many demanding tasks – all in nearly complete silence.

In the past, the Koreans maintained Confucianist views even more strictly than the Chinese. Most relationships were understood in submissiveness to a hierarchy: younger to elder brother, son to father, and wife to husband. The result was that in many families women had to walk a few steps behind and also could not start eating until all the men had finished. Things are changing, but the importance of the family is as strong as ever.

I knew that President Kim Dae Jung had been awarded the Nobel Peace Prize for his work towards reunification and aid to North Korea. However, he is not too popular now because, as in unified Germany, there are economic hardships to be met as a result.

My final three days I relaxed in the coastal city of Dong Hae, bordering the

Sea of Japan. The impressive seascapes reminded me of the rugged crashing surf in northern California. Fresh raw fish, squid and eel could be found in every store. On my final day I was allowed to videotape a Buddhist ceremony high up in the mountain monastery.

On the return flight, a young American couple was bringing back their adopted Korean baby. Many people were talking with them. It was poignant to observe this newly formed family on its way to America after just having seen an age-old Buddhist ritual for the dead. East meets West, and life goes on.

I had met some wonderful people, made many friends and contacts, and had performed at a marvelous concert. I had gotten a taste of a different culture on the other side of the globe. But perhaps most significant was the sense of wonder and appreciation that I experienced for the diversity and beauty of another approach to life.

Correction

The last name of the late Prof. Wolodymyr Trytyak was in advertently misspelled as Trytjak in the "Dateline New York" column of February 4.

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Newsbriefs

(Continued from page 2)

being able to "freely offer their own suggestions," Infotag reported. Mr. Hill stated that it is "regrettable" that no Russian armaments have been withdrawn from the Transdnister region "for almost a year," but added that he is sure Moscow can still meet the 2003 deadline set by the 1999 Istanbul OSCE summit. (RFE/RL Newsline)

Putin, Kuchma to meet in Dnipropetrovsk

MOSCOW – President Vladimir Putin of Russia will meet with his Ukrainian counterpart, President Leonid Kuchma, in Dnipropetrovsk on February 12, Mr. Putin's office told Interfax on February 1. (RFE/RL Newsline)

Security Service forces free hostages

KHERSON – Forces of the Security Service of Ukraine on February 2 freed two prison guards and killed three of their captors in a raid on a penal colony in Kherson Oblast, southern Ukraine. Six prisoners had held two of their guards hostage since January 30, reportedly demanding talks with representatives of Russia's insurgent Chechen Republic. According to Inter Television, one of the rebellious prisoners was Ruslan Kolaev, a Chechen who fought Russian troops in Chechnya in the mid-1990s. (RFE/RL Newsline)

Polish president regrets shooting

WARSAW – Polish President Aleksander Kwasniewski on February 1 sent a letter of condolences to his Ukrainian counterpart, Leonid Kuchma, over the killing of a Ukrainian driver by a Polish policeman during a road check, Polish media reported. Ukrainian Foreign Affairs Minister Anatolii Zlenko, in a harsh statement on January 31, demanded severe punishment for the killer. "This self-willed act calls for strict measures. We are hard and adamant where our citizens' interests are involved," Mr. Zlenko said. Kyiv says the Ukrainian was shot in cold blood, while Warsaw maintains the death was an unhappy accident resulting from a scuffle. The killing received much coverage in the Ukrainian media. The Shield of the Motherland ultra-nationalist group staged a picket in front of the Polish Embassy in Kyiv demanding that the Polish policeman responsible for the shooting be handed over to Ukraine. (RFE/RL Newsline)

Deputies have Melnychenko tapes

KYIV – National Deputy Viktor Shyshkin, vice-chairman of the parliamentary ad hoc commission to investigate the Gongadze case, said on January 31 that the commission now has all the recordings made by Mykola Melnychenko in President Leonid

Kuchma's office, the Eastern Economist Daily reported. Mr. Shyshkin added that, in the interests of the investigation, the commission will not disclose the content of all the tapes. Socialist Party leader Oleksander Moroz said earlier that Mr. Melnychenko made 300 hours of recordings over a period of two to three months. (RFE/RL Newsline)

Western envoys concerned about radio

KYIV – The U.S. and British ambassadors and the German chargé d'affaires on January 31 told National Television and Radio Council Chairman Borys Kholod that they are concerned about the fairness of a tender for an FM frequency used by Kyiv's Radio Kontinent, Interfax reported. Kontinent, which rebroadcasts programs from the BBC, Voice of America and Deutsche Welle, is also known for its criticism of the Ukrainian authorities. Missing journalist Heorhii Gongadze was Kontinent's news editor. Kontinent director Serhii Sholokh has accused the Ukrainian government of planning to shut down the station under the pretext of reviewing broadcasting licenses. Mr. Kholod told the envoys that there will be no problems with the retransmission of Western radio stations. He added that Kontinent should apply for a new license as all other Ukrainian broadcasters have done. (RFE/RL Newsline)

Iranian foreign minister in Kyiv

KYIV – President Leonid Kuchma said after his meeting with Iranian Foreign Minister Kamal Kharrazi on January 31 that Ukraine is interested in deepening its cooperation with Iran, particularly in the economic sphere, Interfax reported. President Kuchma and his Iranian visitor discussed the joint production of the Ukrainian-designed medium-range AN-140 passenger plane. It is expected that the first test flight of an Iranian-built AN-40 will take place next week during anniversary celebrations of Iran's 1979 Islamic Revolution. Ukrainian Foreign Affairs Minister Anatolii Zlenko said he and Mr. Kharrazi discussed transporting Iranian oil and gas via Ukraine to Europe. "The idea is very attractive as we are trying to diversify sources for energy supplies," Mr. Zlenko said without elaborating. (RFE/RL Newsline)

Kuchma not in full control?

KYIV – Political scientist Volodymyr Polokhalo has said President Leonid Kuchma controls only "30 to 40 percent of the situation" in the country, the January 30 issue of Eastern Economist Daily reported. Mr. Polokhalo added that his conclusion is evident from Mr. Kuchma's long-standing desire to dismiss Vice Prime Minister Yulia Tymoshenko and the way this ouster was eventually accomplished. (RFE/RL Newsline)

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ПАНАХИДА відбудеться в п'ятницю, 9-го лютого 2001 р., о год. 7:30 веч. в похоронному заведенні Lytwyn & Lytwyn, 1600 Stuyvesant Ave, Union, NJ.

ПОХОРОННІ ВІДПРАВИ відбудуться в суботу, 10-го лютого 2001 р., о год. 9:30 ранку в церкві св. Івана Хрестителя на Sandford Ave. в Ньюарку, Н.Дж., а опісля на цвинтарі св. Андрія Первозваного в С. Бавнд Бруку, Н. Дж. коло 12-ої год.

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 - брата – ВОЛОДИМИРА БАРАНСЬКОГО з родиною
 - двоюрідних братів і сестру – ЗЕНОВІЯ ОНИШКЕВИЧА з родиною
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The Executive Board and members of the
Ukrainian Bandurist Chorus

We wish to share the sad news of the passing of
Maria Kovbasova Woshakiwsky-Vasilaki

on February 2, 2001, in Sarasota, FL.
widow of prof. Simon Woshakiwsky-Vasilaki

The funeral took place on February 9, at 2:00 p.m.,
at Cider Hill Cemetery, Washington, D.C.

In deep sorrow:

- Daughter Lana Tonkoshkur with husband Alexander and family
- Son Walter Vasilaki with wife Ludmila and family
- Daughter Tamara Vasilaki
- Son Yuri Vasilaki with wife Linda and family
- Grand daughter Margarita with husband Michel and daughter
- Niece Helen Mandzik with husband Ivan and family
- In-Law Valentina Jakowenko
- Relatives and friends in the U.S. and Ukraine.

Eternal Memory

It is with deep sorrow that we announce the passing of
Irene Wolosenko (nee Baziuk)

born August 1, 1919 in Tysmenitsia, in the oblast of Ivano Frankivsk,
who died after a long illness on January 31, 2001 in Walnut Creek, California.

She was preceded in death by her husband Andriy Wolosenko. Irene was a parishioner of the Ukrainian Catholic Church of the Immaculate Conception in San Francisco and a long time member of the New York and San Francisco chapters of the Ukrainian Women's League of America. Irene Wolosenko is survived by her daughter Roxana with husband Todd Morrill and grandchildren Mikolka and Anya; son Jerema with wife Danute and grandson Alexander; son Ihor and wife Victoria Street and her brother Dr. Wolodymyr Baziuk with wife Joyce and children Eugenia, Marta, Stephan and Katerina. A funeral mass was celebrated at the Ukrainian Catholic Church of the Immaculate Conception in San Francisco on February 3, 2001. Contributions in honor of Irene's life may be made to the Ukrainian Orphan Aid Society at 129 Ridge Road, Douglaston, NY 11363. May she rest in peace.

The grieving family.



Alex J. Zabrosky: 1922 - 2001

Alex J. Zabrosky, 78, of Berwyn, Illinois passed away on January 31, 2001 at Rush Presbyterian St. Luke's Hospital after a yearlong battle with complications from myelodysplastic syndrome. He is survived by his wife Olha, his three children Zoryana Reitz, Alex W. Zabrosky and Adriana O. Zabrosky-Simmons, D.C., and their families along with many cousins and relatives here and abroad. Mr. Zabrosky was born in Chicago in 1922, the son of John Zabrosky of Volyn, Ukraine and Anna Romaniuk of Halych, Ukraine. He is the brother of the late Steve Zabrosky and Sophie Rudawski. He graduated from Chicago's Plamondon

School and Harrison High School where he was a member of ROTC. He joined the United States Army at the beginning of World War II, attended the Citadel, and served in the European Theater.

He met and married his wife, Olha Beley-Durbak while serving in Germany.

Upon their return to the United States, Mr. Zabrosky finalized his education at the University of Illinois and at Purdue University where he studied engineering.

During his career, Mr. Zabrosky worked as a structural engineer and executive at Joseph T. Ryerson Steel Company, which later became INRYCO. Upon his retirement from INRYCO, he joined Main Street Industries, a steel fabricating firm, as Vice President.

Mr. Zabrosky was very active in charity work and national and international political and philanthropic activities. In addition to his efforts on behalf of the Crusade of Mercy, he donated substantial time and financial resources to the well-being of Ukrainian children in the U.S. and overseas. He was an avid supporter of the Ukrainian nationalist movement throughout his life. He was active in the Ukrainian National Association and the Ukrainian Congress Committee of America. He was a leader in the Republican Party and was the Republican candidate for the U.S. House of Representatives in the 7th District in the 1970s.

U.S. Representative Henry Hyde, who had known Mr. Zabrosky through his Republican leadership work since the 1970s, said "today this country has lost an enthusiastic and caring individual, who loved his family, his country and his heritage. I've known Al for 30 years – we even ran against each other, which gave for a spirited relationship. We will miss him. We pray for him, his wife and his family who can only look proudly on Al's great contributions and accomplishments."

Mr. Zabrosky's son, Alex W. Zabrosky, a partner in the Chicago law firm of Gardner, Carton & Douglas, said "he drove me to the law and, although not a lawyer himself, he inspired me to share his goals of treating everyone equally and helping people where I can. My dad was the most sincere, equal-opportunity human being of all. I hope I can come close to filling his shoes."

He was a communicant of St. Volodymyr and Olha Ukrainian Catholic Church in Chicago.

Funeral arrangements were directed by Muzyka Funeral Home, 2157 W. Chicago Avenue, Chicago, Illinois (773) 278-7767. Visitation was held between 3:00 p.m. and 8:00 p.m. Sunday, February 4, 2001, with a prayer service (Parastas) at 4:00 p.m. Funeral services were held at 10:30 a.m. on Monday, February 5, at Muzyka Funeral Home, proceeding to St. Volodymyr and Olha Ukrainian Catholic Church for 11:00 a.m. funeral mass. The family has requested that interment be private.

In lieu of flowers, the family asks that friends who wish to do so, may make contributions in the memory of Alex J. Zabrosky to the Ukrainian charity of their choice or to:

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The Moscow Patriarchate's...

(Continued from page 6)

of the two Ukrainian Orthodox jurisdictions which do not recognize the Moscow Patriarch – and particularly names Patriarch Filaret of the Ukrainian Orthodox Church – Kyiv Patriarchate, whom the Moscow Patriarchate has excommunicated.

To be sure, Patriarch Filaret may not be the most savory person. But one must not forget that it is Moscow that built him into a most important figure on the international ecumenical scene. It is Moscow that enthroned him as head of the Ukrainian Orthodox Church – Moscow Patriarchate, despite most strenuous protests from a great many Ukrainian Orthodox faithful. If Moscow's own creature has now turned upon his creators, well, that is not without historical precedent, and may even have a certain rough justice to it.

The threat that any meeting between the pope and the "schismatic leaders" would lead to an end in the relations between the Moscow Patriarchate and the Vatican provokes the cynical question "what relations?" Patriarch Aleksei II of Moscow has successfully prevented any visit by the pope to Russia, and has loudly refused to meet the pope even on neutral ground elsewhere in Europe.

The Holy See has just given Moscow a church edifice in Rome itself for the Moscow Patriarchate's exclusive use. Does anyone think that the Moscow Patriarchate is about to give a church edifice in Moscow for the use of the Greek-Catholics (of whom there are at least 10,000 faithful in Moscow)?

There is yet another interesting aspect to this letter. Reports have it that the ecumenical patriarch of Constantinople may

visit Ukraine in late April or early May of this year – and again the Moscow Patriarchate and its Ukrainian subsidiary have strenuously urged the patriarch of Constantinople to refrain from such a visit. One gains a strong impression that Moscow is afraid of something.

The letter claims that the great majority of Orthodox believers in Ukraine adhere to the Moscow Patriarchate. But is this claim accurate? Figures indicate, assuredly, that the Moscow Patriarchate presently controls the largest number of parishes. But census figures also indicate that the largest number of actual faithful express a religious preference for the Ukrainian Orthodox Church – Kyiv Patriarchate.

Still more to the point, these acrimonious religious quarrels among the Orthodox are a scandal, and many conscientious Orthodox Christians in Ukraine are genuinely anxious that these quarrels be resolved with dispatch. Moscow's desperate insistence that the solution is for everyone to submit to Moscow will not lead to such a resolution – particularly since it has become clear that the Russian government is using the Moscow Patriarchate as an instrument to seek the submission of Ukraine to Russia.

The only real solution lies in a peaceful agreement to create a genuine, authentic local Ukrainian Church. This, of course, Moscow does not want. But visits by such Christian authorities as the pope of Rome and the patriarch of Constantinople could very well advance such a goal. Hence the panic expressed in this letter.

The Vatican has indicated that the pope's planned visit will go forward as announced. We pray, and we urge others to pray, that God may bless that visit, for the good of the Church and for the good of Ukraine.



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For additional information please contact Peter Kurylas at

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The Weekly will be happy to help you publicize them. We will also be glad to print timely news stories about events that have already taken place. Photos also will be accepted.

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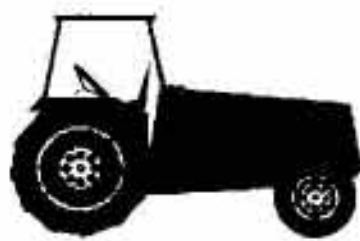
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Last of Ukraine's...

(Continued from page 1)

tender for the contract in the spring of 1998 and has spent the last three years in Ukraine overseeing the dismantling and destruction of Ukraine's strategic air fleet.

Originally 44 Tu-160 and Tu-95 bombers were scheduled for destruction, along with 1,068 air-launched cruise missiles, but in late 1999 Ukraine agreed to turn over to the Russian Federation 11 of the Tu-95 heavy bombers and 581 cruise missiles in repayment of its natural gas debt. The transaction, which was completed without U.S. involvement, at first caused much consternation among U.S. officials, but after some negotiating the two sides adjusted the conditions so that the remaining 33 bombers along with five Russian ones would be destroyed, in addition to the remaining 487 Kh-55 class cruise missiles.

The last Blackjack bomber destroyed at Pryluky was the 10th of 11 such bombers that Ukraine still held in a program that began in January 1999. One other Tu-160 had been destroyed earlier at the Poltava airbase. The elimination of the secret equipment of the last Blackjack began on December 14, 2000, with the final destruction initiated at the end of January of this year when the tail section of the aircraft was removed.

Of 27 Tu-95MS strategic bombers held by Ukraine, 20 have been eliminated. The final four will be destroyed before May, according to the schedule. Of the three remaining aircraft of this class, the Ukrainian government has transformed one (along with one Tu-160) into an exhibition piece in Poltava. Another two Tu-95MS will have their military features removed and become environmental research aircraft.

Along with the dismantling of the Tu-



Roman Woronowycz

A Caterpillar excavator dismantles the last of Ukraine's Tu-122 (Blackjack) bombers on the airfield in Pryluky.

160, the military observers watched the destruction of the first of the Tu-22 heavy bombers, a newer but lighter aircraft U.S. officials call the Backfire. The Tu-22 project was added to the overall Comprehensive Threat Reduction Program in October 2000 at Ukraine's request. The price tag and the details of the Tu-22 project are still to be worked out. Currently, four Tu-22s have reached the end of their service life and are being readied for destruction.

Brig. Gen. Kuenning said the bill for destroying the Tu-160s and Tu-95s came to approximately \$13.2 million. While Raytheon took some \$6 million as the chief contractor, the balance went to more than 225 Ukrainian subcontractors, with major elimination and infrastructure work being

performed by such firms as Ukrainian Cargo Airways, Mykolaiv Aircraft Repair Plant and Bila Tserkva Military Construction Department. Brig. Gen. Kuenning said another couple of million dollars would be handed out for mop-up operations.

David Hess, chargé d'affaires of the U.S. Embassy in Kyiv, said the joint elimination project has given employment to 750 Ukrainians and produced several other positive benefits, including technology transfers and improvements in infrastructure and facilities at the five air bases that were involved in the project: Pryluky, Poltava, Uzyn, Bila Tserkva and Mykolaiv.

Ukraine has recycled about 2 million hrw worth of aircraft equipment, as well, which has gone to improving housing for officers.

In addition, the jet engines from the Tu-95 have been redesignated and modified for peaceful purposes, several of which are being utilized in the town of Konotop as motors that pump natural gas out of the earth.

Besides making the world safer, the joint project has allowed the U.S. and Ukraine to be drawn closer, a no less important if less tangible by-product of the joint project, said Brig. Gen. Kuenning.

"What has come out of this is friendship and understanding and a basis for building stronger relations between the U.S. and Ukraine," he explained.

Ukrainian military officials have been invited to the United States in March to witness the destruction of similar U.S. strategic nuclear aircraft.



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UKELODEON

FOR THE NEXT GENERATION

Unraveling a secret of the Canadian prairies in Manitoba

by Nick Rudyk

ROBLIN, Manitoba – Last summer, my father wrote an article titled “A secret of the prairies” (The Ukrainian Weekly, August 6, 2000). He wrote about our June trip to St. Vladimir’s College here in Roblin, Manitoba, on the prairies of Western Canada. Today, months later, I am still unraveling this secret.

After a hectic summer of packing and planning, and a long but fascinating journey by car, plane and bus, I arrived at St. Vlad’s at 1:30 a.m. on August 26 not knowing what to expect. (I certainly never expected that my luggage, which was shipped in advance, would arrive two weeks after I did). Now, four months later, I still don’t know what to expect ... what will happen in the next five minutes ... what will happen tomorrow, as our schedule is subject to frequent improvements. What makes my St. Vlad’s experience more enjoyable is that I’m sharing this year with a tightly knit group of 30 young men from throughout Canada. Being the only New Yorker in the crowd makes for some interesting moments.

Yes, we do have a normal five-day class schedule. My day begins with a Ukrainian class at 8:50 a.m., and wraps up with English Arts in the afternoon. Homework /study period runs from 7 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. Meals and chores are part of our daily routine. It is the remaining hours of each day that are impossible to predict. Last Friday we attended the Yorkton Terriers hockey game; today several of us are helping out at the Holy Redeemer hall with bingo. Tomorrow’s extracurricular activities are anyone’s guess.

Most people, myself included, assume boarding school is full of rigid schedules, that dry class work, is followed by more dry homework. Well, here at St. Vlad’s, our academics have the highest priority, but they are not the sole priority. It is a learning experience to which I previously had not been exposed. In the morning your teacher could be teaching biology, but after class you could be teaching him how to humbly take a loss in basketball in the gym.

Weekends are always different. No two are alike. On Saturday mornings we usually have choir practice and/or Ukrainian folk dancing classes. The rest of the day is whatever we make of it. Last weekend, for example, several of us spent many hours cutting trails for cross-country skiing. With about 150 acres available, this could be a huge project ... if we had the time. But we do want to go cross-country



Nick Rudyk (left) with schoolmates from St. Vladimir’s College in Roblin, Manitoba.

skiing, and let’s not forget downhill skiing (only several miles away). Another priority activity is getting our ice hockey rink flooded and ready for some world-class rough-and-tumble action. These are just a few highlights of our Saturday activities.

Every Sunday morning we take an active part in the liturgy. Most Sundays our choir travels to parishes all over Manitoba to sing the liturgy. Many of these parishes are small, and some have been experiencing declines in membership. Our visits invigorate the parishioners and bring them much joy.

Since I live near New York, I’m getting to see a part of Canada I would otherwise have never known about. During the spring of 2001 we will be traveling (tentatively) to parishes hundreds of miles north of where we are now. As an exercise in map reading, look for The Pas, Flin Flon and Thompson on a map of Manitoba. These communities – originally settled

by Ukrainian miners after World War I – are located at the northern end of most roads. Our choir will participate in the liturgy in these towns as well.

Upon returning from church on Sunday the remainder of the day is ours. You can usually find a volleyball game in progress, or floor hockey, or basketball (defeated teachers practicing), etc. If sports isn’t to your liking, you may join in a network game of Counter Strike in the computer lab.

Weekends usually leave us enough “veg out” time for some TV, music, videos, etc. But we keep that to a bare minimum since there’s too much going on at St. Vlad’s to miss out on. Some students have actually resorted to studying more on their own time. The excitement at St. Vlad’s goes on 24/7/365.

Join us! We have room for a few more classmates. Call St. Vladimir’s College, (204) 937-2173.

Parochial school students honored by bishops’ visits

by Marika Robak

NEWARK, N.J. – The students and faculty of St. John the Baptist School and the parishioners of St. John the Baptist Church were blessed with the honor of having two Ukrainian bishops, Bishop Michael Hrynchyshyn and Bishop Pavlo Vasylyk visit the school and parish in the fall of 2000. Their excellencies each managed to find time in their busy schedules to pay visits to St. John’s School on separate occasions.

Bishop Hrynchyshyn has served God for many years, holding the position of pastor here at St. John’s Parish from 1967 to 1972. He was appointed the bishop of France in 1983, and is currently the president of the Vatican Commission of New Martyrs. He hopes to canonize many of Ukraine’s and the world’s martyrs. When he met with eighth graders, he explained this work and spoke of his

travels through Europe in order to reach this goal.

Bishop Vasylyk has worked as a faithful devotee of God in Ukraine since 1947. Until 1988 most of this work was done secretly because of Communist rule. When speaking with the eighth graders, Bishop Vasylyk encouraged us to study, to work to the best of our abilities and to appreciate how fortunate we are to have so many opportunities available to us. He compared the wealth of opportunity and political freedom available to us in the United States with the lack of those qualities of life in modern-day Ukraine.

Bishop Hrynchyshyn and Bishop Vasylyk were inspiring and encouraged us to apply ourselves and make good use of the resources at our disposal.

Marika Robak is an eighth grade student at St. John the Baptist Ukrainian Catholic School.

Attention Ukrainian parochial schools, Ukrainian high schools, Ukrainian studies schools:

Want to share news about your school? Why not send UKELODEON a school profile? Tell us what’s new at your school, who your students are, what they are learning, what special programs they are involved in ... anything you think is special about your school.

SUM youngsters perform at "Yalynka"



WHIPPANY, N.J. – The local branch of the Ukrainian American Youth Association (SUM) closed out its Christmas season with a traditional "Yalynka" on January 28. The program was presented a week later than originally scheduled due to the heavy snow that fell on January 21. An intimate group gathered and enjoyed a program of carols, greetings, a "vertep" and a short play put together by counselors Zoryana Kovbasniuk and Christine Woch.

Grade 8 student advances in Geography Bee



Marika Robak

SOUTH ORANGE, N.J. – Marika Robak, a grade 8 student at St. John the Baptist Ukrainian Catholic School in Newark, won the school-level competition of the National Geographic Bee on January 10. She has a chance to win a \$25,000 college scholarship.

The school-level Bee, at which students answered oral questions on

geography, was the first round in the 13th annual National Geographic Bee. The kickoff for this year's bee was during the week of November 27, 2000, with thousands of schools around the United States and in the five U.S. territories participating.

The school winners, including Marika, will now take a written test; up to 100 of the top scores in each state and territory will be eligible to compete in their state bee on April 6.

The National Geographic Society will provide an all-expenses-paid trip to Washington for the state champions and their teacher-escorts to participate in the National Geographic Bee national championship on May 22-23. The first-place national winner will receive a \$25,000 college scholarship.

"Jeopardy!" host Alex Trebek will moderate the national finals on May 23. The program will air on the new National Geographic Channel, and afterward on PBS stations produced by Maryland Public Television.

Mishanyna

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To solve this month's Mishanyna, find the words that appear capitalized in the text below.

There are many legends about the history of St. Valentine's Day. One of the most interesting ones is about the life of this SAINT. In 269 AD (By the way, do you know what A.D. means?) a young priest named VALENTINUS was arrested by the Romans for his Christian beliefs.

The Emperor CLADIUS II imprisoned him in a DUNGEON. A jailer named ASTERIUS felt sorry for Valentinus and let him befriend his blind daughter for company. This friendship helped Valentinus during his imprisonment. After a year Claudius summoned him and promised to grant him freedom if he would give up his Christianity. Valentinus refused and was sentenced to death outside the gates of ROME. According to LEGEND, just before he died on FEBRUARY 14, 270 A.D. he cured the blind daughter. On the eve of his execution he left her a note signed "from your Valentinus."

Over the years that phrase became a symbol of LOVE, FRIENDSHIP and AFFECTION for all. On this holiday we can remember St. Valentinus' DEVOTION and GIVING nature.

The concept of UKELODEON was based on the love of our children who are in reality the future. From the bottom of our HEART, all of us wish to thank all of our KIND readers who also BELIEVE in the importance of fostering this love. Consider this our VALENTINE to you.

Mykola Myshka's Valentine



Letter to UKELODEON

The following letter was sent to UKELODEON in response to Mykola Myshka's question in the January issue.

Dear UKELODEON:

Mykola Myshka is wearing a Hutsul outfit called a "kyptar."

Orest Pyndus, Newark, N.J.

OUR NEXT ISSUE:

UKELODEON is published on the second Sunday of every month. To make it into our next issue, dated March 11, please send in your materials by March 2. (Please include a daytime phone number.)

Send in your articles, letters, photos, etc. to: The Ukrainian Weekly, UKELODEON, 2200 Route 10, P.O. Box 280, Parsippany, N.J., 07054; telephone, (973) 292-9800; fax, (973) 644-9510; e-mail, staff@ukrweekly.com.

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The Ukrainian Weekly

Wedding Announcements

will appear in March 2001.

For a wedding announcement to be included in the March issue, all information must be received in our offices by February 23.

Along with wedding announcements, we will include greetings from friends, family members, bridesmaids and ushers – from all those who wish to share in the excitement of a new marriage.

We hope you will announce your wedding in The Ukrainian Weekly, or send a greeting to your favorite newlyweds.

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PREVIEW OF EVENTS

Friday, February 16

NEW YORK: The Ukrainian Art and Literary Club presents "Celebration of the Hearts," an evening of poetry and song, with an introduction by Olha Kuzmowycz. Literary works by Shevchenko, Oles, as well as contemporary writers such as Luba Dmytryshyn-Chasto and others will be read by Nadia Sawchuk and Lavrentia Turkewicz. The musical performance will feature Yaroslava Hirniak and Larysa Hulovych, soloists with the Ukrainka Rodyna ensemble. Donation: \$7. The evening and the opening of the "Celebration of the Hearts" art exhibit (on view February 16-25) will be held at the Mayana Gallery, 136 Second Ave., fourth floor, at 7 p.m. For more information call (212) 260-4490 or (212) 777-8144. Visit the website: <http://www.brama.com/mayana>; or e-mail: ukrartlitclub@aol.com.

STAMFORD, Conn.: The Les Kurbas Theater of Lviv presents a concert of "Ancient Spiritual Ukrainian Song (Irmos)," with Natalia Polovynka, Oleh Stefan and Andriy Vodychev, to be held at the Ukrainian Museum of the Ukrainian Catholic Diocese of Stamford, St. Basil College, 195 Glenbrook Road, at 7 p.m.

Saturday, February 17

NEW YORK: The Shevchenko Scientific Society will present two talks by members of the society's Mathematics-Physics-Technology Section: Dr. Roman Kuc, professor of electrical engineering, Yale University, will speak on "Seeing with Sound: How Bats and Dolphins Perceive their Environment with Sound Waves"; Dr. Wolodymyr Madych, professor of mathematics, University of Connecticut, will speak on "Wavelets: A New Signal Analysis Tool." The presentations will be held at the society's building, 63 Fourth Ave. (between Ninth and 10th streets), at 3 p.m. For more information, visit the society's website at www.shevchenko.org, or call (212) 254-5130.

NEW YORK: The Ukrainian Museum invites the public to an event commemorating the 90th anniversary of the birth of sculptor Mykhailo Cheresnovsky (1911-1994) to be held at the museum, 203 Second Ave., at 6 p.m. Featured in the program will be actors from the Les Kurbas Theater of Lviv as well as excerpts from the Anatol Volvych film about Cheresnovsky. For additional information call the museum, (212) 228-0110; e-mail UkrMus@aol.com; or visit the website www.ukrainianmuseum.org.

NEW YORK: "Music at the Institute" presents a gala fund-raising concert for the Children and Music Fund in Memory of Volodymyr Czyzyk, with cellist Natalia Khoma, who will officially introduce the fund established last year to create financial support to gifted children of music in Ukraine. Performing will be Ms. Khoma, Suren Bagratuni, Catherine Cho, Peter and Rachel Lewis Krysa, Daniel Panner, Todd Phillips and Volodymyr Vynnytsky in a program of works by Handel, Franck and Schubert. The concert will be held at the Ukrainian Institute of America, 2 E. 79th St., at 8 p.m.

Sunday, February 18

NEW YORK: The Les Kurbas Theater of Lviv, Volodymyr Kuchynsky, artistic director, presents "Marko Proklyaty, or The Legend from the East," a performance of music and movement to the poetry of Vasyl Stus. The performance will be held at the Ukrainian Institute of America, 2 E. 79th St., at 2 p.m.

Thursday, February 22

NEW YORK: The Harriman Institute at Columbia University presents Oleh Kupchynsky, ambassador, Permanent Mission of Ukraine to the United Nations, who will speak on the topic "On the Eve of the Ukrainian Chairmanship of the United

Nations Security Council." The presentation will be held at the International Affairs Building, Room 1512, at 4-5:45 p.m. The event is chaired by Dr. Antonina Berezovenko.

Saturday, February 24

CHICAGO: The Les Kurbas Theater of Lviv presents a concert variant of Lina Kostenko's "Snow in Florence," to be followed by a cabaret-like auction of theater memorabilia to benefit the creation of the Lesia Ukrainka Center. The performance will be held at the Ukrainian Institute of Modern Art, 2320 W. Chicago Ave., at 2 p.m. For additional information call (773) 227-5522; visit the website <http://www.enteract.com/griffin/uima.html>.

SOUTH BOUND BROOK, N.J.: The Ukrainian Cultural Center and the Committee for Aid to Ukraine, Central New Jersey Branch, invite the public to a carnival ball dinner/dance to be held at the center starting at 6:30 p.m. with music by Tempo. Profits from ticket sales will benefit charities in Ukraine. Tickets in advance for the dinner/dance: \$40 per person; \$30 for students with identification. Tickets after February 15 and at the door: \$50 per person; \$40 for students. Tickets may be ordered from: Michael Shulha, (908) 534-6683; the Rev. Ivan Lyshyk, (212) 873-8550; and George Mischenko, (732) 671-1914; e-mail, UKRNS@aol.com.

Sunday, February 25

CHICAGO: The Les Kurbas Theater of Lviv, Volodymyr Kuchynsky, artistic director, presents "Marko Proklyaty, or The Legend from the East," a performance of music and movement to the poetry of Vasyl Stus. The performance will be held at the Ss. Volodymyr and Olha Ukrainian Parish Hall, 739 N. Oakley Blvd., at 1:30 p.m.

CHICAGO: The Kyiv Committee of the Chicago Sister Cities International Program will host a buffet reception at the Union League Club, 65 W. Jackson, at 2-5 p.m. Guests will enjoy fine Ukrainian cuisine, delight in the performance of spectacular Ukrainian dance, and have occasion to meet key members of the mayors' administrations in both Chicago and Kyiv. Proceeds will benefit the Sister Schools Abroad Program between Chicago and Kyiv. Tickets: \$50. For additional information contact Patricia Mackiw, (773) 975-5917, or the Chicago Sister Cities International Program, (312) 742-5320.

Tuesday, February 27

EDMONTON: The Canadian Institute of Ukrainian Studies at the University of Alberta continues its winter 2001 seminar series with a lecture by Dr. Heather Jean Coleman, department of history, University of Calgary, who will speak on "The Stundists of Kyiv Province: Popular Religion, National Identity and Political Reliability in Late Imperial Russia." The lecture will be held in the Heritage Lounge, Athabasca Hall, at 3:30 p.m. For further information call (780) 492-2972, or e-mail cious@ualberta.ca

ADVANCE NOTICE

Wednesday, March 7
 - Wednesday, March 28

CHICAGO: The International Visitors' Center of Chicago (IVCC) will implement a professional development training program in Chicago for 10 journalists from Crimea on March 7-28. Under the U.S. Department of State-sponsored "Community Connections Program," qualifying Ukrainian mixed-media professionals will participate in an educational exchange program focusing on freedom of the press and first amendment rights issues. The IVCC is also seeking homestay hosts for this program. For additional information, contact Dan Stephenson, (312) 915-6383, or e-mail dstephenson@ivcc.org.