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\$1/\$2 in Ukraine

Ukrainian government prepares bill on recognition of OUN-UPA

by Dr. Taras Kuzio

RFE/RL Poland, Belarus and Ukraine Report

The announcement on July 12 that the Ukrainian government had prepared a draft bill on honoring the Organization of Ukrainian Nationalists (OUN) and its partisan force, the Ukrainian Insurgent Army (UPA), as "fighters for freedom and independence of Ukraine" has stirred another controversy within both Ukraine and Russia.

The government commission, which is chaired by Russophile Vice Prime Minister Volodymyr Semynozhenko, now believes that from 1939 to the mid-1950s, the OUN and UPA organized a "resistance movement" "for the purpose of uniting and creating a unified [independent] Ukraine."

The main academic research that

has led to this conclusion was undertaken by the Institute of History, National Academy of Sciences, under its prolific head, Stanislav Kulchytskyi. The institute recommended, and the commission accepted, that OUN and UPA veterans should finally be classified as having been subjected to repression and therefore should fall under the law on the rehabilitation of victims of political repression in Ukraine. This would then allow them to obtain social and other privileges accorded to Soviet veterans.

At the same time, only OUN-UPA veterans will be scrutinized under this law to see if they committed "crimes against humanity." This one-sided application of the law to nationalist-only forces is in line with post-Soviet and international custom since the

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Soviet-era mass grave unearthed in western Ukraine



AP/UNIAN

A student of the Lviv Medical Institute, Roman Narepekha (left), and serviceman Andrii Shtereb extract human remains discovered in a mass grave in the basement of a monastery in the town of Zhovkva.

by Roman Woronowycz

Kyiv Press Bureau

KYIV — More than 230 skeletal remains — a third of them belonging to infants, children and at least one unborn — have been unearthed over the last two months in the basement of a monastery 25 kilometers outside of Lviv. And while experts from the Procurator General's Office of Ukraine have yet to officially explain how the deaths occurred, there is widespread belief in this area that the NKVD, the notorious Soviet secret police, committed the grisly deeds as it consolidated authority over the region in the post-World War II years.

Yet, few experts believe that the horrific details will ever come to light or the specific perpetrators will be identified, as has also been the case at Demianiv Laz outside Ivano-Frankivsk, the Bykivnia Forest outside Kyiv and in the town of Vinnytsia, other sites where the secret police is suspected of committing similar atrocities against the Ukrainian populace to pacify it against resistance to Soviet rule.

The first bones in the latest discovery were found in early May in the town of Zhovkva, while monks of the Basilian Monastery remodeled a little-used cellar area of the residency and happened upon a door-like structure.

"We were preparing a basement meeting hall for the parishioners when we discovered a slab of concrete. When we broke up the concrete we found skulls and bones," explained the Rev. Marko Maksymiv, the monastery's hegumen, who was present when the first body

parts came tumbling out of the niche in which they had been sealed.

By the time the area was fully excavated, three rooms had been uncovered containing the skeletal remains of 150 adults, 83 children from infants to about age 16 and one unborn child, a fetus about three months old. According to reports in The Washington Post and Interfax-Ukraine, many of the skulls seem to have been fractured by sharp instruments or crushed by blunt objects. Others were pierced by bullet holes. Many more, however, had no outward appearance of violent death. The last of the remains were uncovered on July 17. They have been turned over to law enforcement officials and are now undergoing forensic examination.

Photos and coins found in the crypt with the body parts suggest that the killings took place between 1946 and 1949. Also, bullet casings that have been recovered are of the type used by the Soviets in the immediate post-war years.

Mykhailo Pavlyshyn, assistant director of the oblast chapter of the Memorial civic group, an organization that has dedicated itself over the last 13 years to unveiling the horrors committed by Soviet authorities in Ukraine, said the building under which the bodies were discovered housed the county headquarters of the NKVD in the post-war years. The NKVD shared the monastery's territory with a medical school.

Mr. Pavlyshyn explained that the monks of the Basilian Order were removed to another monastery in

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Six die in mine accident in Dnipropetrovsk

by Roman Woronowycz

Kyiv Press Bureau

KYIV — Six more miners died in eastern Ukraine and more criminal charges were brought after a methane explosion rocked the Yuvileina Mine in Dnipropetrovsk Oblast on July 21.

The deaths came 15 days after a fire killed 35 miners at the Ukraina mine, located 100 kilometers to the east. The director of the Ukraina mine was charged with negligent homicide in that accident.

The latest fatalities occurred after an explosion at 11:45 a.m. at the Yuvileina mine while 423 miners were working below

ground. Nineteen workers were hospitalized as a result of the blast, seven of them critically. The local procurator's office announced that it was investigating the accident as "a violation of safety rules in a very dangerous work environment which resulted in death," reported Interfax-Ukraine on July 22.

First Vice Prime Minister Oleh Dubyna visited the mine on July 23 and told reporters after viewing the site of the underground explosion that the accident was the result of improper use of electronic devices and violations of procedures during blasting

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Ukraine hosts GUUAM meeting

by Roman Woronowycz

Kyiv Press Bureau

KYIV — Ukraine and three fellow member-states of GUUAM, the international multilateral organization, signed a free trade agreement during their annual summit in Yalta, this year held on July 19-20.

In addition to Ukraine, the economic organization counts Georgia, Azerbaijan and Moldova as members. Uzbekistan officially still holds membership as well, but it suspended that membership last month and has indicated it may withdraw over what it believes was a lack of activity. While Tashkent was officially represented at the summit by Uzbekistan's ambassador to Ukraine, he did not sign any of the nine documents that were

issued.

Ukraine's Minister of Foreign Affairs Anatolii Zlenko, who signed the agreement opening up trade among the four countries, said that it would do much to re-energize the organization, which was founded to stimulate trade among the states through which the ancient Silk Road once bisected.

"The signing creates the economic basis for the existence of GUUAM," said Mr. Zlenko.

In addition to stimulating commerce, it is hoped that a regional free trade zone on Russia's borders will force the economic giant of the region to agree to become part of a similar zone. Russia has resisted all calls to organize free trade

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ANALYSIS

Turkish-Ukrainian relations receive a boost during ministerial visit

by **Taras Kuzio**
RFE/RL Newsline

Turkey was one of the first countries to support Ukraine's May 23 announcement that it will seek NATO membership. That expression of support came during a June 11 visit to Ukraine by Turkish Foreign Minister Ismail Cem. Turkey has historically seen Ukraine as a strategic partner. In 1918-1921, the governments of independent Ukraine had good relations with the new Turkish state as both countries perceived Russia as their main threat.

In the years immediately following the demise of the USSR, Ukraine and Turkey similarly had a very close geopolitical outlook in the Black Sea and CIS regions because of their common hostility to what they perceived to be Russian expansionism and intervention in Georgia, Azerbaijan and Moldova. In addition, Ukraine and Turkey shared similar views on the return to the Crimea of the Tatar community deported to Siberia in 1944, and Ankara backed Ukraine in its Black Sea Fleet dispute with Russia.

"However, the initially promising relationship failed to produce the expected results," according to Suat Kiniklioglu of the Center for Russian Studies at Bilkent University in Ankara. One reason was socioeconomic collapse in Ukraine. "Ukraine simply did not live up to the high expectations that were propagated in the

Dr. Taras Kuzio is a resident fellow at the Center for Russian and East European Studies, University of Toronto.

immediate aftermath of disintegration," Mr. Kiniklioglu added.

Since the mid-1990s greater pragmatism in Russian policies, increased attention on domestic Turkish problems, and the international isolation of Ukrainian President Leonid Kuchma after the "Kuchmagate" crisis all lessened Turkish interest in Ukraine. The death of Turkish fishermen at the hands of Ukrainian border troops and high-profile Turkish media reports blaming Slavic women for bringing a potential AIDS epidemic to the country also have not helped matters.

During Turkish Prime Minister Mesut Yilmaz's visit to Ukraine in February 1998, then-Prime Minister Valerii Pustovoitenko claimed, "We are planning to transform our relationship to the level of a strategic partnership." This was typical hyperbole given that Ukrainian leaders have defined relations with almost 20 countries in such terms without any factual basis for them.

Despite the unfulfilled nature of their relationship, Ukraine and Turkey share four strategic objectives.

First, "The Turkish security establishment views Ukraine as an invaluable partner with which it shares a common outlook to the region," Mr. Kiniklioglu believes. The fact that Ukraine has preserved its independence and sovereignty, while remaining outside the Russian sphere of influence also is important to Turkey. "Turkey views the viability and constructive role of Ukraine as an important factor of the geopolitical landscape," Mr. Kiniklioglu said.

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Chornobyl's fallout: brought down on Belarus to spare Russia?

by **Vera Rich**
RFE/RL Newsline

Western nuclear scientists are at last coming to accept what people in Belarus have claimed for years: that the radioactive contamination from the Chornobyl nuclear disaster on April 26, 1986, was deliberately "shot down" over Belarus in order to prevent it from blowing back on to Moscow. However, even 16 years after the event, they are unwilling to put their names to that theory.

Maps of the fallout that appeared in the Soviet Belarusian press three years later, at the beginning of February 1989, revealed two patches of high radioactivity isolated from the main focus of contamination, where there had been heavy showers of rain just as the fallout was passing over.

The population of these areas has always maintained that the rain was artificial - "seeded" on orders from the Kremlin. Soviet authorities dismissed these reports as "radiophobia" fomented by "anti-socialist elements," and said they did not have the technology to "bring down clouds" in that way (although for years, the Soviet media had claimed exactly the opposite, with circumstantial accounts of crops saved from storm damage by prophylactic "cloud seeding").

Western scientists tacitly accepted the Soviet denials - partly in the belief that no government would act so callously and

Vera Rich is a London-based freelance researcher. She was Soviet correspondent for the scientific journal Nature at the time of the Chornobyl disaster.

also because they considered the Chornobyl-polluted area a unique "laboratory" for studying the migration of radioactive contamination in the soil and did not want to provoke the authorities into denying them visas. However, the bulk of circumstantial evidence is now causing them to think again.

To date, none have been willing to "go public," arguing that - in the political climate of today's Belarus - to give their names would not only endanger their visas (and their continuing research) but also put their informants at risk. However, the following information emerged in informal discussions on the sidelines of a recent scientific conference.

One researcher, whose official task is to monitor whether the soil of these areas can be safely brought back into cultivation, has begun collecting the reminiscences of local inhabitants as to what they remember of the days immediately after the accident. He made no attempt to lead his witnesses. Amid the many purely personal incidents (weddings, May Day celebrations, etc), there were repeated reports of unusual activity of aircraft and/or rockets being fired in the vicinity. One man, the chief administrative officer of his locality, stated categorically that he had seen an aircraft with "stuff coming out of the back." Many people remembered that the rain showers that followed were "unusually heavy" and that - unlike "normal" rainstorms in early May, were not accompanied by thunder.

Challenged by colleagues that such reports were "subjective," the researcher

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NEWSBRIEFS

Symonenko calls for protest campaign

KYIV - Communist Party leader Petro Symonenko has called for launching a "broad and powerful civic protest campaign" against the expanding pauperization of Ukrainians, Ukrainian news agencies reported on July 23. "[Ukraine's] political system needs not a correction but a radical change," Mr. Symonenko said in a statement. He said one of the key goals of the proposed protest campaign could be holding an early presidential election in the country. "All of us should have a clear understanding that the early election is not a goal in itself but one of the tools for building a democratic and efficient political system in Ukraine," Mr. Symonenko added. (RFE/RL Newsline)

Ukraine again seeks grain to EU

KYIV - Vice Prime Minister Leonid Kozachenko told journalists on July 23 that the government is currently negotiating this year's Ukrainian grain exports to the European Union, UNIAN and Interfax reported. Mr. Kozachenko said Ukraine wants EU countries to buy some 2 million tons of Ukrainian grain out of this year's harvest, which is approximately equal to Ukraine's grain exports to the EU last year. Meanwhile, Prime Minister Anatolii Kinakh said the same day that Ukraine has harvested 21.2 million tons of grain to date from 61 percent of its grain-producing regions. Ukrainian farmers are counting on a harvest of 35 million tons of grain this year. In comparison, last year Ukraine harvested 39.7 million tons. (RFE/RL Newsline)

Our Ukraine to use 'extreme measures'?

KYIV - The UNIAN news service on July 22 quoted National Deputy Roman Bezsmertnyi of Our Ukraine as saying that "the parliamentary elections and repeat elections have shown that there is no constitutional way in Ukraine's political realities to change the power system." Mr. Bezsmertnyi was commenting on the repeat parliamentary elections on July 14 in three districts, Nos. 18, 35 and 201. A court invalidated the election results in constituency No. 18 in Vinnytsia Oblast where the winner was Mykola Odainyk, who was supported by Our Ukraine. Mr. Bezsmertnyi added that Our Ukraine is now pondering whether to use "extreme measures" against the existing power system. "It is becoming obvious that [the presidential administration] is working on scenarios to elect President Leonid Kuchma for a

third term, and the repeat elections tested the mechanisms that will be put in operation in 2004," Mr. Bezsmertnyi commented. (RFE/RL Newsline)

Ukraine hosts GUUAM summit

YALTA - The presidents of Georgia, Ukraine, Azerbaijan and Moldova met in the Crimean resort of Yalta on July 19-20 and signed a number of accords, including on the creation of a free-trade zone and on combating money laundering, organized crime and terrorism, Western and Ukrainian media reported. GUUAM was set up in 1997 as a political, economic and strategic alliance designed to seek mechanisms of interaction outside Russian influence. Uzbekistan joined in 1999, but announced last month that it was "suspending" its membership. The country was nonetheless represented at the Yalta summit by its ambassador to Ukraine, Shakhmansur Shakhhalilov. (RFE/RL Newsline)

Melnychenko tapes to be verified abroad

KYIV - Sviatoslav Piskun, Ukraine's newly appointed procurator-general, has ordered a test abroad of secret recordings made by former presidential bodyguard Mykola Melnychenko in President Leonid Kuchma's office that link the Ukrainian president to the murder of journalist Heorhii Gongadze, Reuters reported on July 19. "The procurator-general has announced a full authentication in a third country, which has a high level of modern electronic technology and has not before taken part in the investigation of the tape," Mr. Piskun said in a statement. He also ordered new genetic tests on a headless body believed to be that of Gongadze. (RFE/RL Newsline)

Protesting miners promised back wages

KYIV - Hundreds of coal miners brought traffic to a standstill in downtown Kyiv on July 18, during a 40-minute rally to demand back wages, the Associated Press and ITAR-TASS reported. The protesters demanded that President Leonid Kuchma and Prime Minister Anatolii Kinakh pay the miners 1.2 billion hrv (\$230 million) in unpaid wages. Ukrainian coal miners have staged a number of protests over wage arrears in recent months, including a three-week hunger strike. According to Oleksander Bondarchuk, a member of the Verkhovna Rada and a representative of the Ukrainian Workers' Union, the

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During state visit to U.S. Kwasniewski focuses on Poland's regional role

by Andrew F. Tully

RFE/RL Poland, Belarus and Ukraine Report

Polish President Aleksander Kwasniewski is only the second head of state to be invited to the White House on a state visit since U.S. President George W. Bush took office 19 months ago.

At a welcoming ceremony on July 17 and during a news conference later in the day, both presidents spoke of the closeness of Polish-U.S. relations and their agreement on dominant international issues: the war against terrorism and the state of the world economy.

During the White House welcoming ceremony, President Kwasniewski said the two countries may be half a world apart, but they still think alike. "Never before have we had so much in common and never before has so much resulted from these bonds. Today Poland and the United States, despite the big geographical distance, are partners and allies," he noted.

Later, during a joint news conference, President Bush spoke of Poland's contributions to the war on terrorism and how the two countries have very similar outlooks on international issues. "America and Poland see the world in similar terms. We both understand the importance of defeating the forces of global terror, and America appreciates all that Poland is contributing to this great struggle. Our nations also understand the importance of building a better world beyond terror, one where prosperity replaces poverty," Mr. Bush said.

At a joint news conference, President Kwasniewski and Bush said they spent two hours discussing a wide range of topics, focusing on how the two countries work together on international security and Poland's efforts to make the difficult transition to a market economy.

As a NATO member, Poland has contributed materially to the U.S.-led war against the Taliban and Al-Qaeda in Afghanistan, just as it did in 1999 in the alliance's military action in Yugoslavia.

Poland also was in the vanguard of resistance to its socialist rulers a decade before the break-up of the Soviet Union and the demise of Communist control of Eastern Europe. In the past decade it has surpassed its neighbors in developing an

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open economy.

In an article published on July 17 in The New York Times, President Kwasniewski expressed pride in his country's economic transformation. He wrote that in 1990 more than 70 percent of Poland's gross domestic product was produced in state-run enterprises. Today, he wrote, more than 70 percent of Poland's GDP is privately produced.

Because Mr. Kwasniewski was in Washington on a formal state visit, he was greeted at the White House with a welcoming ceremony, complete with the U.S. Marine Band performing the anthems of both countries. The ceremony also included the presentation of the countries' flags and honor guards. The visit culminated in the evening with a formal state dinner in the White House's State Dining Room.

The only other foreign head of state to pay a state visit to the Bush White House is Vicente Fox, president of Mexico. The U.S. president honored his Mexican counterpart because Mr. Bush hoped to increase economic and other exchanges between the two neighboring countries.

Mr. Bush said inviting Mr. Kwasniewski for a state visit recognizes the great importance that his administration places on the friendship between Poland and the United States. Thomas Carothers, who specializes in Eastern and Southeastern Europe at the Carnegie Endowment for International Peace, told RFE/RL that President Bush wanted to honor Poland's economic success. "It's supportive of our basic economic and political and security interests, and there's just a deep attachment to Poland's successful transition in Eastern Europe. It's a leader in that region," Mr. Carothers noted.

Mr. Carothers said he believes that Mr. Bush also wanted to reassure Poles that his close association with Russian President Vladimir Putin poses neither a military nor an economic threat to Poland. "Some Poles, I think, have been a little concerned about America's much more positive relationship with Russia and [Russian] President [Vladimir] Putin, and possibly by giving full honors at this kind of visit, it's a way to assure them that we haven't forgotten about our very important relationship with Poland," Mr. Carothers explained.

Ted Carpenter, vice-president for

defense and foreign-policy studies at the Cato Institute, another Washington think-tank, agreed that Mr. Bush is interested in reassuring Poles, but not the Poles in Poland. Mr. Carpenter told RFE/RL that President Bush's invitation to President Kwasniewski was a cynical move based on domestic politics. According to Mr. Carpenter, Mr. Bush wants to endear himself to Americans of Polish descent and others whose ancestors came from the region.

"If one looks at domestic politics in the United States, [Bush's honoring of Kwasniewski is] an appeal to an ethnic bloc, namely that of Central and East European descendants here in the United States," Mr. Carpenter said. "I think that's probably the main reason."

At the close of the White House news conference, President Kwasniewski said he and Mr. Bush also discussed ways to bring Poland's neighbor, Ukraine, into the European mainstream.

Poland has served as a kind of mediator for Ukraine in dealings with the West, particularly the United States. Mr. Carothers said President Kwasniewski is doing a good job acting on his neighbor's behalf, but he stressed that there is just so much Poland can do. He said it is up to Ukrainian President Leonid Kuchma to embrace reform if he wants his country

to join NATO, much less become an integral part of a new Europe. "I don't think we're envisaging Ukraine as a member of NATO any time in the near future, so it's not so much with NATO membership per se, but more about just trying to prevent a sense of Ukraine being isolated from the West," Mr. Carothers said.

Mr. Carpenter described Poland as being a broader role model for all the former Communist countries of Europe. As for specific efforts to make Ukraine ready to join NATO, Mr. Carpenter said Warsaw has a blunt message for Kyiv. "As the club continues to grow, one doesn't want to be on the outside looking in," Mr. Carpenter said. "And I think that's perhaps the message that Warsaw is conveying to Kyiv: 'You'd better get your act together [and begin reforming]; otherwise you're going to be in an unholy triumvirate with Russia and Belarus as the only countries in Europe not eventually admitted to NATO.'"

Nevertheless, President Kwasniewski said at the July 17 news conference that he believes Ukraine should play what he called "a more important role in the region." Ukraine, a country of 50 million people, has great agricultural and industrial resources, and, as Mr. Kwasniewski pointed out, lies at the geographical heart of Europe.

Ambassador Pascual praises activity of Ukraine's NGOs

by Ivan Poltavets

Special to The Ukrainian Weekly

KYIV – U.S. Ambassador to Ukraine Carlos Pascual on June 21 praised the work of Ukrainian community organizations, urging them to take a more active role in forming the country's democracy and stressing the U.S. commitment to partnership with local NGOs through various U.S.-government sponsored programs.

"As you are active, as you demonstrate your voice, as you demonstrate your vote, then you create pressure on politicians and you help them understand that the only way that they can survive in politics is if they reflect your needs and are responsive to them," said Mr. Pascual at the Second Forum of Ukrainian Non-Governmental Organizations in Kyiv.

The event brought together more than 300 representatives of NGOs, along with politicians and government officials. The forum was initiated and co-sponsored by the Ukrainian Monitoring Committee, Freedom House and the International Renaissance Foundation.

It was convened to review the activity of civic organizations during elections and to plan for future strategies and common advocacy campaigns. The gathering followed from a successful initial forum of NGOs, held February 16-17, which had looked to strengthen the role of Ukrainian NGOs in monitoring elections. The first meeting attracted former U.S. Secretary of State Madeleine K. Albright and Central Election Committee Chairman Mykhailo Riabets as partici-

pants.

"These several months were a great lesson for us," said Ihor Kohut, the forum's organizer, referring to the time between the two gatherings, which the March 31 parliamentary elections took place. "The third sector is getting stronger, but as before, there remains a great lack of dialogue with [government] authorities," he said.

Ambassador Pascual also praised the work of NGOs prior to the parliamentary elections, which resulted in people being better informed about the political process and their rights. "As a result of that, the Ukrainian people voted based on their hearts and on their minds," Mr. Pascual told the forum.

A public opinion poll, conducted in April by the Ukrainian monitoring committee, Democratic Initiatives Foundation and Socis, showed that 81 percent of respondents thought the activities of NGOs during the elections was necessary or highly necessary. Eighteen percent of the 1,200 respondents declared their wish to volunteer during elections; however, only 6 percent did so.

Sociologist Iryna Bekeshkina of Democratic Initiatives, an NGO that regularly releases sociological surveys, quoted lack of time and information as the main reasons there were fewer volunteers than there could have been. Thus, NGOs can claim recognition of their efforts on behalf of general public, but there is still more room for improvement, she said.

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Quotable notes

... And, finally, I'd like to say that we talked about the cooperation with the Ukraine. Let me use this opportunity to say that Ukraine should play an even more important role in Europe and in the region, and I am convinced that we should be supporting and favoring all efforts aimed at furthering development and cooperation with Ukraine and cooperation with the United States. And I am convinced that, strategically looking at the future, we should not be in the position not to see the 50 million state located right in the heart of the European continent. ...

– President Aleksander Kwasniewski of Poland, speaking at a press conference with U.S. President George W. Bush in the East Room of the White House on July 17.

... We welcome NATO's new relationship with Russia. The NATO-Russia Council has great potential for NATO members and Russia to build common security against common threats, especially in combating proliferation of weapons of mass destruction and terrorism. We also welcome an improved relationship between NATO and Ukraine. The United States and Poland share an interest in encouraging the aspirations of the people of Ukraine to prepare for a future in Europe. We agreed to work together to support Ukraine's efforts to implement needed economic and democratic reforms. Our two nations urge Belarus to join its neighbors in seeking a democratic and free market future. ...

– Joint Statement by Presidents George W. Bush and Aleksander Kwasniewski released on July 17 in Washington.

This issue of The Ukrainian Weekly is reaching all members of the U.S. Congress thanks to the generous sponsorship of Ukrainian Congress Committee of America in celebration of the 25th anniversary of its Ukrainian National Information Service.

Ukrainian Fraternal Association holds 25th Convention, elects new president

SCRANTON, Pa. — The Ukrainian Fraternal Association held its 25th Convention at the Clarion Hotel on June 17-20, electing a new president, Jaroslaw Gawur, a former manager of the Verkhovyna resort once owned by the UFA and a former UFA auditor.

The convention proceedings were opened by the outgoing president, Ivan Oleksyn. In attendance were 59 delegates and members of the UFA Supreme Council. The convention presidium was composed of Valentyna Rodak, chair; Wolodymyr Kowal and Anatole Falko, vice-chairs. Bohdan Kandiuk and Michael Liskewycz served, respectively, as the Ukrainian-language and English-language recording secretaries.

Elected to the UFA Supreme Council along with President Gawur were: Mr. Falko, vice-president; Yaroslaw Kowal, vice-president for Canada; Audrey Thomas, financial secretary; Christine Shablovsky, supreme secretary; as well as Supreme Council members Peter Buniak, Orysia Dale, Mykola Iwaszkiw, the Rev. Nestor Kowal, Stepan Kosteky, Mr. Liskewycz, Maria Maik, Alexander Napor and Ms. Rodak.

UFA Auditing Committee members are: Michael Mochnacz, Ulana Steck and Anton Filimonchuk.

Two outgoing officers, Mr. Oleksyn, who did not seek re-election as UFA president, and Stephen Wichar, vice-president, were named honorary members of the Supreme Council.

Among the resolutions adopted by the 25th convention were three regarding the association's future:

- Delegates of the 25th Convention of the UFA direct the newly elected Supreme Council to use all means possible to strengthen the organizational potential of our fraternal organization.

- Delegates of the 25th Convention direct the newly elected Supreme Council to continue the work of their predecessors in the realm of further growth and development of the Ukrainian Fraternal Association. We believe it would be useful to continue negotiations with the aim of possible merger with other Ukrainian fraternal organizations.

- Delegates of the 25th Convention approve the previous actions of the UFA in disbursing assistance to Ukrainian students, charitable activity for the benefit of the needy in Ukraine, and especially assistance to the victims of Chernobyl's radiation.

The story above is based on a Ukrainian-language report published in Narodna Volya, the official publication of the UFA.

Correction

The Ukrainian Weekly Press Fund for June 2002 inadvertently repeated a portion of the previous month's report. The total reported, however, was the correct sum of donations received in June.

OBITUARY: The Rev. Michael Horoshko, Canadian chaplain during World War II

by Myron Momryk

OTTAWA — The Rev. Michael Horoshko, Ukrainian chaplain in the Canadian Armed Forces during World War II, passed away on May 31 at the age of 90.

Michael Horoshko was born on March 3, 1912, in Drozdovychii Horodok, outside of Lviv. When he graduated from the gymnasium (high school) in 1932, western Ukraine was under Polish administration. As a student, he took part in underground nationalist political meetings. He studied for the priesthood at the Ukrainian Catholic Theological Academy in Lviv, and graduated in 1937.

He was ordained on May 30, 1937, at Zhovkva by Bishop Basil Ladyka for missionary work with the Ukrainian Catholic Church in Canada. With five other Ukrainian Catholic priests, the Rev. Horoshko arrived in Montreal on July 12, 1937. His first assignment was Hafford, Saskatchewan.

Father Horoshko became actively involved with the local Ukrainian community and in October 1938, he founded the Ukrainian Catholic Youth (UCY) movement. From 1939 until 1941, Father Horoshko was the parish priest in Prince Albert, Saskatchewan, and also served other Ukrainian communities in northern Saskatchewan.

Later, in 1941-1942, he studied at St. Michael's College in Toronto, where he improved his English and assisted the local Ukrainian Catholic clergy. He also worked among the Ukrainian Catholic youth, organizing UCY branches in Toronto. He continued his studies at the University of Saskatchewan during 1943-1944 and was a lecturer at the Markian Shashkevych Institute.

The Ukrainian Canadian community took an active part in the Canadian war effort and approximately 40,000 Ukrainian Canadians served in the Canadian Armed Forces. The Ukrainian Canadian Committee campaigned to appoint Ukrainian chaplains in the Canadian Armed Forces. On May 31, 1944, the Rev. Horoshko responded to his bishop's call for volunteers and on June 22, 1944, he was officially enrolled in Regina, Saskatchewan. In addition to his uniform, he received his "mass kit," a durable suitcase with the necessary articles for celebrating liturgy. His vestments were made by the local members of a Ukrainian Catholic religious order.

The Rev. Horoshko received his military training in Brockville, Ontario, and graduated from the officers' training course on August 26, 1944. He arrived in England on October 18, 1944, and was stationed at Queen Victoria Barracks in Aldershot. Since Ukrainian Canadian servicemen and women were serving in all Canadian units, he began a schedule of visits throughout England that included units of the Royal Canadian Air Force and the Royal Canadian Navy.

In London, he soon established contacts with the Ukrainian Canadian Servicemen's Association (UCSA). At the UCSA he met Father Samuel W. Sawchuk, the Ukrainian Orthodox Church chaplain who arrived in England from Canada a few months earlier. He met many friends and former parishioners including members of the UCY. Whenever he visited the UCSA Club in London, there were usually many letters and packages waiting for him. Ukrainian Canadian organizations sent packages for the soldiers including some from the UCY branches that the Rev. Horoshko

Myron Momryk is project archivist, Canadian Archives Branch, at the National Archives of Canada in Ottawa.

had organized in Saskatchewan and Ontario.

Almost all of the Ukrainian Catholic soldiers were listed in the official records as Roman Catholics, and the Rev. Horoshko had to regularly request personnel lists to compile his own list based on the Ukrainian names. Ukrainian soldiers who served in British, Polish and American units also attended his services. On one occasion he visited Ukrainian Canadian soldiers who were held in military prisons as inmates and as guards. For Christmas and Easter celebrations, the Rev. Horoshko made special arrangements for Ukrainian Canadian soldiers to attend religious services at the UCSA Club in London, which were the best attended events at the club.

He regularly visited hospitals where he met with wounded soldiers. On another occasion, he was invited by hospital staff to meet a Ukrainian Canadian soldier with a head wound who did not respond to the medical staff. Every known method was attempted to communicate with the soldier. However, when the Rev. Horoshko spoke to him in Ukrainian, the soldier came out of his condition, answered and began to talk with the staff. The Rev. Horoshko also performed funeral services at the gravesites of Ukrainian soldiers buried in various military cemeteries in England.

With the end of the war in Europe, the Rev. Horoshko was faced with a new series of problems. Many Ukrainian Canadian soldiers submitted requests to marry the local British girls. He was personally opposed to these marriages and did his best to discourage them.

In July 1945, the Rev. Horoshko organized a five-day religious retreat for the Ukrainian Canadian soldiers. The retreat was a success and the soldiers gave the Rev. Horoshko a hand-carved souvenir with a list of their signatures. On August 15, 1945, the war with Japan was over and Ukrainian Canadian soldiers who had served in the Far East and in India were returning through London. The UCSA continued to welcome Ukrainian soldiers from all the Allied armed forces.

On September 21, 1945, the Rev. Horoshko received permission to visit Ukrainian Canadian soldiers on the continent. He visited Canadian units in Holland, Belgium and Germany. In addition to holding religious services, he also visited military cemeteries and blessed the graves of Ukrainian Canadian soldiers. He also encountered the familiar problem of soldiers wishing to marry the local girls, and he continued his policy of refusing permission. In some cases he

charged the applicants as disciplinary problems and they were sent home to Canada before other soldiers.

It was in the British zone that he met for the first time with Ukrainian refugees and displaced persons who were in a desperate situation and feared being forcibly repatriated to the Soviet Union. He intervened with the Allied military authorities when possible and did his best to assist the refugees. He returned to England on November 4, 1945. He continued his schedule of visits to Canadian units waiting for repatriation to Canada.

He celebrated Ukrainian Christmas at the UCSA Club in London and on January 11, 1946, he received instructions for his return to Canada. He returned through the United States and visited Ukrainian communities in New York and Philadelphia. In Canada, the Rev. Horoshko visited Winnipeg, Saskatoon and Calgary, where he was officially discharged on March 3, 1946 from the Canadian Army with the rank of captain.

The Rev. Horoshko returned to his work as a parish priest and was assigned to the Ukrainian Catholic Parish in Sudbury, Ontario. During this period, the Communist Party of Canada was very active among the Ukrainian communities, in northern Ontario and Quebec, and the Rev. Horoshko conducted a determined anti-Communist campaign in these communities speaking at local service clubs and voluntary organizations.

He later served in parishes in Kirkland Lake, Windsor and Montreal. In 1961, he began to organize St. Mary's Ukrainian Catholic Church in Phoenix, Ariz. In 1983, the Rev. Horoshko became the pastor of St. Nicholas Ukrainian Catholic Church in Mahonoy City, Pa. He was named pastor emeritus in 1990.

After he retired, the Rev. Horoshko visited his surviving family and friends in Ukraine whom he had not seen since he left in 1937. He particularly enjoyed visiting friends and military comrades in Canada. The Rev. Horoshko maintained his membership in the Ukrainian Canadian Veterans' Association and, when possible, he wore his Canadian Legion jacket.

He lived in retirement in Mahonoy City and later at the Seaton Manor Nursing Home where he passed away on May 31. His funeral was held on June 4, and interment was at the parish cemetery Mahonoy City.

The Rev. Horoshko donated his papers to the National Archives of Canada in 1988 and his mass kit with church vestments was donated to the Canadian War Museum.

UOC-U.S.A. bishops' appeal in aftermath of mining tragedy

The Council of Bishops of the Ukrainian Orthodox Church of the U.S.A., together with the clergy and faithful, mourn the death of 35 miners who perished in the fire that engulfed the mine Ukraina in Donetsk, Ukraine, on July 7 of this year, and commend to the healing touch of Christ the Physician the souls and bodies of the 79 who sustained wounds in this tragedy.

During this period of mourning, we, in offering prayers for the repose of those who perished, especially pray for their immediate families, whose lives are forever changed and who seek at this crucial time that comfort which only Christ our Savior and Redeemer

can provide.

In expressing our grief and the assurance of our prayers, we appeal to the government of Ukraine to thoroughly investigate the tragedy and to enact in all the mines of Ukraine procedures that will prevent future tragedies.

Constantine
Metropolitan of the UOC
of the U.S.A. and Diaspora

Antony
Archbishop
President of the Consistory

Vsevolod
Archbishop of the Western Eparchy

THE UKRAINIAN NATIONAL ASSOCIATION FORUM

Young UNA'ers



Victoria Olena Swindle, 3, and her younger sister, Anna Oksana, 1 1/2, were enrolled as new members of UNA Branch 264 of Carnegie, Pa., by their parents, Mark and Stephanie Swindle.



Adriana Maria Zaviysky, daughter of Oksana and Volodymyr Zaviysky of Clark, N.J., is a new member of UNA Branch 155. She was enrolled by her grandparents Maria and Vasyl Zaviysky. Adriana's father is a UNA auditor.

Zoryana Isabella Zura, daughter of Peter and Tanya Zura of Arlington, Va., is a new member of UNA Branch 155. She was enrolled by her grandparents Borys and Lubow Zura.

Aliquippa branch hosts golf tournament



ALIQUIPPA, Pa. – The seventh annual golf outing sponsored by Ukrainian National Association Branch 120 of Aliquippa, Pa., was held on Saturday, July 6, with 92 golfers, including eight golfers and 10 volunteers from Branch 161, as well as guests from Branches 120 and 161. The annual outing, which has become a branch tradition, was held at the Beaver Creek Meadows Country Club and was followed by a picnic that was enjoyed by all. The goal of the outing is to promote fraternity among club members, UNA branches and the Ukrainian community. Seen above (from left) are: Norman Black, trustee; Eli Matiash, treasurer; Mark Szedny, secretary; Tim Helm, trustee; Jamie Yurcina, vice-president; Val Erjavec, trustee; Mark Fox, president.

John Teluk, former UNA vice-president, auditor and branch secretary, dies

The Executive Committee of the Ukrainian National Association regrets to announce to the members of the General Assembly, members of Branch 414 in New Haven, Conn., members of Branch 88 in Kerhonkson, N.Y., and to the UNA membership at large that John Teluk, UNA supreme vice-president from 1970 to 1974, UNA supreme auditor from 1978 to

1982, and Secretary of Branch 414 from 1969 to 1998, died on July 13.

The Executive Committee and the entire UNA membership wish to express their sincerest sympathy to his wife, Irene, his children and grandchildren.

Funeral services were held on Wednesday, July 17, in Kerhonkson. Mr. Teluk will always be remembered as a most dedicated fraternalist and UNA'er.

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.

RECORDING DEPARTMENT MEMBERSHIP REPORT – JUNE 2002

Christine E. Kozak, National Secretary

	Juvenile	Adult	ADD	Total
Total Active Members – 5/2002	6,398	13,254	2,901	22,553
Total Inactive Members – 5/2002	7,457	16,778	0	24,235
Total Members – 5/2002	13,873	30,032	2,901	46,806

ACTIVE MEMBERSHIP

Gains in 6/2002				
New members	13	27	0	40
New members UL	0	1	0	1
Reinstated	2	10	5	17

Total Gains:	15	38	5	58
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Losses in 6/2002

Died	0	22	0	22
Cash surrender	3	12	0	15
Endowment matured	12	10	0	22
Fully paid-up	14	10	0	24
Reduced paid-up	0	0	0	0
Extended Insurance	4	21	0	25
Certificates lapsed (active)	14	6	10	30
Certificate terminated	0	3	0	3

Total Losses	47	84	10	141
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Total Active Members – 6/2002	6,366	13,208	2,896	22,470
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INACTIVE MEMBERSHIP

Gains in 6/2002				
Paid-up	14	10	0	24
Reduced paid up	0	0	0	0
Extended insurance	4	21	0	25

Total Gains	18	31	0	49
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Losses in 6/2002

* Died	0	32	0	32
* Cash surrender	3	12	0	15
Pure endowment matured	1	2	0	3
Reinstated to active	2	10	0	12
Certificates lapsed (inactive)	3	6	0	9

Total Losses	9	62	0	71
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Total Inactive Members – 6/2002	7,466	16,747	0	24,213
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TOTAL MEMBERSHIP – 6/2002	13,832	29,955	2,896	46,683
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(* Paid up and reduced paid up policies)

THE UKRAINIAN WEEKLY

Legacy of death

The new discovery of a mass grave in the town of Zhovkva, 25 kilometers north of Lviv, underscored yet again the Soviet regime's horrific legacy, as the scene revealed the skeletal remains of over 230 people – one-third of them infants and children.

Experts believe the dead are post-World War II victims of the Soviet secret police, persons probably killed in the campaign to crush the populace of this staunchly patriotic Ukrainian region after the defeat of Nazi Germany. Dr. Yuri Shapoval, an authority on the history of Communist rule in Ukraine, recently wrote that "state terrorism in Ukraine from the 1920s to the 1950s was invariably 'anti-nationalist.' Bolshevik security organs consistently regarded Ukrainians as potentially subversive..."

Speaking of the latest gruesome discovery in Zhovkva, Mykhailo Pavlyshyn, a leader of Memorial, a civic society founded back in 1989 at the time of glasnost and perestroika (perebudova), told The Weekly: "This was state terror, these are crimes against humanity." Yevhen Hryniv, a local activist, told The Washington Post, "We must confront the past for the sake of the future. ... Right now it's fashionable to talk about terrorism. That's what it was – terrorism against the people. Here almost every place is connected to tragedy, to death."

If only his words were not true... But there are mass graves of this sort all over Ukraine.

There is the vast burial ground in Vinnytsia, where the remains of nearly 10,000 people were found in three mass graves unearthed by the German occupation forces in 1943. The dead were all arrested and shot by the NKVD in 1937 and 1938, at the height of the Stalin Terror. The Soviets claimed the victims had actually been killed by the Nazis – and that was the official line until 1989 when local residents and Memorial decided it was time to learn the truth and fill in the "blank spots" of history.

Similarly, there is the Bykivnia Forest outside of Kyiv, a vast killing field encompassing more than 500 graves scattered over 11 acres with nearly 200,000 victims killed between 1929 and 1941. Bykivnia was part of the "Big Lie" formulated by the Soviets, who erected a monument at the site that said "6,359 Soviet soldiers, partisans, members of the underground and peaceful citizens" had been killed there by "the Fascist occupying forces in 1941-1943."

And then there are numerous smaller sites, such as Demianiv Laz, a nature preserve near Pasichna, south of Ivano-Frankivsk, where in 1989 some 500 bodies were exhumed along with documents proving they were victims of the NKVD.

The hope is that someone will be found who knows what happened in Zhovkva at the monastery that was turned into the local NKVD headquarters after World War II. However, as our correspondent in Ukraine reported, few experts believe the details will ever become known or those responsible identified. Many archives of the former Soviet secret police in Ukraine are inaccessible; still other archives of the secret police were removed to Moscow; and many are believed to have been destroyed in order to forever hide the truth about the brutality of the Soviet regime.

And yet, the activists of Memorial and others continue their work in the hope that, in the end, the truth will come out, that the truth will help heal Ukraine's deep scars. In the meantime, we pray that these unknown victims of the Soviet regime may rest in peace. Vichnaya Pamiat.

August
3
1997

Turning the pages back...

Five years ago, in an editorial titled "Soyuzivka: an appreciation," we recalled a serendipitous discovery of a news clipping from the New York Herald Tribune of August 2, 1953: "... a search through our files revealed that it was exactly 45 years ago this week that the Ukrainian National Association purchased a

large property in Ulster County, upstate New York. What was once the Foord Sanitarium, located off the Minnewaska Trail in the Catskill Mountains, became the Soyuzivka resort."

Now it is five years later, and Soyuzivka is about to begin celebrations of its 50th anniversary. (Stay tuned for more information about anniversary events both during this summer season and the off-season period.)

Five years ago we pondered:

"Speaking with guests at the resort recently, a pertinent question came up: Soyuzivka is such a great place, so beautifully situated and comfortable, but why don't more people use it? One of our interlocutors noted how wonderful it is to spend time there with one's own family and friends. Another asked: Why doesn't the resort do more 'theme weeks' to attract groups? And so it went, the result being that all agreed Soyuzivka is a true treasure and that it is not used enough by our community. Why is it that we do not appreciate what we have right under our noses? ...

"Soyuzivka, for example, was once a mecca for all Ukrainians. They would travel from near and far to enjoy concerts and other programs at the resort, send their kids to camps and cultural courses, or just drive up for a week of camaraderie and relaxation. The resort was booked solid during the summer season. Today, the weekends still are a draw, but during the week it is quieter, even though there are many activities, theme nights, etc."

We pointed out: "There's plenty to do at the resort – swimming, tennis, hiking, for example – and plenty more to do in the nearby area, as there are many historic sites, wineries, orchards, lakes and mountain trails in that part of New York state. One could go bicycling one day, rock climbing another, horseback riding the third, fishing the fourth, not to mention engaging in more esoteric pursuits like antiquing, scuba-diving or hang-gliding. ... The off-season offers an opportunity for various organizations' seminars, conferences and conventions, as well as private gatherings ..."

So, now, as our jewel in the Catskill region marks its golden jubilee, we repeat an invitation extended five years ago: "... come and visit an old friend. And, if you've never been there, consider stopping by ..."

Source: "Soyuzivka: an appreciation" (editorial), *The Ukrainian Weekly*, August 3, 1997, Vol. LXV, No. 31.

FOR THE RECORD

Scholars pen open letter to Kuchma on decree of Pereiaslav observances

Following is the text of an open letter to Leonid Kuchma, president of Ukraine, sent by the presidium of the World Scholarly Council of the Ukrainian World Congress and the presidents of scholarly institutions. The letter was released to the press on July 12.

Dear Mr. President:

Events, which are occurring at the present time in Ukraine, are causing a great deal of anxiety among Ukrainians in America, Canada and other nations throughout the world. This pertains, first of all, to the wide-ranging celebrations planned for the 350th anniversary of the Pereiaslav Council of 1654, which brought the Ukrainian nation long years of oppression.

It is necessary not to forget that the Pereiaslav Council was originally signed as a military alliance that later metamorphosed into an occupation of Ukraine by the Russian military. The crude violation of the agreement set the stage for all subsequent tsarist political interference in the domestic affairs of Ukraine and its subsequent exploitation. Tsarist and later Soviet rulers consciously misconstrued the form and content of the Pereiaslav Council with the intention of creating in Ukrainians a complex of a less worthy "younger brother." The impression emerges that even today, in the development of the independent Ukrainian state, some of the higher representatives of Ukrainian government failed to rid themselves of this complex, and this, in our opinion, threatens

Ukrainian independence.

We are calling on you, Mr. President, and members of the organizing committee to withdraw from wide-ranging celebration of the Pereiaslav Council – one of the blackest dates in our history and, moreover, to make a critical investigation of it.

There remain other related and unresolved issues that disturb us. The most important of which is the real, not merely official, status of the Ukrainian language in the nation. Ukrainian should become the compulsory language of instruction in middle and higher-level schools, of television programs, of the cinema and of national civil servants at all levels of government.

Mr. President:

We observe that the position adopted by the Ukrainian government on this issue has no historical justification and does not respond to the interests of the Ukrainian people. We are calling on you, Mr. President, to endeavor to change this situation.

Lubomyr Wynar, Ph.D.

President, World Scholarly Council
President, Ukrainian Historical Association

Assya Humesky, Ph.D.

Vice-President, World Scholarly Council
President, Ukrainian American
Association of University Professors

The Rev. Oleh Kravchenko, Ph.D.

Vice President, World Scholarly Council

(Continued on page 12)

Ukrainian World Congress comments on marking Pereiaslav Treaty anniversary

Following is the text of a statement released by the Ukrainian World Congress on July 16.

In January 1654 in the city of Pereiaslav, Bohdan Khmelnytsky convened a Kozak council, summoning the officers' corps from generals to colonels, to ratify the protectorate of the Russian czar. On that day, January 18, the residents of Pereiaslav, the Kozaks leadership and Cossacks themselves gathered at the main square and learned of Hetman Khmelnytsky's decision.

Many renowned Ukrainian historians and scholars have concluded that this treaty brought Ukraine no good and much ill. Because of this treaty Ukraine lost its independence and suffered a multitude of wrongs that lasted 337 years – enslavement, deportation and exile, terror, famines and the deprivation of the Ukrainian language.

From the start, initially in tsarist Russia and then in the Soviet Union, the events of 1654 were portrayed inaccurately and subjectively. Russians refer to the Pereiaslav treaty, as the "eternal reunification of Ukraine with Russia."

Taras Shevchenko in his "Kobzar" often referred to this decision of Khmelnytsky to create the alliance, calling Khmelnytsky "an irresponsible son." One of many examples may be found in the poem "Subotiv," where Shevchenko wrote: "And so Bohdan, you abused poor, orphan Ukraine!"

Today, in independent Ukraine, we still feel the negative repercussions of this shameful treaty. There is no doubt that

because of it Ukraine lost its independence and was enslaved until 1991.

On March 13 of this year, Ukraine's President Kuchma issued a decree on the "observance of the 350th anniversary of the Pereiaslav Kozak Council of 1654." Volodymyr Lytvyn, who today chairs Ukraine's Parliament, was named chair of the Organizing Committee. The "observance" is to include scholarly conferences, roundtables, publication of scholarly historical material and airing of television and radio programming. In April of this year the president of the UWC met with Volodymyr Lytvyn, then chief of the presidential staff, and discussed the subject of the presidential decree. Mr. Lytvyn assured the UWC President that the observances will be limited to historical-academic discussion and, certainly, would not be an acclamation of the event.

Nonetheless, this presidential decree is a striking example of national irresponsibility. The government of an independent country has decreed to officially observe an event that resulted in its people's enslavement and loss of statehood. Such events should be studied seriously and learned from – certainly not "observed."

The UWC Secretariat plenary session held on June 1 of this year, decided that the UWC should intervene so that this "observance" may become a forum for genuinely objective study of the Pereiaslav Treaty and its longstanding and painful results for Ukraine. The UWC, through its Scholarly Council, plans to publish a monograph on the

(Continued on page 17)

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Kudos for taking strong public stand

Dear Editor:

Kudos to The Ukrainian Weekly and the Canadian Institute of Ukrainian Studies (CIUS) for taking a strong public stand against the shameful Ukrainian presidential decree "On the Commemoration of the 350th Anniversary of the Pereiaslav Kozak Council of 1654" (June 23).

At the same time, however, I find it surprising – and shameful – that CIUS was the only Ukraine-related academic institution to take such a public stand. It would have been nice, albeit surprising, to have seen similar reaction from such institutions as the Kyiv-Mohyla Academy, the Ostroh Academy and the National Academy of Sciences in Ukraine. But where were our own Harvard Ukrainian Research Institute, the Ukrainian Academy of Arts and Sciences, the Shevchenko Scientific Society and the Ukrainian Historical Association? And what about our national and international central organizations – the Ukrainian Congress Committee of America, the Ukrainian American Coordinating Council and the Ukrainian World Congress – and our many professionals' groups?

At the first Chervona Ruta song competition in pre-independent Ukraine, a young, in-your-face punk-rock female vocalist called Vika got on stage and screamed "Hanba!" (Shame!) to those in power then.

That message would be on the mark today as well.

Orest S. Slupchynskyj
New York

Editor's note: Since this letter was written, the Ukrainian World Congress and Ukrainian scholarly organizations have reacted to this issue. (See page 6.)

Deychakiwsky is on the mark

Dear Editor:

I think Orest Deychakiwsky's assessment of diaspora Ukrainians' views on the issue of managing negative news about Ukraine, that is not to manage it, is certainly more believable than that of Askold Lozynskyj. Neither writer quoted polls or any statistical information in their initial statement, so I imagine they are both opining on the basis of gut feelings and maybe some informal discussions with members of the diaspora.

My gut feeling is that the majority of Ukrainian Americans would not favor the cover-up of political assassination, murders of journalists or official corruption wherever they occur, and not even for 30 pieces of silver as Mr. Lozynskyj suggests. By his logic, every loyal Muslim should insist that 9/11 was the work of a renegade CIA.

But wait! In a free society it should be OK for Mr. Lozynskyj to express his opinions. But, please, let's avoid cheap and downright embarrassing arguments.

Two items are sadly worthy of mention. First, the crack that "Mr. Deychakiwsky has been in Washington much too long." This tired cliché tends to be used mainly by losers who in fact want to become members of the Washington elite. This ad hominem argument should never be used by an intellectual.

The second is an attempt to excuse someone's actions because there are worse offenders. Mr. Lozynskyj says that the negative news about Ukraine is not so bad

when compared with the other ex-republics of the USSR, e.g., in Ukraine because only x number of journalists were murdered, while in another republic twice as many were murdered. To get Ukraine to be the best among the worst Mr. Lozynskyj even excluded the three Baltic states because they had not been under the Russian boot as long as the other 11. (Somehow he left in Moldova even though, like the Baltic states, it had a shorter term of captivity.)

I love Ukraine, its people and culture, but only the truth will set it truly free. Slava Ukraini.

Ostap Szwabinsky
Westerville, Ohio

Ukraine's ocean of political confusion

Dear Editor:

Ukraine has been an independent state for over 12 years now. Since 1991 the Ukrainian people have democratically elected the government and the president. The election campaigns were held in every town. I do not clearly remember the previous ones and their results, even though many people do. It was in March of 2002 that I entered the political sphere of life in Ostroh with its non-political essence.

At the age of 15 I knew next to nothing about politics. It is because 15 is not the voting age in Ukraine, and therefore I was not interested in any kind of political affairs in my country. I was naive. I thought that the politicians were the most honest and decent people in the world. After all, they were the elected representatives. This year as I reached the voting age, I changed my mind. I thought I could influence the future of Ukraine. However, my enthusiasm disappeared after I had heard a speech of a town council candidate on the radio. He tried to persuade the listeners that he was sinless, the only honest one, and that he would do everything possible to help people live as gods. I lost my faith in the innocence of our politicians when I saw them swearing at each other on the local television.

I believe that most of our statesmen are either very naive or they consider the people to be completely stupid. I was overwhelmed by the way some candidates tried to win me to their side. One week before the elections, the candidates came to Ostroh to sponsor a concert at a disotheque, thinking that this would win my vote. They spoke about how concerned they were about the younger generation, especially the students. But if they cared so much about the youth then why didn't they spend the election campaign money on the orphanages or hospitals instead of expensive concerts in many towns? Moreover, I am still not sure whether those huge sums of money were received in a legal way.

There is still a lot left to talk about, but I have already drawn a conclusion for myself. The political situation in Ostroh is horrible due to the corruption, selfishness and naivety of most of our representatives in the Verkhovna Rada. I know that the situation is the same in other parts of Ukraine now. I realize that I am just a drop in the ocean of political confusion. However, I am also sure that the situation will change soon, and the future politicians will become a good example of honest and decent rulers of the country.

Alexei Abrosimov
Ostroh, Ukraine

The letter-writer is a third-year student majoring in foreign languages at the National University of Ostroh Academy.

Faces and Places

by Myron B. Kuropas



Two happy "hospodari"

"Leaders are people who do the right thing," writes executive recruiter George Benis. "Managers are people who do things right. Both roles are crucial, but they differ profoundly. I often observe people in top positions doing the wrong thing well."

Leonid Kuchma is a president who does the wrong thing well. He, his wife and their oligarchic compatriots control the mass media, much of Ukraine's natural resources, many businesses and the Verkhovna Rada. Corruption is a way of life among federal officials.

Victor Yushchenko, leader of the most significant patriotic political bloc in opposition to Mr. Kuchma, is definitely a leader who does the right thing. Given his maladroitness to snatch defeat from the jaws of victory in the Verkhovna Rada, however, some Ukrainians now wonder if he does the right thing well.

One Ukrainian leader does the wrong thing well; the other does the right thing wrong. Is Ukraine doomed? Hardly.

Lesia and I just returned from Ukraine. I had the good fortune to be awarded a Fulbright senior specialist grant to teach at the National University of Ostroh Academy, an experience that was both enlightening and heartening. Why? Because we met leaders who do the right thing right. These are people who are not indifferent to the outrages in Kyiv, but they haven't succumbed to the "woe is us" syndrome so common in Ukraine. They do the right thing right within the system. They get things done because they focus on what is doable rather than on what should but can't be done. They are proud "hospodari" of institutions that are turning things around in the Rivne Oblast of Ukraine. And that makes them happy.

First among Ukraine's outstanding happy hospodari is Dr. Ihor Pasichnyk, rector of the National University of Ostroh Academy. I first met Dr. Pasichnyk in 1994. At the time he outlined his plans to make his university the premier educational institution in Ukraine, on par with American universities. I returned to Ostroh in 1996, 1997 and again in 1998. Each time I observed steady progress and a determination to do even more.

In 1998 Dr. Pasichnyk was seeking government funds to build 16 "cottages" – three- and four-bedroom houses with all the modern amenities (Western indoor plumbing, no less) – for visiting faculty and conference participants. He also pointed to adjoining empty lots that he promised would soon be transformed into an outdoor stadium and four tennis courts. I nodded. Right, I thought. In your dreams.

Well, guess what. It's happening. The university, which boasts 10 applicants for each student vacancy, now includes four departments – law, economics, humanities and foreign languages – as well as a university printing press (soon to publish a Ukrainian-language history of the Ukrainian National Association), an expanding library (a state-of-the-art addition is being built), a resource center, a cultural museum, a refurbished conference hall, a military lyceum for orphans, an ecumenical chapel, and, oh yes, a sports stadium and four tennis courts.

Dr. Pasichnyk has also successfully

established a foundation (free of government control) for donations from the United States, Canada and elsewhere. As in the past, none of these contributions will be earmarked for capital improvements.

Ostroh faculty members are dedicated and proud of their institution. Two of them completed their M.S.Ed. degrees while teaching at Northern Illinois University and returned to Ostroh. One, Natalia Lominska, became a vice-rector; a second, Vasyl Zhukovsky, is completing his doctorate on American moral education. A third, Alexei Izmentinov, spent a year at NIU teaching and observing and returned to Ostroh to establish a resource center based on the American model.

It's clear that Rector Pasichnyk is not afraid of hiring, encouraging and promoting talented, first-rate people. As we have learned from Ukraine's Soviet debacle and our current Ukrainian American institutional crisis, second-rate managers usually surround themselves with third-rate people.

During our stay in Ukraine Dr. Pasichnyk introduced us to Prof. Vasyl Malykovsky, rector of the Myrohorscha Agricultural College. We visited his school during "The Day of the Horse," an annual event during which students compete in harness and thoroughbred horse races and various other equine competitions. We toured the newly modernized and impressive school. It was obvious to us that while the two talented hospodari are friendly competitors, each encourages the other. They admire each other and respect their mutual competence.

Past trips to Ukraine for Lesia and me were often depressing. It sometimes took us a month to recover. Not this time. Ukraine is far from where it can be, but thanks to our two hospodari and others like them, there is much to celebrate. Stay tuned.

Myron Kuropas' e-mail address is: mbkuropas@compuserve.com.



Vasyl Malykovsky and Ihor Pasichnyk at traditional Ukrainian reception during "The Day of the Horse" at Myrohorscha Agricultural College on June 9.



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Six die in mine...

(Continued from page 1)

operations.

The same day, Dnipropetrovsk law enforcement officials arrested the head engineer, a mechanical engineer and the head explosives expert at the mine on charges of causing death through violation of safety rules. The following day, however, a report issued by the mine suggested that faulty wiring, which may have caused a short circuit, could have sparked the methane. In either case there is agreement that it was the first time the mine had experienced a methane build-up in its years of operation.

The additional deaths bring the number of work-related casualties in the coal mining industry to more than 150 this year, Interfax-Ukraine reported. Over the last decade more than 3,400 Ukrainian miners have died while working. Figures reported by the State Committee of Labor Protection show that for each ton of coal extracted in Ukraine, 4.4 workers' lives are sacrificed. The agency has said Ukraine's coal workers labor in the worst geological and temperature conditions on earth.

More than 1,000 of them had been in Kyiv since June 3 in what have become annual summer demonstrations in the nation's capital. They departed on July 22, a day after the latest tragedy, with no certainty that the back salaries they were demanding – which have yet to be disbursed after several promises by the government to do so – would be paid. The Independent Miners' Trade Union, which organized the Kyiv demonstrations, claimed its members are owed 1.8 billion hrv. The government, however, said the figure is closer to 1.1 billion hrv. The numbers include wage arrears of about 70 million hrv for this year alone.

The miners who participated in the Kyiv protests lived on a small island in the Dnipro and survived by fishing the river and begging on the city streets. They spent their days either demonstrating before various government buildings in the downtown area or hunger striking on Independence Square, Kyiv's central plaza.

Twice they blocked city streets to bring attention to their plight, and twice their representative met with Prime Minister Anatolii Kinakh. Each time, however, they came away from the meetings not satisfied that their demands would be met.

The Verkhovna Rada passed a non-binding resolution supporting the miner's demands on June 11, which was introduced by Communist faction member Oleksander Bodnarchuk.

The miners returned to their homes in the eastern regions of Ukraine after a final sit-down strike before the Cabinet of Ministers building with a final promise by Mr. Kinakh that wage arrears would begin to be paid within a month.

The Yuvileina mine accident also came just before the presentation of results of a European Commission project in support of coal sector reform, which concludes at the end of July. The four-year project undertaken by TACIS (Technical Assistance for the Commonwealth of Independent States), the EC's aid agency, aimed to transfer European experience and know-how to improve mining conditions in Ukraine.

First, TACIS developed a Coal Consulting Center in the Donbas region at a cost of 1.9 million euros, which was followed by a second phase, costing 1.3 million euros, directed at four areas of mining operations: development of management information systems; safety techniques and ventilation improvements; introduction of roof bolting and anchoring technologies; and improvements in coal quality and mine tailings. A new TACIS program for the coal mining sector is scheduled to begin next year, which will be funded at 2.5 million euros.

Verkhovyna resort undergoing major reconstruction



Yaroslav Kulynych

GLEN SPEY, N.Y. – Verkhovyna, today also known as the MountainView Resort, officially began its first summer season under the aegis of the Ukrainian American Cultural Foundation on Saturday, July 6. Visitors to the resort that weekend could see the ongoing construction at the resort, most notably the major reconstruction of the Ardmore Mansion, the resort's historic main building (as seen above). Verkhovyna is located in the Delaware Valley region, between the Pocono Mountains of Pennsylvania and the Catskills of New York. The 142-acre resort hosted the traditional Ukrainian Festival on July 19-21. For further information about the new Verkhovyna and plans for its future, readers are directed to the website www.verkhovyna.com.

Soviet era...

(Continued from page 1)

Krekhiv in 1946 shortly after the Soviets outlawed the Ukrainian Greek-Catholic Church to which they belonged. He said that within a year the NKVD had occupied the building. The Memorial organization member rejected suggestions that someone other than NKVD officers might have been responsible for the atrocity.

"We have documents that prove that the NKVD worked there in those years," stated Mr. Pavlyshyn.

A former commander of the State Security Service of Ukraine who wished to remain unidentified told The Weekly that a subtle and practical nuance exists that also points to state involvement. "It is highly unlikely that anybody but official sources would have had access to cement in the immediate years after the war," said the now-retired intelligence service worker, who explained that building materials were scarce and difficult to obtain as the state strictly controlled the post-war rebuilding process.

The former intelligence officer also retold a story he had heard from his immediate supervisor, who had served in a special force of the NKVD division in Lviv Oblast after the war.

"He told me that every so often the group would be ordered to infiltrate a village when a dance or celebration was being held. They would dance with the girls and begin to cause problems with the aim of causing fights and eventually a melee," explained the retired intelligence official. "NKVD troops would then move in to make arrests, leaving mostly women and children behind. Many of the arrested were sent to Siberia on trumped-up charges. Others were simply never heard from again."

One of the more troubling aspects of the horrific discovery at Zhovkva, according to Mr. Pavlyshyn, is that so many children and infants were killed. Also puzzling is why the bodies were completely naked; there is no evidence of

buttons or hair clasps that should not have yet decayed. These are questions that the procurator's office in Zhovkva will attempt to answer after it determines the manner in which the victims died, a process expected to take two months.

What is most vexing at this stage, however, is that there is almost no chance that anyone will fully understand what happened or be able to bring those responsible to justice. This is because NKVD archives either remain secret, were destroyed or were transferred to Moscow. For Mr. Pavlyshyn that is most frustrating of all.

"This was state terror, these are crimes against humanity," said Mr. Pavlyshyn, who explained that in the estimation of Memorial, some 10,000 people disappeared in the Lviv region in the years right after World War II. He said that he has turned to Ukraine's intelligence service, which holds the archives of the NKVD (and those of its successor, the KGB) and asked to review the files from those years, but has repeatedly been told that they remain secret and not accessible.

"They tell me, yes, there were cases such as these, but because they remain classified, the archives cannot be opened," explained the Memorial official.

Mr. Pavlyshyn blames Ukraine's Parliament for not opening the archives to the public. He explained that lawmakers have the authority to order the declassification of secret materials, but suggested one reason they are reluctant to do so is because relatives and family members of those responsible for state killings, and even the perpetrators themselves, are still alive in many cases. Also, some of these people have positions of authority that allow them to block any such attempts.

He also admits that many of the records simply no longer exist, having been destroyed by officials who needed to hide evidence of the terror they committed.

Prof. Stanislav Kulchytskyi, director

of the Institute of History at the National Academy of Sciences of Ukraine, said that many more archives were removed to Moscow in the final years of the Soviet Union.

"This was done because of the unstable political situation that occurred after some republics began asserting their autonomy," explained Prof. Kulchytskyi. The respected academic stated that entire archival libraries were taken to Moscow, where much was simply destroyed.

He said that getting access to those materials now in Moscow is very difficult because Russia has no interest in allowing information on the murderous activity of Soviet intelligence services – especially the widespread terror the NKVD promulgated in western Ukraine after World War II – to become any more public than it already is.

"Russia has taken on accession to the Soviet Union, and holds the position that release of this type of information is not in its national interest," explained Prof. Kulchytskyi.

If official government sources and records will not explain what happened at Zhovkva, then the only hope remaining is that anecdotal evidence will suggest who did the killing and who were the victims. However, both Prof. Kulchytskyi and Mr. Pavlyshyn believe that very few townspeople either know today or ever knew what occurred in the dark cellar of the Basilian Monastery.

Mr. Kulchytskyi explained that a basic, self-evident reason was that those who may have been witnesses to murder were most likely killed as well.

Meanwhile, Mr. Pavlyshyn agreed that no hearsay is known to ever have existed about any sort of mass killings at the Basilian Monastery. He added that thus far no one has come forward with new information in light of the new discovery.

"People were so terrified that they did not want to know what was happening," explained Mr. Pavlyshyn. "Many believed that even knowing the rumors could give them problems."

OUR DIASPORA: A visit with the Ukrainian community in Tbilisi

by Theodora Turula

TBILISI, Georgia – The Ukrainian Community Center here in the capital of Georgia has much in common with our own Ukrainian diaspora centers in the United States. Every weekend it resonates with the chatter and laughter of children and teenagers learning about their heritage and socializing. They dance Ukrainian dances, sing Ukrainian songs and learn about their culture.

As with our own younger generation, when talking among themselves they tend to speak the language of the country in which they are living. But the differences between their surroundings, their living conditions, and ours, are profound.

None of these youngsters travel by car from home to the center: most families

cannot afford to maintain a car or purchase gasoline. Very few of them live in a home with central heating; there has been neither central heat nor hot water in the city for several years. As in their own homes, the electrical lights in the center come on occasionally, but more often than not there is no electricity.

Georgia is a country whose infrastructure is in shambles. Factories are shut down, jobs are scarce, salaries are minimal (\$50 per month is considered a living wage), and most people can barely make ends meet. The average pension, seldom paid, equals \$7 per month.

The Ukrainian Community Center is located in an outlying area of the city, on the second floor of a dilapidated building. It was made available to the Ukrainian community by the city's

mayor, at the request of Mykhailo Borys, the center's director and a former high-ranking military officer in Georgia. The last stop of a metro line is just a few blocks away. This is a residential neighborhood of typical nine-story Stalin-era apartment blocks. There is no guarantee that the local politician won't decide to take back the premises for some other purpose, so the community leaders are reluctant to make any major capital improvements in the property.

The center's school of dance is an example of what can be achieved with minimal resources and maximum dedication. There are two groups of students: grammar school pupils and high school students. The instructor conducts the class with a firm hand, providing basics in ballet, and then proceeding to folk dance. The studio has a combination of bannisters, metal bars and windowsills (big, drafty windows, of course) for a barre and a barely even presswood floor (before each session the dancers check for protruding nailheads). There are no mirrors. The dancers' footwear ranges from ballet slippers (not many) to sneakers, to regular shoes; music is provided by an old tape player. Putting together costumes for the dancers' performances is a difficult task, given the scarcity of money to purchase materials. But the young dancers' smiles are bright, their precision and enthusiasm a pleasure to watch.

In addition to dance classes, the students, along with many of their parents, attend one of several English language classes, since a working knowledge of American English is considered indispensable if one wishes to get ahead in the working world. There is even one poor old computer, usable when – and if – there is power to turn it on, or fuel with which to stoke the generator (with a couple of car batteries used for storage.)

The classroom and dance "studio" are equipped with smoke-belching wood stoves. These are the only two rooms in the center that have any heat, and even that is rationed, since wood, too, is not cheap. When the dancers are done for the day, the floor is sprinkled with water to keep down the dust, and the room becomes the venue for choir practice. The center has a small generator which is fired up when electricity is needed for small tasks at times when the power is off.

Other activities at the center include a youth band (another thing for which the generators come in handy). They, as well as the Chervona Kalyna dance ensemble

and the Sonechko children's choir are often invited by the Ukrainian Consulate to perform at various functions and to represent the Ukrainian diaspora's cultural heritage among their Georgian neighbors.

Last year the Ukrainian Community Center was able to scrounge up enough funds to organize two weeklong excursions for its youth, with one group traveling to the mountains and another to the seashore. They are hoping it will be possible to repeat the experience this year, allowing the teenagers an opportunity to escape from their drab city environment for at least a short time.

Most of the Ukrainians in Georgia are people who were resettled during Soviet times, sent here to work in factories or to serve in the armed forces. Ukrainians released from Siberian camps were often not allowed to return to Ukraine, and quite a few came to Georgia. Mr. Borys, the leader of the Ukrainian diaspora community in Georgia, is from Western Ukraine. He arrived here as a military officer and married a Georgian. His monthly pension of almost \$45 far surpasses that of most pensioners. According to Mr. Borys, most of the elderly live in apartments that are bare of any non-essential items as they have sold off everything of value to buy food.

There are not many in the Ukrainian diaspora that are fluent in their native language, although they all read and understand, knowing enough to sing Ukrainian songs, recite poetry and the like. The center has started classes in the Ukrainian language as the number of requests for them keeps growing.

No Ukrainian churches or parishes exist in Georgia, as there are not enough people for a congregation, either Orthodox or Catholic, that could afford the cost of supporting a clergyman and his family. The faithful attend services in the Russian or Georgian churches. Yet there is hope: the Ukrainian Churches are re-examining the possibility of providing clergymen for the congregations in Georgia.

It was the Consulate of Ukraine in Tbilisi that put me in touch with Mr. Borys, and I visited the community center several times in February of this year. Perhaps some day it will be possible for me to visit again – perhaps even find a way to assist the community to expand its activities. It is the children and youth who need help most of all, so they will have a chance for a better future, as well as the elderly, whose future is now.



Pupils in class at the Ukrainian Community Center in Tbilisi.



Students of the center's Ukrainian dance classes.



The Ukrainian Community Center's director, Mykhailo Borys, (standing right) with a group of local activists.



The bilingual plaque at the entrance to the community center of the Association of Ukrainians in Georgia.

Ukrainian National Museum of Chicago embarks on a new frontier

by Oksana Batorfalvy

CHICAGO – Chicago, mark your calendars for September 29, and prepare to tour the new and expanded Ukrainian National Museum. This is the architectural marvel of architect and native son Joseph I. Mycyk that will proudly serve Ukrainians for generations to come. After your tour, plan to stay for the banquet and give this museum the recognition and homage it truly deserves.

When I was asked to write an article about the museum, which this year marks its 50th anniversary, I recalled the Ukrainian school days of my youth and our field trips to the museum. It was a small three-flat building with warped floors and dusty old armless mannequins unsuitable for the colorful embroidered clothing they were dressed in.

The curator, an old and dusty lady herself, led us around as we giggled and poked fun at the black-and-white photographs of old men with wire-rimmed glasses and huge mustaches. Dimly lit rooms smelled like a musty basement. For the American children we aspired to be, it all seemed so pointless, so meaningless. But we were glad to get out of the classroom on those Saturday school days.

What could I possibly write about something like this? I was skeptical, but I consented. By the time I was ready to write, I had to acknowledge this is a structure that commands respect.

In 1992, under the very competent leadership of then President George Hrycelak, the museum underwent the first of its many upgrades. Dr. Hrycelak recognized that the museum in its current condition had no potential for growth. When the opportunity to obtain an old Czech rectory on the corner of Superior Street and Oakley Boulevard arose, he consented to its purchase. The building, a respectable structure, would be suitable for expansion of a museum whose archives were currently being housed in a damp basement.

The new property had a lot of potential and promised to do justice to a collection that up until that time was not made available to the public for lack of a viewing area. The purchase was made in 1992, and the museum celebrated its grand opening in 1995. Still, the museum's wares could not be displayed. There just wasn't enough room.

The museum houses a huge collection of over 12,000 artifacts in the form of artwork, musical instruments, traditional folk arts, agricultural tools, etc.

The library houses over 29,000 titles in the form of rare books, author-autographed editions, contemporary editions and books about Ukraine in foreign languages. It also contains over 600 periodicals and newspapers. The museum archives collection is the largest in this country. Archival material includes memorabilia dating from 1910, as well as the 1933 Chicago World's Fair. There is information on women's groups, sports organizations, the personal manuscripts of civic leaders, and much, much more. A large photographic collection can also be found here.

Currently the museum is under the guidance of Yaroslav Hankewych, its sixth president. Mr. Hankewych is the son of Oleksa Hankewych, one of the original founders of the museum. He is a very personable gentleman with a kindly demeanor.

I asked him about the founding of the museum. He leaned back in his chair and told wonderful anecdotes about the origins of the Ukrainian museum. He told me how his father had arrived in Chicago in 1949, with his wife, a daughter and a



Chicago's Ukrainian National Museum with its new addition.

son. He was a high school professor back in his native Ukraine, but here he was destined to work for the railroad. It was his hobby, not his job, that sustained him. He began to collect books and journals, magazines, and newspapers. He obtained them through the generous donations of other immigrants. Like others who had arrived after the war, he feared his Ukrainian heritage would be lost forever in the new land.

Gradually, the collection grew. Stacks of books and piles of newspapers were sprouting up everywhere. A garage space was located to store the collected materials, but that was only good for a short time as the collection was growing rapidly. Larger and larger spaces were needed. There were several moves, each time to a bigger area. People were generous. They had no use for these items. Mr. Hankewych welcomed all of them.

By 1952 the collection was large enough to begin the Ukrainian National Museum and Archives. In 1953 the first board of directors was called to serve, and in the following year, at the first annual meeting of the Ukrainian National Museum, Dr. Myroslaw Simynovycz was elected the museum's first president.

In 1955 the museum learned about a three-story building for sale on Chicago Avenue. It cost \$23,000. The museum had only \$500 for a down payment, and it asked the president to sign the mortgage papers. Dr. Simynovycz not only signed, but made the monthly payments on the property as well. In 1968 Dr. Simynovycz died, leaving a balance of \$4,000 on the mortgage.

Serendipity strikes

In the interim, the museum learned about a man who had a large collection of Ukrainian books. The man promised to will it to the museum. Upon his death, his son apathetically tossed all the books into the museum's foyer. Stashed amid the pages of the books were dollar bills amounting to \$4,002. The museum was faced with a moral dilemma: Should it return the money to the rightful owner, or use it towards the greater good of the Ukrainian people? The museum opted for

the latter, and made a posthumous donation to the Ukrainian National Museum in the man's name.

In 1999 the Ukrainian National Museum participated in the annual Museum Day at the capitol rotunda in Springfield, Ill. There were many exhibitors in the rotunda that day, but the Ukrainian exhibit attracted the most visitors. Among them was Sen. Walter Dudycz. In subsequent weeks, Sen. Dudycz, through the Illinois First Program and Gov. Jim Ryan awarded the Ukrainian National Museum an unprecedented \$500,000. The museum began plans for an expansion on its adjoining property and hired the architectural firm of Mr. Mycyk.

I recently toured the new facility. It is a classic structure with huge salons, an elevator and beautiful exhibition rooms. The future library and its adjoining reading room are breathtaking. The room is bathed in natural light that pours in through huge windows. This is truly not the museum of my youth, but an architectural marvel designed to serve as a proud beacon for generations to come. You really need to see it and experience it firsthand to appreciate its magnificence.

The total cost of construction of the museum is \$1,100,000. The projected annual maintenance costs are expected to reach \$60,000 annually. How will this museum sustain itself over time? Mr. Hankewych is not a man without a vision. In a determined tone he told me, "My father collected quarters and dimes from people that made only \$10,000 a year. If I can't get people to donate \$1,000 a year, I should not be in this position."

The museum board has plans to initiate a sustaining members club. Donors would contribute \$1,000 a year over a period of five years. The museum also has plans to develop a grant committee, which would be responsible for the writing of grants to obtain funding available through various organizations.

There are also plans for a membership drive. Currently the museum operates with a membership of just under 300 people. I am appalled at the lack of sup-

port from a community whose population numbers 60,000 people across the city and throughout the metropolitan area. Mr. Hankewych explained that in the past it was the feeling of museum elders to keep the museum self-contained and operating on a budget large enough to just meet monthly expenses. Previous boards of directors did not feel the need for expansions or development.

But the need exists. Mr. Hankewych noted that 90 percent of all visitors to the Ukrainian museum are not Ukrainian. The museum is an active member of the Chicago Field Museum's "Cultural Connections" program. Through this program, DePaul University, Robert Morris College, Columbia College and others hold actual classes in anthropology at the museum. The Chicago Culture bus tour makes a stop here, too. Reporters, journalists and businessmen make the Ukrainian museum their stop prior to their job-related departures for Eastern Europe. People searching for their family roots also stop by and recognize something familiar.

"We must open our doors and promote ourselves if we plan to survive," Mr. Hankewych said enthusiastically. Plans for the new wing include an area entirely designated to the memory of the victims of Chernobyl, and a separate area for victims of the Great Famine. Benefactors are being sought for these and other projects.

The museum is a thriving and living member of a community that has long ignored its existence and taken it for granted. Today it operates under a new and energetic board of directors whose vision is into the future, not entrenched in the past. Concurrently it is searching for generous benefactors and benevolent volunteers to assist them with the work currently at hand.

Once the museum's objective was the preservation of a culture. Today that culture is safely and beautifully ensconced in an architectural design destined to be the pride of future generations. The Ukrainian National Museum of Chicago is coming into the 21st century as an active participant in the ethnography of American culture.

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UAVeterans offer college scholarships

by Peter Polnyj

YONKERS, N.Y. – For a number of years, the Ukrainian American Veterans have been offering scholarships to undergraduate college students of Ukrainian American heritage. Monetary awards are given annually to between three and five students who are getting ready to attend or are in college now.

Applicants for this scholarship are required to write an essay of 300 to 400 words on this year's topic: "What role or strategy should the United States take in the war on terrorism?"

The UAV Scholarship Committee, chaired by Nicholas Skirka, will evaluate and determine the winning essayists and announce the winners at its National Convention to be held September 13-15, in Cleveland.

The deadline for submitting applications and essays is August 24. Applicants can submit their entries via e-mail to: N.Skirka@worldnet.att.net.

Articles regarding the UAV Registration Project and the newly established Veterans History Project approved by the U.S. Congress, have recently appeared in The Ukrainian Weekly. The UAV leadership urges every Ukrainian American Veteran to join a local post, or if none exists, to start one in their community. By doing so, you will enable the UAV to have a stronger organization and aid in obtaining a national charter, a matter that is currently in the U.S. House of Representatives and awaiting more congressional support.

Those interested in starting a post or in more information on the registration project may contact UAV National Vice-Commander Anna Krawczuk via e-mail at: Krawczuk.Anna@worldnet.att.net.

To read more about the UAV, please contact your local post member for a copy of "Ukrainian American Veterans, 1948-1998: Historical Analysis and Evaluation" written by Past National Commander Dr. Dmytro Bodnarczuk, Ph.D.

Donations to the UAV Scholarship Fund can be sent to: Nicholas Skirka, 109 Windsor Terrace, Yonkers, NY 10701-1512; telephone, (914) 965-3707.

The official UAV website is located at: www.uavets.org.

Peter Polnyj is national adjutant of the Ukrainian American Veterans.

Scholars pen...

(Continued from page 6)

President, Ukrainian Academy
of Sciences in Canada

Arkadij Zhukovskyy, Ph.D.

Vice-President, World Scholarly Council
President, Shevchenko Scientific Society
in Europe

Osyp Maryniuk, Ph.D.

Secretary, World Scholarly Council

Oleksa Bilaniuk, Ph.D.

President, Ukrainian Academy
of Sciences in America

Daria Darevych, Ph.D.

President, Shevchenko Scientific Society
in Canada

Stefan Kozak, Ph.D.

President, Polish Association
of Ukrainian Studies
President, Shevchenko Scientific Society
in Poland

Dmytro Shtohryn, Ph.D.

Chairperson, Ukrainian Research
Programs at the University of Illinois

SPORTSLINE

Boxing

• Following his June 29 technical knockout of Ray Mercer in the sixth round, Volodymyr Klychko set his sights on a bout with WBC, IBF and IBO heavyweight champion Lennox Lewis. However, Lewis suggested he may retire from the sport before such a bout could take place. Lewis was quoted by the BBC as saying "Volodymyr Klychko - he's not tough enough. He's not ready for me yet. It would be a waste of my time to go and fight him - I would knock him out. I've already done everything that I really wanted to do in the sport of boxing, so I'm going to keep them guessing for a little while longer."

Klychko, the current WBO champion, has been hailed by many as the likeliest successor to Lewis.

Basketball

• Ukrainian center Vitaly Potapenko was traded from the National Basketball Association's Boston Celtics to the Seattle SuperSonics on July 22 as part of a five-player deal. The 6-foot-10 Potapenko was originally signed by the Cleveland Cavaliers as the 12th lottery pick in the 1996 NBA draft. Since that time, the 285-pound Wright State University graduate has maintained a steady presence within the NBA. The 27-year-old "Ukraine Train," as his teammates refer to him, was born in Kyiv.

Tennis

• Top-seeded Ukrainian Mykyta Kryvonos, 15, took second place at the United States Tennis Association Clay Court Championships, losing to Robert Cameron in the final on July 21 in Rockville, Md. Cameron, ranked 17th among USTA juniors age 16, convincingly upset Kryvonos by a score of 6-1, 6-1.

According to an article in The Washington Post, Kryvonos, currently ranked fourth on the USTA list, moved to America when he was 13 in order to find better competition. Now a resident of Flushing, N.Y., Kryvonos held the No. 1 spot in Ukraine from age 9 to 13.

Diving

• Ukraine's divers combined for an overall team seventh place at the 13th FINA Diving World Cup in Seville, Spain, on June 25-29 with 133 points. China's 553 points more than doubled that of the next nearest competitor, Russia, who finished with 258 points. Australia took the third spot with 231 points.

Ukraine's Olena Zhupina took fourth place in the women's 10-meter platform competition. Her 307.71 points put her behind first-place finisher Lao Lishi of China (377.88), Soldati Kimiko of the United States (336.54) and Li Ting of China (323.55).

Zhupina again barely missed the medal platform, this time in the women's 3-meter springboard, when China's Guo Jing Jing and Wu Minxia took first and second places, respectively, with scores of 355.08 and 322.74. Australian Irina Lashko's 322.56 points gave her third place, while Zhupina finished with 313.53 points.

In the men's 1-meter springboard Ukrainian Yurii Shliakhov finished 12th behind gold medalist Xiang Xu of China. Xu won with 421.80 points, Alexandre Despatie of Canada took the silver medal with 407.79 points, and Spaniard Jose Miguel Gil took the bronze medal with 379.47 points.

Shliakhov and Dmytro Lysenko took eighth place with 295.83 points in the men's 3-meter synchronized springboard event. China's Tianling Wang and Feng Wang took first with 363.24 points, while Australia's Robert Newberry and Steven Barnett captured second place with a score of 341.85. The Russian team of Dmitry Baibakov and Dmitry Sautin took third place with a total score of 336.60.

In the women's 3-meter synchronized springboard event Ukraine's team of Olena Zhupina and Hanna Sorokina finished in seventh place with 276.87 points. Russians Vera Ilyina and Julia Pakhalina took first place with 329.31 points, Minxia Wu and Jing Jing Guo of China took second place with 328.65 points, and Ditte Kotzian and Conny

Schmalfluss of Germany took third place with 305.25 points.

China's Liang Tian and Tong Yu Luo won the men's synchronized 10-meter platform competition with a final score of 353.31. The Ukrainian team of Roman Volodkov and Anton Zakharov finished fourth with 330.18 points, while Cubans Erik Fornaris and Jose Guerra took second with 342.72 points. Australians Mathew Helm and Robert Newberry finished third with 332.49 points.

Gymnastics

• Team Ukraine finished sixth in the overall competition at the 2002 World Championships for Rhythmic Group Gymnastics in New Orleans, on July 10-14. Team Ukraine took the gold medal in the five ribbon event by beating Russia,

which took second place, and Greece, which took third place. However, Ukraine finished fifth in the three ropes and two balls event.

In group rhythmic gymnastics five athletes per team work together during a choreographed performance passing various apparatuses such as ribbons, balls or ropes between themselves while performing gymnastic maneuvers within a 13-meter square mat. Athletes are judged on the composition and execution of routines with elements that include jumps, leaps, pivots, balance and flexibility movements.

In the first routine all five athletes use ribbons, while in the second routine competitors use three balls and two ribbons. In group rhythmic gymnastics the overall winner is decided by the combined scores of both routines.

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Chornobyl's fallout...

(Continued from page 2)

pointed out, "These people are farmers and know about rain!" When further asked why such claims had never been made before, he pointed out that, to date "no one [i.e., no Western scientist] had bothered to ask the locals!"

A senior scientist who had been working mainly in Russia stated that an unimpeachable Moscow source, who at the time of the accident "had been in a position to know," admitted that the clouds were, indeed, brought down. People like his informant, this scientist said, "are prepared to talk in cars – particularly Western cars!" (i.e., where there is little likelihood of bugging).

In fact, shortly after the fall of the Soviet Union, one scientific paper was published in the West that reported, on the basis of local claims, that the soil had been tested for traces of silver iodide, the chemical most widely used for seeding. No such traces were found, the report said. But this

is at best negative evidence. The soil samples in question were taken more than six years after the accident – and the small amounts of silver left by seeding could well have leached out of the soil during that time. Alternatively, the Soviets might have used a different chemical for seeding.

One scientist who has worked on the Chornobyl contamination since 1992 is Dr. Alan Flowers of Kingston University (in the United Kingdom). Many of his colleagues in Belarus, he says, seem to accept as established fact that the clouds were seeded – but again, they have never publicly admitted this. When asked – 16 years after the event and with the Soviet officials who would have taken the decision to "seed" the cloud presumably out of office, retired or dead – he replied that "for a full understanding of the distribution and effects of the Chornobyl fallout, we need as much evidence as possible. What caused the rain is still an uncertainty in our knowledge about the intensity and nature of the contamination."

Turkish-Ukrainian...

(Continued from page 2)

Second, the territorial integrity of states as a principle in international relations is of special concern to Turkey because of its Kurdish secessionist conflict. That concept is important also to Ukraine because of insecurity over its borders. Both countries, therefore, are status quo powers. Turkey strongly backed Ukraine in its dispute with Russia over the Crimea between 1992 and 1997. Visiting Ukraine in 1994, then-Turkish President Suleyman Demirel condemned Russian expansionism, expressed support for the territorial integrity of Ukraine and Moldova, and warned Russia that "Crimea is Ukraine's internal affair."

Turkey and Ukraine have also supported the territorial integrity of Georgia, Azerbaijan and Moldova bilaterally, in international forums and through Turkish diplomatic support for the GUUAM (Georgia, Ukraine, Uzbekistan, Azerbaijan and Moldova) regional group. Turkey and GUUAM jointly opposed Russia's attempts to revise upward its flank limits in the Treaty on Conventional Forces in Europe (CFE Treaty).

Nevertheless, the high hopes that Turkey had for GUUAM as a counterweight to Russia have not materialized. And the creation of such a counterweight has become less important also as Turkey and Russia have improved their relations, as testified by the "Action Plan" they signed in November 2001 in New York. Unfortunately, "Ukraine has been unable to communicate effectively its policies on the Caucasus and its relationship to Turkey in this regard," Mr. Kiniklioglu points out.

[Editor's note: Uzbekistan announced in mid-June that it was suspending – but not withdrawing – its membership in GUUAM.]

Turkey and Ukraine both see Georgia as geopolitically important and would like to devise ways to break the deadlocked Abkhaz conflict. One way to achieve this would be to "internationalize" the conflict, as President Eduard Shevardnadze has demanded through the introduction of Ukrainian, Turkish and other peacekeeping forces under a mandate from the United Nations or the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe. Ukraine has already offered to provide peacekeepers to serve in such a U.N.-mandated force.

Third, there is the Tatar issue. Turkey backed Ukraine's territorial claims to Crimea because it strongly opposed the idea of the Crimean Tatars – of whom there are some 5 million to 7 million in Turkey, where they are called "Crimean Turks" – returning to Russian rule. Turkey is unhap-

py that the election law has been amended to abolish the guaranteed representation that Tatars had in the 1994-1998 Crimean Supreme Council.

Turkey is helping to finance the construction of mosques and accommodations for returning Tatars through the Turkish Agency for International Cooperation, which has operated an office in Crimea since 1998. Turkey also provides Tatars with scholarships for higher education in Turkey.

Fourth is the matter of security cooperation. Ukraine and Turkey signed an inter-governmental agreement in July 1994 on cooperation in the field of military training, technologies and science. The agreement provided for the joint training and education of servicemen, exchanges of information and joint scientific research in the military sphere. Further agreements on cooperation in their defense industries were signed during then-President Suleyman Demirel's visit to Ukraine in May 1998.

Turkey's support for Ukraine's NATO membership represents a natural continuation of their joint cooperation through NATO's Partnership for Peace (PfP) and "In the Spirit of PfP" exercises organized by the United States. Both countries have provided bilateral military support to Georgia together with the United States and Germany. Turkey and Ukraine have also taken part in joint peacekeeping exercises organized by NATO, such as the "Peace Bridge-98" exercise held in Topkule, Turkey. Turkish military units have taken part in NATO exercises at the Yavoriv training ground near Lviv. Both countries have also regularly taken part in the annual "Sea Breeze" exercises organized by the United States "in the spirit of PfP."

Ukraine and Turkey have always held close views on the Black Sea Economic Cooperation (BSEC) organization, because it is one forum that Russia cannot dominate. Unlike Russia, Turkey is not perceived by Ukraine, Georgia and Azerbaijan as a hegemonic regional power.

Ukraine also potentially has much to gain if Turkey is admitted, after a decades-long wait, into the European Union. Turkish membership in the EU would go far to allay perceived fears regarding Ukraine's admittance to the EU – including the union's ability to "digest" Ukraine as a new member. Turkey is largely Islamic, lies mainly in Asia Minor and has a larger population than Ukraine.

Unlike the three Baltic states, Ukraine lacks allies to lobby on its behalf its integration into trans-Atlantic and European structures, with the possible exception of Poland. Turkey could certainly become an important such lobbyist if the much-talked-about "strategic partnership" is finally allowed to develop.

Ukrainian Free University sponsors architecture restoration workshop

MUNICH – Among the numerous co-curricular academic activities and programs sponsored by the Ukrainian Free University of Munich, the most prestigious and popular one is a two-week workshop on the upkeep and restoration of monuments.

In cooperation with the Bavarian State Office of Monuments and Restoration headed by Dr. Egon Greipl and the department of architecture of the Polytechnic University of Lviv, chaired by Prof. Andrii Rudnytskyi, the program enables Ukrainian students of architecture and art history to acquire theoretical knowledge and practical know-how about the upkeep of monuments and the restoration of art objects.

It should be added that the Free State of Bavaria is ideally suited to offer such learning experience, not only because of its plethora of churches, monasteries, castles and historic buildings – the official register of monuments in Bavaria lists over 120,000 such objects – some of which are over 1,000 years old, but also because of the dynamic leadership in this era provided by Hans Zehetmair, Bavarian minister of sciences, research

and the arts.

The program was initiated last year and, because of its success, it is being repeated this summer. It affords young Ukrainian scholars of art history and architecture an opportunity to expand and update knowledge in their area of expertise. The participants of the workshop learn how to restore frescoes of ancient Bavarian Baroque cathedrals as well as how to repair old and run-down farms. Such practical experiences are supplemented by the lectures of Prof. Reinhard Heydenreuter (UFU) and Dr. Greipl.

Seven junior scholars, headed by Dr. Yurii Rochniak of the Lviv Polytechnic University, are currently making good use of the opportunities afforded to them; they will have ample chances to apply their newly honed skills to various art objects upon their return to Ukraine.

The workshop is but one of numerous examples of the mediating services performed by the Ukrainian Free University in the field of education, which the UFU sees as a means to enhance and strengthen cooperation between Ukraine and Bavaria, and help pave the way for Ukraine's eventual entry into the European Union.

Ukraine hosts...

(Continued from page 1)

among its neighbors, especially persistent efforts by Ukraine.

GUUAM is the only geopolitical structure on the territory of the former Soviet Union that is not controlled by Moscow and does not have Russia as a member. As such, the agreement between the four countries to open their borders to the tariff-free exchange of goods and services will pressure Moscow to agree to a free trade zone for the entire Commonwealth of Independent States, to which the four active GUUAM states belong as well, and for which Kyiv has pushed for several years.

Serhii Tolstov, director of the Institute of Political Analysis and International Studies in Kyiv, told the newspaper Den that the free trade agreement strengthens Ukraine's economic situation in the region.

"The creation of the free trade zone, if it actually happens, gives the five united member-states the ability to collectively put forward the matter of a free trade zone for EurAsEC," explained Mr. Tolstov, who explained that the CIS as an economic entity is practically non-existent.

EurAsEC is the Eurasian Economic Community, a new economic grouping that Moscow recently created on the CIS territories. Ukraine has limited its participation in the new organization to observer status.

Volodymyr Sydenko, an economic analyst with the Razumkov Center for Economic and Political Research, expressed doubt, however, that the new GUUAM free trade zone would stimulate increased trade among the member-states with the exception of gas and oil commodities trade. He said it could benefit Ukraine the most in giving it access to the transportation of the energy products from the Caspian region.

The presidents of Georgia, Ukraine, Azerbaijan and Moldova attended the two-day affair in Yalta and signed agreements on cooperative efforts to maintain peace and stability in the region and on fighting organized crime. Ukraine's President Leonid Kuchma expressed particular satisfaction over these initiatives

as GUUAM's contribution to a global effort.

"We should significantly speed up interaction to ensure the GUUAM zone becomes a zone of peace and stability, and to prevent the growth of crime and illegal migration," said Mr. Kuchma, according to Interfax-Ukraine.

He said particular attention must be paid to terrorist activity and international money laundering, and called for the development of a Financial Action Task Force within the group.

During his presentation to the state delegation on July 20, Mr. Kuchma also presented his vision for the organization, which he said had potential as the economic link between Europe and the Pacific region of Asia.

Azerbaijan's President Haidar Aliyev, who chaired this summit, emphasized that, as the group considers its role in international affairs, it must also resolve festering conflicts on its own territories. He noted that several of the member-states had continuing civil conflicts, including the unresolved issue of Abkhazia between his country and Georgia, and Moldova's problem with the breakaway Transdniester Republic.

"While hoping for the aid of international community in finding peace settlements, we should also unite our efforts within GUUAM to withstand these threats and create terms for conflict resolution," said Mr. Aliyev.

The Azerbaijani president noted that in addition to "aggressive separatism," GUUAM needed to tackle problems associated with religious and national extremism, armed aggression, illegal weapons trade and drug trafficking.

Several Western countries, including the United States, sent official observer groups to the Yalta summit. State Department Coordinator for the Newly Independent States William Taylor, who represented the United States along with U.S. Ambassador to Ukraine Carlos Pascual, said he was optimistic about GUUAM's future. He added that he could not rule out Washington's financial support for an oil pipeline through the member-states to Western Europe, according to Interfax-Ukraine. Mr. Taylor also said the United States is interested in attaining observer status in GUUAM.

The Carpathian Ski Club of New York

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Swim meet

Saturday, August 31, 2002, 10:00 a.m.

for individual championships of USCAK

and Ukrainian National Association Trophies & Ribbons

Warm-up at 9 a.m.

TABLE of EVENTS

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Swimmers can compete in three (3) individual and one (1) relay events. Relay teams will be established by team coaches or representatives.

Entry deadline: Entry forms, provided below, must be submitted by **August 21, 2002**, to Marika Bokalo, Swim Meet director. There will be no registration at poolside. Registration fee is \$5.00 per swimmer.

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(Ukrainian)

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Telephone

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Club/Youth Association

Event _____ Entry time _____

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NEWSBRIEFS

(Continued from page 2)

government has not made good on promises to pay the back wages, the AP reported. Mr. Kinakh met with the chairman of the Union of Coal Industry Workers, Viktor Turmanov, and other union representatives following the July 18 protest and the prime minister promised to personally ensure that \$25 million is paid to the miners by the end of this year, according to the AP. "We have trusted our prime minister yet again," ITAR-TASS quoted Mr. Turmanov as saying. (RFE/RL Newsline)

Russia to retain use of naval base

KYIV – Foreign Affairs Minister Anatolii Zlenko said on July 18 that Ukraine will abide by its agreement allowing Russia use of the Sevastopol naval base, Agence-France Press reported the same day. Under a 20-year lease signed with Ukraine in 1997, Russia is allowed use of 80 percent of the base, which houses the Russian Navy's Black Sea Fleet. Ukraine announced earlier this month that it intends to seek NATO membership, but Mr. Zlenko said, "This issue is not relevant today. We have 15 years ahead of us." (RFE/RL Newsline)

EU sees progress in Kyiv's WTO bid

KYIV – Speaking after a meeting of the joint European Union-Ukraine commission in Kyiv on July 17, Gustavo Prada, the head of the EU's trade-analysis body, said that "it is clear that economic reforms are taking place in

Ukraine, but not everything is perfect," the Associated Press reported. According to the news agency, the agenda of the EU-Ukrainian meeting included Ukraine's trade with European countries, cooperation in steel and agriculture sectors, and Ukraine's bid for World Trade Organization (WTO) membership. Mr. Prada said Ukraine's accession to the WTO "depends on how quickly Ukraine's government wants to adapt its legislation to WTO standards." He urged the government to enforce existing laws, especially in the sphere of copyright protection. (RFE/RL Newsline)

Georgia, Ukraine sign agreements

TBILISI – A Ukrainian government delegation headed by Prime Minister Anatolii Kinakh participated in a two-day session in Tbilisi on July 16-17 of the Georgian-Ukrainian intergovernmental commission on economic cooperation, Caucasus Press and ITAR-TASS reported. The two sides signed a total of eight agreements, including one on restructuring Georgia's debts to Ukraine, one on the protection of classified information, and others on education and culture. The two delegations discussed coordination of transport tariffs, establishment of a joint venture to manufacture arms, and the possibility of Georgian participation in the international consortium to build and operate the Odesa-Brody-Gdansk oil-export pipeline. Mr. Kinakh underscored the "shared strategic interests" uniting the two countries, ITAR-TASS reported. (RFE/RL Newsline)

Ambassador Pascual...

(Continued from page 3)

According to CIVICUS, the World Alliance for Citizen Participation, there were 25,490 registered non-governmental organizations and charitable foundations in Ukraine in 1999, as well as 8,000 initiative groups. While only about 8,000 organizations and 500 initiative groups were active in 1999, the numbers have continued to rise, a report issued by CIVICUS said.

NGOs are created for various purposes and many of the "dormant" organizations were most probably created for tax-evasion purposes, to receive a specific grant or achieve a short-term public relations goal. One of the most acute problems NGOs encounter in Ukraine is sustainability of operation. Domestic funding is scarce, though not non-existent, and is often directed at "service" NGOs, such as think-tanks, which many times act as external public relations offices for business and other interest groups.

Another problem cited was that

because much of the financial base for Ukrainian NGOs comes from foreign donors, some NGOs have come to specialize in grant-seeking instead of trying to address community needs.

Hryhorii Nemyria, chairman of the executive board of the Renaissance Foundation, said that a new phase in relations between the state and NGOs has started, one in which the state is willing "not only to listen to society, but also to take the society's voice into consideration."

However, another speaker at the event, National Deputy Oleksander Moroz, leader of the Socialist Party, also noted the need for NGOs to address the "great disenchantment in society." He noted that the division in today's society lies not between left and right political wings, as is more often the case, but between those who stand for truth and those who represent deceit. The development of civil society and protection of human rights, in which NGOs play a key role, are important goals that Ukraine must meet on its way to European integration, explained Mr. Moroz.

Ukrainian World Congress...

(Continued from page 6)

Pereiaslav Treaty, as well as the tragic history that ensued. The UWC will seek to include Ukrainian historians in the diaspora in planned scholarly conferences, roundtables, and radio and television programs in order to expose this tragic event in Ukraine's history.

The UWC dare not stand on the sidelines when issues of Ukraine's history are addressed. We must exert substantial effort so that future generations of Ukrainians study from history texts that accurately portray the past of our people, our accomplishments and longings, as well as bright and tragic pages of that past. It is imperative to conclude that the Pereiaslav Treaty

was not a "voluntary reunification" but the beginning of a long period of enslavement of Ukraine by Russia. The UWC urges all Ukrainian scholarly societies and institutions, as well as Ukrainian historians in the diaspora to join in this process. Only in this manner, through dynamic and informed participation, will we succeed in healing our nation's wounds, which, unfortunately, will be reopened inevitably as a result of this "observance."

May all our Ukrainian people recognize whose truth, whose pain and whose children we are.

For the Secretariat Presidium of the Ukrainian World Congress:

Askold S. Lozynskyj, President
Victor Pedenko, Secretary



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Qualifications: This competition is open to any player whose club is a member of USCAK. – Singles matches are scheduled in the following divisions: Men, Women, Women (35 and over), Junior Vets (35-44), Senior Men (45-55), Junior (Boys and Girls). Juniors are persons, ages 18 and under, while seniors are those over 45 years of age.

Registration for tennis matches, including name, age divisions and the fee of \$15.00 should be sent to:
Mr. George Sawchak
724 Forrest Ave., Rydal, PA 19046

Registration should be received no later than August 26, 2002. No additional applications will be accepted before the competitions, since the schedule of matches will be worked out ahead of time.

TOURNAMENT COMMITTEE:

G. Sawchak, G. Popel, G. Hrabec.

Schedule of matches:

Saturday, August 31, Soyuzivka, 8:30 a.m. All players must contact the Tournament Committee. They will be informed of the time and place of their first matches, as well as matches in subsequent rounds. In case of rain, all players meet in the Main House.

Because of limited time and the large number of entries, players can compete in one group only. They must indicate their choice on the registration blank.

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Ukrainian government...

(Continued from page 1)

Nuremberg trials of Nazis where the victor – e.g., the USSR – has never been investigated for “crimes against humanity.”

After 1939, NKVD units in western Ukraine committed wholesale atrocities against civilians (a mass grave containing more than 200 NKVD victims, including children, was uncovered in a western Ukrainian monastery this month).

Investigation of Soviet archives by Ukrainian historians in the 1990s found evidence that the NKVD dressed in UPA uniforms and committed atrocities against civilians in order to turn the local population against nationalist groups. The commission headed by Mr. Kulchytskyi found evidence of unpleasant actions undertaken by both nationalist and “Chekist,” i.e., NKVD, forces, but only veterans of the former will be investigated.

The reaction of the Russian authorities was swift. As with the rehabilitation of nationalist partisans in the three Baltic states, Moscow has adopted Soviet-era rhetoric in attacking the OUN-UPA. The Russian media charged Ukrainian nationalist groups with fighting alongside Chechens against Russian forces in the 1990s in Chechnya. During the March parliamentary elections in Ukraine, Russia deliberately stoked an anti-nationalist campaign, with the support of the Ukrainian executive, to blacken Viktor Yushchenko’s Our Ukraine bloc among eastern Ukrainian voters.

The seriousness with which the Russian Foreign Ministry looks at this question can be seen from its immediate and angry response to the Ukrainian government’s draft bill. The ministry demanded that the Ukrainian government condemn the activities of the “so-called UPA” and not rehabilitate its members. Ukraine’s Foreign Affairs Minister Anatolii Zlenko replied that this is “Ukraine’s internal matter.”

This move by the Ukrainian government is in many ways not surprising. It is taking place immediately after parliamentary elections, a period when western Ukrainian voters are traditionally courted by President Kuchma. (The more numerous eastern Ukrainian voters are traditionally passive between elections and are courted only during elections.) The government move came after the city of Lviv wrote to President Kuchma demanding that the OUN-UPA be rehabilitated.

The newly elected Parliament is also the least leftist of any elected since March 1990 and, therefore, opposition to the rehabilitation of Ukrainian nationalist groups is likely to be less difficult. In addition, Mr. Kuchma has little to lose in the rehabilitation of the OUN-UPA because he will not be standing again for re-election and may want to end his second term on a populist note. These reasons also allowed Mr. Kuchma to adopt the radical step of declaring Ukraine’s goal of working toward NATO membership.

In late March Volodymyr Lytvyn, then head of the presidential administration and currently chairman of the Verkhovna Rada, called for a “balanced approach” to the UPA. “We understand how painful this issue is not just for Russia, but also for part of Ukrainian society. We must study all aspects of the matter,” Mr. Lytvyn said. Ivan Pliusch, chairman of Parliament at that time, also announced his support for moves to rehabilitate the OUN-UPA.

Within Ukraine, the government’s draft bill has arrived after a decade of gradual public rehabilitation. School textbooks and the military media have not had the luxury of waiting a decade to

research this question and they have included the OUN, and particularly the UPA, alongside other forces that fought for Ukraine on different military fronts. Thus, they have placed them on an equal footing with Soviet (as well as Polish and Canadian) veterans. Rehabilitation of the Galicia Division has not taken place, and is far less likely to. The UPA has long been described in textbooks and newspapers such as Narodna Armia, an organ of the Defense Ministry, as fighting on a “second front” in World War II. Among the oligarchic Social Democratic Party-United (SDPU) and the former pro-presidential United Ukraine bloc, now divided into six factions, there is no opposition to the government’s move. One major reason is that centrist groups lack any ideology and this is simply not an issue for them. SDPU Chairman Viktor Medvedchuk, now head of the presidential administration, claimed to be the author of the draft government bill, which he had hoped would attract western Ukrainian voters in the March elections.

The malleability of the ideologically amorphous SDPU was seen when Mr. Medvedchuk denied to Crimean voters that his party supports the rehabilitation of the OUN-UPA, and SDPU-controlled Inter Television fanned the anti-nationalist campaign against Mr. Yushchenko. The irony is that Mr. Medvedchuk at the same time played up the claim that his family was expelled to Siberia because his father was a member of the OUN in the Zhytomyr Oblast. A book published during the election campaign titled “Nartsys” (Narcissus) by Our Ukraine member Dmytro Chobit told a different story. It unearthed controversial documents that showed Mr. Medvedchuk’s father had actually served in the German police, not the OUN.

The only opposition to the government draft bill within Ukraine has come from the Communist Party and the nationalist Russian Bloc. These groups continue to use the same Soviet-era rhetoric denouncing the OUN-UPA as still used in Russia. The Socialists have evolved toward accepting that the OUN-UPA can be rehabilitated and that the struggle against them was a Ukrainian “civil war.” Nevertheless, the Socialist Party rejects any equality between Soviet veterans and the OUN-UPA, and maintains that those who allegedly committed “crimes” should be weeded out.

Dr. Taras Kuzio is a resident fellow and adjunct professor at the Center for Russian and East European Studies, University of Toronto.

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Saturday, July 27	Concert Zabava	Dumka 8:30 PM Svitanok 10 PM
Saturday, August 3	Exhibit Concert Zabava	Kozak Family - Paintings Cabaret – celebrating the 50th anniversary 8:30 PM Vorony 10 PM
Sunday, August 4		UNWLA Day
Saturday, August 10	Exhibit Concert Zabava Crowning	Dycia Hanushevsky - Ceramics Lvivyany 8:30 PM Tempo 10 PM Miss Soyuzivka 11:45 PM
Saturday, August 17	Recital Zabava	Roma Pryma-Bohachevsky Dance Camp Fata Morgana 10 PM
Saturday, August 24		Music in the Trembita Lounge
Friday, August 30	Zabava	Luna – 10 PM
Saturday, August 31	Concert Zabava Zabava	Syzokryli 8:30 PM Tempo 10 PM Fata Morgana 10 PM
Sunday, September 1	Zabava	Montage 10 PM

Wednesday evenings, from June 26 to August 28, enjoy the sounds of Hryts & Stepan at Hutsul Night.

Friday evenings, from July 5 to August 16, enjoy the Sounds of Vidlunnia.



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PREVIEW OF EVENTS

Ongoing through Sunday, September 15

DETROIT: The Ukrainian American Archives and Museum of Detroit invites the public to view the exhibit titled "The 'Tree of Life' Motif in Embroidered Ritual Cloths (Rushnyky) of Central Ukraine." The exhibition, which will include original antique ritual cloths from the Kyiv, Poltava and Chernihiv regions dating from the 19th and early 20th centuries, will be on view at the Ukrainian American Archives and Museum, 11756 Charest St., Hamtramck, Mich., through Sunday, September 15. Exhibit hours: Wednesday through Saturday, 11 a.m.-4 p.m.; Sunday, 10 a.m.-3 p.m. Admission: adults, \$3; students and seniors, \$2; children age 12-18, \$1; museum members, no charge. For more information call (313) 366-9764.

Tuesday, July 30

CAMBRIDGE, Mass.: The Harvard Ukrainian Institute invites the public to an event of its evening cultural series – The Experimental Bandura Trio in Concert – featuring bandurists Julian Kytasty, Michael Andrec and Jurij Fedynskij. The free concert will be held at 7:30 p.m. in Lowell Hall, 17 Kirkland St., Harvard University. For more information contact the Ukrainian Research Institute, (617) 495-4053, or huri@fas.harvard.edu.

Thursday, August 1

CAMBRIDGE, Mass.: The Harvard Ukrainian Summer Institute will present a special preview screening of Yuri Illienko's new film, "A Prayer for Hetman Mazepa,"

the first large-budget full-length feature film in 10 years of Ukrainian independence. It will be shown at 7 p.m. in Room 250, Jefferson Hall, Harvard University. The film will be shown in large-screen format as part of the Summer Institute's evening cultural series. Prof. Virko Baley, composer of the film's score, will deliver the opening remarks. The screening is free and open to the public, but seating is limited. For more information contact the Ukrainian Research Institute, (617) 495-4053, or huri@fas.harvard.edu.

Sunday, August 4

HUNTER, N.Y.: St. John the Baptist Ukrainian Catholic Church of Jewett, N.Y., invites the public to attend a 40th anniversary celebration of the church's founding. An archiepiscopal divine liturgy at 10 a.m. will mark the event, with a jubilee lunch and program to follow. The fee for the lunch and program is \$25 and can be paid at the door.

Monday, August 5

CAMBRIDGE, Mass.: The Harvard Ukrainian Summer Institute will hold a roundtable discussion as the final event of its evening cultural series, titled "Visions of Ukraine and Eastern Europe: A roundtable with summer institute students from Ukraine, Belarus, Lithuania and Poland." The discussion, free and open to the public, will be held at 7:30 p.m. in Room 1, William James Hall, 33 Kirkland St., Harvard University. For more information contact the Ukrainian Research Institute, (617) 495-4053, or huri@fas.harvard.edu.

PLEASE NOTE REQUIREMENTS:

Preview of Events is a listing of Ukrainian community events open to the public. It is a service provided at minimal cost (**\$10 per submission**) by The Ukrainian Weekly to the Ukrainian community. Payment must be received prior to publication.

To have an event listed in Preview of Events please send information, in English, **written in Preview format**, i.e., in a brief paragraph that includes the date, place, type of event, sponsor, admission, full names of persons and/or organizations involved, and a phone number to be published for readers who may require additional information. Items should be **no more than 100 words long**; all submissions are subject to editing. Items not written in Preview format or submitted without all required information will not be published.

Preview items must be received no later than one week before the desired date of publication. No information will be taken over the phone. Items will be published only once, unless otherwise indicated. Please include payment of \$10 for each time the item is to appear and indicate date(s) of issue(s) in which the item is to be published. Also, please include the phone number of a person who may be contacted by The Weekly during daytime hours. Information should be sent to: Preview of Events, The Ukrainian Weekly, 2200 Route 10, P.O. Box 280, Parsippany, NJ 07054.

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At Soyuzivka: August 2-4

KERHONKSON, N.Y. – Soyuzivka, the upstate New York resort of the Ukrainian National Association, begins celebrations of its 50th anniversary by inviting one and all to "Come to the cabaret, ole chum" on Saturday, August 3. The special program begins at 8:30 p.m. in the Veselka Pavilion.

The evening continues with a dance to the music of Vorony beginning at 10 p.m.

The weekend gets off to a fun start on Friday evening, August 2, with the resort's house band, Vidlunnia, playing for the enjoyment of Soyuzivka guests.

The program for Sunday, August 4, will feature the annual UNWLA Day, or

"Den Soyuzianky," a unique event spotlighting the Ukrainian National Women's League of America.

Also during the weekend, paintings by the Kozak family, Edward and Jerome, will be on display in the Main House library.

For information about events at Soyuzivka, to make reservations for accommodations, or to organize your own special gathering at the Ukrainian National Association estate – located in New York state's Catskill region – call (845) 626-5641. Information is available also on the Soyuzivka website, www.soyuzivka.com.

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